

435

EDEMA IS INHIBITED BY ALOE VERA. R.H. Davis,
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We examined the anti-edema activity of Aloe vera (150 mg/kg) against inflammation induced by seven known irritants at a 2% concentration in the rat paw edema assay. A 77% inhibition was recorded for gelatin whereas dextran produced a 23% inhibition. Carrageenan was the most potent irritant and mustard was the least active. When colorized and decolorized (without anthraquinone) Aloe (100mg/kg/per day) were given orally over 21 days, only colorized Aloe produced a positive 54% inhibition of croton oil induced ear swelling. The decolorized Aloe had no effect suggesting possibly that anthraquinone is needed for oral activity. Topical administration of 1% Aloe produced a maximum 64% inhibition of croton oil induced edema. These data suggest that low doses of Aloe vera can be effective over a broad range of irritant induced inflammation.