

Nutritional Evaluation of Asana (*Bridelia retusa*) Tree in Konkan Geographical Region

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Abstract—Present study was done to investigate the various chemical parameters of the asana leaves. The study will provide referential information for the identification of the nutritive substances of asana. *Bridelia retusa* useful in lumbago and hemiplegia. The bark is good for the removal of urinary concretions. It is also used as a liniment with gigelly oil in rheumatism. It is a valuable astringent. The bark extract is used by the tribal to develop sterility and it is used as a contraceptive. One or two drops of fruit extract are poured in ear to cure earache. The plant has been used in traditional systems of medicines for treatment of dysentery and diarrhea, diabetes. The chemical analysis of *Bridelia retusa* was done for the proximate principles viz., Dry matter, Crude protein, Crude fibre, Ether extract, Nitrogen free extract, Total ash and Acid insoluble ash (AOAC, 1995). Results showed that crude protein (CP) values were optimum (12.14 %) in *Gliricidia* compared to crude fibre (16.67 %) to meet the nutritional requirement of the small ruminants. The concentration of tannin in *Bridelia retusa* was 2.90 %, whereas the values for organic matter, dry matter, moisture content, ether extract, nitrogen free extract, ash, acid insoluble ash, calcium and phosphorus were recorded as 91.46, 24.38, 75.62, 3.98, 41.33, 8.54, 2.43, 1.96 and 0.28 %, respectively. The present investigation conclude that the asana meets the nutrient requirement of small ruminants if, fed with or without combination with other feed substances.