

A STUDY TO ROLE OF CUCURBITACEAE FAMILY IN BRYONIA ALBA WITH ITS MEDICINAL USES

DR. SURESHBABU

Faculty, Dept of Plant pathology,

Bharatiya Engineering Science & Technology Innovation University, Andhra Pradesh, India.

Accepted 22 June, 2025

Abstract

The Cucurbitaceae is a medium sized and botanical highly specialized family of mainly climbing plants. It is of major importance to man as a source of foods.

The climbing plants have palmately veined leaves, unisexual flowers with yellowish petals and climb by means of spiraling tendrils. *Bryonia Alba* is a vigorous vine in the family cucurbitaceae. *Colocynth*, bitter apple, is a fruits bearing plant for cucurbitaceae family.

Keywords: cucurbitaceae family, *Bryonia Alba*, *Colocynth*, medicinal use.

1. Introduction

The Cucurbitaceae is a medium sized and botanical highly specialized family of mainly climbing plants. The family is well represented in the moist and moderately dry tropics, particularly in the rain forest areas of South America and wood, grass and bush land areas of Africa. Some species occur in semi-desert or even desert vegetation. The climbing plants have palmately veined leaves, unisexual flowers with yellowish petals and climb by means of spiraling tendrils. In moist species a solitary, branched or under branched tendrils arises at the side of each leaf base. The tendrils tip curls round any suitable nearby object, such as a plant stem; the rest of the tendrils then coils in a spring -like manner, most are perennial herbs and few are softly woody lianas.

The fruits may be berries, firm-walled berries (such as the melon) known as pepos, fleshy or dry capsules, or leathery and indehiscent.

The wild Cucurbitaceae taste mostly bitter due to the presence of cucurbitacinen (Amino acids)^[1].

Bryonia alba is one of the oldest remedies in homeopathic material medica, it is a polychrest remedy, suitable to many kinds of disease^[3] disease of a typhoid nature, disease that take on a symptomatic typhoid, disease that start out as remittent and run into a continued fever, as a pneumonia, pleurisy, inflammation on this liver, of glands, of the bowels, with the sensitiveness, the aggravation from motion and the desire to keep perfectly still. Inflammation of joint, whether of rheumatic pain, whether from cold exposure or injury. *Bryonia* is often indicated in injury of joint, there is

an extreme state of irritability in *Bryonia* [2]



2. Important Remedies

- 1 *Bryonia Alba* (Wild hops).
- 2 *Colocynthis* (bitter apple).
- 3 *Cucurbita citrullus* (water melon).
- 4 *Cucurbita pepo* (pumpkin).
- 5 *Elaterium* (squirting cucumber).
- 6 *Luffa bindal* (ghosalata).
- 7 *Luffa operculata* (vegetable Schwann).
- 8 *Momordica balsamina* (balsam apple) ⁽¹⁾

3. *Bryonia Alba*

Synonyms: Wild hops, white bryony, *Vitis Alba*, black berried, Bryony.

Meaning: *Bryonia* means “growing rapidly”. *Alba* means ‘White’.

Source: Vegetable kingdom.

Natural Order: Cucurbitaceae.

Habitat: It is perennial climbing herb found in middle and south of Europe. They bloom in June and July.

Part Used: Roots.

Prover: Dr. Samuel Hahnemann

Constitution: best suited to the people who are tall, slender, dry, lean with dark hair, dark complexion and firm muscular fibers, face of a pale, yellow, earth coloured, hue ^[4, 5, 6].

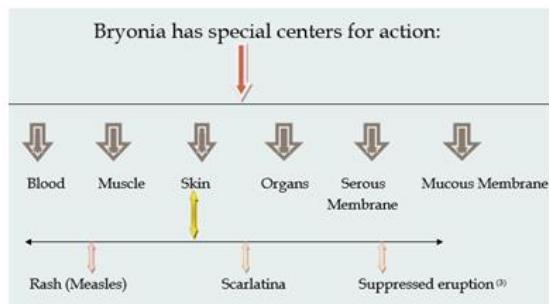
Temperament: Irritable, Bilious. **a Diathesis:** Rheumatic and gouty. **Miasm:** Psora.

