

Comments on “Chemistry of Phorbol Ester Toxicity in *Jatropha curcas* Seed – A Review”

(MS: 2012 IRJPAC 2956 by A. Wakandigara L. R. M. Nhamo and J. Kugara

Bioenergy holds great promise to contribute significantly to reduce petroleum consumption and greenhouse gases emissions. Biodiesel derived from the oil of *Jatropha curcas* seed is emerging as an alternative to fossil fuel, since it has the desirable physiochemical characteristics and performance even superior to conventional petroleum diesel. In addition, the plant is able to grow on marginal lands, which eliminates the “food versus fuel” dilemma.

This review paper outlines the previous research done on the *Jatropha curcas* plant, the toxicity of phorbol esters and the efforts made to detoxify the seed using different technique. From the literature it is known that a non-toxic *J. curcas* variety from Mexico that has been reported and its non-toxic nature has been established. It may be worth to improve its yield potential of non-toxic cultivar. Markers to differentiate toxic and non-toxic cultivars have been established and people are working on to knock out the phorbol esters synthesis path ways.

As such the review appears to be very superficial, and there is no consistency in the flow of writing (few examples highlighted in the text and references).

Looking at the importance of work and contributions from the authors, I cannot recommend the MS for publication.

Note: Anonymous Reviewer