

The book cover features a detailed texture of dark brown tree bark. A central hole in the bark reveals a bird's face with a prominent red patch on its forehead and green feathers. The title is written in a white, elegant script font, and the volume and author information are in a clean, sans-serif font.

*An Insight
Into Plants*

Volume-III

Rajan Sankaran

An Insight Into Plants

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AN INSIGHT INTO PLANTS

Volume III

by

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BRASSICACEAE / CRUCIFERAE

(Cabbage / Mustard Family)



Plants belonging to the cabbage and mustard family often bear a cross: four flower petals arranged in that shape. Hence the traditional family name of these plants is Cruciferae (cross-bearing), although the taxonomically appropriate name is now Brassicaceae.

The family contains species of great economic importance, providing much of the world's winter vegetables. These include varieties of Cabbage (*Brassica oleracea capitata*) including Broccoli (*Brassica oleracea italica*); Cauliflower (*Brassica oleracea botrytis*); Brussels sprouts (*Brassica oleracea gemmifera*); and Collards and Kale (*Brassica oleracea*, Acephala group) and also Rapeseed/Canola (*Brassica napus*), Radish (*Raphanus sativus*), and Horseradish (*Cochlearia armoracia*).

Some of the plants have seeds of culinary importance such as Rape seed (*Brassica napus*) and mustard seeds (*Sinapis* sp.).

HOMOEOPATHIC REMEDIES:

Scientific names

Brassica napus
Brassica oleracea
Bunias orientalis
Cardamine pratensis
Cheiranthus cheiri
Cochlearia armoracia/(*Armoracia sativa*)
Cochlearia officinalis
Dentaria diphylla
Iberis amara
Lepidium bonariense
Lepidium virigicum
Matthiola graeca

Common Names

Rape seed
Cabbage
Turkish warty cabbage
Meadow-cuckoo
Common wallflower
Horseradish
Spoonwort
Pepper root
Bitter candy tuft
Brazilian cress
Peppergrass
Gilliflower



CARNIVOROUS PLANTS

(Insectivorous Plants)



Carnivorous plants are like any other flowering plants but have evolved to embody a few remarkable abilities that altogether render them to be a carnivore! These exceptional abilities include *attracting, capturing and killing* prey and then *digesting and absorbing* the resulting nutrients. Their prey usually includes insects but sometimes may be some small animals like isopods, mites, spiders and the occasional small frog. Hence, they are known as Carnivorous instead of Insectivorous plants. *Each of the above-mentioned criteria should be fulfilled for a plant to be labeled as a carnivorous plant.*

Carnivorous plants usually live in nitrogen poor soils. Or sometimes the soil is organically rich but too acidic for the survival of the bacteria that actually convert the nitrite and nitrate ions from decaying protein. If this nitrification process is impaired there could actually be a shortage of these nitrite and nitrate ions; hence, the carnivorous plants over a period of time have evolved a mechanism of trapping and consuming insects in order to augment the inadequate nitrogen available in the soil.

The different species and genera adopt diverse means to *attract, catch* and *kill* their prey. Whatever be the methods, the fate of the victim is sure, it is doomed. The varieties of means that these plants employ are as follows:

Attraction:

Highly modified leaves of various designs, colours, and shapes play a vital role in attracting, luring and deceiving insects.

Capture:

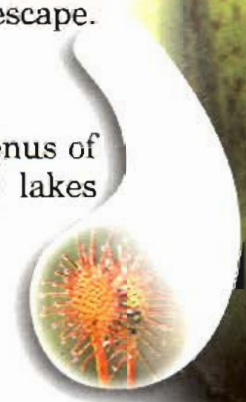
The catching and trapping of insects involves either *active plant movements* or *passive traps*. Accordingly the plants are grouped into two major categories:

- (1) Plants with Active trap
- (2) Plants with Passive trap

(1) **Active traps:** Involves *rapid plant movement* that shut in the prey from all sides, thus closing the outlets for escape. For example:

- (a) *Trapdoor (Bladderwort / Utricularia Spp.):*

Known for their Suction traps, this worldwide genus of approximately 180 species inhabits ponds and lakes



DIOSCOREACEAE

(Yam family)



True yam plants are members of the Dioscoreaceae family, vines which twine and climb from an underground tuber or rhizome (the yam). The word "yam" is derived from a word (nyami) in the Wolof language of West Africa meaning "to eat". True yams have a rough, scaly skin and are very dry and pale. Long and cylindrical in shape, the tubers can grow to be as long as two meters and as heavy as 65 kilograms. In the US, sweet potatoes (*Ipomoea batatas*) are often mistakenly called yams.

HOMOEOPATHIC REMEDIES:

Botanical name

Dioscorea villosa

Diosgenin

Rajania subsamarata

Tamus communis

(*Dioscorea* is the only well-proved drug from this family.)

Common name

Wild yam

A steroid sapogenin

Black bryonia

DERIVATION

Derivation of the vital sensation of this family happened through a patient who came to me in April of 2002.

