

Sri Satya Sai Murlidhar Ayurvedic College & Hospital
Moga (Punjab) -142001
KUPILU

Botanical Name : *Strychnos nux-vomica* Linn.

Family : Loganaceae

Introduction :

It is using as the poisonous drug. It is a spinal poison.

Names in different Indian languages :

English : Nux-vomica,strychninetree,snakewood,poisonnut,quaker button

Hindi : Kucchala

Kannada : Kanjira

Malayalam : Kanjiram

Sanskrit : Kupilu

Tamil : Etti, kancirai, Yettikkottai.

Telugu : Musti

Synonyms :

Kapilu, Kaakatinduka, Kaakendu, Kaakapiluka, Vishamushtikaa, Vishamushti, Vishatinduka, Kuchilaa, Ksuchalaa.

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

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|-----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. <i>S. cinnamomifolia</i> | 2. <i>S. wallichiana</i> | 3. <i>S. colubrina</i> |
| 4. <i>S. malaccensis</i> | 5. visamusti | 6. kesamusti |
| 7. sumusti | 8. anumustika | 9. ksupadodi |
| 10. kakatiduka | | |

Morphology :

An evergreen deciduous tree, 5-18 m in height.

Leaves— simple, opposite, ovate, 5-nerved, glabrous, obtuse.

Flowers— numerous, greenish white, borne on terminal pubescent pendunculate, corymbose cymes.

Fruits— large, about 4 cm diameter, globose berries, orange red when ripe.

Seeds— many, about 1.5 cm diameter discoid with fine grey silky hair.

Flowers during March-April and fruits ripen during winter.

Distribution &Habitat :

Throughout tropical India, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Orrissa and West Bengal, ascending upto an altitude of 1500 m.

Chemical constituents :

Strychnine, Brucine, vomicine, Kajine&novacine (N-methyl pseudobrucine); strychnine & isostrychnine; Cuchiloside, loganic acid, alpha-and beta-colubrine, condylocarpine, diaboline, geissoschizine,isostrychnine, normacusine, novacine, pseudobrucine, pseudo- alpha-colubrine, pseudo-beta-colubrine, pseudostrychnine and vomicine , Loganin

Properties :

Rasa - Katu, Tikta

Guna - Laghu

Vipaka - Katu

Virya - Usna

Karma : Kapha-vatahara, Vataghna, Grahi

Anthelmintic, digestive, purgative, stimulant, constipation



Srotogamitva :

Dosha : Alleviates vata, kapha.

Dhatu : Rakta (cures dermatoses).

Main Purisha (antihaemorrhoids), mutra (antidiuretic).

Organs Stomach, rectum (piles).

Part Used— Seeds, root bark.

Dosage— Powder 60-250 mg.

Indications— Kandu, Kustha, Vataroga, Vrana, arsas diabetes, insomnia, cardiopalmus, skin disease, paralysis, weakness of limbs, small amount causes muscle relaxation, insomnia, hysteria, epilepsy, paralytic and neurological affections, retention or nocturnal incontinence of urine, spermatorrhoea, sexual debility and impotence, antidote to alcoholism.

Uses :

External uses Vatashamak, it alleviates pain, oedema and is an analgesic. It is used for external application in rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis. An application of Nux vomica seeds with turmeric cures oozing and foul smelling ulcers. This paste is also effective in ulcers with toxic symptoms. The pulp of the leaves useful in oozing ulcers.

Internal uses :

Central nervous system : It alleviates vata and pain and because of its sharpness. it stimulates and strengthens nerves. Useful in vata disorders like neuralgia, facial palsy, hemiplegia, insomnia, Excess dose leads to intoxication and convulsions.

Digestive system : Being bitter and pungent, it is ,a good appetizer, digestive and astringent. Useful in abdominal pain by ushna and vata alleviating property. It is used in loss of appetite, gastric inflammation, amadosha, colitis, piles and parasitic infection. It is the best medicine for gastric laxity and spasm.

Circulatory system Being ushna and tikshna, it is a cardiac stimulant and hypertensive. It alleviates oedema caused by kapha. Useful in disorders like cardiac laxity.

Antidote :

As soon as toxic symptoms appear, give stomach wash and give cow's ghee along with cow's milk. Use antidotes like opium, belladonna, camphor. ganja and tobacco.

Purification of seeds: Seeds of nux-vomica are soaked in cow's urine for 7 days. Then outer covering is removed and the seeds are cooked with cow's milk. Then they are fried in cow's ghee. (This nux vomica is used in medicines). These roasted seeds have specific savour. (In hoarseness of voice caused by excessive talking, tobacco addiction induced blindness, nocturia in children, impotency caused by excess sexual intercourse and old age. dyspnea and morning sickness in pregnant women. purified nux-vomica (seed) ground in a fine powder should be used along with milk and sugar. Now days modern treatment has changed widely but about 2 decades ago, modern doctors used tincture nux vomica' in their prescription. Nux vumnica is a Latin name which means nut which causes vomiting.

Important formulation :

Agnitundivati, Vātagajankusaras, Krimirnudgara rasa, Visatindukatada, Visatjndukavati, Kāraskaraghrta.

