

A Translation of the New Edition of the
Suśrutasamhitā

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Sūtrasthāna, adhyāya 13: On Leeches

Literature

Previous scholarship

Meulenbeld offered an annotated overview of this chapter and a bibliography of studies on Indian leeches and their application.⁴⁹

A Persian version of this chapter of the *Suśrutasamhitā* was included in *Sikandar Shāh's Mine of Medicine* (*Ma'dīn al-shifā' i Sikandar-Shāhī*) composed in 1512 by Miyān Bhūwah b. *Khawāṣṣ Khān*.⁵⁰

More recently, Brooks has explored the sense of touch in relation to leeching and patient-physician interactions.⁵¹

Translation

- 1 And now we shall explain **the chapter** about leeches.
 - 3 The leech is for the benefit of kings, rich people, delicate people, children, the elderly, fearful people and women. It is said to be the most gentle means for letting blood.
 - 4 In that context, one should let blood that is corrupted by wind, bile or phlegm with a horn, a leech, or a **gourd**, respectively. Or, each kind can be made to flow by any of them in their particular way.⁵²
- 1.13.5x And there are the following about this:

49 HIML: IA, 209; IB, 324, n. 131.

50 Siddiqi 1959: 96–109; Azeez Pasha 1971; Storey 1971: 231–232; HIML: IB, 324, n. 128; Speziale 2019: 8–9.

51 Brooks 2020a,b,c.

52 This sentence is hard to construe grammatically, although its meaning seems clear. In place of विशेषस्तु, Cakrapāṇidatta and Ḍalhaṇa both read विशेषतस्, which helps interpretation (Su 1939: 95, Su 1938: 55). It is noteworthy that the critical syllable स्तु is smudged or corrected in both MS Kathmandu NAK 1-1079 and in 1-1146, a much later Devanāgarī manuscript.

There is an insertion in the text, printed in parentheses in the vulgate at 1.13.4 (Su 1938: 55) as विशेषतस्तु विस्त्रव्यं शृङ्गजलौकालाबुभिर्गृहीयात्. This insertion is not included in the earlier edition of the vulgate, but is replaced by स्निग्धशीतरूक्षत्वात् (Su 1931: 54). Ḍalhaṇa noted that, “this reading is discussed to some extent by some compilers (निबन्धकार), but it is definitely rejected by most of them, including Jejjhaṭa.”

- 1.13.5 The horn of cows is praised for being unctuous, **smooth**, and very sweet. Therefore, when wind is troubled, that is good for bloodletting.⁵³
- 1.13.5a Having a length of seven fingers and a large body the shape of a half moon, should first be placed into a cut. A strong person should suck with the mouth.⁵⁴
- 1.13.6 A leech lives in the cold, is sweet and is born in the water. So when someone is afflicted by bile, they are suitable for bloodletting.⁵⁵
- 1.13.7 A **gourd** is well known for being pungent, dry and sharp. So when someone is afflicted by phlegm it is suitable for bloodletting.
- 1.13.8 In that context, at the scarified location one should let blood using a horn wrapped in a covering of a thin bladder. Or with a **gourd** with a flame inside it because of the suction.⁵⁶
- 1.13.9 Leeches are called “*jala-ayu-ka*” because water (*jala*) is their life (*āyur*).⁵⁷ “Home” (*okas*) means “dwelling;” their home is water, so they are called “water-dwellers (*jalaaukas*).”
- 1.13.10 There are twelve of them: six are venomous and exactly the same number are non-venomous.
- 1.13.11 Here is an explanation of the poisonous ones, together with the therapy:
- Black (*kṛṣṇā*)
 - Mottled (*karburā*)
 - Sting-gush (*alagarddā*)⁵⁸

53 The vulgate replaced “smooth” with “hot.”

54 This passage is not found in the vulgate, but it is similar to the passage cited by Ḍalhaṇa at 1.13.8 (Su 1938: 56) and attributed to Bhāluki. Bhāluki was the author of a *Bhālukitantra* that may have predated Jeṇḍaṭa and might even have been one of the sources for the *Suśrutasaṃhitā* (HIML: v. IA, 689–690 *et passim*). The editor Ācārya was aware of this reading in the Nepalese manuscripts; see his note 4 on 1.13.5 (Su 1938: 55, note 4).

55 Note that the particular qualities (*guṇas*) of the leech in this and the following verses counteract the quality of the affliction. See Brooks 2018: 113, table 1.

56 There are questions about the wrapping or covering of the horn. Other versions of the text, and the commentator, propose that there may be two coverings, or that cloth may be a constituent. Comparison with contemporary horn-bloodletting practice by traditional Sudanese healers suggests that a covering over the top hole in the horn is desirable when sucking, to prevent the patient’s blood entering the mouth (PBS 2020). Our understanding of this verse is that the bladder material is used to cover the mouthpiece and then to block it, in order to preserve suction in the horn for a few minutes while the blood is let.

57 This is a folk etymology.

58 Treating गर्दा as गल्दा and translating as in RV 8.1.20, with Jamison and Brereton

- Rainbow (*indrāyudhā*)
- Oceanic (*sāmudrikā*)
- **Cow-praising** (*govandanā*)

Amongst these,

- The one called a Black is the colour of kohl and has a broad head;
- The one called Mottled is like the Indian mottled eel, long with a segmented (*chinna*), humped belly;⁵⁹
-

Black

(2014: 1023, verse 20 and cf. commentary). But if गर्द is to be taken from √गर्द् then we might have “crying from the sting.”

