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Prakash Shikshan Mandal's

LOKNETE RAJARAMBAPU PATIL

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DIST-SANGLI (MAHARASHTRA) INDIA

DEPARTMENT OF DRAVYAGUNA



SHONYAK

Marathi:

Botanical name:

Synonyms:

Family:

Common name:

Description:

Tentu

Oroxylum indicum

Bignonia indica, Calosanthessindica

Bignoniaceae (Jacaranda family)

Broken Bones Tree, Indian Trumpet Flower, Tree of Damocles

Broken Bones Tree is a native tree often grown as an ornamental for its strange appearance. The long, podded fruits hang down from bare branches, looking like dangling sickles or swords in the night. The tree is also a night-bloomer and is pollinated naturally by bats. Additionally, after the large leaf stalks wither, they fall off the tree and collect near the base of the trunk, appearing to look like a pile of broken limb bones. It is a medium sized deciduous tree, growing 8-12 m tall. The bark is grayish brown with corky lenticels. The leaves are huge, 0.5-1.5 m long, 2-3 pinnate, leaflets 12 cm long and 8 cm broad. The flowers are reddish- purple outside and pale, spinkish-yellow within, numerous, in large erect racemes. The fruits are flat capsules, 0.33-1 meter long and 5-10 cm broad, sword-shaped. The seeds numerous, flat and winged all around, except at the base. Flowering: June-July.

Attributes :

Rasa- Madhur, Tikta Kashaya Veerya-Ushna Vipak- Katu Guna –. Laghu

Medicinal uses:

An extensively used medicinal tree of Ayurveda is Shyonak or Oroxylum indicum. It is one of the ten roots of famous Ayurvedic formulation 'Dashmula' (group of ten roots). This tree is mentioned in various Ayurvedic treatise. Sushrut and Charak prescribed Shyonak as antiseptic, astringent and prescribed for non-healing ulcers, female disorders and dysentery. Shyonak grows throughout India, chiefly in evergreen forest. For the medicinal purpose its root, bark and gum are used. The roots of the tree are greyish-brown to light brown in color and tastes sweet. The main constituent of roots are Flavonoids and Tannins. The roots are astringent, bitter Tonic, stomachic, anodyne, anti-inflammatory and expectorant in action. They stimulate digestion, cure fever, cough and other respiratory disorders and is useful in diarrhea, dysentery, abdominal pain, thirst, vomiting, anorexia, rheumatism, worms, leprosy and other skin diseases, oedema and urogenital disorders. In Ayurveda, the roots are considered Tikta/Bitter, kashaya/Astringent (Rasa/taste), Laghu/Light, Ruksha/Dry (Guna/characteristic), Sheet/ Cool (Virya/Potency) and Katu/Pungent (Vipaka/Post Digestive Effect). In action, the roots are Dipana, Kapha-pitta-shamak and Grahi in nature. The roots are given to treat respiratory illness, low appetite, gout, abdominal diseases, ear diseases and swelling. Tender fruits tones stomach, expels gas and gives relief in spasm of smooth muscle. Bark if roots is astringent and anti-diarrheal. The tree bark has diuretic/stimulates urine production and anti-rheumatic in action.