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D Suresh Baburaj Survey of Medicinal Plant & collection unit, Emerald, Tamil Nadu H C. Gupta CCRH, New Delhi

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Homoeopathic Raw Drug Plant Sources: Lower Groups 1-Algae, Macro and Micro Fungi & Lichens Abstract Homoeopathic Raw Drug Plant Sources: Lower Groups 1-Algae, Macro and Micro Fungi & Lichens

DRUG STANDARDISATION

Homoeopathic Raw Drug Plant Sources: Lower Groups I – Algae, Macro & Micro Fungi & Lichens

- D. Suresh Baburaj^{1*}, H.C. Gupta²
- 1. Survey of Medicinal Plants & Collection Unit, Emerald, Tamil Nadu.
- 2. Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, New Delhi.

In Homoeopathic system of medicine sources of medicinal raw drug plant materials are derived not only from flowering plants (angiosperms) but from non-flowering sources too. These include the lower groups, viz. algae, fungi, lichens, as well as bryophytes, pteridophytes and the higher group of gymnosperms. Among these groups 2 algae, 26 fungi and 3 lichen have been reported to be used as per authentic and documented therapeutic literature.

Of these, the algae are found, both in fresh water lakes, ponds and rivers, arctic melting ice and in saline conditions of the sea, backwaters like estuaries and salt marshes. They also contribute to the population of phytoplankton and in disturbed cases of the water systems to algal 'blooms'. Very few algae find medicinal usage, of which two species are recorded as used in Homoeopathy (Bharathan, Vilma *et al.* 2002).

The fungi occupy a unique position systematically in the major divisions of the plant kingdom. They occupy a very important niche in the ecological and environmental aspect of the biosphere concept as without these living forms, putrefaction would be impossible. Though a few of them are edible, the vast majority of them while breaking down organic matter, contaminate edible vegetables, cereals, pulses, meat and almost all things edible. Such contaminated edible substances when consumed produce marked poisoning symptoms by svirtue of the toxins excreted by the fungi into the substratum (Allen, T. F., 1982; Clarke, J. H., 1982). A few edible mushrooms sometimes collected from the wild are known to be deadly and these have also produced toxic symptoms (Clarke, J. H., 1982; Hering, C., 1988) which are taken as proving symptoms and have contributed valuable drugs for use in Homoeopathy. In a few other cases, consumption of diseased vegetables at times of famine or scarcity has contributed to pathogenesis in man (Boericke, W., 1988). Many of the mushrooms useful in Homoeopathy are coprophilous.

Of the other lower groups viz. Lichens, which are symbionts of algae and fungi, representatively very few are used medicinally: only three have been found in literature and these are also listed along with a few essential notes.

While searching the literature of Homoeopathy, it was noticed that many of these algae, fungi and lichen have been updated nomenclaturally (Bharatan, Vilma et al. 2002) and these have been furnished here for the use of practicing Homoeopaths, scientists and research workers along with distribution and common names from literature sources.

Algae

Drug Name: Fucus

(Fucaceae)

Fucus vesiculosus L. Sp. Pl. 2: 1158. 1753; Bharatan, Vilma *et al.*, Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 41. 2002.

Common name: Bladderwrack; Black Tang; Cut Weed; Rockweed; Rockwrack; Seawrack, Sea Kelp.

Distribution: A type of seaweed found on the coasts of the North Sea, the western Baltic Sea, and the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

2. Drug Name: Helmintochorton (Rhodomelaceae)

Alsidium helminthochorton (Tourr.) Kurtz. Phycol. General. 435. 1843; Bharatan, Vilma et al., Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 5. 2002.

^{*} Address for Correspondence: Suresh Baburaj Survey Officer Survey of Medicinal Plants and Collection Unit(H), 3/126, Indira Nagar, Emerald Post, Nilgiri Distt-643 209 (Tamilnadu) Tel: 0423-2451308

Fucus helminthochorton Tourr. Diss. Bot. J. Phys. 3. Drug Name: Agaricus citrinus Observ. Phys. 20: 183. 1782.

