



***Morus nigra* L.**

Family: Moraceae

Common names: Black mulberry, Sehtoot



Description:

Morus nigra is a deciduous tree which attains height up to 12 m. It often produce leaves of several different shapes and with 1 or more lobes. . Leaves are rough on upper surfaces and pubescent underneath and approximately 7-12.5 cm long. Fruits are edible and are black in colour.

Utilization:

Fruits are used raw, cooked or as preservatives. The fruits are juicy and refreshing. Leaf extract injections has shown improvements in elephantiasis and sap mixed with sugar found helpful in tetanus (Bown, 1995). A fibre used in weaving is obtained from the bark. A red-violet to dark purple dye is obtained from the fruit (Grae, 1974).

Part used	Disease
Red mulberries	Coronary heart disease and stroke
Black mulberries	Mouth lesions
Roots	Hypertension
Bark	Diabetes, anemia and arthritis

References:

Bown D; (1995) Encyclopaedia of Herbs and their Uses. Dorling Kindersley, London. ISBN 0-7513-020-31.

Grae I; (1974) *Nature's Colors- Dyes from Plants*. MacMillan Publishing Co. New York. ISBN 0-02-544950-8.

Mustafa O, Serçe S, and Kaya C;(2009) "Phytochemical and antioxidant properties of anthocyanin-rich *Morus nigra* and *Morus rubra* fruits." *Scientia Horticulturae* 119.3: 275-279.