Coriander - Macroscopy Powder and Microscopy

Experiment 11 - Practical Notes

Name: _____ Roll no.: _____ Date: _____

Aim

To describe the authenticated fruit material of Coriander and record supporting identity characters.

Principle

A crude drug is identified from a combination of botanical source, plant part, external morphology and microscopic evidence. Common fragments are not sufficient on their own.

Requirements

- Authenticated Coriander specimen and supplied powder or prepared slide.
- Microscope, measuring scale, slide tools and the assigned species atlas.

Procedure

1. Establish source

Record Coriandrum sativum; Apiaceae. State the specimen code and the supplied plant part.

2. Macroscopic study

Rounded fruits with ridges and two joined mericarps. Measure size, colour, surface and fracture without tasting the material.

3. Section study

Orient the prepared section, identify outer and inner tissue regions and draw a labelled outline.

4. Powder study

Pericarp layers and endosperm; compare the section with the authenticated fruit. Record only the structures actually observed and the magnification used.

5. Compare and conclude

Whole-fruit shape differs from the elongated fennel fruit. Compare the combined evidence with the assigned authenticated specimen.

Observations and Record

Record	Observation
Source / plant part / code	_____
Macroscopic characters	_____
Section tissues and drawing	_____
Powder fragments / magnification	_____
Supported identity and limitation	_____

Result

Coriander specimen code: ____. Plant part: ____. Supporting features: ____. Comparison outcome and limitation: ____.

Precautions

- Never taste crude drugs; toxic specimens require the assigned contained handling or prepared material.
- Record botanical source and plant part instead of relying only on the commercial name.
- Distinguish expected comparison characters from features actually seen.

Viva Questions and Answers

1. What is the examined plant part?

Fruit.

2. Which features support the comparison?

Rounded fruits with ridges and two joined mericarps. Pericarp layers and endosperm; compare the section with the authenticated fruit.

3. Does one common fragment establish identity?

No. Use the combined specimen and microscopic evidence.

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