

Medicinal Plants of the Guianas (Guyana, Surinam, French Guiana)

ACANTHACEAE

Aphelandra aurantiaca (Scheidw.) Lindley

NAME: Surinam Tirio: wuh-duh-puh tih-kuh (devil's cigar).

USES: Whole plant: Shamans of the Surinam Tirio smoke the plant and blow the smoke into a sick person's house as a curative measure.

NOTES: The Tikuna of Colombia drip a warm decoction into the ears to treat progressive deafness due to old age (167).

Ref: 8.

Asystasia gangetica (L.) T. Anderson

USES: Whole plant: Used for coughs and colds in NW Guyana.

Ref: 245.

Justicia calycina (Nees) V.W. Graham

USES: Whole plant: Juice from macerated plant is used on dermatoses, by the Guyana Patamona.

Leaf: Juice from macerated leaves is used for treating eczema, ringworm, and sores, by the Guyana Patamona. Leaves used for coughs and colds, sore eyes and whooping cough in NW Guyana. Leaf and Shoot: Juice from macerated leaves and young shoots is used as an antibacterial and anti-infective, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237,245.

Justicia pectoralis (Jacq.) Bremek. (*Dianthera pectoralis* (Jacq.) Murr.; *Stethoma pectoralis* (Jacq.) Raf.)

NAMES: Guyana: toyeau, toyou. Surinam Arawak: kamaroeballi. Surinam Creole: tonka wiwiri, tonkawiwiri. FG Creole: carmentin, carmentine, charpentier, cramentin, herbe charpentier, zerb charpentier. FG Palikur: suepan. FG Wayapi: pili.

USES: Whole plant: Decoction for upset stomach and as an external bath for a febrifuge; tea for influenza, fever, whooping cough, fits; antiemetic; infusion for headache caused by blows to the head. Used in treatment of hemorrhage and whooping cough in NW Guyana. Leaf: Macerated for a vulnerary; applied externally for haematoma. Used in a pectoral tea or eaten in a toffee for coughs and colds. Infusion as a hairwash for hair loss. Part unspecified: Bechic; infusion for a calmative.

CHEM: Plant contains coumarin and umbelliferone (1).

Ref: 2,3,4,154,168,173,190,193,195, 245.

Justicia secunda Vahl

NAMES: FG Creole: radie divin, radie du sang, Saint John, zerb vin. FG Palikur: daudau. Guyana: St. John bush.

USES: Whole plant: In a tea for afterbirth problems. In Guyana, plant is mixed and boiled with *Petiveria alliacea*, *Passiflora quadrangularis*, *Coleus amboinicus* and black sage for a treatment for

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dysmenorrhoea and a post-menses cleaner. Decoction for menstrual pains, to induce abortion, for dilation and curettage after miscarriage; plant sometimes mixed with *Ruellia tuberosa* and *Heliotropium indicum*. Leaf: For treatment of anemia, cough, cold, fever, malaria, measles, and whooping cough. Stem and Leaf: In a clarifying infusion for amenorrhoea.
Ref: 2,3,234, 245.

Mendoncia hoffmanseggiana Nees

NAMES: Surinam Akuriyo: puh-fwe-muh. Surinam Tirio: mah-kwe pah-nah. Surinam Wayana: muh-tuh-loi.

USES: Whole plant: Decoction of crushed plant is used as a wash to treat skin rashes by the Surinam Akuriyo. Stem and Leaf: Decoction of crushed leaves and rasped bark is used as a wash for treatment of athlete's foot by the Surinam Tirio and Wayana.

Ref: 8.

Pachystachys spicata (Ruiz & Pavon) Wasshausen (*Justicia coccinea* sensu auct., non Aublet; *Pachystachys coccinea* sensu auct., non (Aublet) Nees)

NAMES: FG Creole: carmentine rouge. FG Wayapi: mulumulukwi.

USES: Whole plant: Used as an excellent bitter stomachic in Cayenne, French Guiana. Leaf: Maceration is rubbed on abdomen of women giving birth in order to alleviate pain and accelerate birth. Part unspecified: Bechic; infusion is calmative.

Ref: 2,154,168.

Pulchranthus variegatus (Aublet) Baum, Reveal & Nowicke (*Odontonema variegatum* (Aublet) Kuntze)

NAMES: French Guiana: carmentine panachee.

USES: Part unspecified: Bechic; infusion is calmative.

Ref: 168.

Ruellia tuberosa L. (*Ruellia clandestina* L.)

NAMES: French Guiana: ipeca batard. Guyana: bluebell, menow weed, minnie root. Surinam: waterkanon, watrakanoe, watra kanung, watra kanun.

USES: Whole plant: To treat bladder diseases and frequent micturition; decoction with *Petiveria alliacea* is drunk to "clean out" uterine tract (dilation and curettage) or as an abortifacient. Root: Infusion for kidney diseases; in a syrup for whooping cough; infusion or decoction for a diabetes remedy; tubers in a tea used for cleansing the blood. Root and Leaf: In a tea used for alleviating retention of urine and to remedy weakness.

CHEM: Leaf contains apigenin and luteolin (3). Seed oil yields myristic, capric and lauric acids (3).

Ref: 3,7,154,190,193,195,234.

Strobilanthes crispus Blume

NAME: Surinam: ketji beling.

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USES: Leaf: As a diuretic and to treat diabetes.

NOTES: Plant introduced from Java (where it is a remedy for kidney stones) to Suriname in 1956.

Ref: 195.

ADIANTACEAE

Adiantopsis radiata (L.) Fée

NAME: Guyana Patamona: ap-pi-gee-yik.

USES: Leaf: Macerated leaves are used as an antipruritic by the Guyana Patamona. Juice from macerated leaves is used as an ointment for treating persistent sores or “bush yaws”, by the Guyana Patamona. Macerated leaves are vigorously rubbed on the skin to treat chicken pox and measles, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Adiantum dolosum Kunze

NAMES: Surinam Tirio: pe-yam-kuh-kai ah-moi. Surinam Wayana: kum-we-mah.

USES: Leaf: Cold water infusion employed as a wash to relieve body aches.

Ref: 8.

Adiantum fuliginosum Fée

NAMES: Surinam Tirio: hah-pi ah-wah-rah, we-de-ni am-bo-ta.

USES: Whole plant: Smoke from burning plant inhaled for treating fevers.

Ref: 8.

Pityrogramma calomelanos (L.) Link

NAMES: FG Creole: porte-chance, scapulaire. Guyana: aisegay, marran, printing fern, silver fern, silverback fern, wild maran, wild marron. Guyana Arawak: ase-gi-kay. Surinam: iesri wiwiri, isri wiwiri, kapilairi-wiwiri, kapilari wiwiri, zilvervaren.

USES: Whole plant: In Guyana, an infusion is used to "strengthen men's backs", i.e., to increase male sexual stamina, and to treat female hemorrhaging. Aqueous extract is drunk or applied locally to treat venereal disease in Guyana. Used for asthma, cough, cold, pneumonia, tuberculosis, and whooping cough in NW Guyana. Root: Infusion for a bechic to treat pulmonary conditions. Leaf: Crushed leaves used to promote healing of ulcers and cuts. Boiled in water for a bronchitis remedy in Surinam. Macerated leaves (or leaf-juice) may be placed on wounds to stop bleeding. Infusion drunk to remedy stomach pains. Decoction is drunk to relieve colds. In NW Guyana, used for wounds and cuts. In the NorthWest District, Guyana, the fresh leaves are macerated and placed on cuts [*W.A. Archer* 2253 (US)]. In the Ayanganna plateau of the Upper Mazaruni River basin in Guyana, the leaves are used by people from the coast as a tea, and to stop bleeding [*S.S. Tillett, C.L. Tillett & R. Boyan* 44876 (US)]

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CHEM: Contains the sesquiterpene lactones pterosin (reportedly antibiotic) and calomelanolactone (113).

Ref: 2,3,156,193,234, 245.

AGAVACEAE

Agave americana L.

NAMES: French Guiana: aloes. Surinam: agave.

USES: Root: Sudorific and antisyphilitic. Roots are steeped in water, and the water ingested for various ailments such as stomach pain, painful and difficult urination, scurvy, swollen and bleeding pulp of teeth, swollen bones, constipation, and poor appetite or loss of appetite.

Ref: 154,193.

Cordyline fruticosa (L.) Chev. (*Cordyline terminalis* (L.) Kunth)

NAMES: FG Creole: cordyline, feuille-way, roseau des Indes.

USES: Root: Surinamese Indonesians use pieces of root in vinegar for a preparation against bleeding. Leaf: An infusion in oil is used to treat wounds. Infusion of three crushed leaves of the purple cultivar is used in hypotensive drink. Proximal (lower) portion of leaf is macerated in olive oil for a cataplasm or tampon for wounds.

CHEM: Plant contains steroidal saponins (10).

Ref: 2,4,195.

Furcraea foetida (L.) Haw. (*Furcraea gigantea* Vent.)

NAMES: French Guiana: agave fetide. FG Wayapi: mula. Surinam: ingisopo. Surinam Carib: mola. Surinam Sranan: mauritiushennep. Guyana Patamona: ka-ro-whak-yik.

USES: Root: Mixed with gin and used for back pain. In Surinam, an infusion with sweet oil is drunk for treating syphilis. Leaf: Decoction for a febrifuge. Leaves are used in a preparation with molasses or honey for children's obstinate colds. Leaves are used as a fish poison by the Guyana Patamona. Macerated young leaves are used as a shampoo by the Guyana Patamona. Squashed young leaves are used as a soap by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 2,195, 237.

ALLIACEAE

Allium cepa L.

NAMES: Guyana: onion. Surinam: ui. Surinam Sranan: ajoen.

USES: Bulb: Guyana uses: Eaten raw or boiled to strengthen the lungs. Onion boiled with bread and milk is applied to swellings of Guinea worm, after which the patient drinks a decoction

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comprised of garlic, black pepper, flowers of sulphur, and a quart of rum thrice daily in small dosage.

Ref: 190,195.

Allium sativum L.

NAMES: Guyana: garlic. Surinam: knoflook.

USES: Bulb: In Surinam, consumed to improve poor blood circulation to the heart. In Guyana, consumed raw to strengthen the lungs, boiled and eaten to alleviate intestinal gas (wind, flatulence) and used in a cure for Guinea worm with *Allium cepa* and other ingredients.

Ref: 190,193,234.

ALOACEAE

Aloe vera L. (*Aloe barbadensis* Miller; *Aloe vulgaris* Lam.)

NAMES: French Guiana and Guyana: aloes. FG and Surinam Creole: aloe. Guyana: bitter aloes. Surinam Sranan: semprefisi, sempre wisi.

USES: Whole plant: Juice, often mixed with raw cow's milk, used to treat asthma, pneumonia, biliousness and colds. Juice mixed with grated cassava and "fresh fat" (cattle tallow) is applied externally to treat ringworm and "tete" (acute dermatitis). Leaf: Juice employed to stop cuts from bleeding. Juice beaten with egg-white is drunk as a purgative or emetic. Emollient infusion made from leaf is abortifacient. Juice for a laxative, antimalarial, hairwash, stomach pain remedy, asthma; mixed with molasses for a cough remedy; infusion of leaf-juice for epilepsy and rheumatism, for liver and kidney pain; rubbed on skin to ease itches, swellings and worm afflictions; for difficult menstruation. In NW Guyana, leaves used to treat abscesses and sores as well as for asthma, colds and coughs, malaria, pneumonia; also as a laxative.

CHEM: Contains aloe-emodin, lupeol, barbaloin, sitosterol, campesterol, aloesin and chrysophanol (3). Leaf has effective anti-ovulating action on humans (85). Extracts of aloe are used in commercial skin softening and conditioning creams and cosmetics.

Ref: 2,3,4,168,173,174,193,195,245.

AMARANTHACEAE

Achyranthes aspera L.

USES: Whole plant: Plant is boiled, and the water drunk as an antipyretic, by the Guyana Patamona. Plant is boiled and the water used as an antiseptic or for washing the skin as treatment for cold sweat, by the Guyana Patamona. Plant is mixed with leaves of *Gossypium* and *Lantana*, boiled and used for herbal bath, by the Guyana Patamona. Plant is dried, boiled, and the water drunk as a treatment for back pain, by the Guyana Patamona. Plant is boiled, and the water drunk as a treatment for influenza, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

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Achyranthes indica Miller

NAMES: Guyana: cow-pimpler, devil's whip, soldier rod.

USES: Whole plant: Infusion for heart problems; decoction for stomach problems, thrush and colds.

Leaf: Decoction for treating high blood pressure, and as a tea substitute. Leaves are boiled, and the water drunk for back pain by the Guyana Patamona.

CHEM: Extract of plant shows antifertility activity.

NOTES: An undetermined species of *Achyranthes* is used in French Guiana to treat coryza, and for a stimulant (4).

Ref: 3, 237.

Alternanthera brasiliana (L.) Kuntze (*Alternanthera dentata* (Moench) Scheygrond)

NAMES: FG Creole: Marie-Claire, radie di vin, radie Marie-Claire, zerb vin.

USES: Leaf: Leaf juice squeezed into vinegar for a refreshing, antidiarrhoeic infusion.

Ref: 2,4.

Alternanthera sessilis (L.) DC.

NAMES: Surinam: santi wiwiri, wet'ede, weti hede, witti hede.

USES: Leaf: Decoction is drunk for treating itching and overheated skin.

Ref: 195,223.

Amaranthus oleraceus L.

NAME: French Guiana: ergon.

USES: Leaf: Bruised leaves are employed to dress blisters as a vesicant. Leaves used for a refreshing emollient wash on the skin.

NOTES: Plant introduced from the East Indies to French Guiana.

Ref: 154.

Amaranthus spinosus L.

NAMES: Surinam: makakroen, maka mboa.

USES: Root: For toothache. Leaf: Used in compresses in herbal curative baths by the Surinam Saramaccan Bush Negroes.

Ref: 8.

Cyathula prostrata (L.) Blume

NAMES: Guyana Patamona: ou-la-lik-yao-ku-yik. Surinam Tirio: ah-puh-muh- tib-kuh.

