

**ANTIBACTERIAL ACTION OF  
TERMINALIA CHEBULA**

**K. Sangaraiyer**

*(Institute of Ayurveda, University of Sri Lanka)*

**R. S. B. Wickremesinghe, L. B. de Silva**

*(Medical Research Institute of Sri Lanka)*

**&**

**Tuley de Silva**

*(University of Sri Lanka Vidyoday Campus)*

Dried fruits of *Terminalia chebula*, traditionally employed as a laxative and roasted and administered orally for dysentery, have been tested for antibacterial activity.

Aqueous extracts of dried fruits indicated antibacterial action against a wide spectrum of Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria. The antibacterial action of the aqueous extract is attributed to the polyphenolic substances.

The minimum bactericidal concentration values are discussed.