Alsidium helmintochorton Kurtz. (nominum nudum). "helmintochortos" - orthographic variant in "Comparative Repertory".

Common name: Corsican moss, Helminthocorton.

Distribution: Europe, North America. It is a submerged, marine, red alga.

II. Fungi

Enumeration:

1. Drug Name: Agaricus campanulatus

(Bolbitiaceae)

Panaeolus papilionaceus (Bull. ex Fries) Quelet, Mem. Soc. Emul. Montbeliard. Ser. 2,5: 152. 1872 & Champ. Jura. Vosg. 1: 151. 1872; Bharatan, Vilma et al., Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 66. 2002.

Agaricus papilionaceus Bull. Herb. France tome 2, pl. 58. 1781; Fries, Syst. Mycol. 1: 301. 1821.

Agaricus campanulatus Fries, Syst. Mycol. 1: 295. 1821 (non L. 1753); Allen, T.F., Encyclopedia of Pure Materia Medica 1: 68. 1982 (Repr. Ed.).

Agaricus campanulatus L. (nominum dubium) Sp. Pl. 2: 1175. 1753.

Common name: None.

Distrubution: Europe, United States of America.

2. Drug Name: Agaricus campestris (Agaricaceae)

Agaricus campestris L. ex Fries, Sp. Pl. 2:1173. Fries., Syst. Mycol. 1:281. 1821; Sathe & Sandhya Deshpande in Maharashtra Assoc. Cult. Science Monograph 1:9-12.1980; Bilgrami et al. Fungi of India 1:6. 1979; Allen, T. F., Encyclopedia of Pure Materia Medica 1:68. 1982 (Repr. Ed.); Natarajan K. & N. Raman, South Indian Agaricales 8:177.1984; Bharatan, Vilma et al., Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 3. 2002.

Common name: Meadow Mushroom, Champignon.

Distribution: Europe, Asia.

(Agaricaceae)

Amanita citrina (Schaeff.) Gray, Nat. Arr. Brit. Pl. 1:599.1821; Bharatan, Vilma et al., Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 6. 2002.

Agaricus citrinus Schaeff. Fung. Bavar. Palat. Nasc. 1:11. t.20.1762; Fries, Syst. Mycol. 1:15. 1821; Allen 1:68. 1982 (Repr. Ed.).

Common name: False Death Cap, Citron Amanita.

Distribution: Europe, Asia, United States of America.

4. Drug Name: Agaricus emeticus (Russulaceae)

Russula emetica (Schaeff. ex Fries) Gray, Nat. Arr. Brit. Pl. 1: 618. 1821; Bharatan, Vilma et al., Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 78. 2002.

Agaricus emeticus Schaeff. Fung. Bavar. Palat. Nasc. 1: 9. t. 15. 1762; Fries, Syst. Mycol. 1: 56. 1821; Allen, T.F., Encyclopedia of Pure Materia Medica 1: 68. 1982 (Repr. Ed.); Boericke, W., A Pocket Manual of Homoeopathic Materia Medica 23. 1988 (Repr. Ed.); Blackwood, Manual of Materia Medica, Therapeutics & Pharmacology 95. 1906; Clarke, J. H., Dictionary of Practical Materia Medica 1: 38. 1982 (Repr. Ed.).

Common name: Acrid Agaric. The Sickener. Emetic / Vomiting Russula.

Distribution: Europe, Asia, North Africa, and North America.

5. Drug Name: Agaricus muscarius (Agaricaceae)

Amanita muscaria (L.ex Fries) Hook., Fl. Scot. 19. 1821. Clarke, J. H., Dictionary of Practical Materia Medica 1:39. 1982 (Repr. Ed); Hering, C. Guiding Symptoms of our Materia Medica 1: 169. 1988 (Repr. Ed.); Bharatan, Vilma et al., Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 6. 2002.

Agaricus muscarius L. Sp. Pl. 2:1172. 1753; Fries, Syst. Mycol. 1:16. 1821. Clarke, J. H., Dictionary of Practical Materia Medica 1:39. 1982 (Repr. Ed.).

Common name: Bug / Fly Agaric. Champignon fou.

