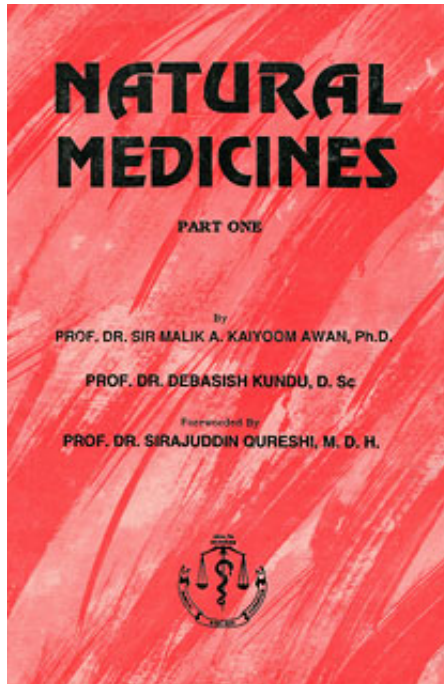


# Awan / Kundu Natural Medicine

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[Natural Medicine](#)  
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## Medicinal Plants

### NAMING OF PLANTS

**CARL LINNE:** Also known as Carl Linneaus. Linne was born in Sweden in 1707. He wrote numerous botanical books and became an outstanding authority in the three kingdoms of nature-plants, animals, and minerals. He became a university professor at Upsala, Sweden, and he had a great influence on students.

**BINOMIAL NOMENCLATURE:** The system of binomial nomenclature began with his writing on the system known as "Linnaeus in Species Plantarum" in 1753. Linne gave the plants two names, one representing the genus or family or group and the other representing the species. The system found by Linne so many years ago is in daily use today, when plants are numbered in the hundreds or thousands.

**SEXUALITY IN PLANTS:** Linne hit upon the plan of using stamens and pistils as a basis for his classification. He located thirteen classes, based on the number of stamens from 1 to 11, then 20 stamens, then larger numbers. There are two classes based on the relative lengths of stamens, four classes dealing with connected stamens, one class in which stamens and pistils are consolidated, three classes with imperfect flowers, and one class without stamens or pistils, the cryptograms, for a total of 24 classes. The classes are further divided into orders, pertaining to the number of pistils.

**DEFINITION: STAMENS AND PISTILS:** The stamen is the pollen bearing floral organ of a flower. The stamen has two parts, the slender stalk (filament) and a double-celled sac (anther) containing the pollen. The pollen is the essential or main part of the stamen.

The pistil normally occupies the centre of the flower and consists of the ovary and the stigmas. Ovules develop within the ovary in a closed sac. An ovule is a body within the ovary which, upon being fertilized becomes a seed. Another word for the ovule is ovum or small unfertilized egg. The fertilized ovum becomes an embryo and when the development is complete becomes a seed. There is an opening in the pistil through which the pollen enters to fecundate the ovum.

**TERMINOLOGY:** The three categories of the form of life established by Linne area: genera, species, and varieties. For example, the genus of the pome fruits is *Pyrus*. The species of the apple is called *Malus*. The variety of the apple is *Paradisiaca*. In writing, therefore, the botanical name of the apple is *Pyrul Malus*. To refer to the variety, the full botanical name is *Pyrul Malus var. paradisiaca*, or the paradiseapple.

In looking at a botanical name, therefore, the first word of the name is the genus, the second word is the species and the third is usually the variety.

**SPECIES:** A definition of a species is a kind of plant or animal that is distinct from other kinds is marked or essential features, with good characters of identification. Also, it may be assumed that there will be a continuing succession of the species from generation to generation. The apple is one species while the pear is another.

### **ABRUS**

Also known as jequirity. Botanical name is *Abrus Precatorius*.

Habitat: India and most tropical countries.

Growth needs: Heat and moist conditions. Rich soil.

Description: *Abrus* seeds are small, hard and bright red, from the wild licorice plant known as *Leguminosae*. Feather-shaped leaves, with pod.

Parts Used: The seeds.

Effects: Destroys old granulations, it has been used to heal ulcers and to prevent destruction of tissues.

Preparation: Macerate or grind seeds into powder. Add enough water to make a light (not thick) mixture. Apply to ulcerations.

Recorded Uses: Unhealthy ulcers, lupus (inflammation of the face), Destroys old granulations (trachoma), Diseases of the eyelids.

Caution note: This herb has toxic properties similar to snake venom. Unless used with extreme care, there is danger of severe inflammation or death.

## **BELLADONNA**

Also known as Deadly Nightshade, Black Cherry Leaf, Dwale, Death's Herb. The root of this plant is known as deadly. Nightshade Root and as Black Cherry Root. Botanical name is Solanaceae, the Nightshade family.

