

ASPARAGUS		
BOTANICAL NAME	:-	<i>Asparagus filicinus</i>
FAMILY	:-	Liliaceae
LOCAL NAME	:-	Bat Niang sohpet
HINDI NAME	:-	Satmul



HABITS AND HABITATS :-

The plant is an evergreen herbs that can adapt in a wide variety of soil condition.. It is usually cultivated in gardens, sometimes found as an escape wild in tropical and subtropical India including Andaman Islands and ascending up to 1500m in the Himalaya from Kashmir eastwards.

PLANTS DESCRIPTION :-

It is an extensively large scandent under shrub with triquerous branches and erect or recurred spines. The plant consist of an underground root which give rise to tuber modification .somewhere at its tips. The aerial portion consist of triuerous branches with soft needle shaped green leaves.

PARTS USED:-

1. The Rhizomatous root.

MEDICINAL PROPERTIES AND USES:-

The root extract is used for preparing Stomach tonic for Infants. Boiled leaves smeared with butter fat applied with benefit to boils, small pox and prevent confluence; roots are used for diabetes, gynecological problems, root alterative, anti-diarrheic, anti-dysenteric. Root boiled with milk is an appetizer, anti-dyspeptic.

CHEMICAL COMPOSITION:-

Steroidal Glycosides and aglycones: Shatavarins I- IV. Sarasapogenin: Arasosapogenin, sterds and diosgenin has also been isolated from the roots. Alkaloids- Asparagamine; Flavonoids- quercetin, rutin.

PRODUCTION TECHNOLOG :-

The roots after the harvest are dried in the sun until it is good for storage. However the dried roots absorb moisture during humid days or during the rainy season and are attacked by several fungi. Therefore, it is advisable to store the roots in polythene-lined bags in a dry and cool place.