USES: Whole plant: Boiled in a decoction as a wash for headache; crushed and boiled plant sometimes tied onto fractures. Plant is boiled with water and used as an antipyretic or for herbal baths, by the Guyana Patamona. Leaf: Macerated leaves are used as soap by the Guyana Patamona.

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Juice from macerated leaves is applied to cuts and bruises as an antiseptic by the Guyana Patamona. Macerated leaves are applied to wounds to stop bleeding, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 8, 237.

Gomphrena globosa L.

NAMES: French Guiana: immortelle pourpre. Surinam: stanfasti.

USES: Whole plant: Infusion of the white-flowered variant of this plant is recommended as a diabetes remedy. Leaf: Warm infusion for a sudorific.

Ref: 154,195.

Pfaffia glauca (Martius) Spreng. (*Pfaffia iresinoides* (H.B.K.) Sprengel)

NAMES: FG Creole: arbre sensible, larme sensible. Surinam Arawak: kaloeba kele. Surinam Carib: oubelt.

USES: Leaf: Infusion for a sedative and febrifuge. Juice from pressed leaves used as an eyewash.

Ref: 2,4,223.

AMARYLLIDACEAE

Crinum erubescens L. fil. ex Solander

NAMES: Guyana Patamona: mou-doui-mou-ray-yik, ma-ri-ba-yik.

USES: Whole plant: Plant is rubbed on the skin of babies to calm them when they are miserable, by the Guyana Patamona. Gum: Gum is grated, mixed with water, and drunk as an antidiarrheal, by the Guyana Patamona. Root: Root is grated, soaked in warm water, and tied around the knees and joints as an anth-arthritis, by the Guyana Patamona. Warmed leaves are used as medicament for abscesses and mumps by the Guyana Patamona. Used to induce vomiting, as laxative, and for biliousness in NW Guyana. Bulb: Grated bulb used by French Guiana Palikur to help extract larvae of epidermal parasites (mainly *Dermatobia hominis*), by means of applying pulp to the respiratory orifice of the larva and causing asphyxiation, as well as the loosening of its hooks.

Ref: 2, 237, 245.

Eucharis sp.

NAME: Guyana: eucharis lily.

USES: Bulb: A violent emetic. Leaf: Tied over the forehead as a headache remedy.

Ref: 190.

Hippeastrum puniceum (Lam.) Kuntze (*Amaryllis punicea* Lam.)

NAMES: French Guiana: lys rouge.

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USES: Root: Used to treat asthma, biliousness, as laxative and to induce vomiting in NW Guyana. Bulb: Emetic; an irritant poison. Flower: Infusion is antispasmodic, locally recommended for whooping cough.

Ref: 154, 245.

Hymenocallis tubiflora Salisbury

NAMES: FG Creole: lily sauvage, oignon gly.

USES: Root: Employed to induce vomiting, and and to treat swelling in NW Guyana. Leaf: Heated leaves are positioned over the spleen to reduce an hypertrophied spleen, by the FG Wayapi. Leaves used for an external malaria treatment. Leaves are stripped and used to stimulate hair growth, by the Guyana Patamona. Used to treat sprains and swelling in NW Guyana. Bulb: Grated bulb used by the FG Palikur to extract larvae of epidermal parasites by applying pulp to respiratory orifice of larva to smother it.

Ref: 2, 237, 245.

ANACARDIACEAE

Anacardium giganteum W. Hancock ex Engler

NAMES: Guyana: hubudi, merehi, ubudi, wild cashew. Guyana Arawak: obudi. Guyana Macushi: roroi. Surinam Arawak: hoeboedi, hoeboedie. Surinam Carib: akajoe, akoejoe. Surinam Creole: boesi kasjoen, boskasjoe, bosch kadjoe. Surinam Saramaccan: kadjoe mattoe. Guyana Patamona: khu-youw-sey-you-yik.

USES: Bark and Leaf: Boiled with *Psidium guajava* bark or fruit, and the resulting liquid is drunk for coughs and dysentery. Bark and Fruit: For diarrhoea, cancerous ulcers, and syphilis. Bark: Decocted for venereal diseases, iron deficiency, vomiting, sore throat. Bark is scraped, boiled, and the water drunk as an anti-diarrheal, by the Guyana Patamona. Used for diarrhoea in NW Guyana. Fruit: Fruit is used for treatment of diarrhea by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

Ref: 3,9,192,225, 237, 238, 245.

Anacardium occidentale L.

NAMES: French: anacardier, noix d'acajou, noix de cajou. FG Creole: acajou a pommes, cajou, pomme-cajou, pommier-cajou. Guyana: cashew, cashew nut, merche, merehi. Surinam: boschkasjoe, kasjoe, kasjoen, kasyu. Surinam Arawak: merehe, mereke. Surinam Carib: olvi, oroi, orvi. Surinam Malayan: djamboe monjet. Surinam Saramaccan: kadjoe, sabana kadjoe. Surinam Tirio and Wayana: o-roy. Guyana Patamona: youw-rouii-yik, wak-roik-yik, a-roik-yik, you-ro-yik.

USES: Bark: Bark is scraped, soaked overnight in water, or boiled, and drunk as an antidiarrheal, by the Guyana Patamona. Bark is boiled with water and drunk as a medication for influenza, by the Guyana Patamona. Juice from macerated inner bark is used as an anti-fungal agent or for treating sores, by the Guyana Patamona. Bark and Leaf: Juice from macerated bark and leaves is used for dermatoses, by the Guyana Patamona. Stem: Mixed with the barks of *Coccoloba uvifera*, *Mangifera indica* and *Cocos nucifera* for curing dysentery. Bark decoction for diarrhoea, infant's thrush, and

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sores; bark infusion used for a mouthwash to treat oral ulcers, and drunk for treating sore throat, diarrhoea and dysentery; bark-latex is applied to mouth sores; bark decoction used as a contraceptive during menstruation. Bark used in a tea which is drunk for an emetic while remedying chest colds. Used for diarrhoea and thrush in NW Guyana. Leaf: Intoxicant; in Guyana it is said that a few leaves crushed and rubbed around the rim of a glass of alcoholic spirits will serve to greatly accelerate the desired state of inebriation. For lotions, astringent gargles, grippe. Leaves are boiled, and the water drunk as an anti-pyretic or as a treatment for aches and pains, by the Guyana Patamona. Used for diarrhoea in NW Guyana. Seed: Seed is ground into a powder, and used as a poultice for treating snakebite (anti-venom), by the Guyana Patamona. Fruit: Juice employed as a larvicide, wart remover, to cauterize cuts; astringent taste, for sore throat. Bruised fruit makes a refreshing drink used to cool the blood of feverish persons. Immature fruit is macerated and used as an antiseptic for baby's sore mouth or applied to rashes for healing, by the Guyana Patamona. Oil from the nut is used as an anti-fungal agent or applied to cracked heels for healing, by the Guyana Patamona. Used for diarrhoea in NW Guyana.

CHEM: Essential oil contains anacardic acid and cardol (a phenol); essential oil from leaf is a depressant of the central nervous system. Bark contains anti-inflammatory tannins (10,11,139).

Ref: 2,3,7,8,154,155,168,190,193,195,225, 237, 245.

Astronium ulei Mattick

NAME: Guyana Patamona: war-gang-yik.

USES: Bark: Inner bark is boiled, and the water drunk as an anti-pyretic or as a treatment for coughing, by the Guyana Patamona. Inner bark is macerated in water, left overnight, and drunk as a charm for hunting game, By the Guyana Patamona. Bark is boiled with sugar and used as a tonic by the Guyana Patamona. Bark and Leaf: Inner bark and leaves are boiled, and the water drunk as an anti-asthmatic, by the Guyana Patamona. Macerated inner bark and leaves in water are used for an herbal bath, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Mangifera indica L.

NAMES: French Guiana: manguier. FG Creole: pied mangue. FG Palikur and Wayapi: ma. French Guiana, Guyana and Surinam: mango. Surinam: bobbie manja, kajanna manja, manja, manje, manya. Surinam Malayan: mangga.

USES: Stem: For an antidiarrhoeic and to remedy stomachache. Decoction of bark for throat problems. When incised, yields an oleoresin which is stimulant, sudorific and antisiphilitic. Leaf: Infusion is drunk to reduce blood pressure, and used in a convalescent bath. Leaf is odontalgic, especially when employed to harden the gums; astringent, often used to remedy angina and asthma. Used for diabetes in NW Guyana. Fruit: Antiscorbutic, antidyenteric. Seed: Pulverised mango seed is made into a sweetened tea and drunk, or taken as powders, for dysentery. Seed is astringent, antidiarrhoeic; anthelmintic when roasted.

NOTES: This species is used in northwestern Amazonia as an abortifacient and contraceptive (10).

Ref: 2,4,153,154,193,195,225,245 .

Spondias cytherea Sonn. (*Spondias dulcis* G. Forst.)

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NAME: French Guiana: pomme cythere.

USES: Fruit: Grated fruit mixed with water for a hypotensive beverage; mildly diuretic. Concentrated juice from the outer part of the fruit is reputedly used as a hypotensive in French Guiana.

CHEM: Material from Cayenne, French Guiana has been phytochemically analyzed (240).

Ref: 2,154,240.

Spondias mombin L.

NAMES: FG Creole: mombin, monbin, prune monbim. FG Wayana and Surinam Carib and Sranan: mope, moppe. FG Wayapi: akaya. Guyana Akawaio: mope. Guyana Arawak: hubu. Guyana Creole: hog plum, plum bark. Guyana Wapishana: rup. Surinam: varkenspruim. Surinam Arawak: hobbo, hoeboe, hooboo. Surinam Saramaccan: monbe, moonbe.

USES: Root: Infusion for dysentery. Stem: Bark used in a gonorrhoea remedy in Surinam. As an anti-diarrhoeic and to remedy stomachache; infusion is sudorific, used to alleviate fatigue. Stem and Leaf: Decoction for eyewash. Bark use to treat coughs and colds, hemorrhage, and sores in NW Guyana. Leaf: Decoction for diarrhoea and dysentery; used in an abortifacient preparation. Fruit: As a mild laxative; stewed and eaten to cure diarrhoea. Leaves used in treatment of diarrhoea, hemorrhage, and sores in NW Guyana. Flower: Infusion for mouth sores.

Ref: 2,4,9,12,154,190,192,195,225,245.

Spondias purpurea L.

NAME: French Guiana: monbin sauvage.

USES: Stem: Shoots are astringent. Fruit: Ingredient in a laxative marmalade. Seed: Toxic.

Ref: 154.

Tapiriria guianensis Aublet

NAMES: FG Creole: mombin blanc, mombin faux, mombin fou. FG Wayapi: tatapilili. Guyana: duka. Guyana Akawaio: makarin. Guyana and Surinam Arawak: warimia. Guyana Carib: atapereri, atapiriri. Surinam: anoema latti, djedoe, doka, krassi pi man krappa, witte hoedoe. Surinam Arawak: doeka, dokka, warimia, warimia balli. Surinam Carib: ana-akara, ata-apiriri, atapiriri, duka, masse, saprieran, tamoene-nooitjano-atapiriri, tapiriri. FG Carib: tapiriri. Surinam Creole: witi-oedoe. Surinam Saramaccan: basa mope, dan lieba, danliba, djedoe, matawarie nenge, matawarie nengidjedoe.

USES: Stem: Yields an abundant oleoresin fluid which is recommended in French Guiana for syphilitic ulcers. Finely ground bark is ingested for children's thrush; bark decoction used as a fever bath; bark infusion for washing ulcers; inner bark used to dress cuts and sores, and to treat snakebite. Bark used in treatment of sores and for wounds/cuts in NW Guyana. Part unspecified: For a purgative.

NOTES: The Taiwano of Colombia prepare a tea from the flowers, which is used by elderly persons experiencing painful urination (10).

Ref: 2,3,9,154,190,191,192,225,245.

Tapiriria obtusa (Benth.) J.D. Mitchell (*Tapirira marchandii* Engl., nom. illeg.)

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USES: Fruit: Berries are used as a treatment for ulcers by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.
Ref: 238.

ANNONACEAE

Anaxagorea dolichocarpa Sprague & Sandwith

USES: Wood: Wood is boiled, and the water drunk as an anti-diarrheal or as an anti-dysenteric for bloody dysentery, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Anaxagorea cf. dolichocarpa Sprague & Sandwith

NAME: Guyana Patamona: tec-leu-yik.

USES: Wood: The wood is burned, the ashes collected and applied onto the umbilical cord near the navel where it was cut, as an anti-infective, by the Guyana Patamona. Leaf: Leaves boiled and the water used as an herbal bath for pregnant mothers, by the Guyana Patamona. Macerated leaves are mixed with water and drunk by pregnant women on the day of delivery of the baby as a muscle relaxant, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Annona ambotay Aublet

NAMES: French Guiana: corossol ambotay. FG Galibi: ambotay. FG Palikur: manigl ivine, manigl kamwi. FG Wayapi: iwitay.

USES: Stem: Bark decoction used to treat ulcers and skin eruptions; residue from boiled bark placed on severe ulcers afflicting weakened people. Bark and Leaf: Body rub is febrifuge and sudorific. Leaf: Decoction for external bath to assist childbirth.

CHEM: Major alkaloids isolated from bark and leaf are annonine, asimilobine, liriodenine and reticuline.

Ref: 2,7,8,149,154.

Annona aff. echinata Dunal

NAME: FG Creole: corossol yanman.

USES: Stem and Leaf: The French Guiana Palikur make a decoction of stem-bark and leaves which is used, in association with leaves of *Carica papaya*, as a counterirritant against vasoconstriction that sometimes occurs during childbirth.

Ref: 2.

Annona glabra L.

NAMES: FG Creole: coeur de boeuf, tchobef. Guyana: monkey apple. Surinam: zwampzuurzak. Surinam Sranan: swampoesoensaka.