Thermal Reaction: Hot patient ^[4, 5]

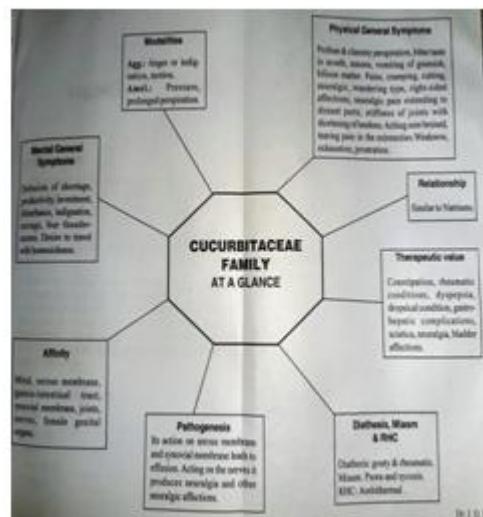
3. Doctrine of Signature

1. This is seen in Mental as productivity. The cucurbitaceae are very productive.
2. Cucurbitaceae is willing to share their savings with others, and can look at it as an investment for the futures, when their generosity or hard work will be rewarded.
3. They store the bitterness of their deception and indignation.

4. Clinical Uses



4. Desire to travel, and homesickness⁽¹⁾



Alcoholism, asthma, Biliary attack, Brain Affection, Constipation, Dropsy, Dyspepsia, Enteric Fever, Headache, Heart affection, Measles, meningitis, Rheumatism, vicarious Menstruation, Breast affection, Cough, Epistaxis, Gastric disorder, pleurisy, Pneumonia, Respiratory, affection, Thirst, Tongue, Toothache, Vertigo, whooping, Cough, Etc.⁽⁵⁾

5. Key Notes Symptoms:

- Worse from motions, warm weather after cold; better by absolute rest. From quiet, lying on painful side.
- Excessive dryness of mucous membrane of entire body (lips, mouth, throat, stomach, intestine, etc).
- Great thirst for large quantities at long interval.
- Effusions in serous membrane (Meninges, pleura, peritoneum, etc).
- Stitching pains, especially in serous membranes and joints.
- Cough dry, hard, racking, with, scanty expectoration; with splitting headache; with gagging and vomiting.
- Constipation (no desire, inactive rectum, dry hard stools as if burnt) or diarrhea, < mornings on beginning to move.
- Vicarious menstruation; nosebleeds when menses should appear.

- Mammae heavy, of a stony hardness; pale, but hard; hot and painful.
- Rheumatism of joints; with pale swelling, great pain, worse on touch or least motion ^[4].

6. Modalities

- **Aggravation:** Motion, Exertion, touch; cannot sit up, get faint or sick or both; warmth, warm fold; suppressed discharges of any kind
- **Amelioration:** Lying, especially on painful side, pressure; rest; cold, eating cold things ^[6].

7. Relation

- Complementary: Alumina, Rhus-tox.
- Similar: To, bell, hep. For hasty speech and hasty drinking.
 - : To, Ran-b. In pleuritic or rheumatic pains in chest.
 - : To ptel. aching heaviness in hepatic region> Lying on right side, greatly< lying on left side; turning to the left causes a dragging sensation.
- After Bryonia: Alum, Kali-c, Nux-v, Phos, Rhus-t, Sulph
 - ^[6].

8. References

1. Group study on homeopathic Materia Medica (Dr. JD Patil).
2. Lecture on Homeopathic Materia Medica (JT Kent).
3. Clinical Materia Medica (EA Farrington MD).
4. Scholar's Manual if Homeopathic Materia Medica (Dr. Azad Rai).
5. Text Book of Materia Medica (Dr. SK Dubey).
6. Allen's Keynotes (HC Allen MD)
7. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cucurbitaceae>
8. https://www.google.com/search?q=cucurbitaceae&sxsrf=ACYBGNTnb5VDEY5cwFAGtLmNaKxIaN4aaA:1575016495425&tbo=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=Ak2UX3C aeK2fJM%253A%252CyqTnAV-Zntrt5M%252C_&vet=1&usg=AI4_-kTP-GZc0sM2gFpc4MuIVHdKd_owMQ&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjwoObVgY_mAhWBwzgGHTgEBbIQ_h0wG3oEC AkQBw&biw=1366&bih=657#imgrc=2qip0AiE9fyPAM:&vet=1