The botanical name of the plant is *Atropa Belladonna* Linne.

Habitat: Throughout United States and Central Europe and also Asia.

Growth needs: Plants may be propagated either from seeds or from roots. The seeds should be sown in seed boxes in the winter in a warm place, then placed into boxes or pots in the spring. The seedlings may be set out in the ground when the seedling is strong, three feet apart. Avoid excessive moisture. Soil should be deep, well drained, moist and sandy.

Description: Upright plant growing from 12 to 16 inches, high, bushing into many branches. Broad green leaves, pointed at the ends, soft and juicy. The root is white with many small fibres. White flowers rise from the tops of the stalks and branches.

Parts used: Leaves and root.

Effects: Stimulates central nervous system, raises arterial blood pressure by stimulation of the vaso-motor centre, increases rate of heart-beat, but not the force of the beat by depressing the vagus cardiac nerve (nerve from cranium to the heart), raises body temperature. Eventually the heart muscle tires and the blood pressure is lowered and temperature falls, but the rapid pulse continues.

Preparation: Must be used in minute quantities as directed by physician.

Caution note: Overdose may cause coma, paralysis or death.

Recorded uses: Used both as a narcotic and as a sedative to stimulate secretion of urine to remove pain in cases of fever, relaxes spasms, stimulates circulation, decreases secretions, checks local inflammation, relieves coughs, especially whooping cough, relieves asthma, constipation and other spasmodic affections.

Good results obtained in cases of rheumatism, gout, sciatica, cancer and affections of the pelvis, noted to be of great value where there is sudden collapse due to drop of blood pressure when accompanied by low temperature and excessive perspiration. Some drug stores sell them in plaster form for direct application to the chest and other affected parts of the body.

### **BARBERRY**

Also known as Berberis, Oregon grape Root, Trailing Mahonia, Rocky Mountain Grape, Berberitze, Berberina.

Botanical name: Berberis linne, berberis vulgaris, berberis aquifolium.

Habitat: Western coast of United States. It grows on the mountain ranges of the Pacific coast area and especially in Oregon, Washington and California. It is a hardy shrub and requires little care other than reasonable amounts of rain and sunshine.

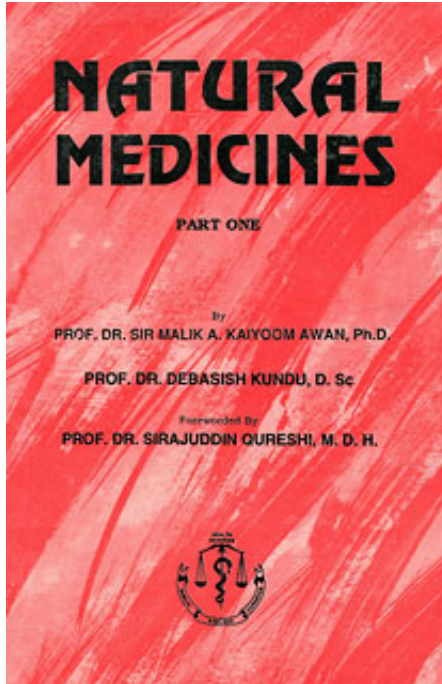
Description: Woody shrub with smooth stems of yellowish grey colour. The flowers are yellow. Cork stem detaches in long strips. Leaves are small with teeth-like edges and with spines.

Parts used: The bark, berries and the stem below the ground.

Effects: In small doses, it is an astringent, bitter a tonic and stomach aid. In large doses, it is cathartic, producing water diarrhoea with abdominal pain. It is said to have considerable alternative powers, changing nutritive processes to a normal state. When used in moderate amounts, it is a remedy for typhoid fever, pain, soreness and burning sensations along the biliary ducts (containing bile) as well as the urinary tracts.

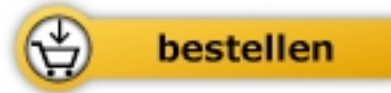
Recorded uses: As a bitter tonic, for general improvement of vitality, as a remedy for liver and spleen conditions, chronic ailments of the stomach, early stages of tuberculosis, running from bronchial tubes (secretions), used as a treatment for syphilis, antiseptic uses for destroying disease germs.

Preparations and dosages: the berries make a pleasant acid drink effective in cases of diarrhea and fevers. The bark in powdered form may be taken 3 or 4 times daily in quantities of one-quarter teaspoonful. No harmful results have been reported from the use of this herb.



Awan / Kundu  
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Part one

264 Seiten, geb.  
erschienen 1996



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