This case is a milestone for me as it took my understanding of Homoeopathy to a different level. And for me it's never been the same after this case.

CASE OF A YOUNG WOMAN WITH DYSMENORRHOEA.

Italics are used to highlight pertinent phrases.

D: Tell regarding the problem.

P: Dysmenorrhoea since the age of 15 years. I went to different gynaecologists and they said you are exaggerating the pain.



FUNGI



Fungus, a name that changes the expressions on our faces, as it reminds us of the violent itching one suffers in athlete's foot, ringworm or candidial vaginitis — all different varieties of fungal infections seen in the human race.

Not only this, it may also remind us of the flaky thing seen at our breakfast table if we do not attend to our bread for many days, another variety of fungus called mold.

But we can't neglect the fact that some Fungi are helpful to various industries involved in the production of different fermenting products such as bread, yogurt, beer, and wines. They use yeast (another form of fungus) for the fermentation purpose. Fungi are also used to produce chemicals, fuels, and pharmaceutical compounds.

And how can one forget mushrooms, also known as "Nature's Jewel", which is nothing but the fruiting body of a fungus. For hundreds of years mushrooms have excited both the minds and stomachs of millions of people!

Also seen over various decaying materials, fungi are a major group of living things.

Fungi were originally considered plants but are now treated as a separate biological kingdom, "Fungi".

There are few main reasons why they are not considered as plants: firstly, they lack chlorophyll (a green pigment) which is necessary for making food via photosynthesis and secondly, they lack the vascular tissues (phloem and xylem) that form the true roots, stems and leaves of the plants. The cell walls of Fungi are made of chitin, not cellulose. Finally, fungi reproduce by spores and never by seeds.

Since they count on other organisms for their nutrition, they live as either saprobes/decomposers (obtaining nutrition from



LILIIFLORAE / LILIIDAE

(Lily subclass)



Liliiflorae (Liliidae) is a subclass in the taxonomic classification tree; it in turn belongs to the Class Liliopsida.

Numerous orders and families within Liliiflorae yield noteworthy homoeopathic drugs which include Smilacaceae, Xanthorrhoeaceae, Aloeaceae, Liliaceae, and Iridaceae (*Crocus sativus/saffron*). The orchid family is the largest flowering plant family, though we hardly have any homoeopathic drugs from it.

Aloe has become an important ingredient in cosmetic products and the burn-healing properties of the leaves are also celebrated.

Summary of Liliiflorae:

Sensation

Forced out, squeezed, extruded. Oppressed, constrained. Constricted. Excluded, left out. In the mind the sensation will be *excluded*. In the physical sphere *extruded* (forced, pressed out).

Passive reaction

Must hold on tight.

Active reactions

Must move. Attractive behavior. Belonging. Being included, being part of.

Compensation

Unaffected by being forced out and excluded.

MIASMS:

Acute

Veratrum album

Typhoid

Paris quadrifolia

Addition

Veratrum viride



LOGANIACEAE

(Strychnine family)



Alkaloids of Loganiaceae plants taste exceptionally bitter (Strychnine, Gelsemine) and can be fatal if swallowed, inhaled or absorbed. The presence of Strychnine (mainly used in rodent poisons) generally goes with a danger sign on the container! Strychnine (obtained from the seeds of the *Nux vomica* tree) and related plants like *Strychnos ignatii* (Ignatia), *Strychnos toxifera* (Curare), and *Strychnos tieute* (Upas) are convulsive poisons causing seizures. The slightest touch, noise, or any other minor stimulus then causes further seizures! It is quite evident that its physiological effect reflects its vital effect as seen in the Summary below.

Summary of Loganiaceae:

Sensation

Shocked, Let down, Disappointed, Torn to pieces, Shock so sudden it paralyses, Shattered, Ruined.

Passive reactions

Paralyzed, I cannot move, Cannot weep, Fainting.

Active reactions

Beside oneself, Excitable, Convulsions.

Compensation

Composed, Calm (especially composed and calm in the most shocking circumstances).

MLASMS

Acute

Strychninum purum
(*Angustura spuria*)

Addition

Brucea antidysenterica

Typhoid

Nux vomica



Magnolianae



Magnolianae is a Superorder containing about 10 families and around 3,000 species.

Families bearing homoeopathic remedies are the Annonaceae, also known as the custard apple family (*Guatteria*, *Asimina triloba* and *Annona reticulata* L.); the Myristicaceae or nutmeg family (*Myristica sebifera*, *Nux moschata*); the Magnoliaceae (*Magnolia grandiflora*, *Liriodendron tulipifera* i.e. tuliptree); the Aristolochiaceae (*Asarum*); the Lauraceae or avocado Family (*Camphor*, *Cinnamomum ceylanicum* and *Avocado*) and the Illiciaceae (*Anisum stellatum*).

Economically important timber wood; fruits such as the custard apple (*Annona reticulata* L), pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*), and avocado (*Persea americana*); spices like cinnamon (*Cinnamomum*) and nut-meg (*Nux-m*); flowers such as magnolias and medically important camphor oil (*Camphora*) are all products deriving from Magnolianae.

