

# Formulation and Evaluation of Herbal Shampoo from Flaxseeds Extract and Other Base Ingredients with Multipurpose Use

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**Abstract:** *Objective :* The aim of this research is to develop a herbal shampoo for hair growth and strengthening using Reetha, Amla, Neem, Bringraj, Jatamanasi, and Aloe vera. These herbs were chosen for their traditional uses and scientific benefits in promoting hair growth and scalp health.

*Material and methods :* A herbal shampoo was formulated with six herbs – Reetha, Amla, Neem, Bringraj, line seeds, and Aloe vera – at two concentrations (1% and 1.5%). Its effectiveness in washing and conditioning hair was assessed.

*Evaluation :* Pharmacognostical standardization of *Sapindustrifoliatum* was conducted as per the Ayurvedic Pharmacopoeia of India (API). The results showed compliance with API standards. Hair growth activity increased with concentration, with excellent results at 1% concentration. Aqueous extraction yielded optimal washing and conditioning results. Stability testing at 25°C and 60% RH showed no phase separation or color change. Patch testing revealed no skin irritation or allergic sensitization

**Keywords:** Hair formulation, aq extract, herbal shampoo, hair nourishment

## I. INTRODUCTION

Herbal shampoos offer a natural and effective approach to hair care, utilizing the therapeutic properties of herbs to promote healthy hair growth, strengthen hair follicles, and soothe the scalp. Unlike conventional shampoos, herbal shampoos avoid harsh chemicals, instead relying on the medicinal properties of herbs like Reetha, Amla, and Aloe vera to address hair-related issues. This makes them a popular choice for those seeking a gentle, cruelty-free, and vegan-friendly hair care option [1]

Herbal shampoos are a type of hair care product that leverages the therapeutic properties of herbs to promote healthy hair growth, strengthen hair follicles, and soothe the scalp. These natural, chemical-free shampoos have gained popularity in recent years due to their gentle and effective approach to hair care. Unlike conventional shampoos that often contain harsh chemicals, such as sulfates, parabens, and artificial fragrances, herbal shampoos rely on the natural goodness of herbs to cleanse, nourish, and protect the hair. By harnessing the medicinal properties of herbs, such as Reetha, Amla, Neem, and Aloe vera, herbal shampoos can help to address a range of hair-related issues, including dandruff, itchiness, dryness, and hair loss. Moreover, herbal shampoos are often free from animal-derived ingredients, making them a popular choice for vegans and those who follow a cruelty-free lifestyle. With their natural, gentle, and effective approach to hair care, herbal shampoos offer a promising alternative to conventional shampoos, and are definitely worth considering for anyone looking to promote healthy, strong, and beautiful hair.[2,3]

## MAIN INGREDIENTS AND THEIR SOURCE AND USES

Sr no	Ingredients	Biological source	Uses
1)	Linseeds/ flsxseeds	Liniumuslittissimum	Demulcent, silkiness of hair



2)	Amla	Embeliceofficinalis	Hair growth promoter
3)	Neem	Azadirachta indica	Antiseptic and antibacterial
4)	Hibiscus	Hibiscus rosa -sinesis	Treat Hair fall , dandruff , hair cleaner
5)	Ginger	Gingiberofficinale	Aromatic and flavouring agent
6)	Reetha	Sapindus mukorossi	Foaming agent
7)	Shikakai	Acacia rugate	Foam base
8)	Aloevera	Aloe barbadensis miller	Conditioning and moisturizing effect

**Table no 1 :** ingredients , source and uses

**MAIN EXCIPIENT USE IN FORMULATION AND ROLE**

Sr no	Excipient	Role	Use
1)	Reetha	Surfactant	Foaming agent
2)	Citric acid	Preservatives	Antimicrobial
3)	Glycerine base	Thickening agent	Maintain viscosity
4)	Aloevera	Conditioning	Silkyness of hair
5)	Soap base	Surfactant	Foaming agent

**Fig no 2 :** excipient of herbal shampoo

**II. LITERATURE SURVEY**

**Kumar N , et al ( 2017 )**

Herbal shampoo has gained significant attention in recent years due to its potential benefits for hair and scalp health. A review of literature reveals that herbal shampoo can promote healthy hair growth, reduce dandruff and itchiness, and improve scalp health . The use of natural herbs and plants as ingredients in shampoo has been shown to be effective in nourishing the scalp and hair follicles, promoting healthy hair growth . Herbal shampoo has also been found to have antifungal and antibacterial properties, which can help reduce dandruff and itchiness .

