



**Hon. Nishikant Bhosale-Patil  
(Dada)**

Founder, Prakash Shikshan  
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Prakash Shikshan Mandal's

**LOKNETE RAJARAMBAPU PATIL**

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DIST-SANGLI (MAHARASHTRA) INDIA

## DEPARTMENT OF DRAVYAGUNA



## SINDURI

**Marathi:**

**Botanical name:**

**Synonyms:**

**Family:**

**Common name:**

**Description:**

Shendri

Bixa orellana

Sinduri, Markataharidra, Kampillaka

Bixaceae

Lipstick tree, Annatto, Arnatto

Bixaorellana is a perennial, tall shrub that can reach 6–10 m (20–33 ft) high. It bears clusters of 5 cm (2 in) bright white or pink flowers, resembling single wild roses, that appear at the tips of the branches. The fruits of the Bixaorellana are globular, ovoid capsules arranged in clusters resembling spiky looking red-brown seed pods covered in soft spines. Each capsule, or pod, contains 30–45 cone-shaped seeds covered in a thin waxy blood-red. When fully mature, the pod dries, hardens, and splits open, exposing the seeds.

**Attributes -**

Rasa-Kashaya, Tikta, Virya -Seeta, Veepak - -, Guna : Lakhu, Rooksha

**Medicinal uses:**

One major traditional use of the Bixaorellana plant was for body, face, and hair paint among various tribes and ancient civilizations either for decorative purposes or as omens to ward off evil spirits and illnesses. It has been reported to be used by Brazilian native tribes, the native Táinos in Puerto Rico, the Tsáchila of Ecuador and different Amazonian tribes. As a result of the , the Bixaorellana was introduced to tribes like the Aztecs, Incas and Mochicas, who showed evidence of later use. The Aztecs also apparently used the annatto pigment as red ink for manuscript painting in the 16th century.

Bixaorellana is used in traditional medicine. The tree has been used in Ayurveda, the folk medicine practices of India, where different parts of the plant are thought to be useful as therapy. The Annatto pulp and other parts that contain astringent properties are used to cure cases of dysentery, jaundice (leaves) and other kidney diseases.

The plant is valued for its stem fiber to make rope mats and for the adhesive gum.