Summary of Magnolianae:

Sensation

Confusion. Bewilderment. Beclouded. Strange. Outside is bewildering and confusing. They feel isolated and not part of life. They react by withdrawing into a familiar shell.

Hazy. Turbid. Foggy. Misty. Loss of sense of reality. Off the ground.

Passive reactions

Collapse. Stupefied. Fainting. Sleepy. Floating. Withdrawn. Unconscious.

Black out.

Active reactions

Withdrawal. Shut it out. Create their own world which is familiar and shut out the world which is strange. Let me live in my own little world.



MALVALES



Malvales come under the taxonomic category of Order. The families *Malvaceae*, *Sterculiaceae* and *Tiliaceae* belong to this Order.

Well-known members of this family include the hibiscus, okra (lady's fingers), baobab, balsa, cocoa and cotton plant.

Summary of Malvales:

Sensation

Attached and then detached, Joined and then separated, Together and then separated.

Passive reactions

Estranged, Indifferent (to everything), Aversion to husband.

Active reactions

Communicative, Affectionate, Dream of falling in love, Desire for company.

Compensation

Independent, Self-confident, Not affected by separation.

MIASMS:

Acute	Chocolate
Typhoid	Abelmoschus hibiscus
Malaria	Abroma augusta
Ringworm	Gossypium herbaceum
Sycotic	Tilia europaea
Tubercular	
Cancer	



PAPAVERACEAE

(Poppy family)



Also known as the poppy family, Papaveraceae includes Opium (*Papaver somniferum*), Sanguinaria and Chelidonium as prominent remedies.

Economically, poppy plants have ornamental, culinary and medicinal usage.

Unripened opium poppy seeds yield valuable alkaloids (including morphine) useful to prepare medicines (morphine, codeine, etc.). Cultivation and production is strictly controlled because Opium poppies are also used to make illegal and highly addictive drugs such as heroin.

Interestingly, ripened opium poppy seeds (popularly known as Khus khus) contain no narcotic chemicals and are used in all types of cooking. Delightful Khus khus sarbat (juice) is one example.

Summary of Papaveraceae:

Sensation

Pain, intense pain, pain of any sort with great intensity, Torture, intense suffering, Punished, War, Murdered, executed, Violence, Fright and shock, Agony and hell-like state.

Passive reactions

Analgesia, coma, anaesthesia, Fainting, Catalepsy, Narcolepsy, Painless and numb, Alive yet dead, Hibernation. Meditation.

Active reactions

Rage, Spasms, colic, convulsions, Violence, Numbness alternating with pain.

Compensation

Calmness in situations where there is great pain. Not affected by pain, suffering or pleasure. Peaceful, serene, tranquil.



PIPERACEAE

(Pepper family)



Piperaceae is a family of more than 3000 plant species distributed among eight or more genera. Members of this family are recognized by their oval-shaped leaves which when crushed give an aromatic odor of black pepper.

This family is a source of various spices used in kitchens worldwide. They are stimulants with a pungent taste. To name a few, there is *Piper nigrum* (the source of black pepper and white pepper), one of the most common spices known and valued since antiquity. Pepper was even called the “King of Spices”.

Piper betle is another plant belonging to this family. Its leaves (Betel leaves) are strong-flavoured and used as a stimulant and a breath-freshener. In India, betel (*Piper betle*) leaves are chewed together with mineral lime (calcium oxide) and the areca nut. This combination known as “betel quid” has been used for several thousand years.

Piper methysticum, famous as *Kava Kava*, is another member of this family. Polynesians use the roots of this plant to prepare a beverage drunk on festive occasions. Over-indulgence of this drink produces a state of exhilaration. Kava kava also has a peppery and pungent taste.

A number of other species in this family have a wide range of medicinal uses.

HOMOEOPATHIC REMEDIES

Scientific name	Common name
Cubeba officinalis (<i>Piper cubeba</i>)	Cubebs pepper
Matico (<i>Piper angustifolium</i>)	Matico
Piper betel L.	Betel pepper



PRIMULACEAE

(Primrose family)



The family Primulaceae is also known as the Primrose family. Many plants (like *Primula* and *Cyclamen*) from this family have horticultural value. *Lysimachia* is grown for ground cover and flowers in the summer; it also provides a yellow dye. Flowers of *Primula veris* are used to make homemade wine. Primrose oil has been prized for its cosmetic significance; it works specifically for skin and hair concerns.

Summary of Primulaceae:

Sensation

Unable to move because of paralysis, pressure and lame sensation.

Passive reactions

Aversion to going out, Ameliorated in the house, Confined, Not moving.

Active reactions

Motion ameliorates, Continuous motion ameliorates, Desire to travel, Desire to move, Activity, Industrious, Increased strength.

Compensation

Happy in a small space.

