PHARMACOGNOSTIC STUDY OF PLANT MATERIALS FROM THE MUSACEAE FAMILY

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Introduction. Demand on phytomedicines grows constantly. It is associated with a wide spectrum of pharmacological action, insignificant side effects, compared with synthetic analogues. One of relevant tasks of modern pharmacy is the search of new valuable sources of medicinal plant material. Bananas are one of the oldest food crops for tropical countries and an important food plant for main export. There are more than 40 types of banana varieties, however is widely used for export and food purposes the artificially created variety Musa paradisiaca. The banana contains a great number of biologically active compounds, such as vitamins of C, B, K, P, Fe, methionine, lysine and tryptophan. **Some** banana varieties are cultivated in Ukraine. This group of the plants includes mainly inedible ornamental varieties with very beautiful colors. They can be grown wild or they are grown by advices of beauty. Inedible bananas are also used for the production of different textile products, pillows, for motor-car seats and nets. These banana variaties include textile banana, Japanese banana, Darjecling banana etc.

Aim. Morphological and anatomical study of paradise banana fruit.

Materials and methods. The object of the study were pericarp of paradise banana fruit. The plant material was collected in spring 2017.

Results and discussion. Morphological analysis and identification of diagnostic features of the anatomical structure of pericarp Paradise banana fruit was carried out. It was found that in terms of morphological diagnostic value of the pericarp the color, texture, external and internal surface of the pericarp, innervation type, vascular bundles were of the great importance; for stem-length, surface and color. From the anatomical point of view the major diagnostic features of the pericarp as a plant material were the nature of the epidermal cuticle, structural features of epidermal cells, as well as the structural features and placement of the conducting system.

Conclusions. The analysis of morphological and anatomical structure of the pericarp of paradise banana fruit is the first step in the pharmacognostical study of raw materials of Musaceae family.