



HPLC Analysis of Bioactive Steroids from the Roots of *Withania somnifera* (L.) Dunal (Ashwagandha)

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SUMMARY. A simple procedure was described for the determination of Withanolide A and Withanolide B in Ashwagandha root by HPLC. Separation was achieved on a Spherisorb C18 column with Water: Acetonitrile in the gradient elution. Detection was accomplished with UV detection at $\lambda = 216$ nm. Using this method, the bioactive steroid in *Withania somnifera* was determined. Significant variations in the contents of Withanolide A and Withanolide B in Ashwagandha root growing in different locations were also observed.

KEY WORDS: Ashwagandha, Bioactive steroid, HPLC, *Withania somnifera*, Withanolide A, Withanolide B.

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