59 The वर्मिमत्स्य is almost certainly the mottled eel. MW: 962c notes that the varmi fish “is commonly called *vāmi*.” The “vam fish,” or “*vanmatsya*” in Bengal, is a marine and freshwater eel, *Anguilla bengalensis*. It is the most common eel in Indian inland waters and a prized food fish (Froese and Pauly 2022). However, some NIA languages identify the “vam” fish with the Indian Pike Conger, *Congresox talabonides* (Bleeker) (Talwar and Kacker 1984: 235, 236).

Editions and Abbreviations

Ah 1939	Kuṁṭe, Aṇṇā Moreśvara, Navare, Kṛṣṇaśāstrī, and Parādkar, Hariśāstrī (1939) (eds.), श्रीमद्वाग्भटविरचितम् अष्टाङ्गहृदयम्, श्रीमदरुणदत्तविरचितया सर्वाङ्गसुन्दराख्यया व्याख्यया, हेमाद्रिप्रणीतया आयुर्वेदरसायनाह्वया टीकया च समुल्लसितम् = <i>The Astāṅgahṛidaya</i> (6th edn., Mumbayyām: Nirṇayasāgara Press), ark:/13960/t3tt6967d .
Anup	<i>Anup Sanskrit Library.</i>
Apte	Apte, Vaman Shivaram (1992), <i>The Practical Sanskrit-English Dictionary</i> (Kyoto: Rinsen Book Company), ISBN: 4-653-00038-7; Reprinted from Gode and Karve 1957–9.
AS	<i>Asiatic Society.</i>
As 1980	Āṭhavale, Anaṁta Dāmodara (1980) (ed.), <i>Aṣṭāṅgasan̄grahaḥ. Śrīmad Vṛddhāvāgbhaṭaviracitaḥ Induvyākhyāsahitaḥ</i> (Pune: Maheśa Anaṁta Āṭhavale, Śrīmad Ātreya Prakāśanam), ark :/13960/t9773bb9z .
Bhela 1921	Mookerjee, Ashutosh, and Ananta Krishna Shastri, Vedantabisharad (1921) (eds.), <i>The Bhela Samhita. Sanskrit Text</i> (Calcutta: University of Calcutta), ark:/13960/t3sv3157j ; Based on two copies made of the Thanjavur codex unicus (MS Thanjavur TMSSML 10773, Burnell 1880: 63–4, P. P. S. Sastri 1933: #11085).
Bhela 2000	Krishnamurthy, K. H. (2000), <i>Bhela-saṁhitā. Text with English Translation, Commentary and Critical Notes</i> (Haridas Ayurveda Series, 8; Varanasi: Chaukhambha Visvabharati).
BL	<i>British Library.</i>

Ca. 1941	Ācārya, Yādavaśarma Trivikrama (1941) (ed.), महर्षिणा पुनर्वसुनोपदिष्टा, तच्छिष्येणान्निवेशेन प्रणीता, चरक-ढबलाभ्यां प्रतिसंस्कृता चरकसंहिता, श्रीचक्रपाणिदत्तविरचितया आयुर्वेददीपिकाव्याख्यया संवलिता (3rd edn., Mumbayyām: Nirnaya Sagara Press), ark:/13960/t48q2f20n .
HIML	Meulenbeld, Gerrit Jan (1999–2002), <i>A History of Indian Medical Literature</i> , 5 vols. (Groningen: E. Forsten), ISBN: 9069801248.
IOLR	Eggeling, Julius, et al. (1887–1935), <i>Catalogue of the Sanskrit Manuscripts in the Library of the India Office</i> (London: Secretary of State for India), ark:/13960/s2kbbk5zcrg9 .
KL	<i>Kaiser Library</i> .
MN ₁	Ācārya, Yādavaśarma Trivikrama (1920) (ed.), महामतिश्रीमाधवकरप्रणीतं माधवनिदानम् श्रीविजयरक्षित-श्रीकण्ठदत्ताभ्यां विरचितया मधुकोशाख्यव्याख्यया, श्रीवाचस्पति-वैद्यविरचितया आतङ्कदर्पणव्याख्याया विशिष्टांशेन च समुल्लसितम् = <i>Mādhavanidāna by Mādhavakara with the Two Commentaries, Madhukosha by Vijayarakshita & Shrikanthadatta and Ātankadarpaṇa by Vāchaspati Vaidya</i> (1st edn., Bombay: Nirnaya Sagara Press), ark:/13960/t9z08jn5j .
MN ₃	Ācārya, Yādavaśarma Trivikrama (1932) (ed.), महामतिश्रीमाधवकरप्रणीतं माधवनिदानम् श्रीविजयरक्षित-श्रीकण्ठदत्ताभ्यां विरचितया मधुकोशाख्यव्याख्यया, श्रीवाचस्पति-वैद्यविरचितया आतङ्कदर्पणव्याख्याया विशिष्टांशेन च समुल्लसितम् = <i>Mādhavanidāna by Mādhavakara with the Two Commentaries, Madhukosha by Vijayarakshita & Shrikanthadatta and Ātankadarpaṇa by Vāchaspati Vaidya</i> (3rd edn., Bombay: Nirnaya Sagara Press), ark:/13960/t66452x0h ; Reprinted Varanasi: Chowkhambha, 1986.