Distribution: Cosmopolitan - Europe, Asia, Siberia, Africa, America, Australia and New Zealand.

6. Drug Name: Agaricus pantherina (Agaricaceae)

Amanita pantherina (DC. ex Fries) Krombh., Naturgetr. Abbild. Schwamme 4, pl. 29. 1836. Allen, T.F., Encyclopedia of Of Pure Materia Medica 1:125. 1982 (Repr. Ed.); Natarajan K. & N. Raman, South Indian Agaricales 176. 1984; Bharatan, Vilma et al., Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 6. 2002.

Agaricus pantherinus DC. Fl. Franc. 6:52. 1815; Fries, Syst. Mycol. 1:16; Allen, T.F., Encyclopedia of Pure Materia Medica 1:125. 1982 (Repr. Ed.).

Common name: European Panther. False Blusher. Panther Cap. Spotted Amanita.

Distribution: Europe, United States of America, Western Asia, South Africa.

7. Drug Name: Agaricus phalloides (Agaricaceae)

Amanita phalloides (Fries.) Link, Handbuch 3.272.1833; Bharatan, Vilma et al., Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 6. 2002.

Agaricus phalloides Fries. Syst. Mycol. 1.13.1821; Allen, T.F., Encyclopedia of Pure Materia Medica 1: 126. 1982 (Repr. Ed.).

Agaricus bulbosus Bull. Hist. Champ. France II, Priemere Partie, pl. 577. 1809. Clarke, J. H. Dictionary of Practical Materia Medica 1:44.1982 (Repr. Ed.).

Common name: Death Cap.

Distribution: Europe, Russia, North Africa, United States of America.

8. Drug Name: Agaricus procerus (Agaricaceae)

Macrolepiota procera (Scop. ex Fries) Singer, Pap. Michigan Acad. Sci. 32: 141. 1946 (1948); Bharatan, Vilma *et al.*, Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 56. 2002.

Agaricus procerus Scop. Fl. Carniol. Ed. 2,2: 418. 1772; Fries, Syst. Mycol. 1: 20. 1821. Allen, T.F., Encyclopedia of Pure Materia Medica 1: 127. 1982 (Repr. Ed.).

Lepiota procera Gray, Nat. Arr. Brit. Pl. 1: 601. 1821.

Agaricus procerus Schaeff. Fung. Bavar. Palat. Nasc. 1; 12. t. 23. 1762.

Common name: Tall Lepiota. Parasol Mushroom.

Distribution: Europe, United States of America.

Drug Name: Agaricus semiglobatus

(Strophariaceae)

Stropharia semiglobata (Batsch. ex Fries) Quelet, Champ. Jura Vosges 1: 112. 1872; Natarajan, K. & N. Raman, South Indian Agaricales 8: 92, 177 & 180. 1984; Bharatan, Vilma et al., Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 86. 2002.

Agaricus semiglobatus Batsch. ex Fries Syst. Mycol. 1: 284. 1821.

Agaricus semiglobatus Batsch. Elench. Fung. f. 110. 1783; Allen, T.F., Encyclopedia of Pure Materia Medica 1: 127. 1982 (Repr. Ed.).

Agaricus stercorarius Fries Syst. Mycol. 1: 291. 1821.

Common name: Dung Roundhead.

Distribution: Europe, Asia (S. India), United States of America.

10. Drug Name: Agaricus stercorarius (Agaricaceae)

Coprinus stercorarius (Bull.) Fries, Epicr. Syst. Mycol. 252. 1838 & J.E.Lange, Dansk Bot. Ark. 2: 44.1915; Bharatan, Vilma et al., Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 28. 2002.

Coprinus stercoreus Fr., Epicr. Syst. Mycol. 251 (1838).

Agaricus stercorarius Bull. Herb. France Pl. 542. f. 2. 1792 & Hist. Champ. France 2: 398.1792; Allen, T.F., Encyclopedia of Pure Materia Medica 10:280 – 281. 1982 (Repr. Ed.).

Common name: None.

Distribution: Europe, Australia.

