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Review Article

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Green Synthesis of Silver Nanoparticles: A Review

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ABSTRACT

In the present years, nanotechnology is emerging as a favourite field for research. The nanoparticles have drawn the interest of the researchers from varied fields. These particles find different applications in diverse fields. The different types of nanoparticles play an important role in the medical field. Nanoparticles of various size have shown different activities in medical fields. Various physical, chemical and biological methods are in use to synthesize nano materials of which one of the most economic and ecofriendly way is to synthesize them by deploying plant derivatives. The present review discusses applications, stability order of silver nanoparticles from different plants belonging to different families. The biosynthesis of novel metal nanoparticles have gained significance, especially when the nanoparticles are synthesized extracellular and in a controlled manner according to their disparity of shape and size. The aim of this review is to discuss the phytosynthesis of silver nanoparticles from different plants belonging to diverse families.

Keywords: Silver, Nanoparticles, Phytosynthesis.

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1. Introduction

In the present era nanotechnology has emerged as a significant name and has attracted the focus of scientists worldwide due to the promises it makes in diverse areas. The term “Nanotechnology” having derived from Greek word “Bdwarfq” can be defined as the technology using the International Journal of Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Sciences

material of dimensions less than 100nm. Nano scale can be estimated with the fact that a human hair is 80,000 nm wide, a red blood cell is 7000 nm, many molecules including some proteins range between 1 to 2nm and atoms are smaller than 1 nm. Norio Taniguchi, a researcher at the University of

Tokyo, to refer the ability to engineer materials specifically at the nanometer level, first used it. Demand of the electronic industry to create smaller electronic devices on silicon chips served as the first major driving force for such a development leading to creation of nanostructures in 1970s as small as 40 to 70 nm in size (Whitesides GM et al., 2003). The primary driving force for the electronics industry, which urbanized tools to create small electronic devices silicon chips (Ankamwar et al., 2005). These exhibit entirely different novel characteristics as compared to the large particles of bulk material. The nanoparticles are ultrafine particles. When materials were changed into nanoparticles size and properties will be changed. The productions of nanoparticles from materials with new applications were achieved by controlling shape and size at nanometer level. Nanoparticles properties like size and shape dependent on the nanomaterials (Zharov et al., 2005 and Tan et al., 2006). It leads to the chemical and physical differences on their properties like mechanical, biological, catalytic activity, thermal, electrical conductivity, optical absorption, melting point. These particles also have different applications in many fields such as medical, Nano composites, computer transistors, electrometers, chemical sensors, hyperthermia of tumor, drug deliver, bio sensing, catalysts of optics and antimicrobial activity (Kim et al., 2010 and Lee et al., 2008).

Green synthesis of metal nanoparticles are not harmful to environment as it is without use of harsh, toxic and less expensive chemicals. There are many important applications of metal nanoparticles in medicine and pharmacy (Sperling et al., 2008). Different types of metal nanoparticles like silver, gold, platinum and palladium were widely used since many years for medicinal purpose, as they are ecofriendly. These nanoparticles are being used for making cosmetic products like shampoos, soaps, detergents, tooth paste etc. these nanoparticles have proved more effective in medicinal and pharmaceutical field (Puvanakrishnan et al., 2012). Gold nanoparticles are used for biomedical applications and in emerging interdisciplinary field of Nano biotechnology (Medley et al., 2008). Furthermore, gold nanoparticles have been widely used in medicinal field, immunoassay, protein assay, cancer nanotechnology, and capillary electrophoresis, infect diagnostic and drug delivery systems (Bhumkar et al., 2007). Silver nanoparticles have been widely used in research areas such as sensor technology, biological, integrated circuits, sensors, bio-labels, filters, antimicrobial deodorant fibers, cell electrodes, and antimicrobials (Qiu et al., 2004 and Asha Rani et al., 2009). The properties of nanoparticles make them more effective in antimicrobial activity, animal husbandry, accessories and industry fields. These particles in nano size are more effective than particles previously used in medicine (Li et al., 2011 and Torres-Chavolla et al., 2010). These nanoparticles show potential antimicrobial effects against transmittable organisms such as *Escherichiacoli*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Vibria cholera*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Syphilis typhus*, and *Staphylococcus aureus* (Duran et al., 2007 and Cao et al., 2004). Platinum and palladium nanoparticles are widely used as catalysts in many fields; they are used in medicinal, alloys and core shell bimetallic nanostructure. But especially