MW	Monier-Williams, Monier, Leumann, E., Cappeller, C., et al. (1899), <i>A Sanskrit–English Dictionary Etymologically and Philologically Arranged, New Edition</i> (Oxford: Clarendon Press); 1970 reprint.
NAK	<i>National Archives of Kathmandu.</i>
NCC	Raghavan, V., et al. (1949–), <i>New Catalogus Catalogorum, an Alphabetical Register of Sanskrit and Allied Works and Authors</i> , 39 vols. (Madras University Sanskrit Series; Madras: University of Madras); v.1: revised edition, 1968. Searchable at https://vmlt.in/ncc/ .
NGMCP	NGMCP (2014), “Nepal-german Manuscript Cataloguing Project. Online Title List and Descriptive Catalogue,” Universität Hamburg and Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, URL .
RORI	<i>Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute.</i>
Su 1889	Bhaṭṭācāryya, Jīvānanda Vidyāsāgara (1889) (ed.), सुश्रुतः. सूत्र-निदान-शारीर-चिकित्सा-कल्पोत्तर-तन्त्र-कल्पित आयुर्वेद. भगवता धन्वन्तरिणोपदिष्टः सुश्रुतनामधेयेन तच्छिष्येण विरचितः (3rd edn., Calcutta: Saratī Press), ark:/13960/t1nh6j09c ; HIML : IB, 311, edition b.
Su 1915	Ācārya, Yādavaśarma Trivikrama (1915) (ed.), सुश्रुतसंहिता, सुश्रुतेन विरचिता, वैद्यवरश्रीडल्हणाचार्यविरचितया निबन्धसंग्रहाख्यव्याख्यया समुल्लसिता, आचार्योपाद्वेन त्रिविक्रमात्मजेन यादवशर्मणा संशोधिता = <i>The Sushrutasamhita of Sushruta, the Nibandhasangraha Commentary of Shri Dalhaṇāchārya</i> (Mumbayyām: Nirṇayasāgaramudrāyantrālaye), ark :/ 13960 / t3sv0mt50 , accessed 29/07/2020; HIML : IB, 312 edition *v.
Su 1931	Ācārya, Yādavaśarma Trivikrama (1931) (ed.), सुश्रुतसंहिता, वैद्यवरश्रीडल्हणाचार्यविरचितया निबन्धसंग्रहाख्यव्याख्यया समुल्लसिता, महर्षिणा सुश्रुतेन विरचिता, सूत्र-निदान-शारीर-चिकित्सा-कल्पस्थानोत्तरतन्त्रात्मकः. आचार्योपाद्वेन त्रिविक्रमात्मजेन यादवशर्मणा संशोधिता = <i>The</i>

Sushrutasamhitā of Sushruta with the Nibandhasan-graha Commentary of Shree Dalhaṇāchārya (2nd edn., Mumbayyām: Pāṇḍuraṅga Jāvajī at the Nirṇaya-sāgaramudrāyantrālaye), [ark : / 13960 / t9j41sg94](https://nirayam.org/ark:/13960/t9j41sg94), accessed 09/06/2020; [HIML](https://nirayam.org/HIML): IB, 312 edition *v.

Su 1938

Ācārya, Yādavaśarma Trivikrama, and Ācārya, Nārāyaṇa Rāma (1938) (eds.), श्रीडल्हणाचार्यविरचितया निबन्धसंग्रहाख्यव्याख्यया निदानस्थानस्य श्रीगयदासाचार्य-विरचितया न्यायचन्द्रिकाख्यपञ्जिकाव्याख्यया च समुल्लसिता महर्षिणा सुश्रुतेन विरचिता सुश्रुतसंहिता (3rd edn., Bombay: Nirṇayasāgara Press), [ark : / 13960 / t09x0sk1h](https://nirayam.org/ark:/13960/t09x0sk1h); [HIML](https://nirayam.org/HIML): IB, 313, edition cc ('the vulgate').

Su 1938²

Ācārya, Yādavaśarma Trivikrama, and Ācārya, Nārāyaṇa Rāma (2004) (eds.), महर्षिणा सुश्रुतेन विरचिता सुश्रुतसंहिता, श्रीडल्हणाचार्यविरचितया निबन्धसंग्रहाख्यव्याख्यया निदानस्थानस्य श्रीगयदासाचार्यविरचितया न्यायचन्द्रिकाख्यप-ञ्जिकाव्याख्यया च समुल्लसिता (Vārāṇasī: Caukhambhā Kṛṣṇadāsa Akādamī); Reprint of the third, 1938 edition (Su 1938).

