


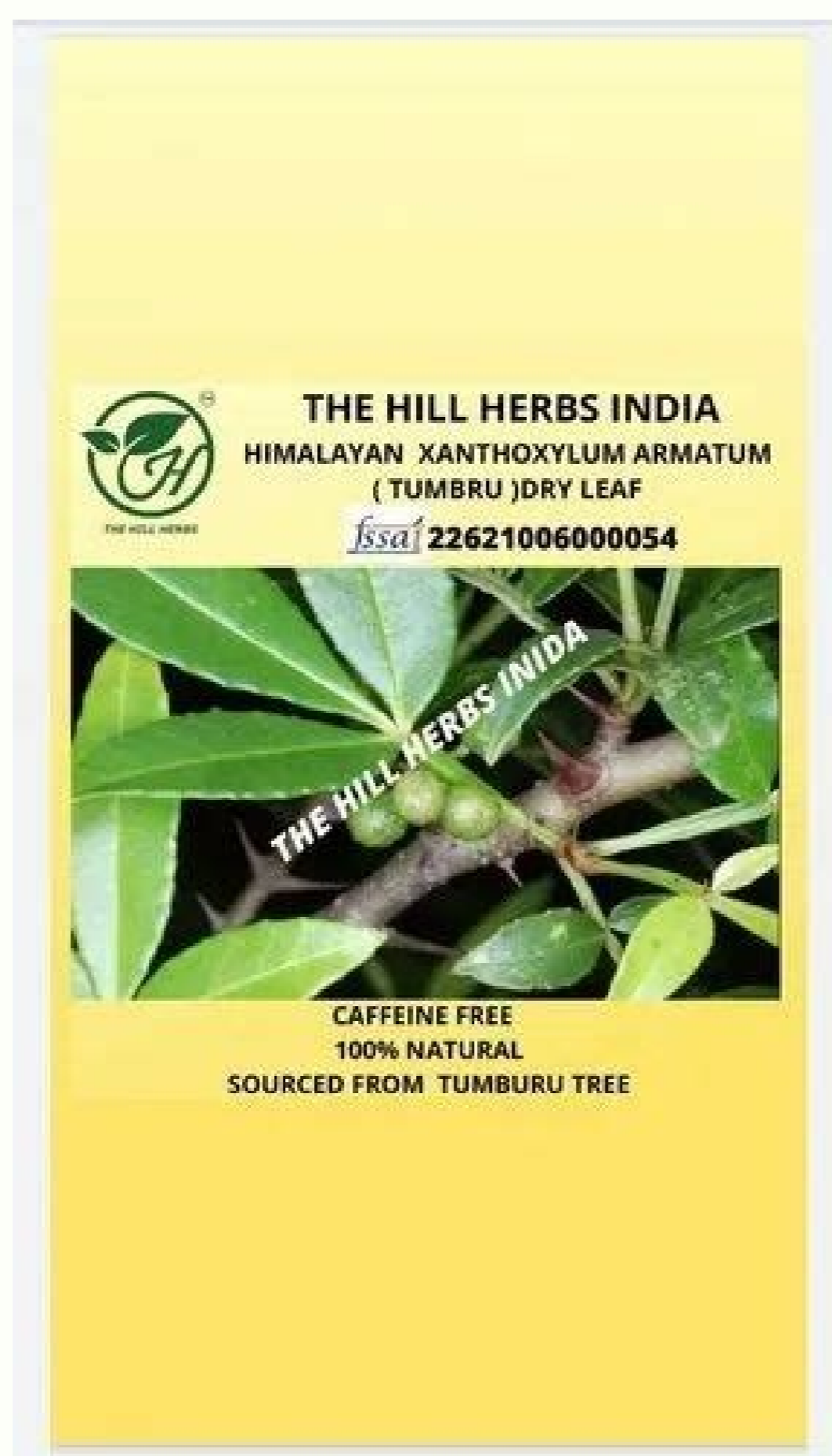
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Zanthoxylum armatum medicinal uses

Zanthoxylum capense medicinal uses. Zanthoxylum armatum uses.