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palladium nanoparticles have extensive application in electro catalysis, sensing and plasmatic wave guiding (Lin et al., 2011, Cheong et al., 2010 and Coccia et al., 2012). The green synthesis of nanoparticles have been done by using different methods such as (1) Polysaccharide method, (2) *Tollens method*, (3) *Irradiation method*, (4) *Biological method*, (5) *Polyoxometalate* chemical and (6) physical methods. These methods are very energy and capital intensive; employ toxic chemical and nonpolar solvents in the synthetic procedure (Gopidas et al., 2003 and Chen et al., 2010). Now a day's use of synthetic additives or capping agents is their applications in clinical and biomedical fields. Nanoparticles have been produced physically and chemically for a long time, but recent developments show the critical role of microorganisms and biological systems in production of metal nanoparticles. In recent years synthesis of nanoparticles has emerged as a promising field of research in nanobiotechnology (Sharma et al., 2009). Among the above-mentioned synthesized methods, phytosynthesis by plant parts as biological factories to synthesize metallic nanoparticles are under exploitation and advantageous and economical method. In addition, plant extracts has been considered as a green method for the synthesis of nanoparticles due to environmental friendly nature (Mohanpuria and Rai et al., 2008). Different routes have been developed for biologically or biogenic synthesis of nanoparticles from salts of the corresponding metals. Microorganisms, whole plants, plant tissues, fruits, plant extracts and marine algae have been used for the production of nanoparticles (Bar et al., 2009).

The green syntheses of silver nanoparticles are currently exploitation (Shankar et al., 2004). The biological synthesis of metal nanoparticles (particularly gold and silver nanoparticles) uses different stages of plants inactivated plant tissue, plant extracts have been accepted as a suitable alternative to chemical and physical approaches (Mandal et al., 2006 and Bhattacharya et al., 2005). Nanoparticles produced from plant extracts are very effective, economic and valuable for the large-scale production (Gan et al., and Duran et al., 2012). Plants may act as a reducing and capping agents in synthesis of nanoparticles (Luangpipat et al., 2011). The bio-reduction of metal nanoparticles by combinations of biomolecules found in plant extracts such as an amino acids, citrates, enzymes, polysaccharides, proteins, organic acids and vitamins (Ray et al., 2011). The plant extracts are playing an important role in biological route for metal nanoparticle production. Silver nanoparticles have been known for the inhibitory effect on various microorganisms (Musarrat et al., 2010 and Ali et al., 2011). The biological processes like phyto-synthesis of silver nanoparticles have shown as an easier and more rapid method than the tedious and time-consuming traditional methods. The plant extracts have been explored for the formation of silver nanoparticles using silver nitrate substrates (Babu and Banerjee et al., 2011). The rate of synthesis of nanoparticles was found to be very high during the reaction. The whole extracts of plant parts for making of nanoparticles are simple (Baskaralingam and Daisy et al., 2012). This process is good for making of nanoparticles as

they are scalable and may perhaps be less expensive as compared to the relatively expensive methods based on microbial processes (Kalerand Park et al., 2011).

2. Synthesis of Silver Nanoparticles

Reduction method for making of nanoparticles involves two methods of “top down” and “bottom up”. In top-down, method nanoparticles are produced by reduction from suitable starting materials by down-sizing. This method is used for the imperfection on the surface structure of the compound (Meyers et al., 2006 and Thakkar et al., 2010). The physical properties of nanoparticles are depending upon the surface structure. These properties have significant role in all fields; each structure of nanoparticle shows different properties in different applications (Dhillon et al., 2012). The bottom up synthetic method is dependent on chemical and biological methods of manufacture of nanoparticles. The bottom up method is used for the manufacture of nanoparticles in different methods (Gericke et al., 2006). The methods based on microorganisms have been broadly reported. The microbial scalable products are uses for the medical applications. The microbial products are more expensive than plant extracts nanoparticles (Gericke and Luangpipat et al., 2011).

It has been showed that the rate of synthesized nanoparticle from plants is better than microbes and they are more stable. Microorganisms such as bacteria, fungi, yeasts, and viruses have been to the innate potential to produce metal nanoparticles either intra or extra cellular considered as potential bio-factories for synthesis of nanoparticles (Sanghi et al., 2010 and Iravani et al 2011). In comparison between two methods microorganisms and phyto-synthesis method are devoid of complex and multistep processes like microbial isolation, culturing, maintenance etc. and also rapid and cost-effective approach that can be easily scaled up for bulk production of nanoparticles. Biosynthesis method is useful to reduce environmental effects compared with the some of the physical and chemical production methods and also it can be used to produce large quantities of nanoparticles that are free of contamination and have a biosynthetic routes can actually provide nanoparticles of a better defined size and morphology than some of the physicochemical methods of production (Raveendran et al., 2003).

