



Piper nigrum L.

Family: Piperaceae

Vernacular names: Kurumulaku, കുരുമുളക് (Malayalam), Black pepper (English), Maricha (Sanskrit), Golmorich (Hindi), Milagu (Tamil)

Distribution: Peninsular India and Sri Lanka, cultivated elsewhere

Description: Epiphytic climbing shrubs. Leaves ovate, acuminate at apex, acute, 7-nerved. Spikes to 12 cm long, slender. Flowers greenish-yellow, closely placed. Drupes globose, smooth, deep red.

Habit: Climbers/Lianas

Habitat: Evergreen and semi-evergreen forests, also cultivated

Flowering & Fruiting: July-March

Parts used: Fruits

Properties & Uses: Fruits are carminative, antiperiodic, rubefacient, stimulant and aphrodisiac; used for the treatment of cough and cold. It is also useful in the treatment of cholera, obstinate fever, dyspepsia, constipation, piles, colic, gastric troubles, ascites, anemia, worms, asthma, sore throats, toothache and skin diseases.

Systems of Medicines: Ayurveda, Folk, Unani, Homeo,

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