

Aloe barbadensis Mill.

Synonyms : *A. vera* Linn. , *A. perfoliata*

Family : Asphodelaceae

Group : Uterine tonic, Anti-dandruff/Hair growth promoters

Parts Used : Leaf juice, Dried gum

Vernacular Names

English : Indian aloe

Malayalam : Kattar vazha

Hindi : Ghikumari

Sanskrit : Ghrtakumari

Bengali : Ghritakumar

Gujarathi : Kunawar

Kannada : Lolisara

Tamil : Sirukattali

Telugu : Chinnakatabanda



Distribution and habitat: Throughout India, grow wild on the coasts of Bombay, Gujarat and South India. Found in Florida, W.Indice and Asia.

Botany: Acaulescent herbs, with short stem and shallow root systems.

• **Leaves:** Radical, 30-60 cm long, fleshy, in rosettes, sessile, glaucous-green, often crowded with horny prickles on margins, narrowed from base to apex, surface pale green colour with irregular white blotches.

• **Inflorescence:** 90-135 cm long, simple or few branched, racemes terminal, up to 40 cm long. Flowers yellow or orange, about 2.5 cm long.

• **Fruits:** Loculicidal capsules, 1.5x1.0 cm, cylindrical or ellipsoid-oblong.

Chemical constituents: Barbaloin, β -barbaloin, Capalo-resino-tannol combined with paracoumaric acid. It contains vitamins A (beta-carotene), C and E, vitamin B12, folic acid, and choline.

Uses: Anthelmintic, anti-inflammatory, purgative, carminative, laxative and antitumor properties. Used to cure Wounds, cuts, liver, kidney, and bladder problems. It protects skin from UV and gama radiation and has anti-aging effect.

Formulations: Kumaryasavam, Rasnadi powder

Agrotechnology

Soil: Poor marginal soils, higher pH and high Na and K salts are suitable. Also, its growth is faster on moderately fertile heavier soils viz. black cotton soil.

Climate: It grows well in warm, humid and dry climate with 300 - 2000 mm annual rainfall

Propagation: Suckers, rhizome cuttings and tissue culture.

Planting: Spacing: 60x 30 cm or 60x 45 cm.

Fertilizers and manures: Application of a mixture of 150 kg/ha of nitrogen, potassium, and phosphorus is recommended.

Harvesting: 8-12 months after planting.

