



Impact of Jujuba Roots on Scorpion Sting Toxicity

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Abstract

Jujube also known as *Ziziphusnummularia* which belongs to the family of *Rhamnaceae*. It is mainly found in the arid and semi-arid regions of Indian subcontinent. Although known for its rich taste and high medicinal and nutritional value, it is an underutilized fruit and it is available for a short period of time. It is traditionally used to treat chronic bronchitis, insomnia, diabetes, diarrhoea, abscesses, wounds and scorpion stings. The present article is an effort to provide a comprehensive review of medicinal usage of Jujua in scorpion stings.

Keywords- *Ziziphusnummularia*, Scorpions, Jujuba etc.

Introduction-

Ziziphusnummularia (jujuba), also known as jujubes, boroi, or kul, is widely grown in India and other Indian subcontinent countries. Spiny, evergreen shrub / small species of tropical fruit trees, belonging to the *Rhamnaceae* family. It can grow upto 16m of height with a 40 cm or more diameter trunk. The plant has symmetrical flowers that have 5 separate petals and sepals. The petals are isomerous, with 5 stamens and also have 2 or 3 ovules. There are about 1,500 species of scorpions worldwide, of which 50 are dangerous to humans. In India, around 86 species of scorpions have been found till date. Scorpions are predatory animals belonging to the arachnid family. They have eight legs and can be seen by their catch-like pairs, which are like dunes, with their small, segregated tail.

The appendage is often carried in a curve over the scorpion's back and ends with a stinger. Scorpion sting symptoms include severe pain and hot flashes at the sting site (are the most common symptoms), systemic problems may occur.



Fig.1 Ziziphusnummularia

There's a recorded experience of instantaneous and extreme pain after a scorpion sting leading to possible swelling and redness within minutes. It can also result in severe symptoms within an hour in few cases. Jujubes (ziziphusnummularia) root can be used to treat the scorpion sting.

Material and methods-

A scorpion sting is caused by the stinger present in scorpion's tail, and further the stinger releases venom. The venom has a complex mix of toxins that affect the nervous system. Scorpions are arthropods, being covered under the umbrella of a relative of insects, spiders and crustaceans. Bark scorpions have features like they are 2 inches (5 centimeters) long. Scorpions also have features like, eight legs, a pair of lobster-like pinchers and a tail that curves up. They are nocturnal creatures meaning that they will resist stinging if not provoked or attacked.

After a person is bitten by scorpion the person is made to masticate the jujubes (ziziphusnummularia) root and to intake the juice which is produced while masticating. Intake of the produced juice will reduce the scorpion sting pain and swelling in around 15-20 minutes.



Fig.2 Ziziphusnummularia (roots and barks)

This method has been tried on around 200 people and has been a successful practice.

Conclusion-

Jujubes (Ziziphusnummularia) root can be used as a remedy for scorpion sting. The jujubes can be used in a successful manner to heal the person from the scorpion sting. It is used in many cultures for various treatments like wounds, liver diseases, asthma, diabetes, etc. By understanding the health benefiting properties of Jujubes (Ziziphusnummularia), it can help provide better solutions for various other treatments.

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