

Comparative Pharmacognostic Studies in the Genus *Ganoderma* P. Karst. (a Folk Medicine) Sold as an Adulterated Sample of Phansomba

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Ganoderma P. Karst., a regular adulterant of "Phansomba," prompted us to collect more samples from the Pune, Mumbai, and Konkan markets and wildy occurring species of *Ganoderma* from Pune City. Twenty-one different specimens collected during 1999–2000 were selected for the present biochemical analysis (total carbohydrates, total proteins, total free amino acids, and crude ash content) from the dry fruiting body. Total polysac-

charide from the 21 specimens studied ranged between 8% and 14% (% of dry weight); total proteins range between 3% and 8%, total amino acids ranged between 0.5% and 4%; and crude ash content ranged between 2% and 7.5%.

Studies suggest that most of the specimen analyses fall in the range suggested for reishi, except that ash content in the majority of the specimens is on the higher side, that is, more than 3%.