Su 1939

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Su 1945

Ācārya, Yādavaśarma Trivikramācārya, and Ācārya, Nārāyaṇa Rāma (1945) (eds.), महर्षिणा सुश्रु-तेन विरचिता सुश्रुतसंहिता (मूलमात्रा). पाठान्तर-परिशिष्टादिभिः संवलिता = *the Suśrutasamhitā of Suśruta with Vari-ous Readings, Notes and Appendix etc.* (Mumbāi:

	Nirṇayasāgarākhyamudraṇālaye), ark :/ 13960 / t8kd4jh7n .
TMSSML	Tanjore Maharaja Serfoji Saraswati Mahal Library.
Viṣṇudh.	Śarman, Madhusūdana, and Śarman, Mādhavaprasāda (1912) (eds.), विष्णुधर्मोत्तरपुराणम् = [Viṣṇudharmottarapurāṇa] (Mumbai: Khemarāja Śrīkṛṣṇadāsa at the Śrīveṅkaṭeśvara Steam Press), ark :/ 13960 / t6qz6fr23 ; Lithograph format. Edited on the basis of a manuscript belonging to the astrologer Śudhākaraśarman of the Varanasi Sanskrit Pāṭhaśālā.

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Thanjavur TMSSML 10773: 75

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Glossary

cow-praising	- rainbow: 23	oceanic
- govandanā: 23		- sāmudrikā: 23
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- Potter Wren, R. C. (1956), *Potter's New Cyclopaedia of Botanical Drugs and Preparations*, ed. R. W. Wren (7th edn., Rustington, Sussex: Health Science Press), [ark:/13960/t14n65c9g](#).
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Glossary and Index of Medical Substances

- amaranth (*taṇḍulīyaka*) *Amaranthus hypochondriacus*, L. See King 321, NK: v. 1, #144, *Potter_{rev}*: 15. Cf. *AVS*: v. 1, 121, 30
- axlewood (*dhava*) *Anogeissus latifolia* (Roxb. ex DC.) Wall. ex Guill & Perr. See *AVS*: v. 1, 163 f, *Chopra*, *GIMP*: 20, 50
- bamboo leaves (*veṇupatrikā*) *Bambusa bambos*, Druce. See NK: v. 1, #307, 30
- beautyberry (*priyaṅgu*) ← *śyāmā*. *Callicarpa macrophylla*, Vahl. See *AVS*: v. 1, 334, NK: v. 1, #420. Some say also *Setaria italica* Beauv. *GVDB*: 263–264. See also *GVDB*: 413, 47, 51
- beautyberry (*śyāmā*) *Callicarpa macrophylla*, Vahl. See *AVS*: v. 1, 334, NK: v. 1, #420, 28, 30
- beggarweed (*aṁśumatī*) *Desmodium gangeticum* (L.) DC (*Dymock*: v. 1, 428, *GJM*₁: 602, NK: v. 1, #1192; *ADPS*: 382, 414 and *AVS*: v. 2, 319, 4.366 are confusing), 47
- black creeper (*pāṇḍī*) *Ichnocarpus frutescens*, (L.) R.Br. or *Cryptolepis buehneri*, Roemer & Schultes. See *AVS*: v. 3, 141, 3.145, 3.203, NK: v. 1, #1283, 1210, *ADPS*: 434, 30, 33, 46, 47
- blackboard tree (*saptachada*) *Alstonia scholaris* R. Br. *GVDB*: 420, 29
- blackbuck (*harīṇa*) *Antelope cervicapra*, L. See *BIA*: 270 *IW*: 95, 165, *et passim*, 33
- cardamom (*elā*) *Elettaria cardamomum*, Maton. See *AVS*: v. 2, 360, NK: v. 1, #924, *Potter_{rev}*: 66, 47, 51
- cassia cinnamon (*patra*) *Cinnamomum tamala*, (Buch.-Ham.) Nees. See *AVS*: v. 2, 84, NK: v. 1, #589, 30, 47
- certain minerals (*tārāvitāra*) Unknown. It is not even certain that these are minerals. The variant reading in the vulgate, *tāraḥ sutāraḥ* was glossed by Ḍalhaṇa on 5.3.14 (*Su* 1938: 568) as follows *tāro rūpyaṁ, sutāraḥ pāraḍaḥ*, “tāra means silver; sutāra means mercury.”, 51
- chebulic myrobalan (*harītakī*) *Terminalia chebula* Retz. *GVDB*: 466, 29
- cherry (*elavālu*) *Prunus cerasus*, L.?. See *BVDB* 58, NK: v. 1, #2037, *GVDB*: 58, 47
- chital deer (*pr̥ṣata*) *Axis axis*, Erxleben. See *BIA*: 292, *IW*: 93, 33
- cobra’s saffron (*nāgapuṣpa*) → *nāgakeśara*. *Mesua ferrea*, L. See NK: v. 1, #1595, *GVDB*: 220, 47
- corky coral tree (*pāribhadra*) *Erythrina suberosa* Roxb. See *GVDB* 245, 50
- costus (*kuṣṭha*) *Saussurea costus*, Clarke. See NK: v. 1, #2239, 30, 47, 51
- country sarsaparilla (*anantā*) *Hemidesmus indicus*, (L.) R. Br. See *ADPS*: 434, *AVS*: v. 3, 141–5, NK: v. 1, #1210. But see *GVDB*: 13 for complications that may suggest that it is to be equated with *sārivā*, which may

