

# Review of: "Traditional soap plants used in hand hygiene, can play an important role in curbing infectious diseases including COVID-19. So why is there so little research?"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

**The article ‘Review of: Traditional soap plants used in hand hygiene, can play an important role in curbing infectious diseases including COVID-19. So why is there so little research?’ by Denise Goodfellow.**

**The idea is well thoughtful, however this is not a research paper, as this are many aspects which are missing;**

**The abstract does not follow the conventional way of scientific paper, in addition, there is no details method and materials that describes how this data was collected and the tools.**

**The manuscript does not have a study area details.**

**Findings: Since the title is traditional soap plant, I have included at least a list of the plants that are normally used as soap in the study area, of which some are missing.**

The study lacks analytical depth as it is more written as an opinion; most of the references attached to the article are just a bibliography, not a reference. It would be better if the author rethink the manuscript.

The authors should follow the Weckerle et al. (1), Heinrich et al. (2) and Leonti (3) in order to present the idea in more detailed manner.

1. Weckerle CS, de Boer HJ, Puri RK, van Andel T, Bussmann RW, Leonti M. Recommended standards for conducting and reporting ethnopharmacological field studies. *Journal of Ethnopharmacology*. 2018;210:125-32. Epub 2017/08/24.

doi: 10.1016/j.jep.2017.08.018. PubMed PMID: 28834697.

2. Heinrich M, Lardos A, Leontic M, Weckerle C, Willcox M, with the ConSEFS advisory group. Best practice in research: Consensus Statement on Ethnopharmacological Field Studies – ConSEFS. *Journal of Ethnopharmacology* 2018;211
3. Leonti M. The relevance of quantitative ethnobotanical indices for ethnopharmacology and ethnobotany. *Journal of Ethnopharmacology*. 2022:115008.

However, the content is only of a general nature and lacks in-depth analysis and a high level of scientific content. Additionally, a research article should include directions for further research, which are missing in this manuscript. Therefore, this manuscript is unlikely to be accepted for publication in the *Journal of Ethnopharmacology*.