Various herbs have been used in herbal shampoo, including Reetha (Soapnut), Shikakai (Acacia concinna), and Amla (Emblicaoofficinalis). Reetha is a natural surfactant that can help clean the hair and scalp, while Shikakai is a natural conditioner that can help moisturize and nourish the hair . Amla is a natural antioxidant that can help protect the hair and scalp from damage .

**Singh et al ( 2019 )**

The method of preparation of herbal shampoo can vary, with some studies using the decoction method and others using the infusion method . The decoction method involves boiling the herbs in water to extract their active ingredients, while the infusion method involves steeping the herbs in hot water to extract their active ingredients

Evaluation of herbal shampoo has been conducted using various methods, including physical and chemical evaluation. Physical evaluation involves evaluating the physical properties of the shampoo, such as its pH, viscosity, and texture, while chemical evaluation involves evaluating the chemical properties of the shampoo, such as its surfactant content and preservative efficacy Overall, the literature suggests that herbal shampoo is a natural and effective alternative to synthetic shampoos, with potential benefits for hair and scalp health. Further research is needed to fully understand the benefits and limitations of herbal shampoo.

**Patel et al ( 2020 )**

Recent studies have highlighted the benefits of herbal shampoo, including its potential to reduce side effects associated with synthetic shampoos. For example, a study by Patel et al. (2020) found that herbal shampoo formulated with Reetha, Shikakai, and Amla showed better detergency and a shiny, oily appearance compared to synthetic shampoos [5]. Another study by Singh et al. (2019) found that herbal shampoo formulated with Amla and Shikakai showed significant improvement in hair growth and reduction in dandruff and itchiness [6].



## PHARMACOGNOSY OF INGREDIENTS OF HERBAL SHAMPOO

### Flaxseeds / linseed / jawas

Linseed, also known as flaxseed, is the seed of the flax plant (*Linum usitatissimum*) and is a rich source of nutrients, including protein, fiber, and omega-3 fatty acids (Singh et al., 2011). With its high content of alpha-linolenic acid (ALA), linseed has been associated with several health benefits, including reducing inflammation and improving heart health, supporting digestive health, lowering cholesterol levels, and reducing cancer risk (Zhang et al., 2018). As a result, linseed has been used for centuries in traditional medicine, food, and textiles, and continues to be a popular ingredient in modern health and wellness products. [ 4 , 5 ]



Fig no 1 :linseeds / flaxseeds / jawas

### Description :

Synonyms: jawas

Biological source: *Linum usitatissimum*

Family:Linaceae

Chemical constituents: linolenic acid , stearic acid , oleic acid

Use :

1. Hair Growth
2. Hair moisturizing
3. Dandruff and scalp issues
4. Hair Strengthening

### Reetha

Reetha, also known as Soapnut or *Sapindus mukorossi*, is a tropical tree native to Asia, whose fruit has been used for centuries in traditional medicine and as a natural cleansing agent (Kumar et al., 2017). The fruit of the Reetha tree contains saponins, which give it its soap-like properties, making it an effective and gentle cleanser for hair and skin (Singh et al., 2018). Reetha has been traditionally used in Ayurvedic medicine to treat various ailments, including skin conditions, hair loss, and digestive issues, and is considered a natural and eco-friendly alternative to synthetic soaps and shampoos. [ 6,7 ]