- sometimes be *Cryptolepis* or *Ichnocarpus frutescens* R. Rr. (GVDB: 429-431), 35, 46, 47, 50
- crape jasmine (*tagara*) *Tabernaemontana divaricata* (L.) R.Br. ex Roem. & Schultes. See GJM1: 557, AVS: v. 5, 232. Synonym of ?? . But some say *Valeriana jatamansi*, Jones See GVDB: 173-174 for discussion (and charming comments on brain liquid testing). Some say *tagara* is Indian rose-bay or Indian valerian, but there remain many historical questions about the ancient and regional identities of this plant See, e.g., AVS: v. 5, 334, 30, 47, 100
- crimson trumpet-flower tree (*pāṭalā*) *Stereospermum chelonides*, (L. f.) A. DC. See GJM1: 573, AVS: v. 5, 192 ff, ADPS: 362 f, AVS: v. 3, 1848 f, IGP 1120, Dymock: v. 3, 20 ff, 50
- cuscut grass (*uśīra*) *Andropogon murcatus*, Retz. Also “vetiver grass.” See NK: v. 1, #180, 30
- deodar (*bhadradāru*) *Cedrus deodara*, (Roxb.ex D.Don) G. Don. See AVS 41, NK: v. 1, #516, 47
- embelia (*viḍaṅga*) *Embelia ribes*, Burm. f. See ADPS: 507, AVS: v. 2, 368, NK: v. 1, #929, Potter_{rev}: 113, 47
- emetic nut (*madana*) *Randia dumetorum*, Lamk. See NK: v. 1, #2091, 28
- false daisy (*subhaṅgurā*) (*su*)*bhaṅgura* = *bhr̥ṅga*? *Eclipta prostrata* (L.) L. See GVDB: 288, 35
- fern (*ajaruḥā*) *Nephrodium* species GVDB: 7, uncertain. Perhbaps *Christella dentata* (Forssk.) Brownsey & Jermy, which is reported to have folk applications against skin diseases in India, 32
- fire-flame bush (*dhātakī*) *Woodfordia fruticosa* (L.) Kurz. See AVS: v. 5, 412, NK: v. 1, #2626, 29
- garjan oil tree (*aśvakarna*) *Dipterocarpus turbinatus* Gaertn. f. See GVDB: 28, Chopra, GIMP: 100, 50
- giant potato (*kṣīravidārī*) possibly → *kṣīraśukla*. *Ipomoea mauritiana*, Jacq. See ADPS: 510, AVS: v. 3, 222, AVS: v. 3, 1717 ff, 100-102
- ginger (*mahaṣadha*) *Zingiber officinale*, Roscoe. See ADPS: 50, NK: v. 1, #2658, IGP: 1232, 33
- gold (*hema*) gold, 47
- gold and sarsaparilla (*surendragopa*) Unknown. Ḍalhaṇa on 5.3.15 (Su 1938: 568) glossed *surendra* as “gold” and *gopā* as “Indian sarsaparilla.” He also noted other opinions that *surendra* was “Tellicherry bark”, 51
- golden shower tree (*rājadruma*) *rājadruma* = *āragvadha*. *Cassia fistula* L. See GVDB 37, 50
- gourd (*alābu*) *Lagenaria siceraria* Standl. GVDB: 25. Some say *Lagenaria vulgaris*, Seringe (NK: v. 1, #1419) but this is not appropriate for blood-letting, 21, 29
- heart-leaf sida (*balā*) *Sida cordifolia*, Linn. See ADPS: 71, NK: v. 1, #2297, 47
- heart-leaved moonseed (*amṛtā*) → *guḍūcī*. *Tinospora cordifolia*, (Willd.) Hook.f. & Thoms.?. See ADPS: 38, NK: v. 1, #2472, 624, Dastur #229, 30, 45
- heart-leaved moonseed (*somavallī*) *Tinospora cordifolia* (Thunb.) Miers. GVDB: 456. Likely, but uncertain, 30
- henna (*madayantikā*) *Lawsonia inermis*, L. See AVS: v. 3, 303, NK: v. 1, #1448, Potter_{rev}: 151, 31
- Himalayan mayapple (*vakra*) *Podophyllum emodi*, Wall. (NK: #1971). But perhaps a synonym of crape jasmine and ?? (GVDB: 354), 51
- Himalayan monkshood (*ativiṣā*) *Aconitum heterophyllum* Wall. GVDB: 12, NK: v. 1, #39. Also “atis roots”, 31, 33, 51
- hogweed (*punarnavā*) *Boerhaavia diffusa*,

