

A CONCISE REVIEW ON NERIUM INDICUM MILL

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ABSTRACT

Nerium indicum commonly known as kanher is an important medicinal plant in Indian traditional medicine. The modern as well as traditional use of plants leaves, flowers, Root, Bark, Latex make this plant more valuable. The plant produces Secondary metabolites such as alkaloid, flavonoids and steroids which have pharmacological application. The important pharmacological applications, uses are antibacterial, antifungal on skin diseases, larvicidal, anticancer, antidiabetic. This review describes the ancient literature based information regarding pharmacological as well as phytochemicals of the plant.

KEYWORD: Nerium indicum mill - secondary metabolites – antibacterial activity- Skin diseases - phytochemicals.

INTRODUCTION

Nerium indicum is a small evergreen shrub with 2-3 meter In height, commonly called as kanher, found all over India. Nerium indicum is a drought tolerant plant and belongs to the family the Apocynaceae family. The leaves are 10 to 15 cm long and 2.5 cm width, narrow with prominent midrib. Flowers are produced in terminal cluster about 5cm in diameter with Five petals in white and red colour.

Fruits are 8 to 10 cm long square Shaped seed pods. Inside it light coloured haired Seeds. In summer and rainy season flowering occurs and in fruiting in winters.

Nerium indicum is widely grown as an ornamental plant.

Synonyms of *Nerium indicum* mill.

Hindi Name - kaner, kanali

English Name -Indian oleander

Marathi Name - Kanher

Telagu Name - Erra Ganneru.

Bengali Name- Karavi

Ayurvedic - Ashwamarak, mahavir, hayamara, kund, shwet pushpaks, shat Kumbh, Rakta pushpa, Lagud.

गण - तिक्तस्कंध, कुष्ठघ्न (चरक संहिता)

लाक्षादि, शिरोविरेचन (सुधूत संहिता)

गुडूच्यादि वर्ग (भावप्रकाश निंघटू)

औषधी वर्ग (कैयदेव निंबटू)

लाक्षादि गण - वाग्भट

कुल -(कुटज कूल)

- Apocynacege.

Types - In Samhitas only two varieties described Red and white. But in Raj Nighantu totally four varieties of Karreera are described shweta (white), Rakta (Red), peeta (yellow) and Krishna (Black).

Parts used for medicinal purpose

- 1) Root
- 2) Root bark
- 3) Leaves



Chemical Constituents

Nerium indicum Root contains Neriodorein, Neriodorein and volatile oils, wax, Digitalis like Neriene also present and Rosaginine also present and in leaves oleandrine like mineral and pseudo- curarine like glucoside and Nerine and Neriantine present.

Ayurvedic Properties of Karreera

"करवीरः श्वेत पुष्पः शतकुम्भो अश्वमारकः ।
द्वितीयो रक्तपुष्पच चण्डातो लगुडस्तथा ॥
करवीर द्वयं तिकतं कषायं कटुकश्च तत ।
व्रणलाघवकृन्न्न् कोप कुष्ठव्रणापहम् ॥
वीर्योष्णं कृमिकण्डूघ्नं भक्षितं विषवन्मतम् ॥

भा. प्र.

गुण

Rasa (taste on tongue)-Katu (pungent), Tikta (astringent), Kashaya (Bitter).

Vipaka (transformed state after digestion): Katu (Pungent)

virya (Action)-ushn (Heating)

Guna (Pharmacological Action)-Laghu (Light), Ruksha (Dry),
tikshna

Biomedical Actions

Antipyretic

Anti-inflammatory (Leaves)

eye protective

skin disease (leaves, Root).

worms(leaves ,Root)
wounds (leaves ,Root)
diuretic (Root)
cardiotonic (Root)
piles (Root, Bark)
itching (Root, leaves).
Dry skin disease (leaves, Root bark)
antifungal (Root bark)
Sephali (Root)
Snake bite (Root bark)
septic wounds (leaves, Root Bark)
Ascites (Root Bark).
hair fall.

Traditional medicinal uses of Karveera.

Karveera is poisonous medicine mainly used externally for skin disease and in small amount internally.

Charak has prescribed Leaves of white flowered variety externally in chronic skin diseases.

In Bhavprakash Nighantu it is indicated in treatment of Heart disease. Karveera root act as diuretic and like digitalis and useful in Heart disease.

In small amount in heart disease & ascities Root Bark of karveera used as diuretic. In snake bite 125 to 250 mg. Root bark or 1 to 2 leaves intermittently given. In skin diseases, itching, Karveera root boiled in oil and that oil is used for massage. In wound, piles, fungal infection Root bark mixed in gamutra (cow's Urine) and used.

In Sephalis wound root bark is used or Kwath of leaves. is used to wash wounds.

In hairfall Root bark is mixed with milk and used externally.

Vagbhat also mentioned use of Karveera in the treatment of skin disease as Kikkis (Striae gravidarum)

Paste of Root Bark and leaves of Karveera also used externally in the Ringworm and other skin complaints. A medicated oil known as Karveeradya taila is recommended by Chakradatta in skin diseases.

* Snake bite - Root bark 125 to 250 mg given.

- * -skin diseases, Itching - boiled in oil and used for massage
- * Inflammation - decoction of leaves used for fomentation.
- * wounds, piles, skin diseases, fungal infection, itching - Root bark in gomutra is used.
- *Syphilis infection - Root bark is used. with water to wash infected. area.
- *hair fall - Root + milk used.
- * ptosis small leaves juice is used.

Dose of Karveera root bark = 15-125 mg

warning and side effects of Kareera- karveera is poisonous drug mainly used externally on skin disease. Root Bark and leaves are used for treatment.

Internally should used carefully after shodhan.

CONCLUSION: From the review of the existing work it is used in the treatment of skin diseases, inflammation.

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