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**Sanskrit Name:** Agnimantha

**Identification No:** SDACH/HG/280

**Botanical Name:** *Premna serratifolia* L. (syn. *Premna integrifolia*)

**Family Name:** Lamiaceae (formerly Verbenaceae)

**Vernacular Names:**

Hindi – Arni

Marathi – Aghada

Tamil – Munnei

Telugu – Nelli chettu

Kannada – Munnu gida

Malayalam – Munnay

English – Headache tree, Premna

**Synonyms** – Shloka from Bhav Prakash:

“अग्निमन्थो जयः स स्याच्छ्रीपर्णी गणिकारिका ।

जया जयन्ती तर्कारी नादेयी वैजयन्तिका ॥”

**Classification:**

- Charaka: Included in *Dashamoola*, *Shirovirechanopaga*, *Shothahara Gana*
- Sushruta: *Dashamoola*
- Vagbhata: *Dashamoola*
- Bhavaprakasha: *Guduchiyadi Varga*

**Habitat & Distribution:**

Widely distributed throughout India, especially in tropical and subtropical regions. Found in dry deciduous forests, near riverbanks, roadsides, and coastal regions. Common in states like Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Odisha, West Bengal.

**Morphology**

A small tree or large shrub up to 10 m tall. Bark is thin, greyish-brown, rough. Leaves are ovate, serrate (hence *serratifolia*), aromatic, opposite. Flowers are small, greenish-white to pale violet, in dense terminal cymes. Fruits are drupe, black with globose, with a hard seed.

**Varieties:**

Two main varieties mentioned:

- *Premna serratifolia* (Arni/Agnimantha) – Laghu Agnimantha
- *Clerodendrum phlomidis* (also called Agnimantha in some regions) – Brihat Agnimantha

**Substitute / Adulterant:**

- *Clerodendrum phlomidis* is sometimes used interchangeably or mistakenly as Agnimantha.
- Adulterants may include other *Premna* species.

**Phytochemicals:**

Alkaloids, flavonoids, iridoid glycosides, saponins, sterols, tannins, and essential oils. Leaves contain premnine, serratin, and betulinic acid.

**Raspanchaka:**

- Rasa – Tikta, Kashaya
- Guna – Laghu, Ruksha
- Virya – Ushna
- Vipaka – Katu
- Prabhava – Shothahara
- Dosha Shamakta – Vata-Kaphahara

**Karma (Rogaghnata):**

- Shothahara (anti-inflammatory)
- Vatanulomaka
- Deepana (appetizer)
- Mutrala (diuretic)
- Jwarahara (antipyretic)
- Vranaropana (wound healing)
- Krimighna (antiparasitic)

**Amayika Prayoga / Therapeutic Uses:**

External – Leaf paste used in inflammatory swellings, wounds, and boils. Decoction used for washing ulcers.

Internal – Useful in vata-kapha disorders like arthritis, fever, abdominal distension, urinary tract disorders, cough, and

**Part Used:** Root, root bark, leaves

**Dose:**

- Churna (powder): 3–6 g
- Kwatha (decoction): 50–100 ml
- Fresh leaf juice: 10–15 ml

**Yoga / Formulations:**

- Dashamoola Kwatha
- Dashamoolarishta
- Brihat Panchamoola Taila
- Agnimanthadi Kashaya
- Shothaghna Mahakashaya

**IUCN Status:** Least Concern (LC)

**Research Updates**

1. 2023 – *International Journal of Ayurveda Research* published a study validating anti-inflammatory and analgesic properties of *Premna serratifolia* root extract.
2. 2021 – Study in *Pharmacognosy Journal* revealed hepatoprotective effects against CCl<sub>4</sub>-induced hepatotoxicity in rats.
3. 2020 – Research in *Asian Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences* demonstrated antioxidant and antibacterial activity of leaf extract, particularly against *E. coli* and *S. aureus*.

**About Us**

The College is recognized by National Commission for Indian System of Medicine, New Delhi and affiliated to the Shri Krishna Ayush University, Haryana for B.A.M.S. (Ayurvedacharya) Course. The College has produced over 1000 well-trained Graduates so far who are serving the

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ailing humanity in urban as well as rural areas and are well placed in Govt. Services or in their private enterprises. The College has gained distinction as various important and well-known pharmaceutical companies of the country have shown keen interest in the activities and development of Ayurveda in the College.



## Agnimantha – Shri Dhanwantry Ayurvedic College & Hospital



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