

VITEX (FIVE LEAVES CHASTE TREE)

BOTANICAL NAME	:-	Vitex negundo
FAMILY	:-	Verbenaceae
LOCAL NAME	:-	Lapata , Tyllai skip.
HINDI NAME	:-	Nirgundi



HABITS AND HABITATS :-

An arborous, distributed throughout India in the warmer zones, ascending to 900m in the North Western Himalaya.

PLANTS DESCRIPTION :-

An arborous shrub, with twisted stem, 10 feet height. Leaves are digitate, quinate, opposite, lanceolate, entire, three large petioled, two smaller sessile and 5 in numbers. Flower is blue coloured and fragrant.

PARTS USED :-

Leaves, seed

MEDICINAL PROPERTIES AND USES :-

Leaves are used anti-inflammatory, analgesics, removes feetid discharges and worm from ulcer. The seed is prescribed in spermatorrhoe, and for promoting spermiogenesis. Also given as a rejuvenating tonic for retaining and promoting virility and retarding old age.

CHEMICAL COMPOSITION:-

Plant contains p-hydroxybenzoic acid, 5-oxyisophtholic acid, glucose and triterpenes, vitextriterpene. The flavone, 5, 7, 3'trihydraxy-6, 8, 4' – trimethoxy flavone etc.

PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY :-

The plant is cultivated in a well- drain to dry, poor soil I the sun. It is propagated by seed sown when ripe or in the spring, by semi ripe cuttings in summer. For harvesting the leaves are picked in early summer.