

MEDICINAL PLANTS-I

Azadirachta indica

MARGOSA- Vern. NEEM

Neem is an omnipotent tree and a sacred gift of nature. Neem has been used extensively by humankind to treat various ailments since prehistoric times. Indian lilac is native to Indian subcontinent, and grows widely in the area. It has naturalized itself and grows almost everywhere in India. It is very much popular plant and has been utilized in numerous ways.

Azadirachta indica

Morphological Features

Neem is a fast-growing, massive, evergreen tree, with spreading branches and irregular trunk with cracked bark. The crown is round and dense. Leaves are opposite, pinnate, with dentate, dark green, glossy leaflets, the lamina unequally divided by midrib. The flowers are white, mildly fragrant and borne in drooping, dense, axillary panicles. The fruit is a smooth, olive-like, round to oval drupe, yellowing on maturity, filled with sweet pulp (mesocarp), known as Nimboli.

Azadirachta indica

Medicinal Properties

Dried Neem leaves are good insect repellents and are thus kept with stored cloths as well as grains.

The tender shoots and flowers of the neem tree when eaten as a vegetable, are considered blood purifiers and revitalisers.

Neem gum (exuded from bark) is a rich source of protein.

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Medicinal Properties

Margosa is well known to be an anthelmintic, antifungal, antidiabetic and antibacterial.

It is a major component of traditional medicinal practices, particularly prescribed for skin diseases. Neem oil obtained from seeds is also medicinal, and is widely used as an insecticide, blood purifier as well in soaps and other cosmetic products. Neem leaves can also be used to treat skin diseases like eczema, psoriasis, etc.



THANKS A LOT!!