



***Bergenia ligulata* (Haw.) Sternb.**

Family: Saxifragaceae

Common names: Hairy bergenia, Pashanbheda,
Patharchat.



Description:

Bergenia ligulata is found throughout temperate Himalayas. It is a rhizomatic, perennial herb on rocky and shady places. Rootstock is thick, dark-brown from outside, pinkish from inside; covered with dark sheaths of withered leaves. Stems are short, thick and fleshy. Leaves are stalked and sheathing at the base; ovate or orbicular, cordate; margin fringed with short and stiff hairs. Flowers are white, pink or purplish in terminal corymbs. Fruits are cone-like capsules.

Utilization:

The flowers are pickled by Gorkhas and rhizomes are used to cure fever and swollen joints. Leaves are kept on head under the cap for relieving fever. Roots are also consumed in preparing local liqueur. Rhizomes and root taste bitter, act as astringent, diuretic, tonic, also used in fever and applied to boils and ophthalmia (Anonymous, 1948). It is an important drug for dissolving kidney and bladder stones because it has antilithiatic activity (Garimella *et al.*, 2001).

Part	Uses
seed	Antilithiatic activity

References:

Anonymous, 1948 Report of the committee on Indigenous Systems of medicine, Vol. I, Ministry of Health, Govt. of India, New Delhi.

Garimella T.S, Jolly C.I, Narayanan S; (2001) In vitro studies on antilithiatic activity of seeds of *Dolichos biflorus* Linn. and rhizomes of *Bergenia ligulata* Wall. phytotherapy research 15(4): 351–35.