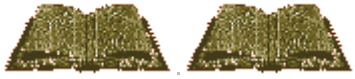
ANIL AGGRAWAL'S
Internet Journal of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology
The world's first online journal devoted entirely to forensic medicine and toxicology · Published 1 January and 1 July

VOL. 5, NO. 1
Downloaded from www.anilaggrawal.com · ISSN 0972-8074 (Online) · https://www.anilaggrawal.com/ij/vol_005_no_001/reviews/pb/page002images.html

Book Reviews: Popular Books Section



(Some select images)



FEATURED BOOK : REVIEW 1

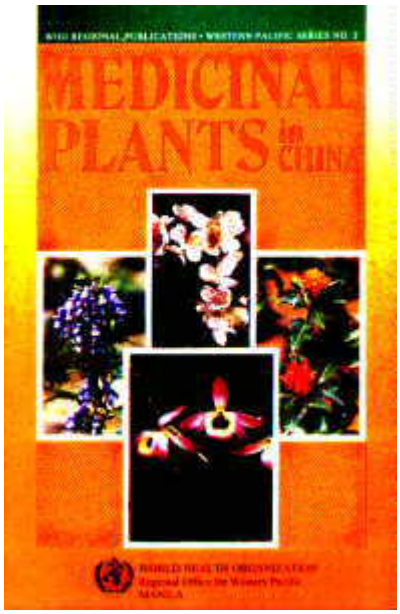
SELECT IMAGES

[Review 1] [Main Page] [Review 2]
[Selected Images from this book]

Medicinal Plants in China - A selection of 150 commonly used species, Compiled by The Institute of Chinese Material Medica, China Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Paperback, 5.5" x 8.5". World Health Organization Regional Office for the Western Pacific, Manila, Publication Date 1998 (2nd impression 1997), i- xv and 331 pages, ISBN 92-9061-102-2: Price: Sw.fr. 50.00

WHO's Catalogue of Publications

Click cover to buy from Amazon



This book not only discusses 150 medicinal plants of China, but gives high quality photographs of each of them along with a short description of the plant, its botanical name, its Chinese and English names, the parts used as medicines, its natural habitat and distribution. Major indications

View this book on Amazon

for each plant and the usual dose required is also given.
The photographs appear on the left page of the book, while the accompanying description appears on the right page. The format is more or less like that of an atlas. On the left page, beside the picutre of the plant, the picture of the medicine that is derived from it (usually some part of the plant or some modification of it) is also given below each plant.

We decided to give a sampling of what this book has to offer the readers. Here are four select images from the book, and the short description that follows it.

Medicinal Plants in China (Some select Images)

Image	Description
	[From pages 68-69. Plant #34] ***Celosia cristata L. Amaranthaceae*** ***Celosia argentea*** var., cristata (L.) O. Kuntze Chinese name : Jīguānhuā 雞(鸡)冠花 English name : Cockscomb *Parts used* . Inflorescence. *Description* . A cultivated sport of *C. argentea* L. Leaves often broad, sometimes up to 23 cm long by 5 cm wide. Flowers from July to



September. The spikes are flattened, truncate, often 15 cm wide and irregularly laciniate at the top, thus resembling a cock's crest. Colour varieties exist, such as yellow, whitish and bright purple.

The purple spikes are officinal.

Habitat . Commonly cultivated as an ornamental plant.

Distribution . Burma, China, India, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Philippines .

Indications . 1. Epistaxis; haemoptysis; haematemesis; haemorrhoidal bleeding; haematuria; functional uterine bleeding 2. Diarrhoea 3. Leucorrhoea 4. Urinary tract infection.

Dosage . 6-12 g.

[From pages 94-95. Plant #47]

Croton tiglium L. **Euphorbiaceae**

Chinese name : Bādòu 巴豆

English name : Purging croton

Parts used . Seeds.

Description . An evergreen tree, 2-7 m high. Leaves alternate, long-petiolate, stipulate, ovate or elliptic-ovate, rarely oblong, 7-17 cm long by 3-7 cm wide; apex long-acuminate; base broadly cuneate; margin sparsely serrulate, sometimes glandular beneath; nerves 2-3 pairs above the basal. Racemes, terminal





in summer. Flowers unisexual, dioecious, small. Male flower; pedicels with stellate hairs; sepals nearly glabrous; tips bearded; petals narrow; stamens glabrous; receptacle villous; disc-glands 5, small. Female flower: sepals villous at the base within; disc obscure, annular; ovary oblong. Capsule white, turbinately obovoid, obtusely trigonous.