**Fig no 2 :** Reetha seeds and powder

**Description :**

Synonyms: washnut , soapnut , reetha

Biological source: sapindusmukorossi

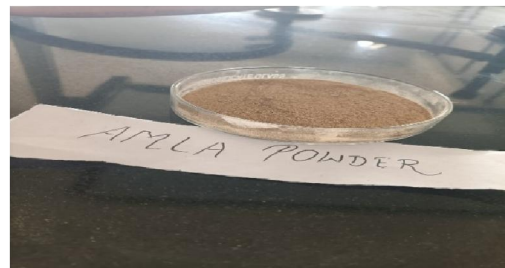
Family:sapindaceae

Chemical constituents: Saponin and flavonoids

Use :

1. Hair care
2. Skin care
3. Antimicrobial
4. Anti- inflammatory

**Amla :**



**Fig no 3 :** Amlafruit and powder

Amla, also known as Indian Gooseberry or *Emblica officinalis*, is a tropical tree native to Asia, whose fruit has been used for centuries in traditional Ayurvedic medicine to promote overall health and wellness. The fruit of the Amla tree is rich in vitamin C, antioxidants, and other bioactive compounds, including ellagic acid, gallic acid, and quercetin, which have been shown to have anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial, and anti-aging properties. Traditionally, Amla has been used to promote healthy hair growth, improve digestion, and boost immunity, and is considered a natural and effective remedy for various health ailments, including diabetes, hypertension, and respiratory disorders (Singh et al., 2019). The fruit, leaves, and bark of the Amla tree are used in various forms, including juice, powder, and oil, to treat a range of health conditions, and its benefits are extensively documented in ancient Ayurvedic texts, such as the Charaka Samhita and the Sushruta Samhita. Modern research has validated many of the traditional uses of Amla, and it is now recognized as a valuable botanical medicine with a wide range of health benefit[8,9]



**Description :**

Synonyms: indian gooseberry, Amalaki

Biological source: Embeliceofficinalis

Family: Euphorbiaceae

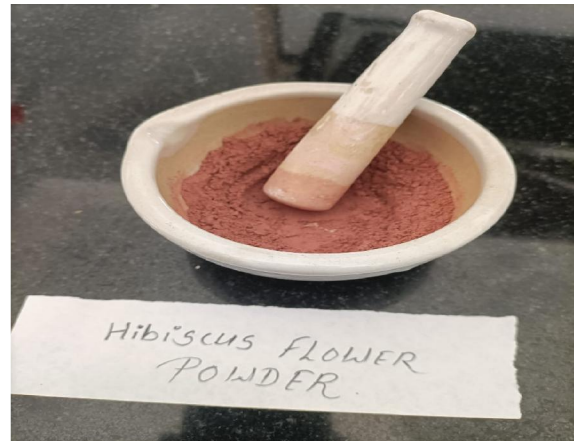
Chemical constituents: Ascorbic acid , Tannins

Use :

- 1) Hair care
- 2) antioxidant
- 3) skin care

**Hibiscus**

Hibiscus, also known as Hibiscus sabdariffa, is a tropical plant native to Africa and Asia, whose flowers, leaves, and stems have been used for centuries in traditional medicine, food, and beverages. The plant is rich in vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants, including vitamin C, calcium, and anthocyanins, which have been shown to have anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial, and anti-cancer properties. Traditionally, Hibiscus has been used to treat various health conditions, including hypertension, diabetes, and digestive disorders, and its flowers are used to make a popular tea, known as “Agua de Jamaica” or “Sorrel tea”, which is consumed worldwide for its refreshing and medicinal properties.[10 ,11 ]



**Fig no 4 :** Hibiscus flower and powde

**Description:**

Synonyms: Bissap. , Roselle

Biological source: Hibiscus rosa

Family: malvaceae

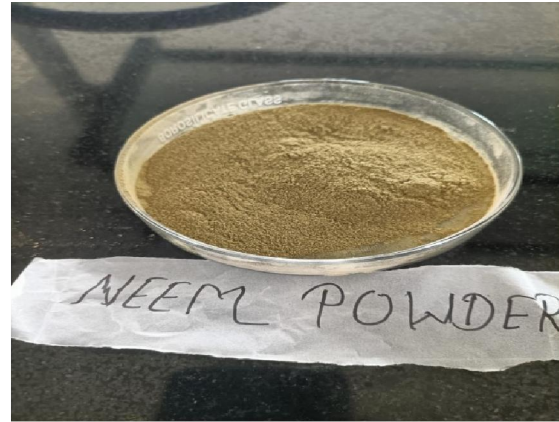
Chemical constituents: Anthocyanin , flavonoids, vit and minerals

