

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

KUTAJA

Botanical Name: *Holarrhena antidysenterica* (Linn.) Wall.

Family: Apocynaceae

Introduction:

This drug used in bleeding piles & G.I. tract disorders

Names in different Indian languages :

English : Easter tree, Ivory tree, Tellicherry Bark.

Hindi : kurchi

Malayalam : Kutakapala

Tamil : Kudasappaalai-pattai, vidai (bark, seed)

Kannada : Kodakasana

Sanskrit : Kutaja

Telugu : Kodisapala

Synonyms :

Kutaja, Girimallikaa, Kaalinga, Kalingaka, Indravriksha, Shakra, Vatsa, Vatsaka, Shakraahvya, Indrayava, Indrabija, Vatsabija (seed). Kurchi (bark).

Holarrhena pubescens (Buch.- Ham.) Wall. ex G. Don

Classification according to Charaka, Susruta & Vagbhata :

Charaka : Arsoghna, Kandughna Stanyasodhana Asthapanopaga

Susrutha : Aragvadi, Pippalyadi, Haridradi, Laksadi

Vagbhata : Aragvadi, Pippalyadi

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

1. *W. tinctoria* [CV]
2. *Wrightia tomentosa* [CV]
3. *Salvadora oleoides* – [AD]
4. *Holarrhena pubescens*

Morphology :

A small lactiferous, deciduous tree with woody branches.

Leaves- simple, opposite, elliptic oblong, ovate or ovate-oblong.

Flowers- in corymbose cymes, whiter fragrant.

Fruits- follicles, long, slender, parallel, , coriaceous, with long white spots.

Seeds- narrowly, oblong glabrous. Tipped at apex with spreading deciduous coma of brown hairs.

(Flowers from April-July and fruits from August-October)

Distribution & Habitat :

Common in tropical parts of India and in sub- Himalaya tract.

Chemical constituents :



pubescine, norholadiene, pubescimine, kurchinin, kurchinine, kurchinidine, holarrifine, holadiene, kurchilidine, kurchamide, kurcholessine, kurchessine, conessine, Conessidine, conessimine, konkurchine, holadiene, holarrhenine holarrhimine, kurchine, holarrhine, kurchicine, holadysine, holadysamine, holantosines A & B; kurchaline, kurchiphyllamine, holacetine etc



Properties :

Rasa- Tikta, Kasāya Virya - sita (Raja Nighantu quoted it as Usna virya)

Guna -Laghu, Rūkṣa Vipāka -Katu



Karma – Kapha-pitta hara, Grāhi, Dipana, stambana, kandughna
astringent, anthelmintic, amoebicidal, diuretic



Indication :

Rakāras, Atisāra, Grahani, Kustha, Krimi, Amavāta, Chardi, Visarpa, Vātarakta, Jvara.



constipating, astringent, expectorant, asthma, hepatopathy, uropathy, haemorrhoids. diarrhea, dysentery, expectorant, gastropathy, hepatosplenomegaly, rheumatism, malaria, vomiting, skin disease etc.



Part used : Bark, leaves, seeds, flowers

Srotogamitva :

Dosha : vathahara Dhatu :raktha

Mala :mutrala Organ : skin, intestine



Dosage :

Powder 3-6 g decoction 50-100 ml



External use : Stem, bark and indrayava (bitter seeds) are optimum for healing of ulcers. A decoction of these helps in ulcer treatment On exuding ulcers. in cleaning indrayava is used.



Internal uses :

Digestive system : Vatashaman, deepan inhibitor of inflammation, (cures) loss of appetite, pittasarak and parasitidal. Useful in diarrhoea and dysentery. Scientists feel that it is of great use in amoebiasis without the long term side effects of emetine. The total alkaloids of the tender pods and leaves are useful in worm infection in children. Bark is most effective in jaundice.



Circulatory system : Useful in bleeding disorders



Reproductive system: Removes muscular weakness and tones up vaginal tissues after delivery. Fevers : Antipyretic, especially in fevers of lymphatic or blood origin. Therapeutic in typhoid,



Important Yogas or Formations:Kutajārīsta, Kutajāvālehya Kutaja ghrita.



Therapeutic Uses:

(1) Jvara- Decoction in Indrayava and Katukarohini is taken with rice-water (H. S.312166).



(2) Pittatisāra- Seeds and bark of Kutaja are pounded with honey and Ativisa is added to it. This combination is taken with rice Water (C.S.Ci.1915I)



(3) Kustha- Paste of Lodhra, Dhātaki, Indravayava, Karanja and Jāti is applied externally (C.S.Ci.7195)