Plants extracts of different plants from different families have been exploited by different researchers for the synthesis of silver nanoparticles the size and shapes of nanoparticles obtained and the plants their part used have been summarized in Table no 1.

Asteraceae, an exceedingly large and widespread family of a angiospermae with members mostly herbaceous and a significant number as shrubs, vines and trees is an important family contributing to herbal medicines, including *Grindelia*, *Echinacea*, and *Yarrow* are known for their antibiotic agents (Panero et al., 2002). In spite of a large number of plants a contrast is observed in case of quantity in production of nanoparticles. For example *Eclipta prostrata*, *Eclipta species*, *Enhydra fluctuans*, *Helianthus annuus*, *Parthenium*

hysterophorus, *Tanacetum vulgare* and *Tridax procumbens* plants produce silver nanoparticles by reduction method by green synthesis. *Eclipta prostrate* leaf extract used for the synthesis of silver nanoparticles. These nanoparticles had been larvicidal activity on filariasis and malaria. These nanoparticles very high potential because of these size 35-60nm (Rajakumar et al., 2011).

Eclipta species leaves negotiated green, low-cost and reproducible synthesis of silver nanoparticles is reported. The synthesis is performed at room temperature and analyzed by X-ray and transmission electron microscopy to ascertain the formation of silver nanoparticles. Almost spherical nanoparticles of size 2-6 nm have surface Plasmon resonance at 419nm as revealed by UV- visible spectroscopy (Jha et al., 2009). *Enhydra fluctuans* plants give silver nanoparticles of size 100-400nm and spherical shape. Extracellular productions of solution stable nanoparticles from the extract of *E. chapmaniana* leaves have been reported. Studies regarding characterization for the toxicity and the mechanisms involved with the antimicrobial and anticancer activity of these particles are can be investing. Synthesized nanoparticles are tested to have good antibacterial action against gram-positive organism than gram-negative organisms (Roy et al., 2010).

These nanoparticles which are spherical, 55nm in size and poly dispersed, are reported to be active against *E.coli*, *salmonella*, *shigella*, *vibrio cholera* by Kirby-bour method. Finally *Eclipta prostrate*, *Tanacetum vulgare*, *Helianthus annuus* (Leela et al., 2008) and *Parthenium hysterophorus* (Parashar et al., 2009) are producing good nano size particles better than all plants. Biosynthesis by aqueous method from *Tanacetum vulgare* fruit extract has yielded silver nanoparticles of size 16nm and spherical in shape (Dubey et al., 2010). The *Rhizome* formed spherical AgNPs of size 6-20 nm. *Dhanalakshmi et al*, reported the synthesis of silver nanoparticles using *Tridax procumbens* bark powder (T and Rajendran et al., 2012).

The Fabaceae commonly known as the legumes is a large and economically important family of flowering plants (Schrire et al., 2005). In this family plants are reported to produce also silver nanoparticles of very fine shape and size. The silver nanoparticles easily prepared by green method of aqueous extract of *Accacia nilotica* pods were reported to be stable with distorted spherical shapes, crystalline structure and 20-30nm in size. The concentration of the extract and the pH of the medium help to control the size whereas the phytoconstituents such as gallic acid, ellagic acid, epicatechin, and rutin act as reducing agents for the synthesis and capping of AgNPs. Cyclic voltammeter studies find the synthesized silver nanoparticles to show greater electro catalytic activity in the reduction of benzyl chloride compared to that of bulk silver (Thomas et al., 2013). An eco-friendly method for the green synthesis of silver nanoparticles from aqueous solutions of silver nitrate using the *carob leaf* extract is a single-pot, fast and convenient process with different concentrations of AgNO₃ forming stable and mostly spherical silver nanoparticles with a

diameter ranging from 5 to 40 nm. AgNPs synthesized from *Cassia fistula* and *Ceratonia siliqua* size 50-60 and 18- 51 nm (Akl et al., 2013, Lin et al., 2010 and Chandrakant et al., 2013).

