

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Date: 4/09/2025

Manuscript No. IJAR-53670

Title: Evaluation of the folliculo-stimulant activity of the aqueous leaf extract of *Cissus araliodes* on the vaginal epithelium of the doe (female rabbit)

Recommendation:

Accept as it is

Accept after minor revision... **YES**.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality			X	
Techn. Quality		x		
Clarity			X	
Significance			X	

Reviewer Name: DR. Mohammad Nadeem Khan

Date: 4/09/2025

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

(To be published with the manuscript in the journal)

The reviewer is requested to provide a brief comment (3-4 lines) highlighting the significance, strengths, or key insights of the manuscript. This comment will be Displayed in the journal publication alongside with the reviewers name.

..... The manuscript entitled "Evaluation of the folliculo-stimulant activity of the aqueous leaf extract of *Cissus araliodes* on the vaginal epithelium of the doe (female rabbit) explores the phytochemical constituents and reproductive effects of *C. araliodes* extract in female rabbits. The study addresses an important topic given the widespread use of herbal medicine in fertility management. The methodology is straightforward, results are clearly presented, and the discussion provides a reasonable interpretation. However, the manuscript has several issues related to experimental design clarity, statistical robustness, language expression, and referencing style. These should be addressed before acceptance.....

Detailed Reviewer's Report

Title and Abstract

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The title is clear and informative, but "folliculo-stimulant" could be rephrased as "follicle-stimulating" for better readability.

The abstract provides a good summary, but it should be more concise. Currently, methodological details (e.g., staining methods) make it lengthy. Focus more on objectives, major results, and conclusions.

Keywords are relevant but could be expanded (e.g., "reproductive pharmacology," "herbal medicine," "female fertility").

Introduction

The introduction provides adequate background but is slightly repetitive.

Some references are older; inclusion of recent studies (last 5 years) would strengthen the context.

The objective is clear, but the hypothesis could be explicitly stated.

Materials and Methods

Plant identification is well described.

The number of animals is inconsistent: it states *eight* does but later mentions *groups of three each* (which, totals 12). This discrepancy must be clarified.

The sample size ($n=3$ per group) is very small for statistical reliability. The authors should justify this limitation.

Ethical approval is mentioned appropriately.

More details are needed about statistical tests—exact p-values and post-hoc results should be reported, not just "significant" or "very significant."

Results

Tables are well structured but could benefit from clearer legends (e.g., explain abbreviations directly below tables).

Figure 1 lacks clarity and labeling. High-quality images should be provided.

Results are presented in a descriptive way, but sometimes repeat what is already in the tables. Condensation is suggested.

Discussion

The discussion is fairly strong and connects results with previous studies.

However, speculative mechanisms (e.g., binding to receptors) should be phrased more cautiously unless supported by direct experimental evidence.

International Journal of Advanced Research

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

www.journalijar.com

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The link to clinical application in humans is overstated; it should be framed as preliminary animal data requiring further confirmation.

Conclusion

The conclusion appropriately highlights the main findings.

Future directions (e.g., isolation of active compounds, larger animal studies) are well mentioned.

References

References are relevant but inconsistent in formatting. Some contain minor errors (e.g., journal names not italicized, spacing issues).

More recent references (2020–2023) on herbal fertility treatments should be added.

Language and Style

English grammar and sentence structure require minor editing for clarity and flow.

Terms like “oestrus state” and “folliculo-stimulant” should be standardized to internationally accepted terms (estrus, follicle-stimulating).

Required revisions

Clarify animal number/sample size issue.

Improve statistical reporting and figure/table clarity.

Revise abstract and introduction for conciseness.

Polish language and standardize terminology.

Update references with recent literature.