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USES: Stem and Leaf: In Guyana, boiled for a tea (and sometimes mixed with a whole plant of *Passiflora foetida*), which is drunk to destroy flatworms and nematodes. Bark and Leaf: Mixed with the bark and leaves of *Annona squamosa* for a sedative and cardiotonic infusion.

Ref: 2,195,234.

***Annona haematantha* Miq.**

NAME: Guyana Arawak: karampai.

USES: Stem: Bark decoction used for bathing skin ulcers and eruptions; bark or wood prepared in a syrup for an excellent cough remedy; grated bark rubbed on the body as a sudorific. Leaf: In cataplasms to treat fever.

Ref: 2,8,9,192.

***Annona montana* Macfadyen**

NAMES: FG Boni: busi atuku. FG Creole: corossolier sauvage. FG Palikur: manigl.

USES: Leaf: Decoction of leaves is drunk in the evening before retiring for the calming effect on nerves and sedative effect which promotes sleep. In NW Guyana, used for fever and headache.

Ref: 2,245.

***Annona muricata* L.**

NAMES: FG Creole: cachiman, cachiman epineux, corossol, corossol commun, corossolier. Guyana Creole: monkey apple, sorasaka, soursop, sour-sop, wild soursop. Guyana Arawak: kaiedi. Surinam: zuurzak. Surinam Sranan: soensaka, sroesakka, soeng sakka, sun-saka.

USES: Stem: Bark and leaf infusion for a sedative or cardiotonic. Branches contain irritant sap. Leaf: Narcotic, for antispasmodic infusions and a calmative; in cataplasms to treat whitlow; infusion for fever with a cold, for a sedative, and to relieve overheating; extract calms nervous conditions; decoction for hypertension and heart conditions such as palpitations, the latter benefitted especially when the leaves are mixed with *Ludwigia erecta*. Leaves are boiled with the leaves of avocado and drunk as an anti-hypertensive, by the Guyana Patamona. Leaves are boiled with water and drunk as a medication for fluttering of the heart, by the Guyana Patamona. Fruit: For bedwetting children; decoction for excess foot and hand perspiration; antiscorbutic, febrifuge; for a mild antidyseric and a good vermifuge. Fruit is used for making a tonic, by the Guyana Patamona. In NW Guyana, used for fever, headache, hypertension, and to treat heart problems. Seed: Ingredient in a remedy for convulsions.

CHEM: Plant contains isoquinoline alkaloids including reticuline (3). Seed contains galactomannan, sitosterol, stigmasterol and cholesterol.

Ref: 3,4,12,14,154,168,192,193,195,224,234, 237,245.

***Annona reticulata* L.**

NAME: Surinam: kasjoema.

USES: Stem: Finely grated bark is placed on the area of an enlarged spleen. Seed: Concentrated extract is employed to remedy dysentery and diarrhoea.

Ref: 195.

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***Annona sericea* Dunal**

NAMES: Surinam Arawak: koyechi. Surinam Carib: japopale. Surinam Paramaccan: boesi-atoekoe. Surinam Sranan: soensaka. Surinam Tirio: ah-de-me-ni-muh.

USES: Stem: Decoction of bark is used as a wash for treating cramps.

Ref: 8,224.

***Annona squamosa* L.**

NAMES: FG Creole: pomme cannelle. Surinam: kaneelappel, kaneel appel. Surinam Malayan: srikaja. Surinam Sranan: kaner'apra.

USES: Stem: Bark and leaves mixed with those of *Annona muricata* in a sedative infusion. Leaf and Fruit: In an infusion to aid digestion and treat rheumatism. Leaf: Infusion used to aid digestion. Oil distilled from the leaves is applied to the head for sleeplessness. Seed: Powdered seeds used for an excellent vermifuge in French Guiana.

CHEM: Extracts show anticancer activity (3).

Ref: 2,4,154,168,195,224.

***Cymbopetalum brasiliense* (Vell.) Bentham ex Baill.**

NAMES: Surinam Carib: katjoesi anjali. Surinam Sranan: boesi soensaka. Surinam Tirio: ah-ru-gah-ru-gah, mah-de-bo-no. Surinam Wayana: puh-kut.

USES: Stem: Ash of bark rubbed on skin rashes; rasped bark in a decoction used for treating blood in the stools; rasped inner bark applied to stanch flow of blood; bark and fruit used on ringworm.

Leaf: Smoke inhaled for a stomachache remedy.

Ref: 8,16,224.

***Duguetia megalophylla* Diels**

USES: Stem: In NW Guyana, bark used to treat snakebite.

Ref: 245.

***Duguetia neglecta* Sandwith**

NAME: Guyana Arawak and Creole: white yarri-yarri.

USES: Part unspecified: Used as a cough remedy by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

Ref: 238.

***Duguetia pauciflora* Rusby**

USES: Stem: Bark used to treat snakebite in NW Guyana.

Ref: 245.

***Duguetia pycnastera* Sandwith**

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NAME: Guyana Creole: yarriyarri. Guyana Patamona: tee-leuw-yik, ya-rai-you-rang-yik, kale-che-lay-yik.

USES: Bark: Inner bark is scraped, allowed to stand in water for a day and drunk as a treatment for colds, by the Guyana Patamona. Bark is warmed and used as a poultice for muscular aches and pains, by the Guyana Patamona. Used to treat coughs and colds in NW Guyana. Stem: Decoction of outer bark used for relief of coughs. Leaf: Macerated leaves in water are used for treating fevers, as an herbal bath or for washing the body as a treatment for cold sweat, by the Guyana Patamona.

NOTES: The leaf of a species of *Duguetia* known to the Surinam Tirio as "pah-ke-rah shwe" is decocted for a drink and body-wash for fevers. A different species with the same common name provides a fruit which is squeezed and then rubbed on facial pimples.

Ref: 9,192,237,245.

Duguetia sp.

NAMES: Guyana Arawak: yarayara, yara-yara. Guyana Creole: yarriyarri.

USES: Part unspecified: Said to be a good cure for coughs and colds.

NOTES: This species may be any of 23 species of *Duguetia* occurring in Guyana.

Ref: 190,191,192.

Guatteria discolor Fries

USES: Stem: The French Guiana Wayapi wash with a decoction of the slightly scented bark of the trunk as a febrifuge.

CHEM: The bark contains abundant saponins and alkaloids. Leaf contains heterosides of quercetol and kaempferol.

Ref: 2.

Guatteria guianensis (Aublet) Fries

USES: Bark: Decoction of bark used as an external wash remedy for scabies, and to treat painful conditions of the male and female genital organs characterized by an accumulation of pus.

NOTES: The French Guiana Wayapi employ the bark of a plant determined as *Guatteria* cf. *guianensis* in a bitter decoction to treat diseases of the penis (8).

Ref: 2.

Guatteria ouregou (Aublet) Dunal (*Cananga ouregou* Aublet)

NAME: French Guiana: cananga.

USES: Leaf: Aromatic; an excitant (stimulant) to the nervous system.

Ref: 154.

Guatteria paludosa R.E. Fries

NAME: Guyana Patamona: ma-nak-yik.

USES: Bark: Juice from macerated bark is applied onto snakebite for rapid healing, by the Guyana Patamona.

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Ref: 237.

Guatteria cf. procera Fries

NAMES: Surinam Akuriyo: uh-wi-mah. Surinam Tirio: wah-lu-mah. Surinam Wayana: wah-mi-nah.

USES: Stem: Rasped bark is rubbed on the skin by the Surinam Akuriyo in the belief that it helps to put on body weight.

NOTES: *Guatteria procera* is called "arara" by the Guyana Arawak and "black yariyarri" by other Guyanese (192).

Ref: 8.

Guatteria scandens Ducke

NAMES: FG Boni: ndulu-ndulu. Surinam: olyfrank. Surinam Carib: moerewa.

USES: Stem: The bark is the source of a tonic, aromatic infusion prepared by the French Guiana Boni.

CHEM: Various organs contain 17 alkaloids, including guattescine and guattescidine.

NOTES: A plant determined as *Guatteria cf. scandens*, known to the Surinam Tirio as "wah-neh-guh" and "uh-puh-pe-de", provides sap used as a wash to treat children's fever and adult "heart problems". Its bark and leaves are smoked for relief of stomachache (8).

Ref: 2,224.

Rollinia exsucca (DC. ex Dunal) A. DC.

NAMES: Guyana Akawaio: ekekewai. Guyana Arawak: koyechi. Guyana and Surinam Carib: emoshe. Guyana Creole: black maho. Guyana Macushi: shirik. Guyana Wapishana: iremda. Surinam: papajahoedoe. Surinam Arawak: kojjeti, kojjetsie, kojjetsje, koyechi. Surinam Carib: jamoselli, maipoeli jamoselli, omose, omoseran, tahoerewe. Surinam Saramaccan: baahu pau, kankan pau, kasaba pau. Surinam Sranan: boesi soensake. Surinam Tirio: kah-lo she-wuh. Guyana Patamona: pai-lau-uh-raie-yik.

USES: Bark: Bark is boiled, and the water drunk for treatment of cardiac disorders, by the Guyana Patamona. Bark used in treatment of fever and hemorrhage in NW Guyana. Stem: A cold water infusion of the bark is used by the Surinam Tirio for washing the abdomen of women giving birth, in order to relieve pain and facilitate delivery.

NOTES: In Guyana, certain species of *Rollinia* known as "koyechi" are used for treating coughs.

Ref: 8,9,192,224,237,245.

Unonopsis guatterioides (A. DC.) Fries

NAMES: FG Creole: mamayawe. Surinam: kaaiman-peper, watrapanta. Surinam Arawak: kwaranapoiballi. Surinam Carib: akale pomejde, moereweran.

USES: Bark: Used to treat snakebite in NW Guyana. Stem: The French Guiana Wayapi use a decoction of the scented bark in an external wash for a febrifuge.

CHEM: Contains polycarpol (10). Material from Trois Sauts, French Guiana has been phytochemically analyzed (240).

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Ref: 2,224,245.

Xylopia **aromatica** (Lam.) Martius (*Unona concolor* Willd.; *Xylopi*a *longifolia* A. DC.)

NAMES: French Guiana: maniguette. Surinam: pegrekoe, man pegrekoe. Surinam Arawak: arrokra. Surinam Carib: ammore, awejoen. Surinam Saramaccan: koenge.

USES: Stem and Seed: Shoots, stem-bark and seeds are tonic and aromatic.

CHEM: Material from Trois Sauts, French Guiana has been phytochemically analyzed (240).

Ref: 154,224.

Xylopia **cayennensis** Maas (*Xylopi*a *longifolia* (Sagot) R.E. Fries)

NAMES: Guyana: red koyama. Guyana Arawak: kuyama.

USES: Stem: Pounded bark used as a fish poison. Fruit: Infusion of the powdered fruit is used to remedy dysentery.

Ref: 3,192.

Xylopia **discreta** (L. fil.) Sprague & Hutch.

NAMES: Guyana Arawak: kuyama. Guyana Creole: poppy, saintia. Surinam: pegrekoe.

USES: Fruit: An infusion of the dry powdered fruit is employed as an antispasmodic in the treatment of dysentery.

Ref: 9,192,224.

Xylopia **frutescens** Aublet

NAMES: French Guiana: congueridou. FG Carib: alasa pegretoi. Guyana Arawak: kuyama. Guyana Creole: jejereku. Surinam: pedreku, pegrekoe.

USES: Stem: Branches are used in a preparation against catarrhal infections of the urinary mucous membranes. Branches are an ingredient in a decoction with *Alpinia galanga* for dental cavities.

Fruit: Spicy; an aphrodisiac. Used for dysentery and other stomach complaints. Mixed with coffee as an asthma remedy. Seed: Infusion for stomach cramps.

Ref: 9,154,192,193,195.

APIACEAE

Apium graveolens L.

NAME: Guyana: celery.

USES: Leaf: In Surinam, the petiole is used as a vegetable in a soup which acts on the urinary system.

Ref: 193.

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Eryngium foetidum L.

NAMES: FG Creole: azier la fievre, chardon beni, chardon benit, chardon etoile, chardon roland fetide, radie la fievre, radier fievre, raguet de la fievre. FG Galibi: akaksin. Guyana: fit-weed, nanna-a-run, stinking weed. Surinam: stink distel. Surinam Creole: snekiwiri, sneki wiwiri. Guyana Patamona: ka-ri-cha-ya-ni-yik.

USES: Whole plant: Plant is boiled and the water drunk as an anti-malarial, by the Guyana Patamona. Plant is boiled and the water used for an herbal bath or as a medication for chicken pox or for measles, by the Guyana Patamona. Used for treatment of hemorrhage in NW Guyana. Leaf: Infusion for chills, grippe, febrifuge, head colds, children's purgative; decoction of crushed leaves for children's leprosy and children's convulsions, and for a febrifuge bath; sometimes mixed with leaves of *Ayapana triplinervis* for the preceding uses (except leprosy and convulsions). Leaves are boiled and the water drunk as an anti-pyretic or as a medication for colds, by the Guyana Patamona. Leaves are used for flavoring food by the Guyana Patamona. They are used for coughs and colds, epilepsy, and for headaches in NW Guyana. Root: Infusion for a febrifuge, sudorific, hydropsy, stomach pain and abortifacient. Part unspecified: Used by Surinam Saramaccan Bush Negroes as an ingredient in a curative herbal bath taken for fright and convulsions. For a sudorific febrifuge in French Guiana.

CHEM: Leaf shows antimicrobial activity (12). Material from Saül, French Guiana has been phytochemically analyzed (240).

Ref: 2,3,4,7,14,149,154,168,190,193,195,237,245.

Foeniculum vulgare Mill.

NAMES: Guyana: fennel. Surinam: venkel. Surinam Sranan: fenkri.

USES: Stem and Leaf: Piece of branch is cooked with other ingredients and administered periodically to children to remedy vomiting. Leaf: Infusion for infant's stomachache. Seed: Ingested to dispel gas.

Ref: 195.

Pimpinella anisum L.

NAMES: Guyana: anise. French Guiana: anis.

USES: Whole plant: As a carminative and vermifuge in Cayenne, French Guiana, where it is an introduced plant. Flower: Flowers are boiled and the water is drunk for treating stomachache, by the Guyana Patamona. Seed: Dry seeds are boiled and the water is drunk for wing (gas) pain, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 154,173, 237.