- L. See [ADPS](#): 387, [AVS](#): v. 1, 281, [NK](#): v. 1, #363, 31, 45
- Holostemma creeper (*jīvantī*) → *sūryavallī*? Holostemma ada-kodien, Schultes. See [ADPS](#): 195, [AVS](#): v. 3, 167, [NK](#): v. 1, #1242, [AVS](#): v. 3, 1619, 101
- Indian barberry (*añjana*) → *rasañjana*, *dāruharidrā*. Berberis aristata, DC. [Dymock](#): v. 1, 65, [NK](#): v. 1, #335, [GJM1](#): 562, [IGP](#): 141, 32
- Indian barberry (*dāruharidrā*) Berberis aristata, DC. See [Dymock](#): v. 1, 65, [NK](#): v. 1, #685, [GJM1](#): 562, [IGP](#) 141, 45, 47
- Indian barberry (*kālīyaka*) → *dāruharidrā*, *añjana*. Berberis aristata, DC. See [Dymock](#): v. 1, 65, [NK](#): v. 1, #685, [GJM1](#): 562, [IGP](#): 141, 30
- Indian ipecac (*payasyā*) Uncertain. Possibly Tylophora indica (Burm.f.) Merr. Perhaps a synonym of [panacea twiner](#), [giant potato](#), [purple roscoea](#), and [plants like asthma plant and Gulf sandmat](#) ([GVDB](#): 237–238). Also “curds” when not a plant, 101
- Indian madder (*mañjiṣṭhā*) Rubia cordifolia, L. See [IGP](#), [Chopra](#), [GIMP](#): 215, [GVDB](#): 289, 47
- Indian sarsaparilla (*sārivā*) → *anantā*. Hemidesmus indicus, (L.) R. Br. [ADPS](#): 434, [AVS](#): v. 3, 141–5, [NK](#): v. 1, #1210; and black creeper, *pāṇḍī*. Ichnocarpus frutescens, (L.) R.Br. or Cryptolepis buchanani, Roemer & Schultes [AVS](#): v. 3, 141, 3.145, 3.203, [NK](#): v. 1, #1283, 1210, [ADPS](#): 434, 46, 47, 100
- jambul (*jambū*) Syzygium cumini, (L.) Skeels. See [ADPS](#): 188, [NK](#): v. 1, #967, [Potter_{rev}](#): 168, Wujastyk 2003a, 29
- jasmine (*mālātī*) Jasminium grandiflorum, L. See [NK](#): v. 1, #1364, 30
- jequirity (*guñjā*) Abrus precatorius, L. See [AVS](#): v. 1, 10, [NK](#): v. 1, #6, [Potter_{rev}](#): 168, 35
- lac (*lākṣā*) Kerria lacca (Kerr.). See [GJM1](#): 445, [NK](#): v. 2, #32. Watt (1908: 1053–1066) is characteristically informative, and is definite about the antiquity of lac in India, 51
- liquorice (?) (*klītaka*) Glycyrrhiza glabra, L.? [GVDB](#): 123–124 discuss the many difficulties in identifying this plant, 35
- liquorice (*madhuka*) Glycyrrhiza glabra, L. See [AVS](#): v. 3, 84, [NK](#): v. 1, #1136, 33, 44, 47
- lodh tree (*lodhra*) Symplocos racemosa, Roxb. See [GJM1](#): 597, [ADPS](#): 279 f, [NK](#): v. 1, #2420. Singh and Chuneekar ([GVDB](#): 351–352) notes that there are two varieties, S. racemosa, qualified as śāvara, and S. crataegoides Buch.-Ham. for *paṭṭikā lodhra*, 47
- long pepper (*māgadha*) Piper longum, L. See [NK](#): v. 1, #1928; but cf. [AVS](#): v. 3, 245, 32
- long pepper (*pippalī*) Piper longum, L. See [ADPS](#): 374, [NK](#): v. 1, #1928, 33, 47
- luffa (*koṣṭakī*) = *koṣātakī*. Luffa cylindrica, (L.) M. J. Roem. or L. acutangula, (L.) Roxb. [ADPS](#): 252–253, [NK](#): v. 1, #1514 etc. [GVDB](#): 121, 29, 45, 101
- luffa gourd (*koṣavatī*) = *koṣṭakī*, *luffa*, 45
- mango (*āmra*) Mangifera indica Linn. [GVDB](#): 37, 29
- marking-nut tree (*bhallātaka*) Semecarpus anacarium, L. See [NK](#): v. 1, #2269, [AVS](#): v. 5, 98, 32
- medhshingi (*vijayā2*) Dolichandrone falcata (DC.) The *Sauśrutaniḥṣaṇṭu* gives a number of synonyms for *vijayā* (Suvedī and Tivārī 2000: 5.77, 10.143). But one of them, *viṣāṇī* (also *meṣaśṛṅgī*), is sometimes equated with *Dolichandrone falcata* (DC.) Seemann ([ADPS](#): 518; [GVDB](#): 373 f, a plant used as an abortifacient and fish poison ([NK](#): #862), 36
- migraine tree (*agnimantha*) Premna corymbosa, Rottl. See [AVS](#) 1927,

