

BERBERIS

BOTANICAL NAME	:-	Berberis aristata
FAMILY	:-	Berberidaceae
LOCAL NAME	:-	Sohkrot shiah
HINDI NAME	:-	Daru haridra



HABITS AND HABITATS :-

An under tree shrub, distributed in the temperate and sub tropical parts of Asia, Europe, and America and in the Himalaya from 2000-3500 meter.

PLANTS DESCRIPTION :-

The plant is about 6-8 feet height, with oblong or ovate – lanceolate leaves, nearly entire or toothed. Sometime the leaves are deeply or coarsely veined. Flower is yellowish colored in Racemes and inflorescence is longer than the leaves. Flowering time is in the month of May-June.

PARTS USED:-

Bark, berry, extract of root bark, wood, leaf and stem.

MEDICINAL PROPERTIES AND USES:-

Plant extract used internally for piles, pruritus, alopecia, haemorrhage, anemia, Jaundice, mouth disease, swollen gum, skin disease and leprosy. Other uses include, as a cholagogue, stomachic, laxative, and antiseptic .Also effective against leucorrhoea.

CHEMICAL COMPOSITION:-

Isoquinoline alkaloids (particularly Berberine, berberine, oxyacanthine and palmatine) Berries contain Isoquinoline alkaloids, anthocyanins, malic acid, acetic acid etc.

PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY:-

The plant is cultivated in calcareous soil having sun or partial shade .It is propagated by seed which is sown when it is ripe. Also by stem cutting, softwood or semi- ripe cutting in summer seasons .For harvesting, the fruit is gathered in the autumn season which may be used fresh. Stem and roots are also collected in the same seasons and stripped off the bark when fresh. The Bark and roots are use in decoction and liquid extracts, and as powder.