MIASMS:

Acute

Typhoid

Malaria

Ringworm

Addition

Lysimachia nummularia



RANUNCULACEAE

(Buttercup /Anemone family)



Ranunculaceae, the Buttercup family, is a large family of around 1,800 species in about 50 genera distributed worldwide. "Ranunculus" is Latin for 'a little frog'; it was named after a group of plants in this family that grows where frogs abound! This family consists of many important ornamentals such as *Aconitum* (monkshood), *Anemone*, *Aquilegia* (columbine), *Delphinium* (larkspur), *Helleborus* and *Ranunculus* (buttercup). Some genera are important as poisonous plants (especially *Aconitum* and *Delphinium*, also *Ranunculosus*).

A drink of *Aconitum* tea was the lethal drug used for death penalty in ancient times and the Thompson Indians rubbed flowers or whole plants of *Ranunculus sceleratus* on arrow points as a poison.

Summary of Ranunculaceae:

Sensation

Vexed, excited easily, Raw nerves, Morbid, Sensitive, Electric-like pains, Excessive irritability, anger with grief, guilt, shock and annoyance, Distress, Harassed, insulted, Vexatious dreams, Sharp. stitching, stabbing and stinging pain, Bursting.

Passive reactions

Numbness, Bluntness.

Active reactions

Nervous tension, Inner conflicts, many emotions excited together, one on top of the other, Somatisation, Outbursts, brooding, passionate, Tremors from emotions, prolonged tension, Mental and physical connections or alternations suppressed.

Compensation

Equanimity.



ROSACEAE

(Rose family)



The Rose is a Rose,
and was always a Rose.
But the theory now goes
that the Apple's a rose,
And the Pear is, and so' s
the plum, I suppose ...
What will next prove a Rose?

This is what Robert Frost writes about the rose family. He suggests that when you've seen one, you've seen them all. This is probably because of the similar external features of the flowers of rose, apple, pear and plum plants. Apart from sharing their external make-up, they also share their vital sensation in common as they all belong to the same family, Rosaceae.

Edible fruits like Apple (*Malus* spp.), Apricot, Cherry, Nectarine, Peach, Plums, Prune, Sloe (*Prunus* spp.), Quince (*Cydonia*), Pear (*Pyrus*), Blackberry, Boysenberry, Loganberry, Raspberry (*Rubus*), Strawberry (*Fragaria*) and Medlar (*Mespilus*) and also nuts like Almond (*Prunus* spp.) belong to this family. Ornamental Rosaceae include tea roses and crab apple and hawthorne trees.

Let us see the homoeopathic drugs that belong to Rosaceae and how we derived the vital sensation from them.

HOMOEOPATHIC REMEDIES

Scientific names

Agrimonia eupatoria

Agrimonia gryposepala

Alchemilla arvensis

Alchemilla vulgaris

Amelanchier spicata

Common names

Agrimony

Tall hairy agrimony, Feverfew

Field lady's mantle

Lady's mantle

Service berry / Low June berry



RUBIACEAE

(Gardenia, Coffee and Quinine family)



Rubiaceae is the fourth largest family of flowering plants after the Orchidaceae, Asteraceae (Compositae), and Fabaceae (Leguminosae). This family consists of nearly 13,000 species in about 650 genera.

Not only is this family large, but also it contains some very important plants, for instance Coffee (*Coffea arabica*/*C. cruda*), Gardenias, *Galium odoratum*, which have sweet smelling flowers, are very popular ornamentals. *Ixora* is a popular ornamental plant as well, with its bright red, white and blue flower clusters.

Many more species are used by various indigenous people as medicinal plants, for example Cinchona (which yields quinine) is used as a cure against malaria and Ipecacuanha root (*Cephaelis ipecacuanha*) has been known for more than a century to benefit amoebic (or tropical) dysentery and also has emetic properties.

Summary of Rubiaceae:

Sensation

Over stimulation which aggravates. Many desires. Many ideas. Fancies, Imaginations. Tobacco, alcohol, sex and other stimulants aggravate. Joy aggravates. Stimulation desire.

Passive reactions

Fatigue, exhaustion, weariness. Dullness, vanishing of thoughts. Catalepsy. Sleep ameliorates. Rest ameliorates.

Active reactions

Making plans. Theorizing. Rush of thoughts. Creative pursuits: reading, writing, music. Sleeplessness with fancies. Greed in eating. Activity. Sentimental.

Compensation

Tranquility and meditation.



RUTACEAE

(Citrus Family)



Rutaceae is also known as the rue or citrus family.

This family includes fruits of great economic importance such as sweet oranges (*Citrus sinensis*), lemons (*Citrus limonum*), Mexican lime (*Citrus aurantifolia*), sweet lime (*Citrus limettioides Tan.*), grapefruit (*Citrus decumana*), tangerines (*Citrus reticulata*), Bengal quince or Bael fruit (*Aegle marmelos*), Casimiroa or white sapote (*Casimiroa edulis*) and Wampee (*Clausena lansium*), etc.

Citrus aromatic oils (Ruta, Galipea, Toddalia) are also used medicinally.