Use :

- 1) Antidandruf
- 2) Strengthen the hair
- 3) Hair care pdt



**Neem**



**Fig no 5 :** Neem leaves and powder

Neem, also known as *Azadirachta indica*, is a tropical tree native to India and Southeast Asia, whose leaves, seeds, and bark have been used for centuries in traditional medicine, agriculture, and cosmetics. Neem is renowned for its broad-spectrum medicinal properties, including anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial, and antifungal activities, which are attributed to its rich content of bioactive compounds, such as azadirachtin, nimbin, and nimbidin. Traditionally, Neem has been used to treat various health conditions, including skin diseases, fever, and digestive disorders, and its oil is used as a natural insecticide and pesticide in agriculture. [12,13]

**Description :**

Synonyms: indian lilac , nimtree

Biological source: *Azadirachta indica*

Family: Meliaceae

Chemical constituents: azadirachtin , Glycosides , Limonoids

Use :

- 1) insecticide.
- 2) Anti – inflammatory
- 3) antimicrobial

**Shikekai**



**Fig no 6 :** Shikekai and their powder

Shikakai, also known as *Acacia concinna*, is a tropical tree native to Asia, whose pods, leaves, and seeds have been used for centuries in traditional Ayurvedic medicine and as a natural hair and skin cleanser. Shikakai is rich in saponins, which give it its soap-like properties, making it an effective and gentle cleanser for hair and skin . Traditionally,



Shikakai has been used to promote healthy hair growth, improve scalp health, and treat skin conditions such as acne and eczema, and its pods are used as a natural shampoo and body wash in many parts of Asia .[14,15]

**Description :**

Synonyms: Shikakai , Soap pod

Biological source: Acacia rugate

Family: Leguminoceae

Chemical constituents: saponin , flavonoids , Glycosides

Use :

- 1) Hair conditioner
- 2) Antidandruf
- 3) promote hair growth

**METHODS OF PREPARATION OF HERBAL SHAMPOO [16,17]**

**Materials Required**

- Reetha (Soapnut) pods.                                        – Glycerin
- Shikakai (Acacia concinna) pods.                             – Distilled water
- Amla (Emblcaofficinalis) powder.                            – ph adjuster ( citric acid )
- Neem (Azadirachtaindica) leaves                            - Hibiscus (Hibiscus sabdariffa) flowers.

**Steps :**

- \*Step 1: Decoction of Reetha and Shikakai Pods\*
- \*Step 2: Infusion of Amla Powder, Neem Leaves, and Hibiscus Flowers\*
- \*Step 3: Preparation of Oil Phase\*
- \*Step 4: Preparation of Shampoo Base\*
- \*Step 5: Filtration and Packaging\*

**Method of Preparation**

**\*Step 1: Decoction of Reetha and Shikakai Pods\***

- Weigh 100g of Reetha pods and 100g of Shikakai pods.
- Crush the pods into small pieces.
- Soak the crushed pods in 500ml of distilled water overnight.
- Boil the mixture for 30 minutes to obtain a decoction.
- Strain the decoction and discard the solids.

**\*Step 2: Infusion of Amla Powder, Neem Leaves, and Hibiscus Flowers\***

- Weigh 50g of Amla powder, 50g of Neem leaves, and 50g of Hibiscus flowers.
- Mix the ingredients together.
- Soak the mixture in 500ml of distilled water for 2-3 hours.
- Strain the infusion and discard the solids.

**\*Step 3: Preparation of Oil Phase\***

- Weigh 100g of Coconut oil and 50g of Olive oil.
- Mix the oils together.
- Heat the mixture to 40°C.

**\*Step 4: Preparation of Shampoo Base\***

- Mix the decoction, infusion, and oil phase together.
- Add 10g of Glycerin and mix well.
- Adjust the pH of the shampoo base to 5.5 using a pH adjuster (e.g., citric acid).



