

AI YE



Artemisia argyi

Pharmaceutical Name: Folium Artemisiae Argyi

Family: Compositae

Description: Leaf ovate-triangular, pinnately lobed; lobes ellipsoid or ellipsoid-lanceolate; margin irregularly serrate; ventral surface deep green with glandular punctates and arachnoid hairs, dorsal surface canescent.

Cultivation: Easily grown in a well-drained circumneutral or slightly alkaline loamy soil,

preferring a sunny position. Plants are longer lived, more hardy and more aromatic when they are grown in a poor dry soil. Members of this genus are rarely if ever troubled by browsing deer. The seed is surface sown in spring in a greenhouse. Do not allow the compost to dry out. When large enough to handle, prick the seedlings out into individual pots and plant them out in early summer. It's primary cultivation is in the provinces of central China. It is collected before florescence, dried in sunlight or in shade, and used unprepared or carbonized by stir-baking. If the leaves and the lateral shoots are cut off altogether, dried in sunlight and pounded it produces a wool named argyi wool which can be made into argyi sliver, for moxibustion purpose.

Properties: Antiasthmatic; Antiseptic; Expectorant; Febrifuge; Styptic.

Constituents: Adenine and cineole. Oleum Argyi, a volatile oil extracted from the plant is particularly effective in the treatment of bronchitis and asthma.

Energetics: Bitter and acrid in taste, warm in nature,

Meridians/Organs affected: spleen, liver and kidney channels.

Medicinal Uses: The leaves have been found to have an antibacterial action, effective against *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Bacillus typhi*, *B. dysenteriae*, *E. coli*, *B. subtilis*, *Pseudomonas* etc. A volatile oil extracted from the plant is particularly effective in the treatment of bronchitis and asthma - the oil is sprayed into the throat and takes effect within one minute. The leaves are used to treat excessive bleeding

during menstruation, bleeding during pregnancy or after labor, bleeding of the nose, vomiting of blood, blood in stools, diarrhea. They are also used in the treatment of sterility, dysmenorrhea, coughs, asthma and in moxibustion. The leaf stalks used to treat chronic dysentery, eye disease. Seeds are used to treat sweating at night, excessive gas in the system, tuberculosis, indigestion

TCM:

Indication: Stop bleeding by warming meridian: For asthenia-cold syndrome manifested as hematemesis, hemoptysis and epistaxis. For bleeding due to blood-heat, fresh herb should be used together with Radix Rehmanniae (sheng di huang), crude Cacumen Biotae and Folium Nelumbinis (he ye). Expel cold and alleviate pain: For menalgia and abdominal pain of asthenia-cold type.

Eliminate sputum, relieve cough and asthma: For cough and asthma. Its volatile oil is better for asthma. Expel cold and relieve itching: For eczema and dermatitis. In addition, its injection has been used for chronic hepatitis and viral myocarditis.

Warming the channels to arrest bleeding: this drug can be used to treat metrorrhagia and metrostaxis, threatened abortion, irregular menstruation, etc., which are of cold of deficiency type. It is often used in combination with Colla Corii Asini, Radix Rehmanniae, etc. In treating hematemesis and epistaxis due to blood-heat, the crude drug can be used in combination with crude Cacumen Biotae, crude Radix Rehmanniae, crude Folium Nelumbinis, etc.

Dispersing cold and removing dampness: This drug can be used to treat abnormal leukorrhea due to cold uterus irregular menstruation, abdominal pain, infertility, etc. It is often used in combination with Rhizoma Cyperi, Fructus Euodiae, Cortex Cinnamomi, etc.

In addition, this drug can also be used to treat itching of the skin seen in eczema. The drug can be decocted with Cortex Dictamni Radicis and Fructus Kochiae and the decoction can be used wash the local area. In treating

retention of placenta due to cold, the parched drug can be applied to the hypogastrium while still hot. The drug can also be made into wool, put on the acupoints and ignited. This can send heat into the tendons and bones so as to treat arthralgia due to cold. The drug is therefore the main material used in applying warming moxibustion.

The Chinese Medicine treats a Malposition of Fetus in an easy and a very elegant way. The woman can sit or lie down in a specific way, while the practitioner moves a burning Moxa Stick next to a specific Acupuncture Point - UB67 (on the little toe at the feet) without even touching the skin. The results are rather amazing. The fetus turns upside down by itself in 95% of the cases by the next 3-14 days. The variation in time depends largely on the woman's general condition and her emotional state.

Dosage: Usually, 3-9 g of the drug is used in decoction. Decoction: Generally & 1 5g; 20-30g for chronic bronchitis. Capsule (containing 100 mg of volatile oil): 2-3 capsules tid for bronchial asthma.

Ampoule (containing 2g of crude herb): 4-6 ml IM daily for chronic hepatitis and viral myocarditis. The drug can also be used in external treatment. In dispersing cold and dampness and regulating the flow of Qi and blood, the crude drug is used. In warming the uterus so as to arrest bleeding, the carbonized drug is used.

Toxicity: Cannot be used alone in cases of deficiency of yin with heat in the blood.

References:

An Illustrated Dictionary of Chinese Medicinal Herbs, Wee Yeow Chin & Hsuan Keng, 1992; CRCS Publications; ISBN: 0-916360-53-6
Medicinal Plants of China, James A Duke and Edward S Ayensu, Reference Publications, 1985; ISBN: 0-917256-204-4

HERBALPEDIA™ is brought to you by The Herb Growing & Marketing Network, PO Box 245, Silver Spring, PA 17575-0245; 717-393-3295; FAX: 717-393-9261; email: herbworld@aol.com URL: <http://www.herbalpedia.com> Editor: Maureen Rogers. Copyright 2006.

All rights reserved. Material herein is derived from journals, textbooks, etc. THGMN cannot be held responsible for the validity of the information contained in any reference noted herein, for the misuse of information or any adverse effects by use of any stated material presented.