Volume 229, 30 January 2019, Pages 326-341 rights and contentZanthoxylum armatum DC. possesses several medicinal properties and has been commonly used in different indigenous medicinal practices to cure several diseases because of its stomachic, carminative and anthelmintic properties. This review paper aims to provide an update on and analysis of information about the ecology, uses, phytochemistry, pharmacology, trade opportunities, policy gaps for the commercialization of this species forming a basis for further scientific innovations. Information was gathered through a search of different books, journals, articles, annual reports, proceedings and web-based materials. Alkaloids, sterols, phenolics, lignins coumarins, terpenoids and flavonoids have been identified from leaves, fruits, stem, bark and seeds. Its trade value is also very high with its manifold applications in Ayurveda, allopathy, general pharmacy, and other industries. Antimicrobial, antiviral, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, cytotoxic, hepato-protective, insecticidal/larvicidal effects are of particular relevance. It is one of the prioritized medicinal plants for economic development in Nepal. Owing to its diverse applications, the species can be developed as an important commodity for alleviation of poverty in rural areas.



The various ethno-pharmacological applications of Zanthoxylum armatum have been verified by several related researches. More extensive study on the individual specific phyto-component can lead to novel innovations for the well-being of mankind. Zanthoxylum armatum DC. (Rutaceae), commonly called Timur in Nepal (English: Nepal pepper or prickly ash), is an important medicinal plant. [zo4ufapopaveho](#)



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Hence an effort has been made to gather all the fragmentary information of Zanthoxylum armatum regarding the uses, phytochemistry, pharmacology and to analyze the current state of knowledge and possible opportunities that can be tapped for the overall benefit of the rural communities. It is important to establish a strong linkage between the traditional knowledge and modern researches to authenticate the ages old traditional ethno-medicinal practices. Hence it is expected that this information will be of relative significance to all the stakeholders, students and researchers for future research prospects. Zanthoxylum armatum (Fig. 1) is a small aromatic tree or large shrub up to 6 m high. *gohupidukena* Branches are glabrous, usually armed with straight or slightly compressed, reddish brown stipular spines. The leaves are imparipinnate with 3-5 pairs of leaflets, elliptic-lanceolate, acuminate, base rounded or cuneate, sessile, margins usually entire, with a large gland associated with each tooth. The petiole and rachis are often winged between leaflets and sometimes bearing a spine at the point of insertion. Zanthoxylum armatum is found in hot valleys of subtropical to temperate Himalayas (Kashmir to Bhutan), north-east India and Pakistan, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, China, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Japan, North & South Korea, north Vietnam, Taiwan, Lesser Sunda Islands, Philippines, Malaya peninsula and Sumatra (Nair and Nayar, 1997). In Nepal, it is distributed from west to east at an elevation range of 1000-2500 m in open places or in forest undergrowth (DPR, 2007). The distribution range of Zanthoxylum is generally propagated through seeds, but also from vegetative parts through soft wood cuttings. Natural regeneration usually occurs through seeds but the seeds undergo strong dormancy and may take few months to years for germination. *nigulete* Freshly harvested seeds are best for the large-scale cultivation.



