

Studies on Identification aspect of *Vidhara beeja* and its adulterants in Gujarat State

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Received on 6th Feb., 1989

Vidhara or *Bidhara* is the colloquial name of Sanskrit *Vridhdhara*. It has been used in the indigenous system of medicine as an ingredient of many formulations, especially used as *vajikarana*. The root, stem and leaf are the official parts of use. The correct identity of the drug has been posing a problem due to different writers of Indian *Materia Medica* and medicinal plants indicating different botanical sources for this drug. Four different plants viz. *Argyrea speciosa* Sweet; *Ipomoea turpethum* R.Br.; *I. petaloidea* Choisy and *I. pescarpae* Sweet have been mentioned yielding the drug. The seeds sold and used under this name in Gujarat crude drug market have been attempted to get them identified botanically along with the adulterants. The

source plant was identified as *Argyrea speciosa* Sweet. (*A. nervosa* Boj.) and the adulterants the seeds of *Thespesia populnea* Soland. ex Corr. The macroscopic, powder study, preliminary chemical standards, fluorescence analysis of the drug have also been presented in this article.

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