The single-step environmental friendly approach uses the biomolecules found in plants to induce the reduction of Ag⁺ ions of silver nitrate to silver nanoparticles ranging from 5–20 nm in size, stable and spherical. Nanoparticles of average size ~10 nm synthesized using *Desmodium* plant have presented good antibacterial performance against common pathogens. The nanoparticles when combined with the antibiotics show synergic effect in suppressing growth of pathogens. Reduction of silver ions to nanoparticles using an extract of *Desmodium trifolium* and *Desmodium triflorum* was ascribed to the presence of H⁺ ions, NAD⁺ and ascorbic acid in the extract of the legume to synthesize silver nanoparticles in the size range of 5–20 nm (Ahmad et al., 2011). The reporter explained the synthesis of silver nanoparticles from *Garciniamangostana* and *Gliricidia sepium* plant with size 35nm and 10-50nm respectively, and spherical shape better than the *Geranium* and *Ginko biloba* leaves silver nanoparticles (Rajesh et al., 2009).

In Euphorbiaceae family called spurge family has flowering plants with a number of them having considerable economic importance. Prominent plants include *Manihot esculenta*, *Ricinus communis*, and *Barbados* nut in medicine with some species proved effective against genital HSV-2 (Krishnaraj et al., 2010). The radically symmetrical, unisexual flowers with male and female flowers occurring on the same plant gained the focus of workers to synthesize silver nanoparticles. Leaf extract of *Acalypha indica* produced silver nanoparticles of size 20-30nm with antimicrobial activity against water borne pathogens like *E. coli* and *Vibrio cholera* (Krishnaraj et al., 2010).

Brassica juncea and *Bryophyllum* species produced silver nanoparticles in the different types of size of 2-35 nm and 2-5 nm respectively spherical and unit cell structures (Jha et al., 2009). *Embllica Officinalis* fruit extract gives the silver nanoparticles. These nanoparticles containing the chloroaurate ions. Especially silver sulphate and chloroauric acid solutions produce highly stable silver and gold nanoparticles. TEM analysis of the silver and gold nanoparticles reported size range from 10 to 20 nm and 15 to 25 nm respectively. Synthesis is reported to be followed by a phase transfer into an organic solution using a cationic surfactant octadecylamine.

Transmetallation reaction between hydrophobized silver nanoparticles and hydrophobized chloroaurate ions in chloroform resulted in the formation of gold nanoparticles (Ankamwar et al., 2005). *Euphobia hirta* plant leaves silver nanoparticles, spherical shaped and 40-50nm in size and spherical shape is reported to exhibit the strongest potential for rapid reduction of silver ions (Elumalai et al., 2010). Additionally, the silver nanoparticles are reported to be successfully synthesized using the latex and seed extract of *Jatropha curcas*. Green synthesis of silver nanoparticles

using seed extract of *Jatropha curcas* by aqueous method yielded spherical nanoparticles of size 15-50 nm and spherical (Bar et al., 2009).

The Myrtaceae family is consisting dicotyledonous plants and placed within the order has Myrtle, clove, guava, feijoa, allspice, and eucalyptus as well known plants. This family plant parts are use full in multiple ways (Angiosperm Phylogeny Group et al., 2009). Ravindra et al, analyzed by the silver nanoparticles within cotton fibers loaded with silver ions. Leaf extract of *Eucalyptus citriodora* (neelagiri) plants was used for the synthesis nanoparticles of average size ~20 nm. The cotton fibers loaded with the silver nanoparticles were shown to be antibacterial towards *E. coli*.

The antimicrobial efficiency of cotton fibres loaded with silver nanoparticles developed by “green process” using natural extracts, of *Eucalyptus citriodora* evaluated against gram-negative *Escherichia coli* to be excellent by the incorporation of 2% leaf extracts on cotton fibres along with superior antibacterial activity even after several washings indicating their use in medical and infection prevention applications (Sulaiman et al., 2013 and Sakey Ravindra et al., 2010). A methanolic extract mediated synthesis of silver nanoparticles from *Eucalyptus hybrid* (safeda) is reported with flavonoid and terpenoid compounds in the extract claimed to be responsible for the stabilization of nanoparticles. Synthesis of highly stable and crystalline silver nanoparticles (16-40 nm) by exposing the aqueous geranium leaf extract with silver nitrate solution is reported. The rate of synthesis being very high during the reaction time 60 min entailing the use of plants instead of microorganisms for biosynthesis of metal nanoparticles in a more rapid and reproducible way. Highly concentrated silver nanoparticles obtained from the aqueous fruit extract of *Embalica officinalis* are also reported (Dubey et al., 2009).

