

ACORUS (BACH)		
BOTANICAL NAME	:-	Acorus calamus
FAMILY	:-	Araceae
LOCAL NAME	:-	Kynbat Ksuid
HINDI NAME	:-	Bach



HABITS AND HABITATS :-

It is a tall perennial wetland monocot with scented leaves and rhizomes which have been used medicinally. It is believed to be indigenous to India but *Acorus calamus* is now found across Europe, in southern Russia, northern Asia Minor, southern Siberia, China, Japan, Burma, Sri Lanka, Australia, southern Canada and northern USA.

PLANTS DESCRIPTION :-

Acorus calamus has a single prominent midvein and then on both sides slightly raised secondary veins (with a diameter less than half the midvein) and many, fine tertiary veins. The leaves are between 0.7 and 1.7 cm wide, with average of 1 cm. The sympodial leaf of *Acorus calamus* is somewhat shorter than the vegetative leaves. The margin is curly-edged or undulate. The spadix, at the time of expansion, can reach a length between 4.9 and 8.9 cm. The flowers are longer too, between 3 and 4 mm. *Acorus calamus* is infertile and shows an abortive ovary with a shriveled appearance.

PARTS USED:-

The Rhizome

MEDICINAL PROPERTIES AND USES :-

The rhizome was found to be a powerful aphrodisiac. It is used both medicinally and as a stimulant. The root extract is used for treating cough and cold.

CHEMICAL COMPOSITION:-

Calamus contain asarone

PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY :-

Cultivation Is done on wet or shallow water , upto 25 cm (10 inch) Deep , in a sunny position. Plant grown in aquariums deteriorate if submerged for a longer period, especially if grown in a tropical conditions . Divide large clumps every 3-4 years to maintain vigour .The propagation is done by the divisions of he rhizomes in early springs. For harvesting , the plant is lifted at any time except the flowering period. The required amount of rhizome is cut and the remainder is replanted .The rhizome may be dried for used in decoction ,distilled for oil or used for fresh tinctures ,liquid extracts , paste and powders.