APOCYNACEAE

Allamanda cathartica L. (*Orelia grandiflora* Aublet)

NAMES: FG Creole: orelie, alamanda, alamande. FG Wayapi: tasiyasiy. Guyana Creole: allamanda, buttercup, porcupine-batty, wild senna. Guyana Arawak: barudaballi, baruda-balli.

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Surinam: anoura, watramama-kasabatiki, welle kensie, werkens better, werkense, wilkensbita, wilkens bita. Surinam Arawak: baredaballi. Surinam Carib: joembo kerapole.

USES: Root and Flower: Infusion for jaundice and spleen conditions. Stem: Bark decoction for a febrifuge. Leaf and Flower: Decoction for anuria and dizziness, with *Bauhinia scala-simiae* to treat impotency. Flower: Antitussive. Leaf: Infusion for a cathartic, purgative, emetic and laxative. Used to treat biliousness, malaria and as laxative in NW Guyana. Root: Mixed with *Aristolochia macrota* in a malaria remedy. Stem: Latex from bark is purgative.

CHEM: An antineoplastic (antileukemic) iridoid lactone, named allamandine, is present (19). Flower contains allamandoside, a fungitoxic glycoside (3). Extract of plant is antibiotic against *Staphylococcus* (193). Root contains isoplumerin, an antifungal sesquiterpenoid (3). Plant also contains plumericin, isoplumericin, plumieride, flavoplumerin, isoplumerin, beta-sitosterol, allamandin, quercetin (3). The toxic iridoids plumericin and isoplumericin have been isolated from Surinam material of this species (242).

Ref: 2,3,9,14,154,168,192,193,195,230,245.

Ambelania acida Aublet (*Willughbeia acida* (Aublet) J.F. Gmelin)

NAMES: FG Creole: ambelani, ambelanier, graine-biche, graine biche, papaye biche, quienbiendent (qui tient bien aux dents). FG Wayapi: akusi walapulu. Guyana Arawak: makoriro. Surinam Arawak: makouro. FG Galibi: ambelani, paraveris. Surinam Sranan: batibati, mapa. Surinam Tirio: kah-mah-ke. Surinam Wayana: pah-tu-ah.

USES: Stem: Latex for cataracts of the eye and to accelerate healing of sores; latex from incised trunk ingested (licked) as a diarrhoea remedy; bark in a decoction for dysentery and diarrhoea. Fruit: Eaten as an antidiarrhoeic; jam made from skinned fruit is mild purgative for dysentery. Juice milky, used as a cicatrizant.

Ref: 2,7,8,9,149,154,192.

Aspidosperma album (Vahl) Benoist ex Pichon

NAMES: FG Boni: tyotiutiu. FG Creole: bois macaque, bois patagaie, flambeau rouge. FG Paramaka: kumati udu. Guyana Patamona: pah-gai-yik, peh-goui-yik.

USES: Bark: Bark is boiled, and the water drunk as an anti-pyretic or as an anti-malarial, by the Guyana Patamona. Juice from macerated inner bark is applied to affected area as a treatment for dermatosis, by the Guyana Patamona. Juice from macerated bark is used as an anti-fungal, by the Guyana Patamona. Stem: Decoction of bark is drunk for a febrifuge and antidiarrhoeic in French Guiana.

CHEM: Numerous alkaloids have been isolated.

Ref: 2, 237.

Aspidosperma cf. cruentum Woodson

USES: Stem: Bark used to treat malaria in NW Guyana.

Ref: 245.

Aspidosperma excelsum Bentham

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NAMES: Guyana Akawaio: porekai. Guyana Arawak and Warrau: yaruru. Guyana Carib: musara. Guyana Creole: paddlewood, yarula. Surinam: zwart parelhout. Guyana Patamona: po-le-ka-yik.

USES: Bark: Bark is boiled and the water drunk as an anti-malarial, by the Guyana Patamona. Juice from the bark is applied as a medicament for eye infections, by the Guyana Patamona. Bark is boiled with water and used for washing the skin as medicament for chicken pox, by the Guyana Patamona. Use to treat malaria in NW Guyana. Latex: White latex is absorbed on cotton wool and inserted into cavities as an analgesic for toothaches and pain, by the Guyana Patamona. White latex is mixed with water and inhaled as a medicament for migraine headaches, by the Guyana Patamona. Stem: Inner bark is used to treat toothache, and roasted for a warm application to sore eyes.

CHEM: Alkaloids of stem-bark show antimicrobial activity (10,12,152,170).

NOTES: This may be the plant known to the Surinam Tirio as "lah-pah-lah-pah", whose peeled inner bark is used as a compress to relieve eye pain (8).

Ref: 8,9,192, 237,245.

Aspidosperma marcgravianum Woodson

NAMES: Surinam: wit parelhout. Surinam Arawak: jaroro hariraroe. Surinam Carib: tamoena apoekojita. Surinam Creole: citronelle blanc, witi parioedoe. Surinam Sranan: weti pari-oedoe. Surinam Tirio: kwe-kwe weh-te.

USES: Bark: Used to treat malaria and headaches in NW Guyana. Stem: A cold water infusion is drunk to treat malaria and fatigue.

CHEM: Contains the antimicrobially active alkaloid aricine (29,169).

Ref: 8,245.

Aspidosperma oblongum A. DC.

NAME: Guyana Patamona: po-ray-gai-yik.

USES: Bark: Bark is boiled with water, and drunk as an anti-malarial, by the Guyana Patamona. Latex: Latex is mixed with a little water and used as an eye wash for cataracts, by the Guyana Patamona. Latex is mixed with a little water and used for eye infections, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Aspidosperma quebracho Schlecht.

NAME: French Guiana: quebraco.

USES: Whole plant: Astringent, tonic, antidysenteric.

NOTES: Plant introduced from Argentina to French Guiana.

Ref:154.

Aspidospermum ulei Markgr.

NAME: Guyana Patamona: chi-na-taik-yik.

USES: Bark: Bark is boiled and the water used as an anti-malarial, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

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Catharanthus roseus (L.) G. Don (*Lochnera rosea* (L.) Rechb.)

NAMES: French: pervenche de Madagascar. FG Creole: caca poule. Guyana: never-done, old maid, periwinkle. Surinam: jongemansliefde, jonkmans-liefde, soldatenbloem. Surinam Creole: kotomisi.

USES: Stem and Leaf: Leafy branches in remedy to cure inhibited menstruation. Leaf: Infusion or decoction used for hypertension, diabetes control, dropsy, cleansing the blood, and for a cholagogue and aperitif (appetite stimulant). Used to treat urinary tract ailments in NW Guyana. Flower: Infusion for mild diabetes.

CHEM: The alkaloids vincristine (leucocristine) and vinblastine (vincal leukoblastine) are used to treat children's leukemia and Hodgkin's disease. More than 70 other alkaloids have been isolated (3,166).

Ref. 2,3,4,173,193,195,234,245.

Condylocarpon guyanense Desf.

USES: Leaf: The French Guiana Wayapi soften leaves in a flame and rub them on the body for a febrifuge.

Ref. 2.

Couma guianensis Aublet

NAMES: French Guiana: bois vache, couma, mapa. FG Palikur: ukum. FG Wayapi: yuwa. Guyana Creole: wild star apple. Surinam Arawak: pera. Surinam Bush Negro: mappa. Surinam Carib: akoema, amaapa, amaparjan.

USES: Stem: Latex is resinous, a nourishing drink in French Guiana. Latex which flows from the incised trunk is ingested as a diarrhoea remedy. Latex is used locally by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana. Fruit: Beaten and eaten for the latex, which functions as an antidiarrhoeic.

Ref. 2,149,154,192,230, 238.

Forsteronia cf. **gracilis** (Bentham) Muell. Arg.

NAMES: Guyana and Surinam Arawak: makwariballi. Surinam Wayana: wi-ko.

USES: Whole plant: Latex applied to skin disease. Leaf: Cold water infusion of crushed leaves is used to treat children who have become sick from the extremely poisonous secretions of the toad *Bufo marinus* as a result of playing with the animal.

CHEM: Some species of *Forsteronia* contain the alkaloid forsteronin.

NOTES: A species of *Forsteronia* known to the Surinam Tirio as "uh-mah-po-pe-tu-ku" provides sap used as a wash to treat fevers (8).

Ref. 8,192.

Geissospermum argenteum Woodson

NAMES: FG Boni: bita udu. FG Creole: maria congo. FG Palikur: gungu, kongo ama. FG Wayana: wataki. Guyana and Surinam Arawak: manyokinaballi. Guyana Waiwai: uataki, vataki. Guyana Wapishana: marisoba. Surinam Akuriyo and Tirio: wah-tah-ge. Surinam Akuriyo and Wayana: ah-tak-e. Surinam Sranan: bergi-bit.

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USES: Stem: Bark maceration is antipaludic; bark and leaves in decoction for a children's vermifuge, antidiarrhoeic. Bark decoction for infections of glans penis, diabetes, fever, stomach worms, itches, chest pain, snakebite. Bark sometimes used as a non-essential ingredient in the curare (balaitu) made by the Guyana Waiwai. Leaf: Latex for eye pain.

CHEM: Contains aspidospermine, an antimicrobial alkaloid.

Ref: 2,8,32,192,194.

Geissospermum laevis (Vell.) Miers

NAMES: FG Boni: bita udu. FG Creole: maria congo. FG Palikur: kongo ama. FG Wayana: wataki.

USES: Stem: Bark macerated in rum or cognac is a reputed antipaludic (antimalarial), as well as used in a decoction for a children's vermifuge and an antidiarrhoeic. Decoction of bark for infections of glans penis, diabetes, fever, stomach worms, itches.

CHEM: Contains geissospermine, an indolic alkaloid which has hypotensive and cardiac depressant properties.

Ref: 2.

Geissospermum sericeum (Sagot) Bentham & Hooker

NAMES: French Guiana: Maria Congo. Guyana Arawak: manyokinaballi. Surinam: bitterhout, bos kinine. Surinam Carib: tjaritjanari. Surinam Bush Negro: le-le-ti bita, lele-tibita. Surinam Creole: bergibita, bergi bita, bergi-bitta.

USES: Stem: Bark decoction for infections of the penis and for a febrifuge; bark infusion for treating malaria or marsh fever. Bark is cooked in water and the liquid drunk as a pyretic; for stomachache, stomach cramps and other stomach problems.

CHEM: Contains the alkaloid geissospermine (29).

Ref: 4,8,9,192,193,195,230.

Himatanthus bracteatus (A. DC.) Woodson

NAMES: Guyana Patamona: e-pui-kuii-yik, e-bou-gouii-yik.

USES: Bark: Stripped bark is boiled and the water drunk as an antimalarial, by the Guyana Patamona. Bark is macerated and used as a bandage for sores, by the Guyana Patamona. Extract from the macerated inner bark is applied to cuts and wounds to stop bleeding, by the Guyana Patamona. Latex: White latex is used as an anti-fungal by the Guyana Patamona. Latex is applied to the skin to cure itching as an anti-pruritic, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Himatanthus fallax (Muell. Arg.) Plumel

CHEM: The toxic iridoids plumericin and isoplumericin have been isolated from Surinam material of this species (242).

Himatanthus spp.

Medicinal Plants of the Guianas (Guyana, Surinam, French Guiana)

NAME: Guyana Arawak: mabwa.

USES: Whole plant: Yields a medicinal oil known as "tiborna" from the latex; latex used as an anthelmintic and to treat liver diseases.

NOTES: Uses of various *Himatanthus* species in northwestern Amazonia are mentioned in Ref: 10.
Ref: 9,192.

Lacmellea aculeata (Ducke) Monach.

USES: Fruit: The crude latex is drunk by the French Guiana Wayapi as an antidiarrhoeic and febrifuge.

Ref: 2.

Lacmellea utilis (Arn.) Markgraf (*Tabernaemontana utilis* Arn.)

NAMES: French Guiana: arbre a lait de Demerara, hya-hya.

USES: Stem: Bark reportedly is a febrifuge. Latex is nutritive, probably febrifuge.

Ref: 154.

Macoubea guianensis Aublet

NAMES: FG Wayapi: ka iakani. Guyana Patamona: warapa. Surinam: grootbladige mapa, mapa.

Guyana and Surinam Arawak: rokoroko. Surinam Carib: roko-roko, sokko sokko, sokosoko.

Surinam Creole: macoube, mapa. Surinam Sranan: sokosokomapa. Surinam Tirio: i-pu-ku

USES: Whole plant: The Surinam Tirio apply the latex to scabs to promote healing. Fruit: Pulp is edible.

CHEM: Contains macoubeine, a curariform alkaloid (33,144).

Ref: 8,165,230.

Mandevilla cf. surinamensis (Pulle) Woodson

NAMES: Surinam Tirio: tah-wi-mah. Surinam Wayana: ku-de-shah.

USES: Whole plant: Crushed in a decoction used as a wash for treating swollen tumors of the breast. Fruit: Cut fruit may be applied to swollen areas of breast.

Ref: 8.

Mesechites trifida (Jacquin) Muell. Arg. (*Echites trifida* Jacq.)

USES: Leaf: The French Guiana Wayapi soften the leaves by flame and rub them on the body for a febrifuge.

NOTES: The Makuna people of Colombia use the latex to cauterize recalcitrant wounds (10).

Ref: 2.

Nerium oleander L.

NAME: Surinam Sranan: oliana.

USES: Leaf: Decoction employed against parasitic skin worms, in both humans and animals.

Ref: 195.

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Odontadenia macrantha (Roem. & Schult.) Markgraf

USES: Stem: Latex is reputedly a skin irritant. Latex is used by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana. Flower: Nectaries at base of ovary considered fortifying by the French Guiana Wayapi.
Ref: 2, 238.

Odontadenia nitida (Vahl) Muell. Arg.

USES: Leaf: The French Guiana Wayapi soften the leaves in flame and rub them on the body for a febrifuge.
Ref: 2.