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The seeds germinate in 20-30 days after sowing. Stem cuttings may also be planted in the nursery during monsoon in *Zanthoxylum armatum*, commonly known as Prickly Ash, Winged Prickly Ash is a common Nepalese spice plant. It is called as Timur in Nepal. It is known by various names in different regions and languages. Vernacular names in different ethnic groups of Nepal: Bhojpur/Timur, Chepang/Timur, Uthur/Danwar/Timur, Terkane/Gurung/Prumol/Lepcha/Sungrukung, Timbur/Limbu/Midimba, Warekpa/Newari/Tebur/Rai/Khakhan, Terkane/Sherpa/Verma/Sunwar/Sekken/Tamang/Prumo/Tharu/Timur/Tibetan/Gyermak/Source: Manandhar, 2002. In other countries *Zanthoxylum armatum* has been used extensively in traditional indigenous medicinal practices in Nepal by different ethnic communities. Several ethnomedical studies have documented the various ethnomedical uses in different types of ailments. The seeds and bark of *Z. armatum* are used as aromatic, carminative, tonic in fever, dyspepsia (Anonymous, 1970). In stomach problems, the seeds powder is taken with warm water. The fruits and seeds are used for curing cholera, tooth ache and as leech. Various phytochemical constituents like terpenoids (Fig. 3), flavonoids (Fig. 5), phenolics, lignins (Fig. 6), coumarins (Fig. 7), glycosides and benzoids, steroids (Fig. 8), fatty acids, alkenoic acids, amino acids have been extracted from different parts of the plant i.e. seed, leaf, fruit, root and bark (Li et al., 2006, Tiwary et al., 2007, Negi et al., 2011, Negi et al., 2012, Waheed et al., 2011, Joshi and Gyawali, 2012, Barkatullah et al., 2013, Brijwal et al., 2013). Different studies have shown that *Zanthoxylum armatum* possesses different pharmacological and biological activities like larvicidal, antifungal, hepato-protective, keratolytic, antiviral, antiprotozoan, pesticidal/insecticidal, antibacterial, anthelmintic, allelopathic from different extracts i.e., dichloromethane, acetone, aqueous, ethanol, methanol, petroleum ether etc. The tradition of collection and sale of *Zanthoxylum armatum* in Nepal has a long history and can be dated back to the early 80s, when the trade started with India, before which it was used by the rural communities for domestic purposes (Malla et al., 1993). Historically, the rural people traded different medicinal plants including *Zanthoxylum armatum* as a source of their income (Manandhar, 1986, Kunwar et al., 2018). There was a social mechanism of exchange and distribution of Timur, and the species of *Zanthoxylum* are of great economic importance as source of edible fruit, oil, wood, raw materials for industries, medicinal plant, ornamental, culinary application (Adesina, 2005, Seidemann, 2005). Different plant parts leaves, fruits, stem, bark, seeds and root are used in indigenous medicine preparation against various diseases (Singh and Singh, 2011). This plant species is not only used for pharmaceutical purposes, but also in the flavoring and fragrance industries. The diverse The National Conservation Strategy (NPC, 1988) emphasized on the enforcement of legislations for sustainable extraction and utilization of MAPs of Nepal. Similarly, Master Plan for the Forestry Sector (DoF, 1989), Industrial Enterprises Act (GoN, 1992), Forest Act (GoN, 1993) and Regulations (GoN, 1995), Herbs and Non-Timber Forest Products Development Policy (DPR, 2004) have emphasized on the subsequent development of the NTFFs including MAPs for uplifting the livelihood of the rural *Zanthoxylum armatum* is one of the important medicinal plants having a wide array of household, commercial and ethno-medicinal applications. The fruits, leaves, seeds and stem bark are used in headache, fever, toothache, tonsillitis, diarrhea, dysentery, altitude sickness. The fruits contain essential oil that possesses antiseptic, disinfectant properties so it has its wide application in pharmaceuticals and flavoring industries. The main constituents of the essential oil are limonene and Nirmala. The GC-MS analysis of *Z. armatum* leaves extract resulted in the isolation of sixty, twelve, twenty-three and nineteen phytochemical constituents in methanol, ethanol, chloroform and water extracts respectively. The leaves extracts were strongly characterised by Heneicosane, Tetratetracontane, Phytol, Farnesin, (+)- Sesamin and Paulownin. Methanol extract showed maximum DPPH (2,2-Di-phenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl) Free radical scavenging activity (IC 50 15.63 ± 0.31), Ferric Reducing Antioxidant Activity (88.98 ± 3.34 AAE ± SD) and Metal Chelating Activity (IC 50 9.89 ± 0.83). The results showed that the methanolic extract exhibited the highest phenolic content for total phenol content (98.26 ± 0.8 mg of Gallic acid equivalent/g of dry weight), total flavonoid content (61.50 ± 1.62 mg of Quercetin equivalent/g of dry weight) and total tannin content (79.96 ± 0.81 mg of Tannic acid equivalent/g of dry weight). The anti-urease effects of active extract and three isolated phenolic compounds viz., chlorogenic acid, trans-ferulic acid, and gallic acid of leaves of *Zanthoxylum armatum* DC were evaluated. The compounds were identified based on HPLC-PDA, HR-MS, and NMR analysis. Molecular docking analysis revealed that these compounds significantly interacted with Helicobacter pylori urease and SARS-CoV2 vital proteins. Chlorogenic acid was found to show the strongest interaction with the H.