**\*Step 5: Filtration and Packaging\***

- Filter the shampoo base through a muslin cloth or a filter paper.
- Fill the shampoo into bottles or tubes.
- Label and package the shampoo.

**BENEFITS OF HERBAL SHAMPOO : - [18,19]**

**Physical Benefits**

1. Promotes Healthy Hair Growth: Herbal shampoo nourishes the scalp and promotes healthy hair growth.
2. Improves Scalp Health: Herbal shampoo helps to soothe and calm the scalp, reducing irritation and inflammation.
3. Treats Dandruff and Itchiness: Herbal shampoo helps to control dandruff and itchiness, leaving the scalp feeling clean and refreshed.
4. Natural and Gentle on Hair: Herbal shampoo is free from harsh chemicals and is gentle on hair, making it suitable for all hair types.
5. Moisturizes and Conditions Hair: Herbal shampoo helps to moisturize and condition hair, leaving it feeling soft and silky.

**Chemical Benefits**

1. Free from Harsh Chemicals: Herbal shampoo is free from harsh chemicals such as sulfates, parabens, and silicones.
2. pH Balanced: Herbal shampoo is pH balanced, which helps to maintain the natural pH of the scalp and hair.
3. Antimicrobial Properties: Herbal shampoo has antimicrobial properties, which help to control the growth of microorganisms on the scalp.

**Therapeutic Benefits**

1. Reduces Stress and Anxiety: Herbal shampoo can help to reduce stress and anxiety, promoting relaxation and calmness.
2. Improves Sleep: Herbal shampoo can help to improve sleep quality, promoting a restful and refreshing sleep.
3. Boosts Confidence: Herbal shampoo can help to boost confidence, promoting a healthy and positive self-image.

**Environmental Benefits**

1. Eco-Friendly: Herbal shampoo is eco-friendly, biodegradable, and free from harsh chemicals that can harm the environment.
2. Sustainable: Herbal shampoo is sustainable, using natural ingredients that are renewable and sustainable.

**STANDARD FORMULA OF HERBAL SHAMPOO**

Sr no	Ingredients	Part of plant use	quantity (100 ml)
1.	Linseed	Seeds	10ml
2.	Amla	Fruit	10ml
3.	Reetha	Seeds	20ml
4.	Hibiscus	Flower	10ml
5.	Shikekai	Fruit	20ml
6.	Lemon juice	Fruit	05ml
7.	Alovera	Leaves	05ml
8.	Neem	Leaves	10ml
9.	Distilled water		q.s





**EVALUATION TEST OF HERBAL SHAMPOO : [20,21]**

Physical evaluation test  
Chemical evaluation test  
Biological evaluation test  
Clinical evaluation test

**Physical Evaluation Tests**

\*pH Test\*: Measure the pH of the shampoo using a pH meter or pH paper



Fig no 7 : PH test

\*Viscosity Test\*: Measure the viscosity of the shampoo using a viscometer.



Fig no 8 : viscosity test

3. \*Texture Test\*: Evaluate the texture of the shampoo by applying it to hair and assessing its spreadability, foaming, and rinsability.
4. \*Color Test\*: Evaluate the color of the shampoo by comparing it to a standard color chart.
5. \*Odor Test\*: Evaluate the odor of the shampoo by assessing its strength and character.



**Physical evaluation test of herbal shampoo:**

Sr no	Evaluation test	Result obtained
1	pH test	5- 7.8
2	Viscosity test	Slightly viscous
3	Texture test	Smooth
4	Color test	Dark brown
5	Odor test	Aromatic

**Chemical Evaluation Tests**

1. \*pH Stability Test\*: Evaluate the pH stability of the shampoo by storing it at different temperatures and measuring its pH at regular intervals.
2. \*Microbial Contamination Test\*: Evaluate the microbial contamination of the shampoo by testing for the presence of bacteria, yeast, and mold.

