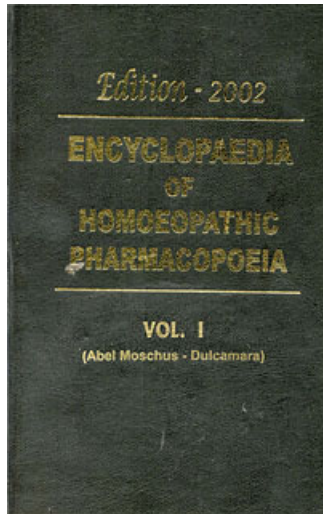


Varma / Vaid
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2002

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ABELMOSCHUS

(Abel)

Botanical name: *Hibiscus abelmoschus* Linn., **Family:** *Malvaceae*
Abelmoschus moschatus Moench.

Synonyms: *Hindi:* Mushkdana.
English: Hibiscus.

Clinically used in Addisons disease, anaemia, lymphangitis of reticulo-endothelial system, glaucoma and asthma.

Seeds are stimulant, carminative and antispasmodic. It is an aphrodisiac and demulcent. Used in gonorrhoeal cystitis and urethritis. It has also been used as an antidote to the venoms of insects, spiders and snakes.

Description: An erect hispid annual or biennial herb upto 2 m in height; leaves ovate, cordate or usually palmately 5 to 7 lobed, lobe spreading and oblong-lanceolate and coarsely toothed, hairy on both surfaces; petiole usually longer than the blade with long deflexed hairs; stipules small subulate; flowers 1 to 10 cm across, bright yellow with purple or crimson center, solitary, often appearing to be terminal; bracteoles 6 to 12 linear up to 19 mm, calyx 15 toothed completely connate; capsule 2.5 to 7.5 cm long, oblong-lanceolate, setose.

Distribution: Cultivated in hotter parts of India. Common in Bengal. Grows in Egypt, West Indies, Mexico and other sub-tropical countries.

Part used: Seed (possesses an aromatic odour resembling that of musk).

Macroscopical: Seed 3.4 to 3.7 mm long, 2.4 to 2.7 mm in breadth and 1.9 to 2.2 mm in length, reniform and concavity representing ventral side of the seed whose dirty grey coloured portion represents hilum as seed scar; dorsal side roughly semicircular while the sides having slight depressions prominent towards concavity of seeds; narrow concentric warted ridges and furrow running more or less parallel to general contour of the seed. Foreign organic matter not to exceed 2 per cent.

Microscopical: Seed coat composed of two integuments; outer integument forming ridges and furrows, having two layers in the region of furrow and three layers in the ridge; in furrows outer epidermal cells are thin walled, narrow and tangentially elongated, innermost layer of outer integument slightly thick walled; middle layer persisting only in ridges and have thick walled cells, outer integument cells free of contents and are semi-transparent. Outer epidermis forms fringe tissue, space between these layers is filled with tanniferous and other mesophyll cells; walls of palisade cells, fringe tissue and tanniferous zone become lignified, in palisade cells a distinct lighting is left in the middle.

DAPHNE INDICA (Spurge laurel)

Botanical name: *Daphne indica* Hook and Am., **Family:** *Thymelaceae*
Wikstroemia indica,
Daphne foetida Forst.

Synonyms: *English:* Sweet-scented spurge laurel.
French: Laureolia de chine.
German: Lorbeer blatteriger spitzenbast.

Acts on lower tissues, muscles, bones and skin. Sudden, lightning jerks in different parts of the body. *Craving for tobacco*. Burning in stomach. Parts of the body feel separated (*Bapt*). *Foetid* breath, urine, sweat.

Description: An evergreen shrub 60 cm to 1 m high, with an erect stem branching at the top, branches glabrous or slender, silky-hairy. Leaves ovate and obtuse to ovate-lanceolate and acute to oblong-lanceolate and tapering at both ends, up to 5 cm long, thin and glabrous. Flowers very shortly pedicellate in small terminal heads, sometimes in short spikes; perianth greenish-yellow, glabrous or slightly hairy, tubular hypogynous scales 4, small, narrow, approximate in opposite pairs, sometimes the two connate at the base, drupe red, about 1.3 cm in diameter with the endocarp rather hard.

Distribution: West Indies and China.

Part used: Bark

Microscopical: Transection shows a several layered bark, a 4 to 8 layered cork cambium, a secondary cortex of 5 to 8 layers of tangentially elongated parenchyma cells, followed by a wide primary cortex of isodiametric parenchyma cells. Phloem large, radiating with vast fibres and uniseriate parenchyma rays.

- Identification:** (i) Extract 5 g of the drug with 50 ml *alcohol*, filter and to 1 ml add 10 ml *dilute sodium hydroxide solution*; yellow colour is produced.
- (ii) To 10 ml of the above alcoholic extract add 2 ml *dilute hydrochloric acid* and heat on a waterbath to dryness. Extract the residue in *ether*. Dry with *anhydrous sodium sulphate* and then concentrate by evaporation. To the aqueous solution of the concentrate add a few drops of *alcoholic ferric chloride solution*; a green colour is produced which turns red on addition of *sodium carbonate*[^]

NABALUS SERPENTARIUS (Nab. serp.)

