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Shalaparni



Botanical Name: Desmodium gangeticum DC

Family: Papilionaceae; Fabaceae

Identification No.: SDACH/HG/011

Introduction:

In south India Desmodium gangeticum used as 'PRSNI PARNI', but in North India Uraria picta is used. Prsniparni is one important herbs according to Atharvaveda

Names in different Indian languages:

English: Salpan, salvan

Kannada: Nabiyalabune, nariyalavona

Malayalam: Orila

Sanskrit: Prsniparni, Prthakparni

Tamil: Orila

Telugu: gitanaram

Folk: Sarivan.

Synonyms:

Shaaliparni, Shaalaparni, Sthiraa, Somyaa, Guhaa, Triparni, Vidaarigandha, Anshumati.

Hedysarum gangeticum Linn.

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"शालपर्णी सरा स्वादुः शीतला गुरुशुक्रला। विदाहि पित्तकृत् तिक्ता कफवातहरी परा॥"

Classification according to Charaka, Susrutha & Vagbhata:

Charaka: Angamarda prasamana, sothahara, Sandhäniya

Susrutha: Vidãrigandhadi, Haridrãdi

Vagbhata: Haridrãdi

Varieties & adulterants - (CV - controversy, AD - adulterants):

1. sãlaparni and Prniparni are used for each other.

- 2. Srgalavinna
- 3. U. lagopoides Dc.
- 4. Prsniparni visesa
- 5. U.hamosa
- 6. U. crinite
- 7. Desmodium nudiflorum
- 8. Uraria picta

Morphology:

It is an erect little-branched herb or undershrub, 1-1.5 m height.

Leaves- variable, 1-3 foliate, white, usually 10-15 cm long; leaflets 4-6, lanceolate or linear oblong, obtuse.

Flowers- in dense cylindrical racemes, purple coloured.

Fruits- pods, glabrous, turgid, 3-6, jointed, often whitish.

Seeds-1-12, reniform, reddish (Flowers during rainy season and fruits in winter).

Habitat & Distribution:

All over India

Chemical composition:

gangetin, gangetinin, desmodin and several alkaloids.

Properties:

Rasa: Madhura, Tikta

Guna: Laghu, Snigdha

Virya: Usna

Vipaka: Madhura

Karma: Tridosahara, Grãhi, Vrsya, Dipaniyam, hridya

antipyretic, diuretic, astringent, anticatarrhal (used in post-natal care, chronic fever, cough, biliousness, vomiting), diu anthelmintic, laxative and nervine tonic.

Part Used: Root

Dosage: Decoction 50-100 ml

Indications:

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Jvara, svãsa, Raktãtisara, Trsnã, Chardi, Dãha, Asthibhagna.



Appetizer, insanity, psychosis, cough, bronchitis, dyspnoea; gout; bleeding piles; blood dysentery, acute diarrhoea., Fra healing properties

Internal uses:

Central nervous ystem: As it is a nervine tonic and alleviates vata dosha, it, is used in vata disorders,

Digestive system: Being an appetizer, antidipsetic, deflatulent and astringent, it is used in flatulence, diarrhea and ble piles. Stomatitis is treated by local application of the paste of seeds and honey.

Circulatory system Cardiac tonic. haernostatic and reduces oedema, hence useful in heart diseases, blood disorders, va and oederna.

Respiratory system Expectorant. Useful in cough and dyspnoea.

Reproductive system: Aphrodisiac, useful in seminal debility.

Urinary system Diuretic, therefore effective in dysuria.

Temperature Febrifuge and refrigerant, hence it is used in fever and burning sensation.

Srotogamitwa:

Dosha:Tridoshashamak.

Dhatu: Shukra (aphrodisiac). asthi (Sandhana property), rakta (anti diarrhoeal). rasa (fever).

Mala: Purisha (laxative).

Important Yogas or Formations:

Dashamulārista, Dasamüla katu trikādi kvätha.

Amayika Prayoga (Therapeutic Uses):

- (1) Asthibhagna- Powder of Prasniparni root is taken with meat-soup for three weeks will be helpful in the reunion (B.P.)
- (2) Vatarakta- Prasniparni is cooked in goat's milk and used with honey and sugar (S.S.Ci.5)
- (3) Raktätisara- Liquid gruel (Peyä) prepared with Prasniparni is useful (C.S.Su.2)

IUCN Status

Least Concern (Not endangered)

Research Updates (Past 5 Years)

- 1. *2021*: Study on anti-inflammatory effects of Desmodium gangeticum in arthritis (Journal of Ethnopharmacology).
- 2. *2022*: Neuroprotective role of Shalparni in Parkinson's disease (Ayurveda Research Paper).
- 3. *2023*: Hepatoprotective activity confirmed in ethanol-induced liver damage (Indian Journal of Pharmacology).

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Shalaparni – Shri Dhanwantry Ayurvedic College & Hospital

the country have shown keen interest in the activities and development of Ayurveda in the College.



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