Odontadenia puncticulosa (A. Rich.) Pulle (*Odontadenia cururu* (Martius) K. Schum.)

USES: Leaf: The French Guiana Wayapi soften the leaves in flame and rub them on the body for a febrifuge.
Ref: 2.

Odontadenia sandwithiana (Muell. Arg.) Woodson

USES: Leaf: Used to treat pain.
Ref: 245.

Pacouria guianensis Aublet (*Landolphia guianensis* (Aublet) Pulle)

NAMES: FG Creole: liane-caoutchouc. FG Wayapi: uwakasi.
USES: Stem: Raw latex applied as a resolutive on furuncles by the French Guiana Wayapi.
Ref: 2.

Parahancornia fasciculata (Poiret) Benoist ex Pichon (*Parahancornia amapa* (Huber) Ducke)

NAMES: FG Creole: mapa. FG Palikur: amap. FG Saramaka: dokali. FG Wayapi: amapa. Guyana Arawak: ducali, dukali. Surinam: mampa. Surinam Arawak: dokalli. Surinam Carib: amaapa. Surinam Saramaccan: mappa.
USES: Whole plant: Bitter latex is used for treating ulcerous sores. Stem: Latex is used by the French Guiana Palikur for treating skin conditions; latex used in commercial preparations for internal ulcers. Latex contains caoutchouc and is reputedly a specific for yaws.
Ref: 2,9,190,192,230.

Plumeria alba L.

NAMES: French Guiana: bois-de-lait, frangipanier, frangipanier blanche.
USES: Root: Bark is purgative, thirst-causing, depurative; for blennorrhagia. Bark extract for herpes; used internally for syphilis and externally as a lotion on syphilitic ulcers. Administered as powder macerated in sugar-water, wine or beer. Stem: Latex is caustic, for treating ulcers, dartre

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(skin diseases) and scabies. Flower: Bitter, caustic. In French Guiana the flowers are an ingredient in a complex pectoral syrup for chest coughs and grippe. Seed: For dysentery (bloody flux).
Ref. 2,4,154,168.

Plumeria rubra L.

NAMES: French Guiana: frangipanier, frangipanier rose, frangipanier rouge. Surinam: fransjipani.
USES: Root: Bark is drastic, often used for the same diseases as root-bark of *Plumeria alba*. Stem: Latex for toothache pain. Bark used for cuts and abscesses on the sole of the foot. Flower: Ingredient in a complex pectoral syrup used in French Guiana to treat grippe; bechic, aromatic.
CHEM: Latex contains plumieride, a purgative iridoid.
Ref. 2,154,168,195.

Rhabdadenia biflora (Jacq.) Muell. Arg.

NAMES: FG Creole: liane mangle, liane-mangle, liane paletuvier.
USES: Stem and Leaf: Used with *Avicennia germinans* and *Nicotiana tabacum* to remedy the sting of a stingray; latex formerly used as a vomitive and purgative. Leaf: As a topical dressing on ulcers; purgative.
Ref. 2,154.

Tabernaemontana albiflora (Miq.) Pulle (*Bonafousia albiflora* (Miq.) Boit. & Allorge; *Echites albiflora* Jacq.)

USES: Stem: Grated in a plaster for headache; mixed with bark of *Erythrina fusca* and used in a tampon for cavities in aching teeth. Leaf: In a decoction, with bark of *Bonafousia tetrastachya*, for an antirheumatic; macerated in rum for application to swollen feet.
CHEM: Alkaloids present in stem-bark include ibophyllidine, coronaridine, albifloranine, pandoline and vincadifformine (165).
Ref. 2,165,192.

Tabernaemontana angulata Martius ex Muell. Arg. (*Bonafousia angulata* (Martius ex Muell. Arg.) Boit. & Allorge)

NAMES: FG Palikur: abuki, impukiu. FG Wayapi: yapoucouliwa, yapukuliwa.
USES: Stem: Bark is macerated for the latex, which is employed as an hallucinogen by French Guiana Wayapi and Palikur shamans.
Ref. 2,165.

Tabernaemontana disticha A. DC. (*Bonafousia disticha* (A. DC.) Boit. & Allorge)

USES: Root and Stem-bark: Decoction is used as remedy for pain in the joints. Stem: Bark used as a febrifuge in 19th century French Guiana. In NW Guyana, bark used to treat scorpion bites and exudate used for sore eyes. Leaf: To treat cataracts in the eyes of domestic dogs.
CHEM: Ibophyllidine alkaloids are present in the stem-bark. This species has yielded desethyl-ibophyllidine and a stereoisomer of 19-hydroxyibophyllidine (35).

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Ref: 2,34,165,245.

Tabernaemontana divaricata (L.) R. Br. ex Roem. & Schult. (*Ervatamia coronaria* (Jacq.) Stapf; *Tabernaemontana coronaria* (Jacq.) Willd.)

NAMES: French Guiana: jastrale. Surinam: jasmijn. Surinam Malayan: kembang mantega.

USES: Leaf: Infusion for grippe.

Ref: 4,165.

Tabernaemontana macrocalyx Muell. Arg. (*Bonafousia macrocalyx* (Muell. Arg.) Boit. & Allorge)

NAMES: FG Palikur: impukiu. FG Wayapi: aikalata.

USES: Stem: Bark is macerated for the latex, which is employed as an hallucinogen by French Guiana Palikur shamans. Bark of stem and roots is decocted into a wash to treat abscesses and erysipelas, and applied locally to the infected sores.

CHEM: Alkaloids in the stem-bark include coronaridine, heyneanine, voacangine and voacangarine (30).

Ref: 2,165.

Tabernaemontana siphilitica (L.fil.) Leeuwenberg (*Bonafousia siphilitica* (L. fil.) Allorge; *Bonafousia tetrastachya* (Kunth) Markgraf; *Echites siphilitica* L. fil.; *Tabernaemontana tetrastachya* Kunth)

NAMES: French Guiana: buisson de la Guyane. FG Creole: radie capiaie. FG Palikur: saigl. Surinam Sranan: kapoewatiki, kapoewa-tiki. Surinam Tirio: pi-em-pah-hah.

USES: Stem and Leaf: Decoction is antisyphilitic. Stem: Bark is made into a decoction, with leaves of *Bonafousia undulata*, for treatment of rheumatism by the French Guiana Palikur and Boni. Leaf: Infusion used to treat malaria in Surinam. The Surinam Tirio use a leaf decoction as a wash to treat children who are believed sick because their father has hunted tapir.

CHEM: Plant contains alkaloids of the corynane, ibogane and aspidospermane types (165).

Ref: 2,8,154,165,192,195.

Tabernaemontana undulata Vahl (*Bonafousia undulata* (Vahl) A. DC.; *Anartia meyeri* (Meyer ex G. Don) Miers)

NAMES: FG Boni: boi oudou, boussouki tiki, busuki tiki, meliki tiki. FG Creole: bois de lait. Guyana: buri. Surinam: battie battie, beri manbati bati, manbati bati, wagoie ston. Surinam Paramaccan: kaoue mapa, piki nmapa. Surinam Tirio: pi a-mu. Guyana Creole: dogwood.

USES: Whole plant: Latex used for removing "mosquito worms" from body, and placed on cotton plug for toothache. Exudate used to treat munuri ant (*Pariponera clavata*) bite and sore eyes in NW Guyana. Root: Used to treat headaches in NW Guyana. Stem: Grated bark used in a plaster for headache, and as a resolvent for small abscesses; latex extracted from the trunk is placed on absorbent cotton as a tampon for painful dental cavities. Leaf: Macerated for an eyewash to remedy conjunctivitis. Macerated in rum for swollen feet. Petiole-latex applied to penis for gonorrhoea by

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the Surinam Tirio. Part unspecified: Used to soothe bites, and for skin irritations and snakebite wounds, by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

CHEM: Alkaloids in stem-bark include conopharyngine, jollyanine, voacangine, isovoacangine, ibophyllidine, coronaridine and heyneanine. Leaf contains the alkaloids angustine, pleiocarpamine, tubotaiwine, hydroxycoronaridine and hydroxyheyneanine (26,29,165).

Ref: 2,8,9,34,165,192, 238, 245.

Thevetia ahouai DC.

NAMES: French Guiana: ahouai des Antilles, ahouai du Bresil, bagage a collier, noix ahouai, noix de serpent.

USES: Fruit: As a purgative for rheumatism and dropsy; alexiteric; on wounds; fruit mixed with stem-bark for a febrifuge.

Ref: 154.

Thevetia peruviana (Pers.) K. Schum.

NAMES: Surinam: jorojoro, jurri jurri. Guyana Patamona: khey-wa-ye-yik.

USES: Bark: Juice from macerated bark is used for treating sores, by the Guyana Patamona. Fruit: Very small quantities used in ointments and liniments by the Surinam Bush Negroes. Plant is poisonous.

Ref: 195,230, 237.

ARACEAE

Acorus calamus L.

NAMES: Surinam: kalmoes. Surinam Javan: dlingo.

USES: Rootstock: Used by the Surinam Javan as a remedy for grippe (stomach pain) and dysentery.

Ref: 14,164,173.

Anthurium clavigerum Poeppig & Endl.

NAME: Surinam Tirio: pah-ke-rah pah-nah.

USES: Leaf: Sap from the petiole is applied to an aching tooth to relieve the pain.

Ref: 8.

Anthurium gracile (Rudge) Lindley

NAMES: Surinam Akuriyo: kru-ku-ne-muh. Surinam Wayana: lah-she-mah.

USES: Whole plant: Escaping steam from crushed and boiled plant is used as a vapor bath for Surinam Wayana children who have been crying and are unable to sleep. Leaf: Crushed in a decoction for a wash to treat skin rashes by the Surinam Akuriyo.

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Ref: 8.

Anthurium scandens (Aublet) Engler (*Anthurium trinerve* Miq.)

NAMES: Surinam Tirio: uh-mah-det. Surinam Wayana: ah-lu-ah.

USES: Whole plant: Crushed plant in a decoction is applied for headache. Leaf: Decoction of crushed leaves is drunk as a treatment for dizziness.

Ref: 8.

Caladium bicolor (Aiton) Vent.

NAMES: French: palette de peintre. FG Creole: chou crayove, sou crayove, tayore. FG Palikur: masas. FG Wayapi: taya. Surinam: dasini, tayer, wilde tayer, wilde tajer. Surinam Javan: kimpoel. Surinam Sranan: jabafoetoe, jabafoetoetaja, jappa foetoe.

USES: Tuber: Powdered tuber employed to treat facial skin blemishes by the French Guiana Palikur. Root: Used for botfly larvae in NW Guyana. Leaf: All parts of the leaf are macerated in fresh water for an external bath to remedy numerous maladies of French Guiana Wayapi children. Crushed leaves are used in veterinary medicine to destroy vermin on sores of cattle.

Ref: 2,154,164,173,195,222,245.

Caladium cf. tricolor Vent.

NAME: French Guiana: palette de peintre.

USES: Tuber: Cooked under ashes and the juice used against "turpeta" larvae. Leaf: Infusion of fresh leaf for treating angina; dried leaf is powdered and the powder used to treat infected sores.

Ref: 4.

Colocasia esculenta (L.) Schott

NAMES: Guyana: eddoe. Surinam Javan: tales. Surinam Malayan: keladi.

USES: Whole plant: Grated and mixed with coconut oil and soft grease for an ointment to relieve skin ulcers and acute dermatitis. Grated in poultice with soap and soft grease to treat pre-softened abscesses. Makes nutritive soup ingested to increase milk supply of nursing women.

Ref: 3,164.

Dieffenbachia cf. humilis Poepp.

USES: Stem: Exudate used for botfly larvae in NW Guyana.

Ref: 245.

Dieffenbachia seguine (Jacq.) Schott

NAMES: French Guiana: canne-feu. FG Creole: canne-cochon, canne-seguine, donkin. FG Wayapi: pulupululi. FG Palikur: irup. Surinam: donke.

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USES: Whole plant: Juice is caustic and vesicant, sometimes used as an ingredient in curare made by French Guiana Amerindians. Stem: Used to treat the ulcers of leishmaniasis. Juice causes skin blisters.

CHEM: Plant contains calcium oxalate crystals, cyanogenic glycosides and saponins.

Ref: 2,154,164,173,195.

***Dracontium asperum* Koch**

NAMES: Surinam Sranan: sneki kotti, sneki-kotti, sneki taja, sneki-taja, sneki tajer, sneki taya, snektaja. Surinam Tirio: e-ru ku-ku.

USES: Whole plant: Used in herbal baths in Surinam. Leaf: Boiled in a decoction applied to snakebite. Employed for convulsions in Surinam.

Ref: 8,164,193,195,222.

***Dracontium dubium* (Kunth) Engler**

USES: Whole plant: Used in Guyana as an antidote to snakebite, spider bite, stingray wounds and poison arrows. Root and Leaf: Juice from root and petiole applied to snakebite.

Ref: 7,18,164.

***Dracontium polyphyllum* L.**

NAMES: FG Boni: kinotata taya. FG Creole: baton-parapluie, halbois, radie-serpent, rale-bois, serpentere.

USES: Tuber: In a cataplasm with rum for stings of stingray and snakebite. Shredded for treatment of the human skin parasite *Dermatobia hominis*, a botfly.

Ref: 2.

***Monstera adansonii* Schott**

USES: Stem: The sap produces a burning sensation and is occasionally used to treat necrotic ulcers by the French Guiana Wayapi.

NOTES: The Siona Indians of Ecuador rub a decoction of the crushed and boiled plant onto boils (10).

Ref: 2.

***Monstera adansonii* (Schott) Madison var. *klotzschiana* (Schott) Madison**

USES: Stem: Shoot used to treat scorpion and snakebites in NW Guyana. Leaf: Used for abscesses and pain in NW Guyana.

Ref: 245.

***Monstera obliqua* Miquel**

NAMES: FG Creole: seguine, siguine.

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USES: Leaf: The French Guiana Palikur mix the crushed leaves in rum, alone or combined with the crushed leaves of *Psidium guajava*, and make a plaster which produces a cicatrising action in treating leishmaniasis.