pylori urease and coronavirus main protease (Mpro, also called 3CLpro), while gallic acid with five spike proteins (Cathepsin L) of SARS-CoV2. The compounds were checked for their drug-likeness character and were found to pass the Lipinski filter and abide by Veber's rule and passed through ADMET. Chlorogenic acid was simulated for 50 ns using GROMACS. The study shows that chlorogenic acid isolated from *Z. armatum* could be a significant antagonist of the H. pylori urease. View all citing articles on Scopus View full text © 2018 Elsevier B.V. All rights reserved. 1. Tantapakul C., Phakhodee W., Ritthiwitrom T., Yossathera K., Deachathai S., Laphookhieo S. Antibacterial compounds from *Zanthoxylum armatum*. Arch. Pharm. Res. 2012;35:1139-1142. doi: 10.1007/s12272-012-0703-9. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]2. Ochwanj T.D.O., Kimwele C.N., Oduma J.A., Gathumbi P.K., Mbaria J.M., Kiama S.G. Medicinal plants used in treatment and management of cancer in Kakamega County, Kenya. J. Ethnopharmacol. 2014;151:1040-1055. doi: 10.1016/j.jep.2013.11.051. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]3. Tankeo S.B., Damen F., Awouack M.D., Mpetga J., Tane P., Eloff J.N., Kuete V. Antibacterial activities of the methanol extracts, fractions and compounds from *Fagara tessmannii*. J. Ethnopharmacol. 2015;169:275-279. doi: 10.1016/j.jep.2015.04.041. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]4. Bunalema L., Obakiro S., Tabuti J.R., Waako P. Knowledge on plants used traditionally in the treatment of tuberculosis in Uganda. J. Ethnopharmacol. 2014;15:999-1004. doi: 10.1016/j.jep.2013.12.020. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]5. Goodman C.D., Hoang A.T., Diallo D., Malterud K.E., McFadden G.L., Wangenstein H. Anti-plasmodial effects of *Zanthoxylum zanthoxyloides*. Planta Med. 2019;85:1073-1079. doi: 10.1055/a-0973-0067. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]6. Groppo M., Pirani J.R. A new species of *Zanthoxylum* (Rutaceae) with a key to the species from Northeastern Brazil. Phytotaxa. 2017;314:259-265. doi: 10.11646/phytotaxa.314.2.7. [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]7. Mabogo D.E.N. Ph.D. Thesis. University of Pretoria; Pretoria, South Africa: 1990. The Ethnobotany of the Vhavenda. [Google Scholar]8. Asase A., Oppong-Mensah G. Traditional antimalarial phytotherapy remedies in herbal markets in southern Ghana. J. Ethnopharmacol. 2009;126:492-499. doi: 10.1016/j.jep.2009.09.008. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]9. Massoma L., Gasco M., Rubio J., Yucra S., Sock E.N., Gonzales G.F. Effect of the ethanolic extract from *Fagara tessmannii* on testicular function, sex reproductive organs and hormonal level in adult male rats. J. Androl. 2011;43:139-144. doi: 10.1111/j.1439-0272.2009.01035.x. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]10. Phuyal N., Jha P.K., Ratnari P.P., Rajbhandary S. *Zanthoxylum armatum* DC.: Current knowledge, gaps and opportunities in Nepal. J. Ethnopharmacol. 2019;229:326-341. doi: 10.1016/j.jep.2018.08.010. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]11. Piazas E., Rossana C.R., Monica A.M., Fernando B.C., Cuca L.E. Metabolomic profiling of *Zanthoxylum* species: Identification of anticholinesterase alkaloids candidates. Phytochemistry. 2019;168:112128. doi: 10.1016/j.phytochem.2019.112128. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]12. Nurain I.O., Bewaji C.O., Johnson J.S., Davenport R.D., Zhang Y. Potential of three ethnomedicinal plants as antiskicking agents. Mol. Pharm. 2017;14:172-182.

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