

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



Prakash Shikshan Mandal's

LOKNETE RAJARAMBAPU PATIL
AYURVEDIC MEDICAL COLLEGE, HOSPITAL,
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DIST-SANGLI (MAHARASHTRA) INDIA

DEPARTMENT OF DRAVYAGUNA



SHALMALI

Marathi: Sawar

Botanical name: Salmalia malabarica

Synonyms: Moca, Picchila, Raktapushpa, Kantkadhya, Tulini

Family: Bombacaceae Common name: Silk cotton tree.

Description: Silk cotton tree is a type of native with large red flowers. Silk cotton trees comprise eight species in the genus Bombax, native to India, tropical southern Asia, northern Australia and tropical Africa. Semul trees bear beautiful red-colored flowers during January to March. The fruit, the size of a ping-pong ball, on maturity appears during March and April. These are full of cotton-like fibrous stuff. Semul is quite a fast growing tree and can attain a girth of 2 to 3 m, and height about 30 m, in nearly 50 years or so. Bombax species are used as food plants by the larvae of some Lepidoptera species including the leaf-miner Bucculatrix crateracma which feeds exclusively on Bombaxceiba.

Attributes: Ras – Madhur, Vipak – Madhur, Virya – Sheet

Guna-Laghu, Snigdha, Piccila

Medicinal uses: Raktapitta, Pravahika, Atisara, RaktaPradara, Vrana, Yauvanpidika, Raktarsha, GrahaniBark is antiinflammatory, reduces burning sensation; flowers haemostatic. mocharas - astringent and used in wound healing; thorns - lekhan and improves complexion. In external bleeding local application of flower juice or powder is done on the wound. Mocharas is used in oral ulcers,local application on the face in discolouration and hyperpigmentation. It is used in Pichchabasti.