Ref: 2.

Montrichardia arborescens (L.) Schott (*Caladium arborescens* (L.) Vent.)

NAMES: FG Creole: coumarou, moucou-moucou, moucou moucou. FG Palikur: tiniwiwi. FG Wayapi: mukumuku. Guyana: moco-moco, moka-moka, moku-moku, muccomucco. Guyana: mucka-mucka. Surinam Creole: moko-moko, moucomouco. Surinam Sranan: mokomoko, moko-moko, watraman. Surinam Tirio: kru-ku-ne.

USES: Sap: Used to treat coughs and colds in NW Guyana. Stem: For diabetes, tuberculosis, thrush, colds; ingredient in a rub used as a protection from electric fish (*Electrophorus electricus*) discharges; juice for remedying sting of stingray, warts. In Guyana the young, sap-filled, leafless shoots are roasted and applied to scorpion stings. Sap is possibly used for pulmonary phthisis and as an aphrodisiac in French Guiana. Used to treat stingray bites, and for wounds and cuts in NW Guyana. Stem and Leaf: In Surinam, the finely ground tops of plants are stuffed into the nostrils to stop nosebleed. Leaf: For eyelid inflammation; sap is hemostatic, used to enlarge the penis; hypertension, rheumatism. Leaf is placed on vesicles to promote discharge. Astringent; tied over sore eyes by Guyana Amerindians. In Guyana, the boiled leaves are used in baths for remedying skin conditions. Used in treatment of diabetes and tuberculosis in NW Guyana.

CHEM: Components of stem and leaf include steroidal saponins.

Ref: 2,3,4,7,8,9,154,190,195,222,234,245.

Montrichardia linifera (Arr.) Schott

NAME: Surinam: moko moko.

USES: Stem: In Surinam, chopped pieces of stem are cooked with *Strychnos melinoniana* to make an aphrodisiac.

Ref: 193.

Philodendron acutatum Schott

NAMES: Surinam: mokko-mokko-tete. Surinam Arawak: dolobona. Surinam Carib: asitjupe.

Ref: 222.

Philodendron aff. acutatum Schott

NAME: Surinam Tirio: wuh-kah-nah.

USES: Whole plant: The Surinam Tirio apply the exudate to wounds caused by botfly larvae and poisoned arrows.

Ref: 8.

Philodendron cf. brevipathum Schott

USES: Stem: Shoot used to treat scorpion bite in NW Guyana.

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Ref: 245.

Philodendron deflexum Poepp. Ex Schott

USES: Root: Used for treat munuri ant (*Pariponera clavata*) bites in NW Guyana.

Ref: 245.

Philodendron fragrantissimum (Hooker) Kunth

NAMES: Guyana: bucuruna, sarsaparilla. Surinam Tirio: neh-da-bah-nah. Surinam Wayana: tah-kin-nah-de.

USES: Root: Ingredient in liquid aphrodisiac and tea. Stem and Leaf: Decoction for febrifuge, demulcent, diuretic. Used as aphrodisiac in NW Guyana. Leaf: For reducing the pain and inflammation of rheumatism; heated and rubbed on edematous areas.

Ref: 3,8,245.

Philodendron goeldii Barroso

NAME: Surinam Tirio: wuh-kah-nah.

USES: Stem: Among the Surinam Tirio, water from the cut liana is dripped onto wounds caused by poisoned arrows.

Ref: 8.

Philodendron grandifolium (Jacq.) Schott

NAMES: Surinam: taja tetee, taya tete.

USES: Aerial Root: A segment is cooked in water, which is then used for inflammations of the mouth.

Ref: 193.

Philodendron hylaeae Bunting

NAME: Surinam Tirio: pah-ke-rah pah-nah.

USES: Root: Grated and placed into bite-wound of botfly worm to kill larva. Leaf: Piece of leaf is placed into dental cavity to relieve toothache.

Ref: 8.

Philodendron linnaei Kunth

NAMES: Surinam Tirio: kure-ah-de-ah-tah-pu-lu, shen-tu-e-muh. Surinam Wayana: ku-nu-lo-yah-tah.

USES: Whole plant: Decoction to heal splinters, and as a wash for malaria and shortness of breath. Exudate: Used for skin fungi in NW Guyana. Root: Broken and rubbed into wound caused by botfly worm. Leaf: Used to treat swelling in NW Guyana.

Ref: 8,245.

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Philodendron melinonii Brongn. ex Regel

NAME: Surinam Tirio of Kwamala: wih-kaw.

USES: Stem: Sap from the cut stem is used as an admixture ingredient in the curare made by the Surinam Tirio of Kwamala, said to be particularly effective in killing the spider monkey.

Ref. 194.

Philodendron pedatum (Hooker) Kunth

NAME: Surinam Wayana: kam-hi-da. Guyana Patamona: chim-o-ruk-ku-yik.

USES: Whole plant: To treat snakebite in Guyana; among the Surinam Wayana the sap is dripped onto a piece of cotton which is put into the cavity of an aching tooth to relieve pain. Sap from this plant causes the skin to itch, is irritant (Guyana Patamona). Leaf: Used for back pain in NW Guyana.

Ref. 8,16,237,245.

Philodendron riedelianum Schott

USES: Leaf: The French Guiana Wayapi squeeze the leaves for the sap, which is a revulsive (counterirritant) used on swellings.

Ref. 2.

Philodendron rudgeanum Schott

NAME: Surinam Tirio: ah-lah-wah-tah wah-ku.

USES: Leaf: The French Guiana Wayapi squeeze the leaves for the sap, which is a revulsive (counterirritant) used on swellings. Surinam Wayana and Tirio drink an infusion of crushed leaves to expel stomach worms (probably *Ascaris*).

Ref. 2,8.

Philodendron scandens Koch & Sello

NAME: Surinam Tirio: wah-kah-ni-muh.

USES: Leaf: Among the Surinam Tirio, the leaves are boiled and the decoction poured onto wounds caused by botfly worm. Used to treat munuri ant (*Pariponera clavata*) bite, snakebite, sore eyes, sores, and wounds and cuts in NW Guyana.

Ref. 8,245.

Philodendron cf. solimoesense A.C. Smith

NAME: Surinam Tirio: wuh-kah-nah.

USES: Whole plant: Among the Surinam Tirio, the leaves are boiled and the decoction poured onto wounds caused by botfly worm.

Ref. 8.

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Philodendron cf. tessmannii Krause

NAMES: Surinam Tirio: shah-rah-ri-muh. Surinam Wayana: shah-pe-ah.

USES: Whole plant: The Surinam Tirio drink a decoction as a treatment for gonorrhoea. Leaf: The Surinam Wayana drink an infusion of crushed leaves to prevent or reduce vomiting.

NOTE: *Philodendron tessmannii* Krause (a synonym of the Peruvian *Philodendron guttiferum* Krause), is not known to occur in the Guianas. The specimen upon which the Surinam information is based evidently resembles this plant to some extent.

Ref. 8.

Philodendron sp.

NAME: Surinam Tirio of Tepoe: sipari taja.

USES: Leaf: As a substitute for the leaf of *Ocotea guianensis*, which is an ingredient in the curare (called "kah-mah-ne") made by the Surinam Tirio of Tepoe.

Ref. 194.

Philodendron spp.

NAME: Surinam: sarsaparilla.

USES: Aerial Root: Infusion in vermouth is drunk to treat syphilis, rheumatism and skin diseases.

Ref. 195.

Rhodospatha latifolia Poeppig

USES: Stem: The sap produces a burning sensation and is occasionally used by the French Guiana Wayapi to treat necrotic ulcers.

Ref. 2.

Schismatoglottis spruceana (Schott) Bunting

NAMES: Surinam Tirio: shah-lah-li-muh. Surinam Wayana: pah-lu-lu-muh-le.

USES: Whole plant: The Surinam Tirio use a decoction as a wash for treating epilepsy, and drink a decoction when a person can neither urinate nor defecate.

Ref. 8.

Syngonium podophyllum Schott

NAMES: Surinam Tirio: pah-ke-rah pah-nah. Surinam Wayana: kam-hi-det.

USES: Whole plant: The Surinam Wayana swab the sap into the cavity of an aching tooth to relieve pain. Leaf: Decoction of crushed and boiled leaf is employed by the Surinam Tirio for a wash to treat stomachache.

NOTES: The Siona people of northwestern Amazonia apply sap from the broken stem as a remedy for the bite of *Paraponera* ants (10).

Ref. 8.

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***Urospatha sagittifolia* (Rudge) Schott**

NAMES: FG Boni: kinotata taya. FG Creole: baton-parapluie, halbois, radie-serpent, rale-bois, serpentere. Surinam: pampan kraroen. Surinam Carib: masalajang.

USES: Tuber: In French Guiana the tuber is used in a cataplasm with rum for snakebite and wounds of stingray. Tuber is shredded for use in treatment of the human skin parasite *Dermatobia hominis*, a botfly.

Ref: 2,222.

ARALIACEAE

***Schefflera decaphylla* (Seemann) Harms (*Schefflera paraensis* Huber ex Ducke)**

NAMES: Guyana Arawak: karohoro. Guyana Creole: matchwood. Surinam Saramaccan: tobitoetoe.

USES: Stem: Fresh inner bark used to treat abscesses.

Ref: 9,192.

***Schefflera morototoni* (Aublet) Maguire, Steyermark & Frodin**

NAMES: FG Creole: bois la Saint-Jean, Saint-Jean (corruption of "ginseng" by transposed sounds). Guyana: matchwood. Guyana Akawaio: pornai. Guyana and Surinam Arawak: karohoro. Guyana Macushi: puna. Guyana Wapishana: pi. Surinam: cassavehout, lucifershout. Surinam Arawak: karahoro. Guyana and Surinam Carib and Surinam Sranan: morototo. Surinam Creole: kasaba-oedoe. Surinam Paramaccan: tobi-toetoe. Surinam Saramaccan: kobe. Surinam Tirio: mah-ra-mah-ra. Surinam Tirio and Wayana: mah-lah-mah-lah.

USES: Bark: Bark used to treat scorpion bite, sores, and wounds and cuts in NW Guyana. Stem: Sap of inner bark for treating abscesses; boiled bark for relief of itching skin; Surinam Tirio use cold water infusion of bark for malaria; inner bark and leaves prepared in a decoction for malaria and other fevers by the Surinam Tirio. Root: Some French Guianans attribute to the root the same beneficial properties as Chinese ginseng (*Panax ginseng*).

CHEM: Chemical tests confirm that the root contains the same active saponins as Chinese ginseng (*Panax ginseng*), and some French Guianans believe *S. morototoni* to have the same therapeutic, stimulant properties as Chinese ginseng (2).

NOTES: The Peruvian Witoto steep wood-chips of this plant in oil of *Jessenia bataua* and use the oil to relieve pain in the vertebral column (10).

Ref: 2,3,8,9,154,192,245.

ARECACEAE

***Areca catechu* L.**

NAME: French Guiana: arec.

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USES: Fruit: Nut is an astringent masticatory. Powdered fruit recommended as a dysentery cure.
Seed: Used as a vermifuge in French Guiana.
Ref: 154.

***Astrocaryum gynacanthum* Mart.**

USES: Leaf: Used to disinfect the umbilical cord of newborn babies, and as a remedy for thrush in NW Guyana.
Ref: 245.

***Astrocaryum murumura* Martius**

USES: Fruit: In Surinam a paste is prepared which is used to treat sprains and fractures.
NOTES: The fruit utilized for paste may actually be that of *Astrocaryum sciophilum* (Miquel) Pulle (36).
Ref: 37.

***Astrocaryum sciophilum* (Miq.) Pulle**

NAME: Surinam: boegroemaka.
USES: Seed: Contains an oil used by the Surinam Bush Negroes to treat various wounds and fractures.
Ref: 195.

***Astrocaryum vulgare* Martius**

NAMES: FG and Guyana Arawak: aouara, arouara, awara. FG Wayapi: awala. FG Palikur: wahatri. Guyana Carib: murumuru. Surinam Arawak, Carib and Creole and FG Creole: awara, awarra.
USES: Root: In a decoction to remedy furunculosis and syphilis. Seed: Oil used for rheumatism pain, laxative, and earache, and in a preparation for furuncles; also swabbed onto aching feet and rubbed on feverish person to assist perspiration. Fruit: Pericarp pulp is used to calm colicky babies in French Guiana. Mesocarp to treat coughs and as a breath freshener.
CHEM: Material from Montjoly, French Guiana has been phytochemically analyzed (240).
Ref: 2,36,37,154,192,195,220, 240.

***Bactris gasipaes* H.B.K. (*Guilielma gasipaes* (H.B.K.) Bailey)**

NAMES: Surinam: amana, paripoe. Surinam Carib: paripe.
USES: Part unspecified: Used by Surinam Bush Negroes as an ingredient in a curative herbal bath.
Ref: 193,220.

***Bactris oligoclada* Burret**

NAMES: Guyana Akawaio: amonai. Guyana Arawak: kidalebanaro. Guyana Macushi: muna. Guyana Wapishana: perit.

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USES: Stem: Palm cabbage at apex of stem is made into a decoction for bronchitis.

Ref: 9,192.

Cocos nucifera L.

NAMES: French Guiana: cocotier, noix de coco. FG Creole and Palikur: koko. Guyana: coconut, narial. Surinam: cocos-olie, klapper, kokospalm. Surinam Hindu: narijar. Surinam Javan: klapa. Surinam Malayan: kelapa. Surinam Sranan: kronto, kronto-oli.

USES: Root: Boiled with *Ruellia tuberosa* root for bladder ailments and as an aphrodisiac. Used for hemorrhage in NW Guyana. Stem: Palm heart poultice for ulcers. Fruit: Used in treatment of hypertension in NW Guyana. Seed: Used as oil for skin in NW Guyana. Fruit and Seed: Grated coconut meat yields oil which is rubbed on babies for soft skin, also to promote hair growth and soothe furuncles. Water in fruit is drunk to clean the kidneys. Coconut fibers made into a tea for regulating blood pressure. Seed oil used as a febrifuge, laxative, and to treat grippe. Juice is drunk with molasses and sour orange to treat colds. Oil is drunk plain or mixed with salt for gout, rheumatism, coughs and colds. Part unspecified: Used for treating typhoid and earache, by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

CHEM: Ripe coconut contains water, lipids, cellulose, vitamin C, riboflavin and niacin.