11. Drug Name: Apergillus fumigatus

(Trichocomaceae)

Aspergillus fumigatus Fresen., Beitr. Mykol.: 81. 1863; Roger van Zandvoort, Complete Repertory 26. 2000.

Distribution: Cosmopolitan.

Note: Causes the disease "Aspergillosis".

12. Drug Name: Aspergillus niger (Trichocomaceae)

Aspergillus niger Tiegh. Annals Sci. Nat., Bot., sér. 5. 8: 240. 1867; Roger van Zandvoort, Complete Repertory 26. 2000.

Distribution: Cosmopolitan.

Common name: (One of the) Black Moulds (on vegetables).

Note: Numerous varieties sub-categorized infraspecifically. The genome of the fungus has been mapped.

13. Drug Name: Boletus Iuridus (Agaricaceae)

Boletus Iuridus Schaeff., Icon. Descr. Fung. t. 107.1761; Clarke, J. H., Dictionary of Practical Materia Medica 1.291.1982(Repr. Ed.). Allen, T.F., Encyclopedia of Pure Materia Medica 2:190.1982 (Repr. Ed.); Bharatan, Vilma et al., Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 15. 2002.

Common name: Lurid Bolete.

Distribution: Europe, East and Northern United States of America, Mexico.

14. Drug Name: Boletus satanus (Agaricaceae)

Boletus satanus Lenz. Nutz. Schadl. Schwann. 67.1831; Allen, T.F., Encyclopedia of Pure Materia Medica 2:190.1982 (Repr. Ed.); Bharatan, Vilma *et al.*, Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 16. 2002.

Common name: Devil's Bolete. Satan's Mushroom.

Distibution: Europe, Eastern and Northern United States of America.

15. Drug Name: Boletus purgans (Coriolaceae)

Fomitopsis officinalis (Vill. Ex Fries) Bondartsev & Singer Ann. Mycol. 39: 55. 1941; Bharatan, Vilma et al., Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 40. 2002.

Polyporus officinalis Fries, Syst. Mycol. 1: 365. 1821; Boericke, W., A Pocket Manual of Materia Medica 124. 1988 (Repr. Ed.); Blackwood, A., Manual of Materia Medica Therapeutics and Pharmacology 182.

1906.

Laricifomes officinalis Kotl. & Pouzar, Ceska Mykol. 3: 158. 1957.

Boletus purgans Pers. Syn. Meth. Fung. 2: 531. 1801; Clarke, J. H., Dictionary of Practical Materia Medica 1: 290. 1982 (Repr. Ed.).

Boletus laricis Jacq. Misc. Austriac. 1: 290. 1982 (Repr. Ed.); Boericke, W. A A Pocket Manual of Materia Medica 124. 1988 (Repr. Ed.); Blackwood, A., Manual of Materia Medica, Therapeutics & Pharmacology 182. 1906; Clarke, J.H., Dictionary of Practical Materia Medica 1: 290. 1982 (Repr. Ed.).

Common name: Larch Boletus, White Agaric.

Distribution: Europe, Asia.

16. Drug Name: Lycoperdon bovista (Lycoperdaceae)

Calvatia gigantea (Batsch. ex Pers.) Lloyd. Mycol. Not. 1:166.1904; Bharatan, Vilma *et al.*, Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 18. 2002.

Lycoperdon gigantea Batsch. Elench. Fung. 237.1786: Pers. Synop. Meth. 140.1801.

Lycoperdon bovista L. Sp. Pl. 2:1183.1753; Clarke, J. H., Dictionary of Practical Materia Medica 1:299.1982 (Repr. Ed.); Allen, T.F., Encyclopedia of Pure Materia Medica 2:212. 1982. (Repr. Ed.).

Bovista gigantea Nees non Pers. Syst. f. 1240.

Bovista gigantea Bull, (Fren. Pharm.) & B. lycoperdon literature not cited.

Common name: Puff Ball.

Distribution : Europe.

17. Drug Name : Monilia (Metschnikowiaceae)

Candida albicans (C.P. Robin) Berkhout, Schimmelgesl. Monilia 41.1923; Bharatan, Vilma et al., Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 19. 2002.