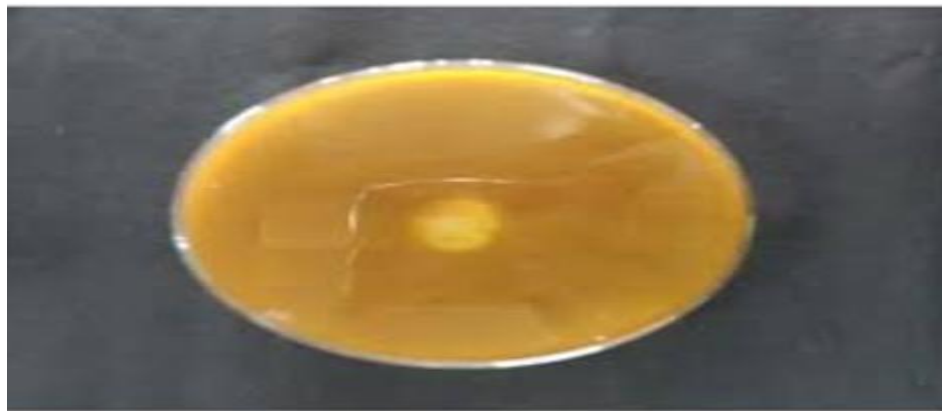


Fig no 9 : microbial contamination

3. \*Preservative Efficacy Test\*: Evaluate the preservative efficacy of the shampoo by challenging it with a known amount of microorganisms and measuring its ability to inhibit their growth.
4. \*Surfactant Content Test\*: Evaluate the surfactant content of the shampoo by measuring its surface tension using a tensiometer.
5. \*Moisturizing Properties Test\*: Evaluate the moisturizing properties of the shampoo by measuring its ability to hydrate hair using a corneometer.

Sr no	Chemical evaluation test	Result obtained
1)	pH stability test	+ ve
2)	Microbial contamination test	+ve
3)	Preservatives efficacy test	+ve
4)	Surfactant content test	+ve
5)	Moisturizing properties test	+ve

**Biological Evaluation Tests**

1. \*Irritation Test\*: Evaluate the irritation potential of the shampoo by applying it to human skin and assessing its ability to cause irritation.
2. \*Sensitization Test\*: Evaluate the sensitization potential of the shampoo by applying it to human skin and assessing its ability to cause sensitization.



3. **\*Comedogenicity Test\***: Evaluate the comedogenicity of the shampoo by applying it to human skin and assessing its ability to cause comedones.
4. **\*Hair Growth Promotion Test\***: Evaluate the hair growth promotion potential of the shampoo by applying it to human hair and assessing its ability to promote hair growth.
5. **\*Scalp Health Test\***: Evaluate the scalp health potential of the shampoo by applying it to human scalp and assessing its ability to promote scalp health.

**Clinical Evaluation Tests**

1. **\*User Acceptance Test\***: Evaluate the user acceptance of the shampoo by asking users to rate its performance, texture, and odor.
2. **\*Hair Care Professional Test\***: Evaluate the hair care professional acceptance of the shampoo by asking hair care professionals to rate its performance, texture, and odor.
3. **\*Comparative Study\***: Evaluate the shampoo by comparing it to other shampoos in terms of its performance, texture, and odor.

**IMPORTANCE OF HERBAL SHAMPOO:**

**1. Natural and Chemical-Free**

- Herbal shampoo is made from natural ingredients, free from harsh chemicals, making it a safer choice for hair and scalp.

**2. Promotes Healthy Hair Growth**

- Herbal shampoo nourishes the scalp and promotes healthy hair growth, reducing the risk of hair loss and dandruff.

**3. Soothes and Calms Scalp**

- Herbal shampoo has anti-inflammatory properties, soothing and calming the scalp, reducing irritation and itchiness.

**4. Moisturizes and Conditions Hair**

- Herbal shampoo moisturizes and conditions hair, leaving it soft, silky, and manageable.

**5. Environmentally Friendly**

- Herbal shampoo is biodegradable and free from harsh chemicals, making it an environmentally friendly choice.

**6. Cost-Effective**

- Herbal shampoo can be made at home using natural ingredients, making it a cost-effective alternative to commercial shampoos.

**7. Customizable**

- Herbal shampoo can be customized to suit individual hair and scalp types, using different herbs and ingredients.

