

Introduction to Practical Pharmacognosy

Experiment 1 - Practical Notes

Name: _____ Roll no.: _____ Date: _____

Aim

To organise a crude-drug examination and distinguish identity from quality.

Principle

Pharmacognosy establishes the identity and quality of crude drugs using source information, macroscopic characters, microscopy and suitable physical or chemical tests.

Requirements

- Instructor-provided labelled diagrams, traces or data for this activity.
- Calculator, graph paper or spreadsheet, and the activity record.

Procedure

1. Identify the source

Enter the authenticated botanical name, family, plant part and specimen/voucher code supplied.

2. Plan the examination

Choose intact material, transverse section and powder observations as appropriate to the plant part.

3. Use instruments

Identify the microscope, sectioning tools, balance and measurement apparatus; record calibration where a numerical result is required.

Pharmacognosy and Phytopharmaceuticals

4. Document

Keep labelled sketches, actual observations and interpretations in separate record columns.

Observations and Record

Record item	Entry
Activity / material identifier	_____
Measurement or visible feature	_____
Comparison / calculated outcome	_____
Interpretation and limitation	_____

Result

The recorded finding is ____; the supporting observation or calculation is _____. The main limitation is _____.

Precautions

- Use the supplied teaching material; distinguish a measured observation from an assumed value.
- Keep units, axes, labels and measurement conditions consistent.
- Record limitations and seek instructor review before applying a conclusion to a live case.

Viva Questions and Answers**1. What is the main endpoint?**

Organise a crude-drug examination and distinguish identity from quality.

2. Does one observed result prove a general conclusion?

No. Controls, repeatability and the limitations of the method must be considered.

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