Oidium albicans C. P. Robin, Hist. Nat. Veg. Paras. 488.1853.

Monilia albicans (C. P. Robin) Zopf, Pilze 478.1890.

Distribution: Ubiquitous opportunistic pathogen in

man. Otherwise a commensal. A microfungus.

18. Drug Name: Mucor

(Mucoraceae)

Mucor mucedo L. Sp. Pl. 2: 1185. 1753; Fries, Syst. Mycol. 3: 320. 1821; Bharatan, Vilma et al., Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 61. 2002.

Common name: Common Bread Mould. Black Mould.

Distribution: Universally widespread. A filamentous fungus commonly infesting food stuff.

19. Drug Name: Polyporus pinicola (Coriolaceae)

Fomitopsis pinicola P. Karst. Meddeland. Soc. Fauna Fl. Fenn. 6: 9. 1881.

Boletus pinicola Sw. Kongl. Vetensk. Acad. Nya Handl. 31: 88. 1810; Bharatan, Vilma et al., Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 40. 2002.

Polyporus pinicola Fries, Systema Mycol. 1: 372. 1821; Allen, T.F., Encyclopedia of Pure Materia Medica 8: 149 – 154. 1982 (Repr. Ed.). Blackwood, A., Manual of Materia Medica, Therapeutics & Pharmacology 509. 1906; Clarke, J. H., Dictionary of Practical Materia Medica 3: 877. 1982 (Repr. Ed.).

Common name; Pine Agaric.

Distribution: Europe, temperate Asia.

20. Drug Name: Peronospora infestans (Oomycetes)

Phytophthora infestans (Mont.) de Bary, Trattato di knologia Ed. Sansoni Firenze 12: 240. 1876.

Peronospora infestans (Mont.) Casp. in Rabenhorst Herb.viv. Mycol. Exsicc.: 1879. 1854; Clarke, J. H., Dictionary of Practical Materia Medica 3: 1215. 1982 (Repr. Ed.).

Botrytis infestans Mont. Mem. Inst. France 313. 1845.

Common name: Late blight of potato (**Solanum** tuberosum L.).

Distribution: Cosmopolitan in all potato growing regions.

21. Drug Name: Phallus impudicus

(Phallaceae)

Phallus impudicus L. Sp. Pl. 2: 1179. 1753; Pers. Syn. Meth. Fungi. 242. 1801; Allen, T.F., Encyclopedia of of Pure Materia Medica 7: 334. 1982 (Repr. Ed.); Clarke, J. H., Dictionary of Practical Materia Medica 3: 752. 1982 (Repr. Ed.).

Common name: Common Stinkhorn.

Distribution: Europe, Asia, also reported from Australia.

22. Drug Name: Psilocybe caerulescens

(Strophariaceae)

Psilocybe caerulescens Murril, Mycologia 15: 20. 1923; Julian, O. A., Dictionary of Homoeopathic Materia Medica 262- 265. 1984 (English ed.).

Common name: Landslide Mushroom.

Distribution: South America.

23. Drug Name: Secale cornutum (Clavicipitaceae)

Claviceps purpurea (Fries.) Tul & C.Tul. Ann. Sci. Nat. Bot. ser. 3,20:45.1853.

Sphaeria purpurea Fries. Syst. Mycol. 2. 325.1823.

Secale cornutum Baldinger. Blackwood, A., Manual of Materia Medica, Therapeutics and Pharmacology 540.1906; Hamilton, Flora Homeopathica 468. 1982 (Repr. Ed.); Clarke, J. H., Dictionary of Practical Materia Medica 3. 1132. 1982. (Repr. Ed.); Hering, C., Guiding Symptoms of our Materia Medica 9:247-272. 1988 (Repr. Ed.); Allen, T.F., Encyclopedia of Pure Materia Medica 8:551 - 575. 1982 (Repr. Ed.).

Common name: Ergot on Rye.

Distribution: Europe, Asia, Africa and America. A plant pathogen.

Notes: In homeopathy, extensive literature on poisoning symptoms of the fungus when infesting Rye (*Secale cereale* L.) is adopted for repertorization. It also attacks a number of other grasses including cereals like barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), wheat (*Triticum spp.*) and oats (Avena sativa).