HOMOEOPATHIC REMEDIES:

Botanical name

Aegle (A. marmelos, A. folia)

Angustura vera

Atista radix

Barosma crenulata

Citrus decumana

Citrus limonum

Citrus aurantium amara (C. vulgaris)

Dictamnus albus / D. fraxinella

Diosma linearis

Pilocarpus pinnatus / P. jaborandi

Micromelum pubescens

Murraya koenigii

Ptelea trifoliata

Ruta graveolens

Xanthoxylum americanum

Common name

Bengal quince / Bael tree

Angostura

Ban Nimbu

Buchu

Grapefruit

Lemon

Bitter Seville orange

Burning bush

Buku

Jaborandi

Cemamar

Daun kari

Hop tree

Garden rue

Prickly Ash / Toothache Tree



SCROPHULARIACEAE

(Snapdragon / Foxglove / Figworts family)



Commonly known as the snapdragon and figworts family, Scrophulariaceae includes the medically significant foxglove plant (*Digitalis*), the source of the heart stimulant digitalis. Others like the Penstemons are cultivated for their handsome flowers.

Some plants from this family act as hemiparasites, for instance Indian paintbrush and owl's clover (*Castilleja*), Lousewort (*Pedicularis*) and bird's beak (*Cordylanthus*); these have green, photosynthetic leaves but a substantial portion of carbon is derived from the host plant through their roots. Great mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*) and American speedwell (*Veronica americana*), though roadside weeds, have culinary and medicinal properties.

Summary of Scrophulariaceae:

Sensation

Bonds, connections not strong, so they want to hold on very tightly. When the connection breaks, fear, fright, and delusion start.

Passive reactions

Indifference; Detachment.

Active reactions

Adhesive. Attachment. Amorous.

Compensation

No need for bonds.

MIASMS:

Acute	Digitalinum
Typhoid	Euphrasia officinalis



SOLANACEAE

(Nightshade or Potato / Tomato family)



Various important vegetables such as the potato (*Solanum tuberosum*), tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum*), pepper/capsicum (*Capsicum annuum*), eggplant/aubergine/brinjal (*Solanum melongena*) without which thinking of making any vegetable dish would be a joke, belong to Solanaceae.

Tobacco, (*Nicotiana tabacum*) containing the carcinogenic and addictive alkaloid nicotine, is perhaps the Solanaceae family's most notorious member.

Ornamental Solanaceae include petunias and Angel's Trumpet (*Brugmansia* sp.)

Summary of Solanaceae:

Sensation

Violent. Splitting. Bursting. Explosive. Tearing. Pulsating. Spasmodic. Jerking. Constricting. Choking. Shooting. Sun strokes. Apoplexy. Violent terror. Pursued. Murder, killed. Themes of black and white, light and dark, life and death.

Passive reactions

Anaesthetic. Stupefied. Lack of irritability. Sluggish. Cowardice. Faintness. Stupor. Unconsciousness.

Active reactions

Acute senses. Hurried. Shrieking. Startling in sleep. Spasms. Striking. Escape. Panic. Rage. Fright or flight reaction.

Compensation

Courage in the face of danger.

Miasms:

Acute

Belladonna (*Atropa belladonna*), Stramonium (*Datura Stramonium*)

Typhoid

Hyoscyamus niger

Additions

Hyoscyaminum hydrobromatum,
Nicotinum



UMBELLIFERAE / APIACEA

(Carrot / Parsley family)



This is a family of aromatic herbs, many of which are popular spices used for seasoning and flavoring purposes. Dill/Suva (*Anethum graveolens*) is used to flavor dill pickles and sauces. Anise (*Pimpinella anisum*) is used to give cakes, cookies and liqueur a licorice flavor. Other flavorful Umbelliferae products include coriander seeds (from *Coriandrum sativum*), cumin seeds (from *Cuminum cyminum*), parsley (*Petroselinum sativum* or *Apium petroselinum*), and asafetida resin (*Ferula asa foetida*).

Carrots (*Daucus carotis*), celery (*Apium graveolens*), fennel/variyaali (*Foeniculum vulgare*), parsnips (*Pastinaca sativa*) and Coriander leaves (*Coriandrum sativum*), are also part of this family.

Summary of Umbelliferae:

Sensation

Sudden unexpected violence or attack, Accidents, Blows, preparing for a blow, Riots, Stabs, wounds, Abuse, Followed by numbness, stupefaction, dullness, sleep, On the physical level: stabbing, lancinating, vertigo, fainting, hysteria, convulsion without aura.

Passive reactions

Sudden weakness, Deep sleep, Regressed, Paralysis, Relaxation, Stupefaction, Dullness.

Active reactions

Violent, Convulsion, Mania, Furious attack, Fits of emotion, Escape.

Compensation

Calm in a situation where there is violence and sudden unexpected attacks.



VIOLALES



Violales is an order (taxonomic rank) that includes various families under its domain such as Cucurbitaceae, the squash and melon family (*Bryonia*, *Colocynth*, *Luffa operculata*, etc.); Violaceae, the pansy and violet family (*Viola tricolor*); Cistaceae, the rockrose family (*Cistus canadensis*); Passifloraceae (*Passiflora incarnata*); and Caricaceae (*Carica papaya*).

