

Review of: "Is Indian Costus Effective Against the SARS-CoV-2 Virus?"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The supportive and synergic potential of herbal medicines as a supplement to the conventional treatment of SARS-CoV-2 is positively an important topic that will hold the researchers attention further ahead. The object of the paper, the species *Dolomiaea costus* (Falc.) Kasana & A.K.Pandey (synonym *Saussurea costus* (Falc.) Lipsch., check out at <https://powo.science.kew.org/taxon/urn:lsid:ipni.org:names:77210782-1>) is well selected, due to both its economic importance and many pharmacological activities. However, the following remarks to the authors should be mentioned:

1. The Latin name of the plant with the correct authorship abbreviation should be given at its first mention.
2. When giving background information of the species distribution it should be checked and precise. The Indian costus is not native to India. The native areal of distribution should be also included in the text.
3. It is obvious that the paper is not a research one but rather tends to be a literature review. Nevertheless, it should have an Introduction that covers the background of the research problem and ends with the aim of the study. There should be Material and Method section with information how the referenced data was selected – time period, data bases, key words, etc. The Results and Discussion section should include assertions and their reasoning over much bigger data compilation than the nine publications references at the end of the paper.
4. More animal-model studies should be included in the discussion as a proof of the effectiveness of the plant preparations towards specific clinical features of SARS-CoV-2.