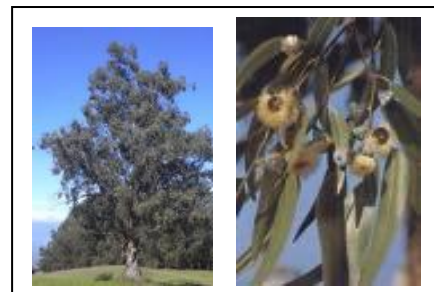


BOTANICAL NAME	EUCALYPTUS
FAMILY	Myrtaceae
LOCAL NAME	Dieng eukaliptus
HINDI NAME	Karpooramaram



HABITS AND HABITATS :-

Lofty tree, found in the Hills of Nilgiris, Palni, Shimla and Shillong from 1350 to 2350 m.

PLANTS DESCRIPTION :-

A tall lofty tree, where young shoot and leaves are glaucous- white leaves of young trees are opposite, sessile and cordate of the full grown tree are lanceolate or ovale- lanceolate, acuminate. The stem is a semi hard wood, smooth and whitish coloured. Flowers are large, axillary, solitary, closely sessile. The leaves produce the characteristic eucalyptus oil smell.

PARTS USED :-

Leaves, oil extracted from the leaves.

MEDICINAL PROPERTIES AND USES:-

The oil extracted from the leaves are used as an antiseptic, especially in the treatment of infections of upper respiratory tract and certain skin disease. Used as a stimulating expectorant in chronic bronchitis and asthma. It is frequently given by inhalation for common cold, headache, sinusitis and lung infection. Commonly used as Mosquitoes and vermin repellent.

CHEMICAL COMPOSITION:-

Plants contain volatile oil like cineol, p-cymene, alpha-pinenes, limonene, geraniol, co-amphene etc.

PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY :-

Preparation of land is done by clearing the land of jungle growth. Take pits of size 45 x 45 x 45 cm at a spacing 2 x 2 m at least one month prior to planting and allow to weather. Fill up the pits with soil completely so as to prevent water stagnation. Nursery is raised and 4-5 month old seedlings are planted with the commencement of southwest monsoon. After planting, press the soil around the seedling and form mound to prevent stagnation of water. Manuring is done by application of 400 g ammonium sulphate, 60 g superphosphate and 25 g muriate of potash per plant per year during August from third year onwards is found to be useful in increasing leaf yield. During first year, cultivate the rows in both directions to prevent weed growth. Hand weeding is done around the seedlings. Fire belts are to be provided all around. Eucalyptus can be grown along with coffee, lemongrass and palmarosa. In the first four years, intercropping with pineapple, yam and vegetables can be done. Pruning of side branches may be started from second year onwards. Lopping at a height of 2 m is done during third or fourth year and thereafter lopping is resorted to at half-yearly intervals leaving only one branch. For extracting oil, steam distillation is resorted to. Optimum time for distillation is two hours and the average recovery of oil is 1.5-1.8% of the net weight of leaves. Wilting of the cut leaves under shade for 24 hours before distillation will increase the oil recovery percentage.