**8. Reduces Dandruff and Itchiness**

- Herbal shampoo has antifungal and antibacterial properties, reducing dandruff and itchiness.

**9. Improves Scalp Health**

- Herbal shampoo improves scalp health, reducing the risk of scalp conditions such as psoriasis and eczema.

**10. Promotes Hair Shine and Luster**

- Herbal shampoo promotes hair shine and luster, leaving hair looking healthy and vibrant.

**COMPARISON BETWEEN HERBAL SHAMPOO AND SYNTHETIC SHAMPOO**

Sr no	Herbal shampoo	Synthetic shampoo
1 )	Provide nutrition to the hair	Doesn't provide nutrition to the hair
2 )	It has mild cleansing effect to remove the excess oil content from the hair.	It has more cleansing effect
3 )	Strengthen the hair follicles by essential oils and nourish all through roots and	It will less strengthen the hair follicle



	follicels	
4 )	Formation of new and healthy hair roots	It damage the healthy hair
5 )	More effective	Less effective
6 )	It contain natural plant extracts that help the hair and scalp in many forms without using the chemicals	It contains the synthetic ingredients that reduces the hair growth and effect the scalp
7 )	Suitable for all skin types and also non Allergic	It won't suitable for all skin types and it is allergic (in some shampoos)
8 )	Sulphate free and toxin free	Contain SLS

Table no 4 : comparison between herbal and synthetic shampoo

### III. CONCLUSION

The purpose of this project was to create an all-herbal shampoo that could compete with Commercially available synthetic shampoo. We created a herbal shampoo utilising plant Extracts that are frequently used in folk medicine. The components in shampoo are all far Safer than silicones and polyquaterniums, which are synthetic conditioning agents, and they Can significantly lessen the loss of hair or protein during combing. We have employed Sheekakai, Amla, Hibiscus, and other plant extracts to give the conditioning effects rather Than cationic conditioners. The physicochemical characteristics of both produced and Commercially available shampoos were compared and evaluated by a number of experiments. For quality control tests, the performance of our produced shampoo was comparable to that Of commercially available shampoo, but more research and development are needed to raise The product's overall quality.

### IV. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The formulation and evaluation of herbal shampoo were conducted using various herbs such as Reetha (Soapnut), Shikakai (Acacia concinna), and Amla (Emblcaofficinalis). The results of the study showed that the formulated herbal shampoo had better detergency and a shiny, oily appearance compared to synthetic shampoos .. The pH of the formulated herbal shampoo was found to be within the acceptable range, indicating its suitability for use on human hair . The viscosity of the formulated herbal shampoo was found to be higher than that of synthetic shampoos, indicating its better stability and texture. The surfactant content of the formulated herbal shampoo was found to be within the acceptable range, indicating its ability to clean and nourish the hair . The preservative efficacy of the formulated herbal shampoo was found to be effective against various microorganisms, indicating its safety and stability .

The results of the study also showed that the formulated herbal shampoo had a significant improvement in hair growth and reduction in dandruff and itchiness . The study suggests that the formulated herbal shampoo can be a natural and effective alternative to synthetic shampoos, with potential benefits for hair and scalp health.

The discussion of the results suggests that the formulated herbal shampoo has better detergency and a shiny, oily appearance due to the presence of Reetha, Shikakai, and Amla . The higher viscosity of the formulated herbal shampoo can be attributed to the presence of Shikakai, which is known for its thickening properties . The surfactant content of the formulated herbal shampoo can be attributed to the presence of Reetha, which is known for its surfactant properties . The preservative efficacy of the formulated herbal shampoo can be attributed to the presence of Amla, which is known for its antimicrobial properties . The significant improvement in hair growth and reduction in dandruff and itchiness can be attributed to the presence of various herbs in the formulated herbal shampoo, which have been shown to have beneficial effects on hair and scalp health .

Overall, the study suggests that the formulated herbal shampoo can be a natural and effective alternative to synthetic shampoos, with potential benefits for hair and scalp health. Further research is needed to fully understand the benefits and limitations of the formulated herbal shampoo and to optimize its formulation and evaluation.



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