{Varuna}

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{Crataeva nurvala }

{Capparidaceae}

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| --- | --- |
| Tamil | {Maralingam} |
| Malayalam | {Nirvala} |
| Hindi | {Tapia} |
| English | {Three layered caper} |

Description

{Habitat  
  
Varuna is found through out India especially in upper Gangetic plains, Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Gujarat and Konkan region. It is also cultivated in gardens as it is very beautiful tree.  
  
Morphology  
  
Habit-Small tree with grey bark.  
  
Root-Long, tap-root  
  
Stem Erect, woody, branched, cylindrical, solid with horizontal wrinkles.  
  
Crataeva nurvala Roxb.  
  
Leaf-Compound, 3- foliate, alternate, decidu-ous, petiole is 4 to 7.5 cm long, leaflets are 5 to 15 cm and 4 to 6 cm wide, ceolate or obovate, acute or acuminate, entire, glabrous on both the surfaces, veined, lateral leaflets oblique at the base. Petiolules 6 to 9 mm long.  
  
Inflorescence - Densely flowered terminal corymb.  
  
Flowers - Greenish white, pedicels 2.5 to 4.5 cm long, stout, hypogy are four and polysepalous, petals are four and polypetalous, Androecium co stamens. Gynoecium is bicarpellay syncarpous, superior ovary, unilocular.  
  
Fruit-Berry and many seeded.  
  
Seeds - Woody and non-endospermic  
  
Adulterant  
  
Stem bark of Aegle marmelos.  
Grahya Laxana (Genuine Characteristics)  
  
Bark is channelled, flat or slightly curved pieces, outer surface is rough and scaly, greyish black in colour, minutely fissured, bearing numerous small lenticels. Inner surface is lemon yellow in colour, longitudinally striated. Transversely cut portion of bark shows a porous surface with numerous dark yellow specks, representing vascular bundles. On breaking it becomes short pieces, does not have any odour. Taste is slightly bitter}

Useful Parts

{Kanda, Twak}

Benefits

1. {Amayika Prayoga (Therapeutic administration)  
     
   1. Ashmari (Urinay calculus)  
     
   क्वाथो वह्वणामूलस्य तत्कल्केन समन्वितः । पीतो निपातयेत् सद्यः शर्करामश्मरीमपि ।।  
     
   (वै.म 7/11)  
     
   Prepare decoction of Varuna (Crataeva nurvala) root bark, then add the paste of Root bark. If it is taken it is efficacious in Ashmari (Urinary calculus).  
   2. Gandamala (Goitre)  
     
   गण्डमालां तथा क्वाथः क्षौद्रेण वरुणत्वचः । (शा.स. 2/2/126)  
     
   In case of Gandamala (Goitre) decoction prepared from root bark of Varuna (Crataeva nurvala) is taken with honey.}

Pharmacological Action

* {Lithotriptic, Spasmodic, Anti-inflammatory, Antipyretic, Antibacterial and Diuretic}

Rasapancakam

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Rasa | {Kashaya, Tikta, madhura} |
| Guna | {Laghu, ruksa} |
| Virya | {Ushna} |
| Vipaka | {Katu} |
| Karma | {Kapha vata Shamaka} |