Delicious cucumbers (*Cucumis sativus*), squashes, pumpkins, gourds, and gigantic fruits like watermelon (*Citrullus lanatus*) and muskmelon (*Cucumis melo*) are a part of Cucurbitaceae. Tasty Papayas that belong to Caricaceae are also a part of Violales.

Violaceae are well known in the world of ornamental flowers because of the pansy (*Viola tricolor*) and the violet (*Viola sp*).

Summary of Violales:

Sensation

Aversion to being disturbed. At physical level – cutting, stitching, sharp, lancinating, pinching. At mental level – vexation, chagrin, disturbed feeling.

Passive reactions

Prostration, Morose, Avoidance of people, Averse to being disturbed, Wants total rest.

Active reactions

Irritable when questioned, Violence, Malicious, Rage, Restlessness.

Compensation

Quietness; Calmness; Stillness.



ANACARDIACEAE

(Cashew / Poison Ivy family)



Also known as the cashew family, the Anacardiaceae includes the genera *Rhus* (sumac), *Anacardium*, and *Mangifera*. Plants such as *poison ivy*, *poison sumac*, and *poison oak* which cause contact allergies from their milky irritating juice are all in this family, but oddly enough so are the plants from which we get some delicious foods. Economically important species includes *Anacardium occidentale* (Cashew Nut), *Mangifera indica* (Mango) and *Pistacia Vera* (Pistachio Nut). This family also gives us the garden ornamental plant *Cotinus coggygia* (Smoke Tree).

Summary Anacardiaceae:

Sensation

Caught, Stiff, Tight, Tension, Stuck, Cramps, Pressing, Not allowed to move, Restricted.

Passive reactions

Paralyzed, Immobile.

Active reactions

Stuck, wants to move constantly. Motion ameliorates, Aggravation from sitting, Sedentary aggravates, Aggravation in the house, Pain on beginning to move, Restlessness.

Compensation

Always on the move.

MLASMS

Acute

Typhoid

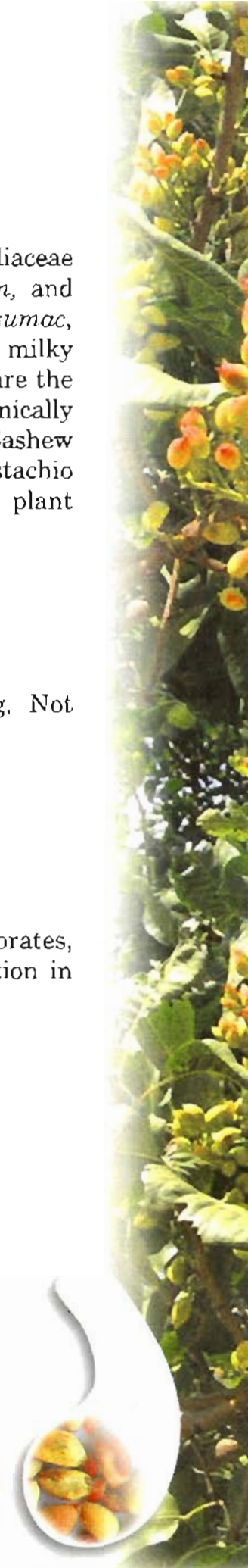
Malaria

Ringworm

Rhus toxicodendron

Rhus radicans

Rhus venenata



BERBERIDACEAE

(Barberry family)



Berberidaceae, also known as the barberry family, includes *Podophyllum*, *Caulophyllum*, and *Berberis vulgaris* as commonly used homoeopathic remedies. Certain plants like *Berberis repens* bear edible fruits that are consumed raw or cooked and are also used to make jams, jellies and refreshing lemonade-like beverages. When combined with sugar, the juice of these fruits makes a flavor similar to grape juice. Berberidaceae grow in shrub or herb form.

Summary of Berberidaceae:

Sensation

Sudden, intense, rapid changeability at the mental as well as the physical level.

Passive reactions

Confusion; Dullness; Prostration of mind; Confusion of identity; Confusion from interruption.

Active reactions

Rapid change of location and character.

Compensation

Easily adaptable to changing situation; Able to change quickly according to the situation.