Silver nanoparticles 29-92nm in size and spherical shape with stronger antioxidant properties in vitro are produced from the extracts of *S.cumini* seeds as compared to the original extract suggesting a concentration of the polyphenolic antioxidants adsorbed on the surface of the particles. An extract of *Syzygium cumini* seeds with in vitro antioxidant properties is reported to produce silver nanoparticles with even higher antioxidant activity with adsorption of the antioxidants from the extract on the surface of the nanoparticles as possible cause. Formation of crystalline silver nanoparticles using seed extract of *Syzygium cumuni* by extract method is reported to form nanoparticles of size 3.5nm and 73-92 nm and spherical shape (Banerjee et al., 2010).

The Poaceae family is large universal monocotyledonous flowering plants. The poaceae represent the fifth largest plant family following Orchidaceae, Asteraceae, Fabaceae, and Rubiaceae and commonly called as "grasses" with diverse habitats, including wetlands, forests, and tundra (Stevens et al., 2012). Shahail et al, reported the biosynthesis of silver nanoparticles by *Bamboo* leaf extract and their antimicrobial activity against sample bacteria culture. The

silver ions in an aqueous solution were exposed to the bamboo leaves extracts followed by the rapid color change of plant extracts confirming the biosynthesis of silver nanoparticles of size about 30-50 nm, non-spherical in shape (Sohail Yasin et al., 2013). Phenols and flavonoids present in the leaves served as effective reducing agents. In contrast to the use of toxic and flammable chemicals in silver nanoparticles production an environment friendly silver nanoparticles are reported to be produced. These nanoparticles are reported better than *Oryza sativa* (Leela et al., 2008).

The biosynthesis of silver nanoparticles using *Panicum virgatum* grass by an aqueous extract method are reported with an average size range of 20-40 nm and spherical, rod-like, triangular, pentagonal, hexagonal shapes thus generating a hope for the expansion process for the synthesis of different nanoparticles with varied application. Silver nanoparticles from the alcoholic extract of a bryophytic plant leaf *Riccia* is reported amidst many reports from angiospermae (Cynthia Mason et al., 2012). Leaf extracts of plants *Saccharum of ficinarum* and *Sorghum bicolor* are reported to have potential for rapid reduction of silver ions as experiment by Leela et al, Similar productions using leaf extract of *Argemone maxicana*, bran powder of Sorghum spp are also reported (Chaudhari et al., 2013 and Njagi et al., 2010).

Caesalpinioideae is a botanical name ranked as subfamily under family Fabaceae. Having its name derived from generic name *Caesalpinia* it groups, mainly trees with zygomorphic and variable flowers and are distributed in the moist tropics. Papilionoideae and Mimosoideae having resin from the subfamily it is considered paraphyletic and is likely to be split into several subfamilies (Martin et al., 2006). Abhijeet et al, reported the evaluation of antiplasmodial activity of green, silver nanoparticles synthesized from aqueous leaf extract of *Ashoka Neem*, 5-20 nm sized and spherical shaped nanoparticles are reported to be environmentally safe and are used for biomedical applications. They are found to inhibit the growth of *P.falciparum* in human red blood cell culture (Abhijeet Mishra et al., 2013). Uday et al, reported leaf extract of *Cassia auriculata*, a plant with promising medical properties and belonging to family *Cesalpiniaceae* mediate biosynthesis of silver nanoparticles by reducing silver nitrate at room temperature. The silver nanoparticles using the leaf extract of *Cassia auriculata* are reported to be polydispersed, circular and spherical shapes and of size range 11-40 nm. These nanoparticles were evaluated for antimicrobial activity against *E.coli*, *Serratiamarcescens*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Aspergillusniger* and *Aspergillusflavus*. Fungi were most susceptible to silver nanoparticles followed by bacteria with the highest toxicity against *Aspergillus niger* and intermediary effects on *E.coli*, *B.subtilis* and *A. flavus* and exhibited lowest effect on *Serratia marcescens*. The *Ceratonia siliqua* seed gives the silver nanoparticles of size 18-51nm. Leaf extract of *Svensonia hyderabadensis* is reported to produce AgNPs by the aqueous method of size

45nm and spherical shape (Asra Praveen et al., 2012 and Rao et al 2011).