NOTES: The Tikuna of Colombia scorch and boil pieces of leaf-bases from the trunk of the tree and drink the liquid to prevent an impending miscarriage (10).

Ref: 2,3,4,155,190,193,195, 238,245.

Desmoncus polyacanthos Martius

NAME: Guyana Patamona: kam-o-wah.

USES: Root: Roots are boiled and the water used for washing the skin as an anti-pruritic, by the Guyana Patamona. Roots are boiled and the water used as an anti-pyretic, for herbal baths, or for treating chicken pox and measles, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Desmoncus cf. polyacanthos Martius

NAMES: Surinam Arawak: kamoali. Surinam Carib: asitaremoe. Surinam Sranan: bambamaka. Surinam Tirio: yah-mal-e-muh. Surinam Wayana: pierieh.

USES: Leaf: The Surinam Tirio burn the leaves and rub the ashes over the body as a treatment for fevers, as well as employ the burned leaves for a rub to treat abdominal pains.

Ref: 8,220.

Euterpe oleracea Martius

NAMES: FG Creole: ouasseye, pino, pinot, wassaye. FG Palikur: was. Guyana Carib: wasi. Guyana Creole: manicole. Guyana Macushi: wasiye. Surinam: palissadepalm, pina, pinapalm. Guyana and Surinam Arawak: manaka. Surinam Bush Negro: prasara. Surinam Carib: wasei. Surinam Sranan: pina, prasara, swampoe-prasara. Surinam Tirio and Wayana: wah-pu, wapoe.

USES: Stem: Cold water infusion of wood used as an external wash by Surinam Tirio women for a contraceptive; sap applied to cuts as haemostatic. Heart is dried, pulverised and used in a plaster to

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cicatrizate open cuts; liquid extracted from warm palm-heart is patted on an open wound. Overeating of heart or pith causes diarrhoea. Sap: Used to treat hemorrhage, scorpion bites, and in the treatment of wounds and cuts. Leaf: Decoction for fever. Seedling: Infusion of whole seedling used to treat shot wounds from hunting. Stem: The palm cabbage is roasted and applied to soothe the pain of scorpion stings; juice from roasted palm cabbage should be drunk simultaneously. Fruit: Used in a savory, violet-colored beverage drunk as a refreshant.

CHEM: Phenols occur in the heart of palm (10).

Ref: 2,4,8,9,37,154,190,192,220,245.

Euterpe precatoria Martius

NAME: Guyana Patamona: wa-si-yik.

USES: Root: Roots are boiled, and the water drunk as an antimalarial, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Euterpe cf. precatoria Martius (*Euterpe stenophylla* Trail ex Burret)

NAMES: Guyana Arawak: reho. Guyana Carib: wabu. Guyana Wapishana: wab. Guyana Warrau: winamoro. Surinam: baboen pina, monki-monki pina. Surinam Tirio: wapoeiema.

USES: Root: Decoction of roots is mixed with roots of *Manicaria saccifera* and leaves of bamboo as a remedy for bronchitis.

Ref: 9,192,220.

Jessenia bataua (Martius) Burret

NAME: Guyana Patamona: qua-ru-ma-yik.

USES: Fruit: Fruits are soaked in warm water to soften, the seed coat is removed, and the remainder is macerated in cold water, strained, and drunk or used as a tonic, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Manicaria saccifera Gaertner

NAMES: French Guiana: toulouri, turury. FG Creole: toulouri. FG Wayapi: tuluri. Guyana Creole: thatch palm, wine palm. Guyana Warrau: yahui. Guyana and Surinam Carib: timiti, troolie, truli, turuli. Guyana and Surinam Arawak: timiti. Surinam Bush Negro: troeli. Surinam Carib: toeroeli, toeroli.

USES: Root: Mixed with bamboo leaves and a decoction of *Euterpe precatoria* roots to treat asthma and coughs. Fruit: Water from young, green fruits is employed as a diuretic, and remedy for coughs, asthma and thrush. Used to treat diarrhea in NW Guyana.

Ref: 2,9,37,220, 245.

Mauritia flexuosa L.f.

NAMES: French Guiana: palmier bache, pibache. Guyana Akawaio: ekwai. Guyana Carib: morichi. Guyana Creole: eta palm, ita, ite palm, mope, toddy palm. Guyana Macushi: waiye. Guyana Wapishana: iwir. Guyana Warrau: ohid. Surinam: maurisie, mauritiepalm, morisi. Guyana

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and Surinam Arawak: ite. Surinam Bush Negro: maurisie. Surinam Carib: morisi, toeri-siri. Surinam Creole: morisi. Surinam Tirio and Wayana: koj.

USES: Stem: A pap prepared from the pith is used to treat dysentery and diarrhoea in Guyana. A sweet alcoholic drink called "ite" is prepared from the sap. Fruit: Made into a cheese-like paste sometimes eaten for remedying bowel problems, or to allay hunger when desperate. Part unspecified: Used for treating dysentery, by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

Ref: 7,9,37,190,192,220, 238.

Maximiliana maripa (Correa) Drude (*Attalea maripa* (Correa) Martius; *Attalea regia* (Martius) Wessels Boer; *Maximiliana regia* Martius)

NAMES: French Guiana and Surinam Carib: maripa. Surinam Arawak: koeroeliti. Surinam Tirio: mariba.

USES: Seed: Oil rubbed on rheumatic areas.

Ref: 154,220.

Oenocarpus bacaba Martius

NAMES: FG Creole: comou. FG Palikur: woki. Surinam Arawak: lo. Surinam Carib and Tirio: koemoe. Surinam Sranan: koemboe. Surinam Carib, Tirio and Wayana: ku-mu.

USES: Stem: Heart or terminal bud is dried, pulverized and used in a plaster to cicatrize open wounds. The Surinam Tirio crush the white fibers, and squeeze the expressed sap onto cuts caused by a knife or machete to reduce flow of blood and quicken healing. Fruit: Emulsion of the pulp is ingested for a refreshant in Cayenne, French Guiana. Seed: Nourishing.

Ref: 2,8,154,220.

Oenocarpus sp.

NAME: Guyana Patamona: kung-yik.

USES: Root: Roots are boiled, and the water drunk as an antipyretic, by the Guyana Patamona. Fruit: Fruits are soaked in hot water, peeled, then ground and made into a drink or tonic, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Socratea exorrhiza (Martius) H. Wendl. (*Iriarteia exorrhiza* Martius)

NAMES: FG Creole: awara monpe. FG Palikur: pup. Guyana Akawaio: kapaichan. Guyana Arawak: boba. Guyana Carib: pasayu. Guyana Macushi: kapichian. Guyana Warrau: moanari. Surinam Arawak: boeba. Surinam Carib: pasiwoe. Surinam Sranan: ingi-pina, ingi-prasara. Surinam Tirio: pe-u-rah, pe-u-rat, pioelah, puh-puh. Surinam Wayana: pehpeh.

USES: Stem: In a plaster to cicatrize umbilical cord of newborn infants. Leaf: The Surinam Tirio boil the leaf in a decoction to wash the penis for treating gonorrhoea. Fruit: Smoke from burned fruit is used for remedying gonorrhoea and urinary disease. Seed: Same use as the leaf.

Ref: 2,8,192,220.

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Syagrus inajai (Spruce) Beccari

NAMES: FG Creole: feuille chasseur. FG Palikur: krip. Surinam Tirio: peh-peh.

USES: Stem: Pneumatophores of adult trees are broken into small pieces and made into a cold decoction by the French Guiana Palikur, who ingest it for measles since the preparation refreshes the skin and reduces itching for the duration of the illness.

Ref: 2,220.

ARISTOLOCHIACEAE

Aristolochia daemoninoxius Masters

NAMES: Guyana Akawaio: pausima. Guyana Arawak: boyari.

USES: Whole plant: Antispasmodic; used for tuberculosis, bronchitis, severe coughs, bowel problems, dyspepsia and indigestion. Stem: Used as abortive, contraceptive; and for female sterility, fever and stomachache in NW Guyana. Leaf: Decocted with other plants for sweating out a fever; decoction for a female oral contraceptive and abortifacient.

CHEM: Juniper camphor, a sesquiterpene lactone, has been isolated from this species, and delay of oestrus in female mice can be caused by chemicals in the plant (3).

Ref: 3,9,192,245.

Aristolochia hians Willd.

NAMES: Guyana Patamona: kai-pay-yik, pau-zu-ma-yik.

USES: Whole plant: Plant is boiled and the water drunk as an antipyretic or as a treatment for colds, by the Guyana Patamona. Stem and Leaf: Macerated leaves and stems are boiled and used for herbal baths by the Guyana Patamona. Leaf: Leaves are boiled and the water drunk as an anti-diarrheal or as an antipyretic, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Aristolochia lepriurii Duch.

NAMES: FG Creole: liane amere. FG Palikur: bukuti.

USES: Stem: The French Guiana Wayapi macerate the stem, and sometimes the stem-bark, for use in an antidiarrhoeic decoction.

Ref: 2.

Aristolochia cf. lepriurii Duch.

USES: Stem: Maceration of the stem-bark in water is drunk to remedy diarrhea and colic in French Guiana.

CHEM: Material from French Guiana has been phytochemically analyzed (240).

Ref: 240.

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Aristolochia staheli O.C. Schmidt

NAMES: FG Creole: liane amere. FG Palikur: bukuti.

USES: Stem: Used in a preparation for a febrifuge and antidiabetic; chilled decoction for an emetic and to treat malarial fever.

CHEM: Stem-bark contains aristolochic acid.

Ref: 2.

Aristolochia surinamensis Willd.

NAMES: Surinam: loango-tete, loango tete, loangotite.

USES: Whole plant: Decoction is drunk by expectant mothers for easier childbirth. Decoction, or sometimes an infusion with vermouth or gin, is drunk for stomachache or malaria. Used as a febrifuge by women and children. Stem: Piece of liana is boiled in water, which is drunk for painful uterus, painful pregnancy and stomachache; sudorific.

Ref: 16,193,195.

Aristolochia trilobata L.

NAMES: FG Creole: feuille trefle, liane trefle, trefle. Surinam: loango tete.

USES: Whole plant: Emmenagogue. Stem: Used for poisonous snakebite. In a preparation to remedy malaria along with *Xylopi frutescens*, *Aloe vera*, nutmeg and sour orange. For pain in various parts of the body, including anus; to ease pregnancy. Leaf: Crushed leaves applied as an alexiteric on insect bites and snakebite; infusion for hepatic problems and as an antimalarial.

Ref: 2,3,14,193.

Aristolochia sp.

NAMES: Guyana: boe-ari, bush rope bowrialli.

USES: Stem: Scraped in an infusion for indigestion; for making bitters. Shredded and smoked in a cigarette to treat coughs and asthma.

Ref: 190.

Aristolochia spp.

NAME: Guyana Waiwai: mametala.

USES: Whole plant: Boiled and used as a fever wash by the Guyana Waiwai.

Ref: 8.

ASCLEPIADACEAE

Asclepias curassavica L.

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NAMES: FG Creole: bouquet-soda, bouquet soldat, cadrio, codio, crodio, ipeca negre, ipeca sauvage, soldat. Guyana: agya-pani, blood-plant, ipecacuanha, piti-quana, pitikwanha, red-head plant, silkweed, wild ipecacuanha. Surinam: koningsbloempje. Surinam Sranan: kownoebromki.

USES: Whole plant: Juice for ringworm, sores, rashes, dermatitis. Root: Decoction for dysentery, febrifuge, eyewash for infected eyes; aerial parts of plant sometimes used for same purpose. Root yields a bitter emetic which has more purgative strength than ipecacuanha. Milky juice of root is vomitive; an astringent decoction is injected to treat leucorrhoea; drop of latex in decayed tooth relieves pain. Leaf: In Guyana, a paste made of the crushed leaves, salt, vegetable oil and bread is used for treating skin ulcers.

CHEM: Root contains cardenolides with aglycones such as asclepogenine and curassavogenine (38). Latex contains cardenolides and esterified triterpenes. Extracts stimulate the central nervous system (3). Also contains quercetin, caffeic acid, sterols, flavonoids, carbohydrates, fatty acids and acidic mucilage (3,15). Plant contains beta-sitosterol, which is antihypercholesterolemic (reduces cholesterol), anti-prostatic, and estrogenic.

Ref. 2,3,7,15,154,168,190,195,234.

Calotropis gigantea (L.) Aiton

NAMES: Guyana: madar-flower, waraio-balli. Surinam Hindustani: moedar. Surinam Javan: bidari, widoeri.

USES: Whole plant: Milky sap is used to stop bleeding, and for treating boils, scabies, burns, bruises, cuts, sores and wounds. Sap mixed with salt is taken orally as an emetic for severe colds.

Leaf: Infusion for severe chest colds and heart conditions. Leaf yields a milky sap applied on boils, itches and wounds.

CHEM: Milky sap (latex) yields several triterpenes, cysteine proteinases and galactin (3).

Ref. 3,173,195.

Sarcostemma clausum (Jacq.) Roemer & Schultes (*Sarcostemma brownei* G. Meyer)

USES: Stem: Latex is a violent emetic, used in French Guiana immediately after the accidental ingestion of a toxic substance.

Ref. 154.

ASPLENIACEAE

Asplenium serratum L.

NAMES: Surinam Tirio: sih-wah-nah-pah-nah ah-lo-ge. Surinam Wayana: u-mah-muh.

USES: Whole plant: Decoction of crushed plant is used by the Surinam Tirio for treating skin rash.

Leaf: Decoction of leaves is drunk by the Surinam Wayana as an appetite stimulant.

Ref. 8.

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ASTERACEAE

Acmella oleracea (L.) R.K. Jansen (*Spilanthes oleracea* L.)

