

EMBELIA RIBES

BOTANICAL NAME	:-	Embelia ribes
FAMILY	:-	Myrsinaceae
LOCAL NAME	:-	
HINDI NAME	:-	Vidanga/ Biranga/ Vayuvilanga



HABITS AND HABITATS :-

A large tree which is distributed throughout India from the Central Himalayas to peninsular India ascending to 1700m, also common in the lower hills. The fruits, seeds, leaves, root bark and roots of ribes are useful as medicine.

PLANTS DESCRIPTION :-

It is a creeper which has a brittle stem. Leaves are ovate in shape having both the ends sharp. It is about 3 inch long and 1 ½ inches broad, shiny and modulated. Flowers are white, small having petiole 3 to 4 inch in length. Fruit is small like that of a pepper. Its color varies from red to blackish. It is found in bunches. The outer covering of the fruit is fragile and inside the seed is spotted.

PARTS USED :-

Fruits and dried seeds.

MEDICINAL PROPERTIES AND USES:-

Alternative, anti diarrhoeal, antidysentric, anti hemorrhagic. The decoction of seeds is beneficial in fevers, skin diseases and chest complains. Young leaves in combination with ginger used as a gargle for aphthae and indolent ulcers in the mouth as well as sore throat. The paste of root bark is applied to chest in pneumonia.

CHEMICAL COMPOSITION:-

Embelin is present in seeds. It consists of an alkaloid, christembine, homoembelin and homoraparone, vilangine and guercitol.

PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY :-

Cultivated in well-drained soil in sun with high humidity. Propagation by seeds sown when ripe. Whole plants are collected during summer and autumn and used fresh or dried in decoctions, or pounded with roots as a poultice. Fruits are collected when unripe or ripe for decoctions, powder, and confectionery. Roots and bark are collected as required for decoctions.