ADHATODA

BOTANICAL NAME :- Adhatoda vasica

FAMILY :- Acanthaceae

LOCAL NAME :- Jamynsek

HINDI NAME :- Vasa

HABITS AND HABITATS:-

A shrub, found throughout India, upto an altitude of 1,300m

PLANTS DESCRIPTION :-

A shrub about 8-10 feet. Leaves are opposite, lanceolate and simple. Flower on short spikes, terminal, whitish coloured. Corolla is mono etalous. Flowering time is Feb. to April.

PARTS USED:

Leaves, flower, roots

MEDICINAL PROPERTIES AND USES:-

Leaves juice is given as an expectorant in cough, asthma and ague. The leaves, flower and roots are considered antispasmodic and are given in cases of asthma and intermittent fever. Leaves are also used as anthelmintic.

CHEMICAL COMPOSITION:-

Quinazoline alkaloid vasicine is reported in all part of the plant.

PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY:-

Well-drained soil in sun or partial shade, with high humidity. Cut back ornamental specimens hard in early spring, and pinch out regularly to encourage a bushy habit. Plants under cover may be attacked by whitefly. By seed sown at 16°C (61°F) in spring, by softwood cuttings in spring, by semi-ripe cuttings in summer. Leaves are collected in the growing season and dried for use in herbal smoking mixtures, liquid extracts, and tinctures.

