

Clastogenic Effect of *Carthamus lanatus* L. (Asteraceae)

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The clastogenic effect of total dichloromethane, methanol and water extracts, four bioactive fractions and three individual constituents from *Carthamus lanatus* aerial parts were evaluated in mice by bone marrow chromosome aberration assay with mitomycin C as positive control. Significant differences in the percentage of aberrant mitosis of the extracts were observed. The dichloromethane extract exhibited a considerable clastogenic effect and the water extract a negligible one. Different types of chromosome aberrations and time-dependant effects for the active fractions and individual compounds were found.

Key words: *Carthamus lanatus*, Clastogenic Effect