HAMAMELIS

BOTANICAL NAME :- Hamamelis virginiana

FAMILY :- Hamamelidaceae

LOCAL NAME :-

HINDI NAME :-

HABITS AND HABITATS:-

A shrub which is native to Canada and America.

PLANTS DESCRIPTION :-

The plant is a hardy deciduous shrub of about 6 m tall. The branches are forked with smooth brown bark. Leaves are short stalked and almost round. Flower are yellow colour, thread like. Fruits appear in cluster with shiny black seed inside.

PARTS USED:-

Leaves twigs and bark.

MEDICINAL PROPERTIES AND USES:-

The plant has astringent and hemostats properties. The extract from leaves, twigs and bark are utilized for several lotion for sprains, bruise and shaving lotion. The plant is used to treat haemorrhoides, skin tumors and skin inflammations. It is also used in eye lotion and the bark is chewed as mouth freshener.

CHEMICAL COMPOSITION:-

Leaves contain gallotannins, proanthocyanidins and some condensed catechins. The bark contains gallotannins, condensed tannins and also proanthocyanidins of cyaniding and delphinidin.

PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY:-

Cultivated in moist, humus-rich, and neutral to acid soil in sun or partial shade. Cut back rangy growths after flowering. Propagation by seed sown when ripe, by suckers. Germination is slow and erratic and may take up to two years .Leaves are picked in summer for dry and liquid extracts and ointments. Branches are cut in spring and decorticated for use in tinctures. Twigs are cut in spring for use in distilled extracts.

