

## PLUMBAGO

<b>BOTANICAL NAME</b>	<b>:-</b>	<b>Plantago ispaghula</b>
<b>FAMILY</b>	<b>:-</b>	<b>Plumbaginaceae</b>
<b>LOCAL NAME</b>	<b>:-</b>	
<b>HINDI NAME</b>	<b>:-</b>	<b>Chitraka, paathi</b>



### HABITS AND HABITATS :-

A perennial shrub, growing wild or indigenous to Sikkim and Khasi Hills.

### PLANTS DESCRIPTION :-

The plant is shrubby about 4-8 feet high. Stem is lined, smooth, fleuous, branches rearly bifarious, leaves is alternate, ovata, entire. Flower is pure white. A raceme is axillary and terminal covered with much glutinous hair.

### PARTS USED :-

Root bark, leaves.

### MEDICINAL PROPERTIES AND USES :-

Root bark and leaves are prescribed for intestinal catarrh, indigestion, colic, internal abscesses , jaundice, intestinal parasites, piles, urinary calculi, polyuria, spermaturia, vaginal discharges, virulent skin disease and poisoning. Plant also cures oedemia, piles, rarasitic infection and obstinate skin diseases.

### CHEMICAL COMPOSITION:-

Naphthaquinone derivatius plumbagin, 3-chloro plumbagin, 3,3 biplumbagin, elliptinone, chitranone, droserone.

### PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY :-

Propagated by single, double or three node semi-hard wood stem cuttings. Cuttings are planted in nursery beds of convenient length and 1 m width for rooting. Prepare the land to a good tilth by ploughing two or three times. Make ridges of about 30 cm height and 50 cm apart for planting rooted cuttings. Two to three month old rooted cuttings can be planted on the ridges at a spacing of 15 cm in June-July. Cattle manure or compost @ 10 t/ha may be applied as basal dose at the time of land preparation. The fertilizer dose for chethikoduveli is N:P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>:K<sub>2</sub>O 50:50:50 kg/ha. Entire P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> has to be applied as basal dose and N and K<sub>2</sub>O in two split doses, 2 months and 4 months after planting. Weeding has to be done two or three times depending on weed growth. Earthing up may be done two times along with topdressing of fertilizers. The crop can be harvested in about 18 months after planting. After digging out, the root tubers are cleaned by washing in water and marketed.