

## SAMBUCUS NIGRA LINN, A NEW RECORD FROM VALLEY OF FLOWERS

Vikramaditya, Kedar Nath sharma  
Homeopathic pharmacopoeia laboratory.  
Ministry of health & Family welfare Govt of India,  
Central Govt Office Building No-1  
Kamala Nehru Nagar Hapur Road  
Ghaziabad – 201 002

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**ABSTRACT:** *Under the present paper, authors have reposted finding of Sambucus nigra L. as new introduction in medicinal plants in the flora of “Valley of flowers”. Sambucus nigra L. Originally is an European plant and is very important for its medicinal potential, being used in various systems of medicine to cure number of ailments. In natural order Sambucus nigra L. belongs to family caprifoliaceae.*

### INTRODUCTION

It is a natural phenomenon, that some plants due to certain unknown climatic factors, get extinct from one locality and get acclimatized to the new environment and therefore known as regular flora of that region. Sambucus nigra L. there fore is one which is collected by authors from “Valley of flowers”, not known or gathered from that place upto the year 1987.

Authors surveyed extensively valley of flowers in October 1987. plants were collected & identified with the help of flora maintained at F.R.I Dehradune. Sambucus nigra L. as not reported in any Indian flora Like “Flora of Himalaya with special reference to kumaon, garhwal and part of Tibet” (Atkinson 1882) “Flora of British India” (Hooker, 1897), “Flora Similensis” (Collet 1902) as well as the plant is not described in other literature on the subject of the region eg. “Valley of flowers” (smith), “Concise flora of Himalayas” (Polunin & stainton, 1987), living Himalaya” (gupta 1989) etc. the Plant got introduced in India

in himachal Pradesh as naithani reported availability of plant in his work ‘Flowering plants in India, Nepal and Bhutan,’ Sambucus nigra L. (Caprifoliaceae) synonym as S. Laciniata Mill (English: Black berried European elder) is an important medicinal plant, leaves and flowers of which are used in homeopathy, the drug acts especially on the respiratory organs. Dry coryza of infants, sniffles, oedematous swellings, profuse sweat accompanies many affections. Sambunigrin, choline, eldrin, Oxalic acid are reported main chemical constituents of the plant.

### DESCRIPTION

Sambucus nigra is a deciduous tree, 3 to 9 m high with deeply furrowed whitish bark; branches grayish and strongly lenticellate; leaves petiolate, opposite, odd pinnate, leaf – lets 3-7, short stalked, elliptic, acuminate sharply serrate, shining, paler beneath 5-6 cm long flowers creamy white, in five parted cymes; calyx-5 small and green; corolla -5

ovate, rotate 4-8 mm in diameter, forming a short tube stamens – 5 epipetalous, filaments short, anthers yellow, ovary inferior & tricarpeal. Fruits lack, lustrous, globose 3-celled and 5-6.5 mm in diameter.

### **MICROSCOPICAL**

Leaves dorsiventral with glandular trichomes with uniseriate stalk & ellipsoidal, multicellular head, leaf teeth possessing glands at vein terminations, stomata anomocytic. Palisade with are-palisade cells; petiole with extra floral nectaries & five vascular strands in an arc in transverse section through distal end.

### **REFERENCES:**

Naithani H.B 1990 Flowering plants of India Nepal & Bhutan (not recorded in Sir J.D. Hooker's Flora of British India. P.197., Surya publications Dehra Dun

Boericke William – 1927 Materia medica with Repertory p. 541, B.Jain pub Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi.

### **USES:**

Sambucus nigra L. Is used in complaints of respiratory organs paroxysmal suffocative cough, coming on about mid-night with crying and dyspnoea. Drycoryza, sniffles of infants, nose dry and obstructed. Constant fretfulness followed by suffocation. Face turns blue with cough with red burning spots on cheeks, heats and perspiration of faces, acute nephritis, Hands turn blue with oedematous swellings in legs; profuse sweat over entire body while awake, worse at rest better while sitting or in motion.