The Lamiaceae are a family of flowering plants, traditionally been considered closely related to Verbenaceae. The plants, frequently aromatic include many widely used culinary herbs, such as basil, mint, rosemary, sage, savory, marjoram, oregano, hyssop, thyme, lavender, and perilla. Some are shrubs; trees, such as teak, vines (Peter et al., 2001). Ali et al, reported the synthesis of silver and gold nanoparticles using leaf extracts of *Mentha piperita* plant. These nanoparticles have antibacterial activity against clinically isolated human pathogens such as *E. coli* and *S. aureus* (Ali et al., 2011). Philip et al, reported nanoparticle biosynthesis from *Ocimum sanctum* leaf extract using silver nitrate solution. This plant formed effective nanoparticles sized 10-20nm and spherical in shape. Highly stabilized silver nanoparticles are recently reported to be biosynthesized using leaf of *Ocimum tenuiflorum* as an extract of *Ocimum sanctum* leaves reduce silver nitrate into silver ions. The high activity of the extract was ascribed to the relatively high levels of ascorbic acid contained in the extract. In other studies, silver nanoparticles produced using *O.sanctum* leaf extracts have been found to have a high antimicrobial activity against both Gram-negative (*E. coli*) and Gram-positive (*Streptococcus aureus*) microorganisms. Patil produced highly stabilized silver nanoparticles (25–40 nm) using a leaf extract *Ocimum tenuiflorum*. The particles were antibacterial towards Gram-negative and Gram-positive bacteria (Ahmad et al., 2010 and Patil et al., 2012).

Rutaceae commonly known as the citrus family, they are flowering plants, usually placed in the order sapindales (Cynthia et al., 2007). These plants contained high level ascorbic acid due to this; it gives the high effect on the different activities. *Citrus* being the most economically important genus in the family includes orange, lemon and grape fruit. Green synthesized the silver nanoparticles spherical in shape and 40nm in size using juice of *Citrus lemon* by incubating the juice with 10^{-2} M silver nitrate solution Citric acid present in the juice served as principal, reducing agent (Prathna et al., 2011). Silver nanoparticles biosynthesis using *Citrus sinensis peel* extract is reported to yield 35 ± 2 nm spherical particles using a simple green chemistry procedure and citrus peel extract as reducing and capping agent. The silver nanoparticles formed are spherical in shape and 35 and 10 nm in size synthesized at 25 °C and 60 °C. Their antibacterial activity against *Escherichia coli*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (Gram-negative), and *Staphylococcus aureus* (Gram-positive) is reported to be effective (Kaviya et al., 2011). Phillips et al, synthesized silver nanoparticles using the leaf extract of *Murraya keenigii* plant of size 10nm and shape crystalline, spherical. Song et al, reported a rapid biological synthesis of silver nanoparticles using *Magnolia kobus* leaf extract by aqueous method yielding particles of size range 15- 500 nm and cubic and spherical in shape (Philip et al., 2011). The Liliaceae (Lily family) family of monocotyle donperennial, herbaceous geophytes, often bulbous plants within the order Liliales consisting of fifteen genera and approximately 600

species. The leaves are linear, mostly with parallel veins. Many Liliaceae are important ornamental plants, widely grown with their attractive flowers and involved in a major floriculture of cut flowers and dry bulbs (Stevens et al., 2013). Saxena et al, reported the compatibility of the bark and powder extracts of *Allium cepa* plant for the formation of silver nanoparticles of varied shapes and sizes in a high amount. These nanoparticles are reported to have strong antibacterial activity against the *Escherichia coli* (Saxena et al., 2010). Chandran et al, biosynthesized silver nanoparticles from extracts of *Aloe vera* by green extract method from different parts of *A.Vera* plant with different metals as an attempt to synthesize nanoparticles with different chemical composition. These nanoparticles size ranged from 152-350nm and shaped as spherical or triangular (Chandran et al., 2006).

The Anacardiaceae family is bearing fruits mainly drupes and irritant. It is numerous economically important genera (Solereider et al., 2009). The genus pistacia plant parts are highly poisonous produce foul smelling milky sap. The green synthesis of silver nanoparticles by mangifera indica extract produce 20nm size, spherical, triangular and hexagonal shapes. The menocydalon leaf extract shows silver nanoparticles of average size 50-90nm and square shape to be effective than gold Nanoparticles (Sheny and Philip et al., 2011).

Aizoaceae or Ficoidaceae is a family of dicotyledonous flowering plants containing genera and about 1900 species which are commonly known as “stone plants”. Some species resembling stones or pebbles are sometimes called “mesembs” whereas several others are known as “ice plants”. Widely recognised by taxonomists, the family was once named “Ficoideae” (Cornelia Klak et al., 2003). Highlighted the possibility to use tissue culture derived callus and leaf extract from *Sesuvium portulacastrum* for the synthesis of silver nanoparticles sized 5-20nm and spherical in shape. Dubey et al, reported the biosynthesis of silver nanoparticles from *sorbus aucuparia* plant of 16nm in size and spherical and triangular in shape (Asmathunisha Nabikhan et al., 2010). Geethalakshmi et al, reported a cost effective and environment friendly technique contrary to the traditional synthesis of metallic nanoparticles by wet chemical techniques often using toxic and flammable chemicals employing green synthesis of silver nanoparticles from 1mM AgNO₃ solution using the extract of *Trianthema decandra* as

reducing capping agent. The average particle size of 15 nm and cubic structure is reported. The effects of silver nanoparticles were done in antimicrobial activity on human pathogenic *Escherichia coli* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* by standard disc diffusion method (Geethalakshmi et al., 2010).