MIASMS

Acute

Typhoid

Malaria

Ringworm

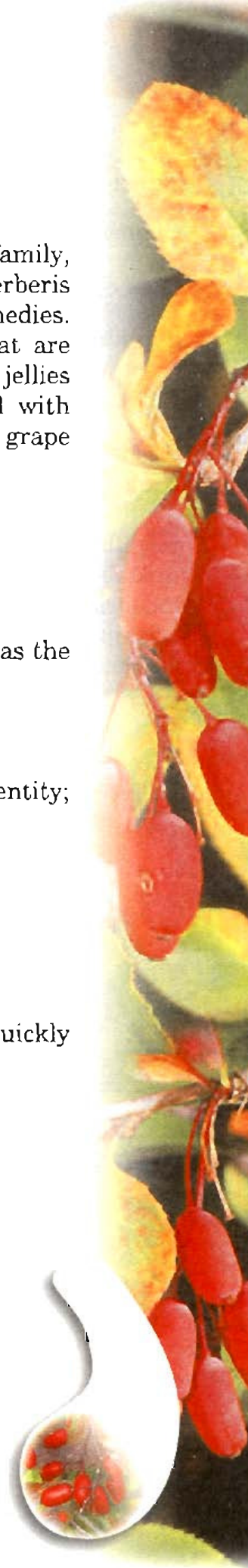
Sycotic

Podophyllum peltatum

Berberis vulgaris

Caulophyllum

thalictroides



CACTACEAE

(Cactus family)



The cactus plant family includes the prominent homoeopathic remedies *Cactus grandiflorus*, *Cereus bonplandii*, and *Anhalonium* that have often proved remarkable in the face of heart ailments. These plants are well known for their succulent stems, spines (which are actually reduced leaves) and colourful flowers.

Summary of Cactaceae:

Sensation

Constricted, Made smaller, Shrunken. Contracted, Bound, Trapped, Pressed, Downtrodden, Oppressed, Weighed down, Clutched.

Passive reaction

Shrunken.

Active reactions

Expansion, Becoming bigger, boundless and released.

Compensation

Not affected by contraction and oppression.

MIASMS

Acute	Cactina
Typhoid	Carnegie gigantea
Malaria	Cactus grandiflorus
Ringworm	Opuntia vulgaris
Sycotic	
Tubercular	Cereus bonplandii
Cancer	Anhalonium lewinii
Leprosy	Cereus serpentinus
Syphilitic	



COMPOSITAE / ASTERACEAE

(Daisy / Sunflower family)



Formerly known as Compositae, Asteraceae is the second largest family of flowering plants bearing approximately 1,528 genera and 22,750 species worldwide. About 10% of all flowering plants are from this family. Various eye-catching flowers such as the Sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*), Daisy (*Chrysanthemum* sp.), Dandelion (*Taraxacum*), Goldenrod (*Solidago*), Marigold (*Calendula*), Chrysanthemum, Dahlia, Thistles and Zinnia are among its delights.

Leaves of the lettuce plant (*Lactuca sativa*) have been quite popular since antiquity for use in salads. Chicory (*Chichorium intybus*) and dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*) are other asteraceae providing edible leaves. The chicory plant is also one of the sources of latex for natural rubber production. Heart-healthy oils such as safflower (*Carthamus*) and sunflower (*Helianthus*) are other culinary gifts from this family.

Summary of Compositae/Asteraceae:

Sensation

Injured, Hurt, Insulted, Shocked, Burnt, Scalded, Fear to be touched, Hurt or approached.

Passive reactions

Numb, Anesthetic, Stupor, Catalepsy.

Active reactions

Touchy, Hurting others, Cruel, Violent, Strikes.

Compensation

Tough guy, Takes all the beatings, Protective of others so that they do not get hurt.



CONIFERS



Coniferophyta /Pinophyta, are taxonomically correct terms for the widely popular term conifer (taxonomic category: division), which includes families like the cypresses- *Cupressaceae* (Sabina, Thuja, Juniperus); yews- *Taxaceae* (*Taxus baccata*); pines -*Pinaceae* (*Abies canadensis*, *Abies nigra*, *Pinus sylvestris*, *Pseudotsuga menziesii*, *Picea liquidata*, *Terebinthina*); bald cypresses - *Taxodiaceae* (*Sequoia sempervirens*) and monkey puzzle trees - *Araucariaceae* (*Agathis australis*) which bear various important homoeopathic drugs.

The king of anti-sycotics and widely used homoeopathic drug *Thuja occidentalis* comes from this group.

Trees of great economic importance such as pines, cypresses, and redwoods are conifers.

Summary of Conifers:

Sensation

Fragile, Broken, Brittle, Connected/Disconnected, Empty/Full, Cut off, Fragmented.

Passive reactions

Indolent, Fearful, Weak.

Active reactions

Rigid, Hard.

Compensation

Strength, Strong and protective of others who are brittle and fragile.

MIASMS:

Acute

Agathis australis

Typhoid

Terebinthina



EUPHORBIACEAE

(Spurge Family)



The spurge family (Euphorbiaceae) is a large family of flowering plants with around 280 genera and 8,000 species.

Members of this family often have a milky latex, which in some species (e.g. *Jatropha*) is irritating to the skin and can be fatal to livestock. Rubber is derived from the latex of several members of this family, most importantly the Para rubber tree (*Hevea brasiliensis*) which provides around 90% of rubber to all rubber industries, the rest coming from other species of Euphorbiaceae and other families. The Castor oil bean (*Ricinus communis*), tung tree and tallow tree are other important members of the family, producing commercially significant oils. Species such as *Jatropha* (*Jatropha curcas*) and *castor bean* have been recommended as sources of biodiesel. The cassava or manioc (*Manihot esculenta*) tuber is rich in starch and is the source of tapioca. Some plants are grown as ornamentals, such as the poinsettia (*Euphorbia pulcherrima*); it is a popular Christmas decoration.

