

COSTUS (CANE REED)

BOTANICAL NAME	:-	Costus speciosus
FAMILY	:-	Zingiberaceae
LOCAL NAME	:-	Bat piat
HINDI NAME	:-	Kebuka, kebu



HABITS AND HABITATS :-

Herb, found in Assam, Khasi and Jaintia hills, sub-Himalayan tract of Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh and Western Ghats.

PLANTS DESCRIPTION :-

Height is about 3-4 feet, spirally ascending leaves sub-sessile, spirally arranged, oblong, cuspidate, villous underneath. Flowers large, pure white, flowering in the month of July-September.

PARTS USED :-

Rhizomes.

MEDICINAL PROPERTIES AND USES :-

The plant is Astringent, purgative, depurative anti-inflammatory (used in govt, rheumatism, bronchitis, asthma, catarrhal fevers, dysuria, anthelmintic, antivermin, maggoticide and antifungal).

CHEMICAL COMPOSITION:-

Plant contains Saponins dioscin, gracillin, and beta-sitosterol-beta-d-glucoside. All part of the plant contain steroidal saponin, diogenin.

PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY :-

Cultivated in moist, well-drained, humus-rich, and neutral to acid soil in shade and high humidity. Propagation is sown seed as soon as ripe at 20° C. divide in spring. Leaves, young stems, and rhizomes are collected as required and used fresh, often in the form of juice. Rhizomes may also be cooked or dried.