The Solanaceae, family is an economically important flowering plant. These family plants are useful for the agriculture crops, medicinal plants, spices, weeds and ornamentals (Olmstead et al., 2006). Some other plants such as *Petunia*, *Browallia*, *Lycianthes*, *Datura*, mandragora and atropa belladonna effect on the poisons (Kesharwani et al., 2009). *Datura* leaf extract nanoparticles are more stable depend upon the size of nanoparticles. The extract contains alkaloids, proteins, enzymes, amino acids, alcoholic compounds, polysaccharides and pigments like quinol and chlorophyll are said to be responsible for the reduction of the silver ions to nanoparticles and their stabilization. Prasad et al, reported the synthesis of silver nanoparticles from leaf extract of *Nicotiana tobaccum* of size 8nm and crystalline in shape (Prasad et al., 2011). The Moraceae family is called as mulberry family. This family has mostly flowering plants and tropical and subtropical regions in different climates.

The Moraceae often called the mulberry family are flowering plants comprising about 40 genera and over 1000 species widespread mostly in tropical and subtropical regions and some in temperate climates. Presence of laticifers and milky sap in all parenchymatous tissues is only synapomorphy with presence of two carpels sometimes with one reduced, compound inconspicuous flowers, and compound fruits are other generally useful field characters. It includes well known plants such as the fig, banyan, bread fruit, mulberry and osage orange (Datwyler et al., 2004). Biosynthesis of silver nanoparticles is reported to be done from the aqueous solution of silver nitrate by using *Artocarpus heterophyllus* seed dried powder extract. The silver nanoparticles morphology in crystalline phase is reported to be irregular in shape with average size of 3-25 nm (Umesh et al., 2013). Antibacterial activity against such as *Bacillus cereus*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *staphylococcus aureus*, and *pseudomonas aeruginosa* but not against on *Salmonella typhimurium*, *proteus vulgaris* is also reported (Mubarak Ali et al., 2011 and Ravindra et al., 2010).

Table 1: Silver Nanoparticles synthesized from plant extracts of different plants from various families and the size and shape of the nanoparticles obtained.

S.No	Plant name	Part	Metal	Size	Shape	References
Asteraceae	<i>Eclipta prostrate</i>		Ag	35-60 nm	Triangular, Pentahons, Hexagons	Rajakumar et al.(2011)
	<i>Eclipta sp</i>		Ag	2-6 nm	Spherical	Jha et al. (2009)
	<i>Enhydra fluctuans</i>		Ag	100-400 nm	Spherical	Roy et al. (2010)
	<i>Helianthus annus</i>	Leaves	Ag			Leela et al., 2008
	<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>	Leaves	Ag	50 nm	Irregular	Parashar et al. (2009)