Summary of Euphorbiaceae:

Sensation

Tied and untied. Bound and unbound.

Passive reactions

Tied and cannot do anything. Change of position aggravates. Motion aggravates. Beginning motion aggravates because so tightly held, no space to move or to come out. Held in like a prisoner in a prison.

Active reactions

Desire to break free. Intolerant of tight clothing. Continuous motion ameliorates. Rest, repose aggravates. Release.

Compensation

Manages in a limited space. Not affected by being tied and bound.



HAMAMELIDIDAE

(Walnut / Bayberry subclass)



Hamamelididae is categorized as a “subclass” under the botanical classification of flowering plants. It is further divided into various “Orders”, “Sub-orders” and “Families”. Hamamelididae bears economically important woods such as elm, birch (*Betula species*), and oak (*Quercus robur*); tasty figs (Anjeer) in fruit as well as in dry fruit form; and nuts like Walnuts (*Juglans regia*).

The hemp tree (*Cannabis sativa* popularly known by various names such as marijuana, Bhang, ganja, and charas) is being grown legally as a rich source of fibre. Cooks have begun to use hemp seed oil which is rich in omega 3 fatty acids, which help protect against heart disease.

The Banyan tree (*Ficus indicus*), popular among Indians; *Ficus religiosa* under which Buddha reportedly sat to meditate for an extended amount of time; the Indian rubber tree (*Ficus elastica*); and the Boa-tree (Strangler fig) all belong to Moraceae (Fig-plants), a Hamamelididae family. Other families bearing homoeopathic drugs are the Cannabaceae or hemp family (*Can. sat.*, *Can ind.*, *Humulus lupulus*); the Fagaceae or beech and oak family (*Fagus*, *Castanea v.*); Urticaceae (*Hamamelis*, *Urtica u.*); the Juglandaceae or walnut family (*Jugulans*), and the Myricaceae or bayberry family (*Myrica c.*).

Summary of Hamamelididae:

Sensation

Closed, shut-in, confined. Pressed, compressed. Dragged down, Heavy. Open. Expanded, enlarged. Flying, floating. Light, Free.

Passive reactions

Dullness, dullness of the senses. (Dullness means no enthusiasm, no drive, no ambition, no motivation.) Grounded, all movement ceases. Lie down, inclination to rest, repose ameliorates. Motion aversion to, Paralyzed.



LABIATAE / LAMIACEAE

(Mint family)



Commonly known as the mint family, Labiatae was the original family name because the flowers usually have petals that have fused into upper and lower lips. However, most botanists are now using the name Lamiaceae to refer to this family.

Mint (*Mentha viridis*) and Menthol (*Mentholum*); Oregano/Marjoram, (*Origanum vulgare*, Linn.) a well-liked seasoning; Thyme (*Thymus vulgaris*, Linn.); *Teucrium*, Tulsi/Holi Basil (*Ocimum sanctum*) a popular holy plant in India; and Basil, a well-known flavoring agent in Italian and Thai cuisine are from Labiatae! Also, Lavender (*Lavandula officinalis*), used as a perfume, is a part of this family.

A vital characteristic common among all these plants making them either culinary or scent or medicinal herbs is their aromatic flavor that prove to be *quite exciting for our taste and sensory buds* (the very nature of the Labiatae vital sensation!), hence they are better known to the house cleaners, cooks and perfumers than to the physicians!

Summary of Labiatae:

Sensation

Excitement: vivid, pleasant, tremulous. In the mind: Exhilaration, rush of ideas, loquacity, vivacity, enjoyment. Physically: Excitability, irritability. Fright, anxiety, Unpleasant surprises.

Passive reactions

Lack of excitability. Lack of reaction to external things. Numbness.

Active reactions

Industrious. Motion ameliorates. Mirth.

Compensation

Calmness.



LEGUMINOSAE / FABACEAE

(Pea / Legume family)



The Fabaceae, also known as Leguminosae, is a source of well known homoeopathic remedies such as Baptisia, Copaiva, Melilotus, and Physostigma.

This family includes the commercially significant Indigo plant (*Indigofera tinctoria*), the leaves of which are a major source of natural indigo, a blue dye once used for denim jeans but now largely replaced by synthetic dyes. Various commonly used legumes and pulses such as bean, pea, also, Tamarind/Imli/Amla (*Tamarindus indica*) belong to this family.

Summary of Leguminosae/Fabaceae:

Sensation

Splitting apart. Coming apart. Scattered. Bound together. Fragmented.

Passive reaction

Feeling scattered. Confused. Split up.

Active reaction

Getting things together.

Compensation

Feeling together. Unified.

MLASMS

Acute	Melilotus officinalis
Typhoid	Baptisia tinctoria
Malaria	Robinia pseudacacia
Ringworm	Chrysarobinum
Sycotic	Copaiva officinalis

