

ETHNOBOTANY OF *PROSOPIS CINERARIA***Dr. Teena Agrawal***

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Corresponding Author*Dr. Teena Agrawal**Assistant Professor,
Banasthali University, Niwai.**ABSTRACT**

Traditional medicines are the medicines which are utilised for the treatment of the various diseases by the folk medicines. They are the resultant of the experience of the various civilization from the long exposure of the plants for the treatment of the many diseases. Folk medicines are the treasure of any country, since from the very remote time they have utilised for the many aspects in their civilization. WHO also promotes the folk medicine for the treatment of the primary health care. In this review article we are presenting some of the aspects of the

tree termed as the *Prosopis cineraria* of the leguminosaceae family, the tree is the member of the mimosidae subfamily of the legume large group. The tree is giant and have the all the feature of the legumes tree. Aesthetically the tree is worshipped and they has been declared as the *National tree* in the south Arab amirates, in Rajasthan the tree is declared as the *state tree* and it is worshipped. Whole parts of the trees are valuable; they have been used for the variety of the purposes. The stem for the construction as well as the timber tree, similarly the leaves, pods and the bark also have several medicinal features. However the tree also contains many ecological values, so it is need to be conserved.

KEYWORDS: Conserved, ethnobotany, useful, ecological values, national tree, state tree, medicinal aspects.

INTRODUCTION

Folk medicines are the medicines which are the resultant of the tribe's expertness with the nature. The civilizations are living in the nature from the long time and they have the experiences of the utilization of the plant parts and their metabolites for the treatment of them any kinds of the diseases. Folk medicines are the treasure of the any country. The Chinese's medicines, Arab medicines, the Korean medicines', the ayurvedic medicines and gthe siddha, uanani are the types of the folk medicines.^{[1][2][3][5]}

The folk medicines are easy to use and they are cheap and the side effects for the folk medicines are very less in comparison to the chemical based medicines, so still today in the country like the Asia and the Africa about the 80 percent of the population still depend on the folk medicines for their primary health care. WHO also confined the utilization of the folk medicines of the treatment of the diseases in the countries like the Asia and the other developing nations. WHO also states the strategy for the utilization of the folk medicines so that they can be sustainably used for the treatment of the diseases. In the internodes of the branches the branches have the thorns.^{[4][7][8]}

Here in this review article we are presenting some of the aspects of the tree termed as the *Prosopis cineraria*, the tree is the member of the leguminosaceae family the subfamily is the mimosidaecae, the tree is the native of the Asia and the south Arabs continents. The tree is also indigenous of the Indian subcontinent. The genus is widely distributed in the Asia, Pakistan, south Arab amirates, Indonesia.

The *Prosopis cineraia* is the state tree of the Rajasthan, it has been declared as the national tree of the south Arab amirates.^{[11][12][13][14]}

Botanical description of the tree: The *Prosopis cineraia* is the small tree, the height of the tree ranging from the 5-6 meters, the leaves are the bipinantes, the number of the pinaae ranges from the 7-14 in the number. In the internodes of the branches the branches have the thorns. The tree has the deep root system and they approach the water tables. The genus contains the about the 44 species.

The colour of the flower is the yellow in colour, they grow in the abundant panicles, the small of the flower is the pungent, and the structures of the flower are typical Mimosideae kinds off. The seeds are present as in the pods of the plants.

The tree is found in the extremely hard and the xeric conditions. Sometimes the presences of the tree are the indication of the water table and the level of the saline as well as the other salts in the soil. The tree grown abundantly where the water level is about the 15mm.

Prosopis cineraia is the very important tree of the Rajasthan, commonly it is known as the shami, it is whorshipped as the place of the maharaja Shani and may peoples whorshipped the tree as the place of the lord shani devta, so it is also conserved.^{[1][2][13]}

In the Mahabarata also it is claimed that the Pandavas also place there weapons in the shami tree when they were in there agytwas.'

In the festival of the desahra the tree is whorshipped in all over the India.

The shami tree is the very multipurpose tree in the Indian Thar Desert.^[13]

Many of the workers in the world has worked on the phytochemical as well as the pharmacological aspects of *the Prosopis cinerria* reported from the all parts of the tree, mimosaceae subfamily.^{[6][7]} The roots, leaves, stem and the flower are the assemblage of the many kinds of the metabolites of the medical values. The survey of the literature shows the presence of the sterols. Alkaloids, fatty acids, glycosides, glycoside have been reported from the flower, flavones have been reported from the seeds, phytochemical investigation of the leaves shows the presence of the hydrocarbon, leaves contains the large amount of the fatty acids, with the linoliec acid and the oliec acid. Some of the phytochemical aspects of the tree and its parts are enlisted as.^{[8][9][10]}

Part of the Plant	Phytochemicals
Whole plant	Alkaloids, fatty acids, glycosides, sterols
Leaves	Phenolic Acid derivatives, unsaturated fatty acids and linoleic acid and oleic acid.
Pods	Tannins, Alkaloids, falvenoids, glycosides
Seeds	Flavones
Flowers	Glucosides

Uses of the tree: the tree has the several uses, some of the uses of the tree are enlisted as.^{[8][9][10]}

- 1) The whole tree is utilised fro the several purposes. The flower is mixed with sugars, and they are used in the female reproductive cycles.
- 2) The flower is known as the antidiabetic role in nature.
- 3) Dry pods of the plants are used in the protein nutrition's.
- 4) The pods and the seeds are used in the iron deficiency.
- 5) The smoke of the leaves is used in the eye infections.
- 6) Bark of the tree is used in the treatment of the asthma, cough, bronchitis, dysentery, leucodermas, leprosy, and muscle infection.

Pharmacological aspects: The pharmacological aspects of the stem and its various plants parts have been discussed, the bark of the stem is used as the antipyretic, analgesic,

antihyperglycemic and antioxidant activity, antitumor activity, respiratory activity and the gastrointestinal activity, anticonvulsant activity has also been reported.

CONCLUSION

Overall this is the short review of the *Prosopis cineraria* of the mimosaceae family. The tree is very valuable from the aesthetically as well as the pharmacologically point of view, the phytochemical of the trees are also of the great medicinal uses. However the tree is needed to be the conservation as well as the propagation for the development of the belts of the tree for the various purposes.

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