	<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>	Fruit	Ag	16 nm	Spherical	Dubey et al. (2010)
	<i>Tridax procumbens</i>	Leaves	Ag	55 nm	Poly dispersed	Dhanalakshmi et al. (2012)
Fabaceae	<i>Acacia nilotica</i>	Fruits	Ag	20-30 nm	Spherical	Thomas et al.(2013)
	<i>Ceratonia siliqua</i>	Leaves	Ag	5-40 nm	Spherical	Akl et al.(2013)
	<i>Cassia fistula</i>		Ag	50-60 nm		Lin et al.(2010)
	<i>Ceratonia siliqua</i>		Ag	18-51 nm		Chandrakant et al. (2013)
	<i>Desmodium triflorum</i>		Ag	5–20 nm	Spherical	Ahmad et al.(2011)
	<i>Gliricidia sepium</i>		Ag	10–50 nm	Spherical	Rajesh et al.(2009)
Euphorbiaceae	<i>Acalypha indica</i>		Ag	20–30 nm	Spherical	Krishnaraj et al.(2010)
	<i>Bryophyllum sp.</i>		Ag	2–5 nm	Unit-cell Structure	Jha et al.(2009)
	<i>Embllica officinalis</i>	Fruit	Ag	10–20 nm	Spherical	Ankamwar et al.(2005)
	<i>Euphorbia hirta</i>	Leaves	Ag	40–50 nm	Spherical	Elumalai et al.(2010)
	<i>Jatropha curcas</i>	Latex	Ag	10–20 nm	Fcc unit-cell structure	Bar et al.(2009)
		Seed	Ag	15–50 nm	Spherical	Bar et al. (2009)
Myrtaceae	<i>Eucalyptus chapmaniana</i>		Ag	60 nm	Crystalline, Cubic structure	Sulaiman et al.(2013)
	<i>Eucalyptus citriodora</i>		Ag	20 nm	Spherical	Sakey Ravindra et al. (2010)
	<i>Eucalyptus hybrid</i>		Ag	50–150 nm	Spherical, Crystalline	Dubey et al.(2009)
	<i>Syzygium cumini</i>		Ag	29–92 nm	Spherical	Banerjee et al.(2010)
Poaceae	<i>Bamboo plant</i>	Leaves	Ag	13-50nm	Non Spherical	Sohail Yasin et al. (2013)
	<i>Oryza sativa</i>	Leaves	Ag			Leela et al. (2008)
	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>		Ag	20-40 nm	Spherical, Triangular, Pentagonal,	Cynthia Mason et al.(2012)
	<i>Saccharum officinarum</i>	Leaves	Ag			Chaudhari et al.(2013)
	<i>Sorghum spp</i>	Bran powder	Ag	10-50 nm		Njagi et al.(2010)
Caesalpiniaceae	<i>ashoka and neem</i>	Leaves	Ag	5-20 nm	Spherical	Abhijeet Mishraa et al.(2013)
	<i>Cassia auriculata</i>	Leaves	Ag	11- 40nm	Circular, Spherical	Asra Praveen et al. (2012)
	<i>Svensonia hyderabadensis</i>	Leaves	Ag	45 nm	Spherical	Rao et al. (2011)
Lamiaceae	<i>Menta piperita</i>	Leaves	Ag	90 nm	Spherical	Ali et al.(2011)
	<i>Ocimum sanctum</i>	Root	Ag	5-20 nm	Spherical	Ahmad et al. (2010)
	<i>Ocimum tenuiflorum</i>	Leaves	Ag	25–40 nm	Spherical	Patil et al.(2012)
Rutaceae	<i>Citrus limon</i>		Ag	>50 nm	Spherical and Spheroid	Prathna et al.(2011)

	<i>Citrus sinensis</i>	Peel	Ag	35+2 nm	Spherical	Kaviya et al. (2011)
	<i>Murraya keenigii</i>	Leaves	Ag	10 nm	Crystalline, Spherical	Philip et al.(2011)
Liliaceae	<i>Allium cepa</i>	Leaves	Ag	33.6 nm	Spherical	Saxena et al.(2010)
	<i>Aloe vera</i>		Ag	350 nm	Triangular, Spherical	Chandran et al. (2006)
Anacardiaceae	<i>Anacardium occidentale</i>		Ag	17 nm		Sheny et al.(2011)
	<i>Mangifera indica</i>	Leaves	Ag	20 nm	Spherical, Triangular, Hexagonal	Philip et al.(2011)
Aizoaceae	<i>sesuvium portulacastrum</i>	Leaves	Ag	5-20 nm		Asmathunisha Nabikhan et al.(2010)
	<i>Trianthema decandra</i>	Root	Ag	15 nm	Cubic and Hexagonal	Geethalakshmi et al. (2010)
Solanaceae	<i>Datura metel</i>		Ag	16–40 nm	Spherical, Ellipsoidal	Kesharwani et al.(2009)
	<i>Nicotiana tobaccum</i>	Leaves	Ag	8 nm	Crystalline	Prasad et al. (2011)
Moraceae	<i>Artocarpus heterophyllus lam</i>	Seed	Ag	3-25 nm	Spherical	Mubarak et al.(2011)
	<i>Ficus bengalensis</i>		Ag	~20 nm	Spherical	Ravindra et al.(2010)

3. Conclusion

This review summarizes the recent work in the field of phytosynthesis of silver nanoparticles the number of plants are available in nature and many of them can produce nanoparticles. The Phytosynthesis of precious Ag nanoparticles is necessary in order to develop a rational approach. Thus it has been concluded that the significance and the stability, order of Phytosynthesized Ag nanoparticles of different families of plants increases with a decrease in its size.

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5. References

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