Botanical name: *Prenanthes serpentaria* Pursh., **Family:** *Asteraceae*
Nabalus serpentarius Hook.,
Nabalus fraseri DC.

Synonyms: *English:* Rattle-snake root, White lettuce.
French: Pied d'Leon, Laitue blanche.
German: Weisser lattich.

Milky juice or a decoction of the root was used as an antidote to the bite of a rattle-snake. It is also used in constipation, ophthalmia, irritability, dyspepsia, leucorrhoea and menstrual disorders.

Description: A perennial herb, 60-120 cm in height. *Root:* tuberous, spindle-shaped. *Stem:* stout, upright, sometimes purple spotted. *Leaves:* irregularly alternate, distinctly pinnately lobed, broadest above the middle, lobes generally more rounded. *Inflorescence:* 8-16 flowered, corymbose, thyrsoid, paniculate, drooping head. Involucre glabrous, broader, commonly with at least a few long coarse hairs; bracts obscurely to conspicuously speckled with fine black dots; reduced outer involucral bracts narrow, commonly lance triangular; pappus straw-coloured. *Fruit:* an achene, often narrowed to a terete and nerveless summit. Taste of root very bitter.

Distribution: Eastern North America to Alabama, Massachusetts to Florida, Mississippi; found in rich soil on the borders of wood, sometimes in sterile soil in open ground.

Part used: The whole fresh plant.

History and authority: Proved by Lazarus, M., *N.A.J, of Horn*; mentioned in Allen, T.F., *Encyclop. of Pure Mat. Med.*; *Homoeopathic Reference Pharmacopoeia* of United States.

Preparation: (a) **Mother Tincture 0** Drug strength 1/10
Nabalus Serpentaria,
moist magma containing, solid 100 g
Plant Moisture 300 ml 400 g
Strong Alcohol 730 ml
To make one litre of the Mother Tincture.

(b) **Potencies:** 2x to contain one part Mother Tincture, two parts Purified Water, seven parts Strong Alcohol. 3x and higher with Dispensing Alcohol.

Prescribed dose: 1x and higher.

Note: HPI desires Alcohol percentage 45% - 67%.

ULEX EUROPAEUS

(*Ulex. eur.*)

Botanical name: *Ulex europaeus* Linn.

Family: *Fabaceae*
(*Papilionaceae*)

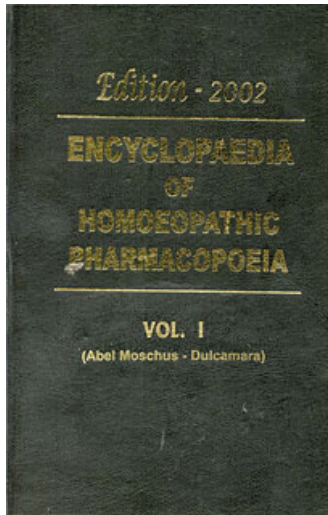
Common names: *English:* Gorse;
French: Grand ajone;
German: Gaspeldorn.

Description: An evergreen, densely spinous shrub 60-240 cm high, with main branches erect or ascending, with rather sparse, blackish hairs. From them arising numerous horizontal short branches armed with many rigid, sharp and branched spines; all branches end in spiny tips. Only vigorous shoots near the ground bear fully developed leaves. Leaves linear, 15-25 mm, sharply pointed, becoming spinous or scaly with age. Spines 1.5-2.5 cm green rigid, deeply furrowed. Stipules 0. Flower abundant, golden yellow, axillary, 11-20 mm., pedicelate, bracteolate, bracteoles 2, at the apex of pedicel, 2-4 mm wide. Calyx bilabiate, yellowish, with lower lip 3-toothed, upper minutes 2-toothed. Corolla papilionaceous, bright yellow, 20-25 mm long, standard broadly obovate, wings and keel oblong-ovate, obtuse, the keel hairy along the lower margin, wings longer than keel. Stamens monadelphous in closed tube, adherent to the claws of the wings and keel, alternately long and small, long with globose anthers and short with linear anthers. Pods 2-4 seeded, 11-20 mm long, turgid, oblong, black or dark-brown with grey or brown hairs and subtended by persistent calyx. Seeds strophiolate.

Part used: Seeds.

Macroscopical: Seeds rounded-oblong, somewhat flattened. 2-3 mm in length and 2 mm wide, with an arched dorsal surface; seed coat thick, hard, smooth, glossy, dark brown to black; a depression or longitudinal groove on one side. Caruncle pale coloured at one extremity.

Microscopical: *Seed:* in transverse section shows: the testa made up of a layer of an outer epidermis consisting of palisade cells layer of sclereids with unevenly thickened walls becoming two layered at hilar region and covered by thin cuticle. This is followed by a zone of hypodermis differentiated into and upper single layer of small columnar cells called hourglass-cells or osteosclereids followed by tangentially elongated compressed, thin walled parenchyma cells. Hypodermal layer of osteosclereids becomes multi layered at the hilar region. Compact group of tracheids with reticulate thickening occur at hilar region. The caruncle at the hilar region consists of thin walled elongated, turgid, pale yellowish parenchyma cells, a layer inner epidermis. The endosperm a distinct zone of



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