- ADPS: 21, NK: v. 1, #2025,
 AVS: v. 4, 348; GJM1: 523: = P.
 integrifolia/serratifolia, L, 45
 milk-white (*kṣīraśuklā*) An unidentified
 plant. GVDB: 126: see [purple roscoe](#)
 and [giant potato](#), 102
 monitor lizard (*godhā*) Varanus
 bengalensis, Schneider. See *Book of*
Indian Reptiles, 58, 33
 mung beans (*māṣaka*) Phaseolus mungo
 Linn. GVDB: 308, 30
 myrobalan (*abhayā*) Terminalia chebula,
 Retz. See ADPS: 172, NK: v. 1, #2451,
 Potter_{rev}: 214, 45, 51
 natron (*suvarcikā*) Sodium carbonate.
 NK: v. 2, #45. Ḍalhaṇa identifies
suvarcikā with svarjikṣāra 4.8.50
 (Su 1938: 441), 47
 nutgrass (*kuruvinda*) Unknown. Ḍalhaṇa
 on 5.3.15 (Su 1938: 568) glossed the
 term as [nutgrass](#), but noted other
 opinions that it was a whetstone or a
 very special metallic gem. Singh and
 Chunekar (GVDB: 108) added that it
 could be a variety of rice, *ṣaṣṭika dhānya*,
 51
 nutgrass (*mustā*) Cyperus rotundus, L.
 See ADPS: 316, AVS: v. 2, 296, NK: v. 1,
 #782, 101
 panacea twiner (*arkapuṣpī*) → *arkaparnī*,
 Tylophora indica (Burm. f.) Merr.
 GVDB: 23–24. Maybe identical to
[Indian ipecac](#), [giant potato](#) and similar
 sweet, milky plants. See GVDB: 24, 127,
 238, 441, 443 for discussion. For
 discussion in the context of
[Holostemma creeper](#), see ADPS: 195
 and AVS: v. 3, 171. The etymology of
 the name suggests Helianthus annuus
 Linn., but this plant is native to the
 Americas, 45, 100
 peas (*hareṇu*) hareṇu = satīna. Pisum
 sativum, L. Singh and Chunekar
 (GVDB: 419–420, 467–468) notes that
 two plants are usually meant under this
 name, but there is no agreement on the
 identity of the second, 45, 47, 51
 peepul tree (*aśvattha*) Ficus religiosa, L.
 See ADPS: 63, 54
 periploca of the woods (*meṣaśṛṅga*)
 Gymnema sylvestre (Retz.) R. Br. See
 AVS: v. 3, 107, NK: v. 1, #1173, 32
 plants like asthma plant and Gulf
 sandmat (*kṣīriṇī*) various milky plants,
 perhaps including Euphorbia hirta
 Linn. (asthma plant) and E.
 microphylla Heyne (Gulf sandmat)
 (GVDB: 127), 100
 pointed gourd (*paṭola*) Trichosanthes
 dioica, Roxb. GVDB: 232–233, 45
 poison berry (*bṛhatī*) Solanum violaceum,
 Ortega. See ADPS: 100, NK: v. 1, #2329,
 AVS: v. 5, 151, 45, 47
 pondweed (*paripelavā*) Normally a neuter
 noun. Singh and Chunekar
 (GVDB: 238, 264–265, 409) argued that
plava and *śaivāla* are the same thing, and
 may be either Zannichellia palustris, L.,
 or Potamogeton pectinatus, L, 47
 purging nut (*mūṣikā*) Jatropha curcas, L.
 See AVS: v. 3, 261, NK: v. 1, #1374, 32
 purple roscoe (*kṣīrakākolī*) GVDB: 89
 notes that many physicians use *Roscoe*
procera Wall. in this context. But the
 identification is uncertain. Possibly
 connected to [milk-white](#) or [giant](#)
[potato](#)., 100, 101
 rajmahal hemp (*moraṭa*) → *mūrvī*,
 Marsdenia tenacissima (Roxb.) Wight
 et Arn. Good discussion at
 GVDB: 314–316, 324, 45
 red chalk (*gairika*) gairika, 47
 red gourd (*bimbī*) Coccinia indica, W. &
 A. See PVS 1994.4.715; NK: v. 1, #534,
 29
 rosha grass (*dhyāmaka*) Cymbopogon
 martinii (Roxb.) Wats. See
 AVS: v. 2, 285, NK: v. 1, #177, 47
 sacred lotus (*padma*) Nelumbo nucifera,
 Gaertn. See NK: v. 1, #1698, 30

