

Hon. Nishikant Bhosale-Patil (Dada) Founder, Prakash Shikshan Mandal, Islampur

Prakash Shikshan Mandal's

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DEPARTMENT OF DRAVYAGUNA



BIBHITAKI

Marathi: Behada

Botanical name: Terminaliabelerica Synonyms: Myrobalanusbellirica

Combretaceae (Rangoon creeper family) Family:

Baheda, Belliric Myrobalan, Bastard myrobalan, Beach almond, Bedda nut t Common name:

Description:

Baheda is a tall handsome tree, with characteristic bark, 12-50 m tall. Leaves are alternately arranged or fascicled at the end of branches, elliptic or elliptic obovate, leathery, dotted, entire. Leaf tip is narrow-pointed or rounded. Leaves are 8-20 cm long, 7.5-15 cm wide, on stalks 2.15 cm long. Flowers arise in spikes in leaf axils, 5-15 cm long. Flowers are greenish yellow, 5-6 mm across, stalklesse, upper flowers of the spike are male, lower flowers are bisexual. Stamens are 3-4 mm long. Fruit is obovoid 1.5-2.5 cm in diameter, covered with minute pale pubescence, stone very thick, indistinctly 5 angled.

Attributes: Rasa-Kashay Veerya-Ushna Vipak-Madhur Guna-Laghu, Ruksha.

In traditional Indian Ayurvedic medicine, Baheda is known as "Bibhitaki;" Medicinal uses: in its fruit form it is used in the popular Indian herbal rasayana treatment triphala. This species is used by some tribes in the Indian subcontinent for its mind-altering qualities - they smoke dried kernels. Too much of this can cause nausea and vomiting.