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Formulation and Development of Herbal Soap

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Abstract: This study aims to formulate and evaluate the efficacy of a herbal soap enriched with natural botanical extracts for skincare.

Object: The primary objective is to assess the antimicrobial activity and sensory attributes of the herbal soap compared to commercially available synthetic soaps.

Materials: The soap formulation included botanical extracts of lavender (Lavandulaangustifolia), chamomile (Matricariachamomilla), and calendula (Calendula officinalis), sourced locally. Other materials included base oils, sodium hydroxide, and distilled water.

Methods: The soap was produced using the cold-process method, wherein oils were mixed with lye solution, followed by the addition of herbal extracts at appropriate stages. Antimicrobial efficacy was evaluated against Staphylococcus aureus and Escherichia coli using agar well diffusion method. Sensory evaluations were conducted through a panel of volunteers for attributes such as fragrance, lather quality, and skin feel..

Keywords: herbal soap, antimicrobial activity, botanical extracts, cold-process method, sensory evaluation

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