24. Drug Name: Torula (Saccharomycetaceae)

Saccharomyces cerevisiae Meyen ex E.C. Hansen, Arch. Naturgesch. (4 (2): 100. 1838; Bharatan, Vilma et al., Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an

annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 78. 2002.

Torula cerevisiae Turpin Compt. Rend. 7 (8): 379. 1838; Boericke, W., A Pocket Manual Homoeopathic Materia Medica 650. 1988 (Repr. Ed.).

Distribution: Used world wide in the baking industry. A microfungi.

Common name: Baker's / Brewer's Yeast, Budding Yeast.

25. Drug Name: Ustilago maydis (Ustilaginaceae)

Ustilago maydis (DC.) Corda., Icon. Fung. 5:3. 1842; Allen, T.F., Encyclopedia of Pure Materia Medica 10: 49. 1982 (Repr. Ed.); Anon., Homoeopathic Pharm. India 3: 112. 1978; Boericke, W., A Pocket Manual of Homoeopathic Materia Medica 662. 1988 (Repr. Ed.); Clarke, J. H., Dictionary of Practical Materia Medica 3: 1487 – 1491. 1982 (Repr. Ed.); Hering, C., Guiding Symptoms of our Materia Medica 10: 365 - 375. 1988 (Repr. Ed.); Bharatan, Vilma et al., Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 93. 2002.

Uredo maydis DC. Fl. Franc. 6L 77. 1815.

Ustilago zeae Unger, Einfl. Boden. Verth. Gew. 211. 1836.

Common name: Corn Smut.

Distribution: Europe, Asia, Africa & America, plant pathogen infesting *Zea mays* L.

26. Drug Name: Russula (Russulaceae)

Russula foetens Pers. Syn. Meth. Fung. 2: 443. 1801; Fries, Syst. Mycol. 1: 59; Clarke, J. H., Dictionary of Practical Materia Medica 3: 1028. 1982 (Repr. Ed.); Bharatan, Vilma et al., Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 78. 2002.

Distribution: Europe, Asia.

III. Lichens

1. Drug Name: Cetraria (Parmeliaceae)

Cetraria islandica (L.) Ach. Methodus 293. 1803 (sensu lato.). Hering, C., Guiding Symptoms of our Materia Medica 3: 496-498. 1988 (Repr. Ed.); Bharatan,

Vilma et al., Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 22, 2002.

Lichen islandicus L. Sp. Pl. 2: 1145. 1753.

Common name: Iceland Moss.

Distribution: Temperate Europe, United States of America, Russia and Arctic regions.

2. Drug Name: Sticta pulmonaria (Lobariaceae)

Lobaria pulmonaria (L.) Hoffm., Deutschl. Fl. 146. 1796; Bharatan, Vilma et al., Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 54. 2002.

Lichen pulmonarius L. Sp. Pl. 2: 1145. 1753.

Sticta pulmonaria Hook., Fl. Scot. 58. 1821; Hering, C., Guiding Symptoms of our Materia Medica 10: 29 – 36. 1988 (Repr. Ed.).

Sticta pulmonacea Ach., Lichenogr. Universalis 449. 1810.

Parmelia pulmonacea (L.) Biroli, Fl. Acon. 2: 188. 1808.

Common name: Tree Lungwort, Lung Lichen, Lung Moss, Lungwort Lichen, Oak Lungs, Oak Lungwort.

Distribution: Occurring in Africa, Asia, Europe, and North America.

3. Drug Name: Usnea barbata (Parmeliaceae)

Usnea barbata (L.) Weber ex F.H. Wigg., Brit. Fl. 1: 206. 1780; van Zandvoort, Roger, Complete Repertory 41. 2000; Bharatan, Vilma et al. Plant Names in Homoeopathy; an annotated checklist of currently accepted names in common use 92. 2002.

Common names: Bearded Tree Moss. Beard of St. Anthony. Old Man's Beard.

Distribution: Europe, temperate Asia, extending to America.

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