The seeds are 12 mm long by 8 mm wide, oblong, trigonous, rounded at the two extremities, with 2 faces, the dorsal face more convex than the ventral, the latter being marked with an awn; epidermis brownish; albumen oleaginous and voluminous; cotyledons foliaceous. Poisonous.

Habitat . On slopes and the banks of streams.

Distribution . Burma , China , Laos , Malaysia , Viet Nam .

Indications . 1. Meteorism; ascites 2. Abundant expectoration 3. ileus (external use).

Dosage . 0.1-0.3 g.

[From pages 176-177. Plant #88]

Magnolia officinalis Rehd. et Wils.
Magnoliaceae





Chinese name : Hòupò 厚樸(朴)

English name : Officinal magnolia

Parts used . Bark.

Description . A deciduous tree, large, up to 22 m high. Bark smooth, light rusty-ash colour and aromatic. Branchlets light-green or yellowish. Leaves very large, elliptic-obovate, up to 35 cm long and 17-18 cm wide. Flowers large, fragrant, in May; creamy-white. Petals 9-15, outer 3 pale-green tinged pink on the outside, chartaceous, 5-6 cm in length by 3 cm in breadth, inner 6-12 creamy-white, 8-10 cm in length by 3 cm in breadth, fleshy. Fruit cones 10-12 cm in length, oblong, apex truncate and base rounded. Carpels rounded at the base. Seeds single. The drug consists of the rough, thick bark, rolled into large, tight cylinders. The outer surface is greyish-brown, roughened with tubercles and marked with lichenous growths. The inner surface is smooth and reddish-brown. The bark tastes aromatic and pungent.

Habitat . In mountains.

Distribution . China.

Indications . 1. Sensation of fullness in the chest and abdomen; indigestion 2. Diarrhoea 3. Cough and sputum.

Dosage . 3-9 g.

Notes . *Magnolia biloba* Rehd. et Wils. is similarly employed.

[From pages 258-259. Plant #129]





***Schizandra chinensis* (Turczaninow) Baillon**
Magnoliaceae

Maximowiczia sinensis Rupr.

Chinese name : Wǔwèizǐ 五味子

English name : Chinese magnolia vine

Parts used . Fruit.

Description . A deciduous woody climbing vine, about 8 m long. Leaves alternate, petiolate, ovate or oblong-obovoid, 5-11 cm long and 3-7 cm wide, apex acute or acuminate; base cuneate or broadly cuneate, membranous. Inflorescence a few-flowered axillary cluster, unisexual, dioecious; May-June. Flowers have many pistils on the round receptacle, which grows long and hangs like an ear when the fruit ripens. Fruit globose, red, of different sizes. The skin and pulp of the fruit are sweet and sour, the kernels pungent and bitter; the whole has a salty taste. This has given rise to the Chinese name "five flavours fruit".

Habitat . In thickets and woods.

Distribution . China , Korea .

Indications . 1. Neurasthenia 2. Perspiration from no apparent cause; night sweats; seminal emissions 3. General fatigue.

Dosage. 2-6 g.

Notes. *Schizandra sphenanthera* Rehd. et Wils., the orange magnolia vine, is similarly employed.

Order this book by clicking here
or via
or via the website http://bookorders.who.int
or via mail at this address: WHO, Marketing and Dissemination, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland

Request a PDF file of this review by clicking here. (If your screen resolution can not be increased, or if printing this page is giving you problems like overlapping of graphics and/or tables etc, you can take a proper printout from a pdf file. You will need an Acrobat Reader though.)

N.B. WHO publications can be purchased in Rupees, at a very low price, through WHO's Regional Office in New Delhi at the following address:

World Health Organization
Regional Office for South-East Asia
World Health House
Indraprastha Estate
Mahatma Gandhi Road
NEW DELHI 110002

Contact : Mr Dixit, RDOC/Sales
email : dixitr@whosea.org

Reviews by Gyan Fernando of these books [China] [Vietnam and Korea] [South Pacific]

Reviews by V.V.Pillay of India[China, Vietnam, Korea and South Pacific Medicinal Plants]