- sage-leaved alangium (*aṅkolla*) Alangium
salvifolium (Linn. f.) Wang.
GVDB: 5–6, 29
- sandalwood (*candana*) Santalum album,
L. See ADPS: 111, NK: v. 1, #2217, 47
- scarlet mallow (*bandhujīva*) Pentapetes
phoenicea, L. NK: #1836, GVDB: 268, 31
- scented pavonia (*bālaka*) Pavonia odorata,
Willd. See ADPS: 498, NK: v. 1, #1822,
47
- selu plum (*śelu*) Cordia myxa, L. non
Forssk. See GJM1: 529 (2), IGP: 291b, cf.
AVS: v. 3, 1677 f; cf. AVS: v. 2, 180 (C.
dichotoma, Forst.f.), NK: v. 1, #672 (C.
latifolia, Roxb.), 45
- siris (*śirīṣa*) Albizia lebbeck, Benth. See
AVS: v. 1, 81, NK: v. 1, #91, 45
- siris seeds (*śirīṣamāṣaka*) Albizia lebbeck,
Benth. See AVS: v. 1, 81, NK: v. 1, #91, 29
- small-flowered crape myrtle (*sidhraka*)
Lagerstroemia parviflora Roxb. See
GVDB: 432, 50
- spikenard (*māmsī*) Nardostachys
grandiflora, DC. See NK: v. 1, #1691, 47
- spikenard (*nalada*) → māmsī.
Nardostachys grandiflora, DC. See
NK: v. 1, #1691, 27
- sugar (*sitā*) Ḍalhaṇa makes this equation
at 1.37.25 (Su 1938: 162), 47
- sunflower (*sūryavallī*) → ādityavallī,
sūryamukhī, Helianthus annuus Linn.
GVDB: 35, 443, 45
- sweet-scented oleander (*aśvamāraka*)
Nerium oleander, L. See ADPS: 223,
NK: v. 1, #1709, 35
- Tellicherry bark (*kuṭaja*) Holarrhena
pubescens Wall. ex G.Don, with
Wrightia tinctoria and W. arborea
considered GVDB: 101–102,
ADPS: 267–270, 100
- thorn apple (*karambha*) Datura metel, L.
See AVS: v. 2, 305 (cf.
Abhidhānamāñjarī), NK: v. 1, #796 ff.
Potter_{rev}: 292 f, ADPS: 132, 36
- three heating spices (*tryūṣaṇa*) śunṭhī
(Dried ginger) Zingiber officinale,
Roscoe. ADPS: 50, NK: v. 1, #2658,
AVS: v. 5, 435, IGP 1232, pippalī (long
pepper) Piper longum, L. ADPS: 374,
NK: v. 1, #1928, and marica (black
pepper) Piper nigrum, L. ADPS: 294,
NK: v. 1, #1929, 45
- three-leaved caper (*varuṇa*) Crataeva
magna (Lour.) DC. See AVS: v. 2, 202;
cf. NK: v. 1, #696, 32
- turmeric (*haridrā*) Curcuma longa Linn.
GVDB: 465, 45, 51
- turmeric (*rajanī*) Curcuma longa, L.
ADPS: 169, AVS: v. 2, 259, NK: v. 1,
#750, 47
- velvet-leaf (*pāṭhā*) Cissampelos pariera, L.
See ADPS: 366, NK: v. 1, #592,
GJM1: 573, AVS: v. 1, 95; cf.
AVS: v. 2, 277, 45
- velvet-mite (*indragopa*) Kerria lacca
(Kerr.). Lienhard 1978, 28
- verbena (*phañjī*) Clerodendrum serratum,
L. See AVS: v. 2, 121, ADPS: 87, 31
- watered buttermilk (*udaśvit*) MW: 183, 29
- water-lily (*utpala*) Nymphaea stellata,
Willd. See GJM1: 528, IGP 790; **dutt**,
NK: v. 1, #1726, 28, 46, 47
- weaver's beam tree (*muṣkaka*) Schrebera
swietenoides, Roxb. See AVS: v. 5, 88,
Lord, NK: v. 1, #2246, 50
- white clitoria (*śvetā*) → giryāhvā. Clitoria
ternatea, L. See AVS: v. 2, 129, NK: v. 1,
#621, 30
- white cutch tree (*somavalka*) Acacia
polyacantha, Willd. See AVS: v. 1, 30,
IGP 7, GJM1: 602, AVS: v. 2, 935; *pace*
NK: v. 1, #1038, 31, 50
- white siris (*kiñihī*) Albizia procera,
(Roxb.) Benth. See GVDB 98, NK: v. 1,
#93, 45
- wild asparagus (*bahuputrā*) → nandana?
Asparagus racemosus, Willd. See
ADPS: 441, AVS: v. 1, 218, NK: v. 1,
#264, IGP: 103, AVS: v. 4, 2499 ff,
Dymock: v. 3, 482 ff, 31

wild celery (*agnika*) → may be *bhalātaka*,
lāṅgalī, *ajamodā*, *moraṭa*, or *agnimanthā*,
GVDB: 4. Uncertain, 45

wild celery (*ajamodā*) *Apium graveolens*,
L., 45

wood apple (*kapittha*) *Limonia acidissima*,
L. See AVS: v. 3, 327, NK: v. 1, #1021,
30, 32

woodrose (*mūṣikakarṇī*) *Jatopha curcas*, L.

AVS: v. 3, 261, 1[#1374]NK. GVDB: 317;

ADPS: 23–25 discuss this issue well, 30

yellow-berried nightshade (*kṣudrā*)

Solanum virginianum, L. See

ADPS: 100, NK: v. 1, #2329,

AVS: v. 5, 164, 45, 47

Todo list

■ Cf. Arthaśāstra 1.21.8.	27
■ I'm still unhappy about this verse.	30
■ Mention this in the introduction as an example of the scribe knowing the vulgate.	30
■ fn about sadyas+	30
■ Bear's bile instead of deer's bile.	31
■ punarṇavā in the N & K MSS	32
■ śrita for śṛta	32
■ explain more	32
■ Medical difference from Sharma.	33
■ example where the vulgate clarifies that these should be used separately; appears to be a gloss inserted into the vulgate text.	33
■ The two uses of prāpta are hard to translate. prāptāḥ → kṣipraṃ is an example of the vulgate banalizing the Sanskrit text to make sense of a difficult passage.	33
■ √ vyadh not √ vedh (also elsewhere and for the ears), causative optative.	33
■ opposite of the vulgate Same as 1.8.89 (As 1980: 79).	34
■ -> ativiṣa	42
■ Look up the ca. reference.	42
■ Come back to the issue of "kalpa". Look up passages in the Kośa.	49
■ write footnote: don't repeat ativiṣā; vulgate similar to H.	52
■ material corresponds to SS.1.45.205ab, where it describes how alcohol affects the body.	55
■ where is cutting with a knife related to removing bile or phlegm.	57
■ maṣī burned charcoal. Find refs.	57
■ find ref.	63
■ Check out these refs.	64
■ meaning of kalpa	64
■ or a dual?	68