NAME: French Guiana: cresson-para.

USES: Leaf: Eaten as a salad to induce salivation.

Ref: 164.

Ageratum conyzoides L.

NAMES: FG Creole: azier francois, ponclit, radie francois, raguet-francois. Surinam: bokkekruid, bokki boontje, wetie ete, weti hede, wit ede. Surinam Sranan: bokobokowiwiri, boko boko wiwiri, boko-boko-wiwiri. Surinam Javan: wedoesan.

USES: Whole plant: Infusion for treating sore throats, colic, atony of the digestive tract, and as a tonic. Root: Infusion used for reducing a high temperature. Leaf: Mucilaginous leaves are mashed and the juice used to calm a sore throat and for colds; concentrated decoction for chiggers; infusion is diuretic and antidiarrhoeic; emollient. Leaves are put in water and the liquid is drunk for body itches, the so-called "faja skin" or "fafa skieng", in Suriname. Infusion for chest conditions.

CHEM: Leaf contains a volatile oil rich in phenolic esters of coumarin (193).

Ref: 2,4,154,168,193,195,219.

Ayapana triplinervis (Vahl) King & Robinson (*Eupatorium ayapana* Vent.; *Eupatorium triplinerve* Vahl)

NAMES: FG Creole: aiapana, ayapana, diapana, the de l'Amazone. Surinam Creole: sekrepatoewiwiri, sekrepatoe-wiwiri, sekrepatoe wiri, sekrepatu wiwiri.

USES: Whole plant: Decoction is antivomitive, drunk by French Guiana Palikur to relieve the nausea of malaria. Leaf: Infusion is febrifuge, sudorific, digestive; for colds, grippe; strong dose is vomitive, weak dose is laxative; alexiteric; cataplasm for cephalalgia. Infusion is drunk to treat high blood pressure in Surinam, where a decoction of the leaves is used for remedying chronic diarrhoea. Leaves are used to treat oral sores, but the leaf-juice should not be ingested.

CHEM: Plant contains ayapanin (7-methoxycoumarin). Leaf-oil contains the methyl ester of thymohydroquinone.

Ref: 2,14,154,168,193,195.

Baccharis varians Gardner

USES: Whole plant: Plant is used for smoking as an insect repellent, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Bidens cynapiifolia Kunth

NAMES: FG Creole: herb aiguille, persil diable, zerb zaiguille. FG Palikur: aniiakigl. FG Wayapi: tasiyasiy. Guyana: Spanish needle. Surinam Tirio: weh-dah-ka-lu ah-tuh-pe-lu. Surinam Wayana: uh-pe. Guyana Patamona: wa-ra-ma-tang-yik, kam-bu-duk-yik.

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USES: Whole plant: Rubbed with salt and applied to headache; infusion is antidiarrhoeic and contra-indicated for pregnant women; hypotensive; for fevers, eyewash, diabetes and "fluttering heart". Plant is boiled, and the water drunk as an analgesic, antimalarial, or antipyretic, by the Guyana Patamona. Used for diabetes, thrush and ground itch in NW Guyana. Sap: Used for irritated eyes in NW Guyana. Leaf: Juice is antiseptic, for cicatrizing wounds. Juice from macerated leaves is used as an eye drop for treating infections of the eyes, by the Guyana Patamona.

CHEM: Leaf has antimicrobial activity on Gram-positive bacteria and yeast (6).

Ref. 2,3,8, 237,245.

***Bidens pilosa* L.**

NAMES: French Guiana: herbe a aiguilles. Guyana: bur-marigold, Spanish needle. Surinam Creole: jampanesi-toriman, weerde kooisie wiwirie.

USES: Whole plant: Infusion used to treat diabetes, thrush, the esophagus and stomachache. Leaf: Sap for treating sores, and as an eyewash for itching and tired eyes.

CHEM: A weak esophageal carcinogen is present (3).

Ref. 3,4,219.

***Brickellia grandiflora* Nutt.**

NAME: French Guiana: zerbachat.

USES: Leaf: Heated in a poultice with castor oil to lower body temperature.

Ref. 4.

***Chromolaena odorata* (L.) King & Robinson (*Eupatorium odoratum* L.)**

NAMES: FG Creole: radie maringouin. FG Palikur: katumat. FG Wayapi: panakawa. Guyana: Christmas flower. Surinam Carib: maoewelang.

USES: Stem: Among French Guiana Palikur, when the need arises for an emollient to use while extracting splinters, the stems and branches of this plant are crushed and combined with the wood-pulp of *Cecropia obtusa* and a seed of *Theobroma cacao*, kneaded in *Carapa* oil, and locally applied in a plaster. Leaf: In Guyana, used in a tea for cleansing the blood.

CHEM: Seed contains alkaloids. Leaf contains cerylic alcohol, sisterol, isosakuranetine and odoratine. Oil contains sesquiterpenic acid, eupatol and anisic acid. Whole plant contains triterpenic alcohols (5,13,31).

Ref. 2,219,234.

***Clibadium surinamense* L. (*Clibadium asperum* (Aublet) DC.)**

NAMES: Guyana: cure-for-all, kunami. French Guiana: conami. FG Creole: counami batard, topa blanc. FG Galibi: coutoubou. FG Palikur: tupa kamwi. Surinam: koorsoe wiwirie, oeman koenami, watra wiwirie. Surinam Arawak: konali. Surinam Carib: kanami ran (bastard conami), koenami.

USES: Whole plant: Boiled with *Lippia alba* and *Wedelia trilobata* in a beverage used to treat head colds and chest colds. Used as a fish poison by the French Guiana Galibi. Stem: Decoction of bark used for washing sores and cuts. Leaf: Crushed leaves are placed on festering sores to clean them. Used to treat snakebite in NW Guyana.

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CHEM: The leaves possess antibiotic properties (3).

NOTES: This plant is often cultivated for its fish-poison properties (219).

Ref: 3,20,149,154,195,219,245.

Clibadium sylvestre (Aublet) Baillon

NAMES: FG Creole: conami, counami, topa noir. FG Palikur: imayumetni, tupa. Surinam Carib: koenami, koenamie. Surinam Tirio: ku-nah-ne. Surinam Wayapi: kunami. Guyana Arawak: cunami.

USES: Leaf: The Surinam Tirio use a decoction of boiled leaves as a wash to relieve cramps. Part unspecified: Used as a fish poison by the Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

NOTES: This plant is cultivated for use as a fish-poison by the Surinam Carib (219), and the latex is also used for the same purpose by French Guianan Amerindians (154).

Ref: 8,154,219, 238.

Cyathillium cinereum (L.) Robinson (*Vernonia cinerea* (L.) Lessing)

NAMES: French: vingt-quatre heures. FG Creole: radie albumine. Guyana: blue fleabane, inflammation bush, strongman bush, tropical fleabane, women information bush. Surinam: doifie wiwirie. Surinam Arawak: khalaose token.

USES: Stem and Leaf: Decoction for diuretic, kidney disorders, swellings, inflammation, lower abdominal pains and menstrual pains; also to expel the placenta and as an abortifacient. It is considered a more potent abortifacient and better treatment for menstrual pains when *C. cinereum* is decocted with *Justicia secunda*. Leaf: Boiled with *Stachytarpheta jamaicensis* for treating albuminuria; sprains. In Guyana, leaves are used in a tea for cleansing the blood.

CHEM: Plant contains triterpenes and sterols; oil contains vernolic acid (25). Various extracts of the plant are antiviral, anticancer and diuretic (3).

Ref: 2,3,4,219,234.

Eclipta prostrata (L.) L. (*Eclipta alba* (L.) Hassk.; *Eclipta erecta* L.)

NAMES: FG Creole: langue poule. Guyana: bangraia, congo-lanna, congo lana. Surinam Arawak: koejoemoeroe koesje. Surinam Carib and Creole: laosa wiri, loeisawiwiri, losowiwiri, loso wiri, loso wiwiri, loso-wiwiri, loso-wiwirie, louisa wiri, louisa wiwiri, louisa wiwirie, luwisa wiwiri, rosa wiri.

USES: Whole plant: For cuts, bruises and sores in order to stop bleeding and relieve pain. Stem and Leaf: Anemia, dysentery. Aerial portions of plant reputedly effective in a beverage to remedy albuminuria. Leaf: Ground and rubbed on the head of infants for convulsions, and to make pigmented skin blotches on infants disappear. For fevers, cuts, sores, skin diseases, eye diseases, asthma, bronchitis, liver problems; in baths for pimples and rashes; extract for diarrhoea and weak bladder. Decoction for cancer. Leaf-juice for thrush, and for treating leprosy spots. Juice of crushed leaves in a decoction used to wash the scalp for preventing hair loss. In Guyana, the leaves are crushed in water, then placed in linen and the juice squeezed into the ear to relieve a bad cold; the patient's head is then moved back and the liquid is poured down the nostril. Flower: Conjunctivitis.

CHEM: This plant has shown moderate activity against a variety of animal cancers (3). Extracts have been used to treat carbon tetrachloride-induced liver damage (3). Contains isoflavonoids including wedelolactone and desmethylwedelolactone glucoside (21).

Medicinal Plants of the Guianas (Guyana, Surinam, French Guiana)

Ref: 2,3,190,193,195,219.

Elephantopus mollis H.B.K. (*Elephantopus pilosus* Philipson)

NAMES: Guyana: elephant foot, ground-itch bush.

USES: Leaf: Used as a tonic or a diaphoretic, or macerated between the hands and the juice then applied externally to relieve itching, especially due to athlete's foot.

CHEM: Contains the sesquiterpene lactone, deoxyelephantopin, which is an anti-tumor chemical. Extracts of the whole plant significantly inhibit the Walker-256 carcinosarcoma in rats (3).

Ref: 3.

Elephantopus scaber L.

NAME: FG Creole: langue de boeuf.

USES: Whole plant: Decoction applied on mycoses (fungal diseases).

CHEM: Plant contains deoxyelephantopine, an antitumoral sesquiterpene lactone (22).

Ref: 2.

Eleutheranthera ruderalis (Sw.) Sch.-Bip.

NAMES: Guyana: porter-bush, twelve o'clock.

USES: Whole plant: Decoction is drunk with stout or ale to enhance milk production by lactating and nursing mothers; for high blood pressure.

Ref: 3.

Emilia sonchifolia (L.) DC. ex Wight

NAMES: FG Creole: salade Madame Hector, taba taba. Surinam Arawak: siki siki dan kaboeji dikoro, wetede.

USES: Whole plant: The French Guiana Wayapi use a decoction for a febrifuge. Leaf: Hypoglycemic when combined with *Justicia secunda*.

CHEM: Plant contains ursolic acid, kaempferol galactoside, quercitrine, rutoside, and senecionine pyrrolizidine alkaloids (23,24).

Ref: 2,219.

Erechtites hieracifolia (L.) Raf. ex DC.

NAMES: Surinam: leta wiwirie. Surinam Tirio: mah-de-slang. Surinam Wayana: kam-law.

USES: Whole plant: For a steam bath, the Surinam Tirio place a feverish patient in a hammock erected over a fire in which the crushed plant is burning. Decoction of boiled plant used by the Surinam Wayana as a wash for sores on the legs. Leaf: Used to treat sores in NW Guyana.

CHEM: Contains the alkaloids senecionine and seneciphylline (33).

Ref: 8,219,245.

Fleischmannia microstemon (Cassini) King & Robinson (*Eupatorium microstemon* Cassini)

Medicinal Plants of the Guianas (Guyana, Surinam, French Guiana)

NAME: Surinam Tirio: ma-ra-mah-ra-pon-po.

USES: Leaf: The Surinam Tirio use a cold water infusion of crushed leaves for fever, a decoction of boiled leaves as a wash for headache, and the leaves soaked in water to prepare a wash for treating skin rash.

Ref: 8.

Hebeclinium macrophyllum (L.) DC. (*Eupatorium macrophyllum* L.)

NAMES: FG Creole: harbe a chat, zerba chat.

USES: Whole Plant: Used to treat asthma, bronchitis, for coughs and colds, pneumonia, tuberculosis and whooping cough in NW Guyana. Leaf: To soothe infant fevers, leaves are used in a liniment component of a cataplasm which is rubbed on the body; also used in the same way for wounds.

Ref: 2,245.

Ichthyothere terminalis (Spreng.) Blake

NAME: French Guiana: japana.

USES: Leaf: An infusion is used to treat fever, pleurisy, and to lower temperature.

Ref: 4.

Lactuca quercina L.

NAME: French Guiana: salade Madame Hector.

USES: Leaf: Bechic. Infusion for bronchitis, pneumonia and chest disease.

NOTES: Plant introduced from southern Europe to French Guiana.

Ref: 154,158.

Lepidaploa remotiflora (L.C. Rich.) H. Robinson (*Vernonia remotiflora* L.C. Rich.)

NAME: Guyana: man information bush.

USES: Whole plant: In Guyana, often boiled with *Unxia camphorata*, *Momordica charantia* and *Irlbachia alata*, or mixed with various barks, to yield a tea for remedying male impotence. Stem and Leaf: The French Guiana Wayapi make a febrifuge decoction of this plant mixed with *Hyptis lanceolata* and *Lantana camara*.

Ref: 2,234.

Mikania congesta DC.

NAMES: FG Creole: baume celeste. FG Wayapi: yamaka kunami. Surinam Arawak: koeroebakkele balli. Surinam Carib: wotamba tera.

USES: Leaf: In French Guiana, the leaves are softened by fire for a tonic and aperitive, to which red wine is sometimes added; decoction for a febrifuge bath; in a saline decoction for a cholagogue.

Ref: 2,219.

Medicinal Plants of the Guianas (Guyana, Surinam, French Guiana)

Mikania cordifolia (L. fil.) Willd.

NAMES: FG Creole: baume celeste. FG Wayapi: yamaka kunami. Surinam: brokobaka, broko baka.

USES: Whole plant: In Surinam, placed in water and used to treat measles. Stem and Leaf: Decoction for smallpox in Surinam. Leaf: In French Guiana, a decoction is used for skin rash and scabies; other uses are the same as given for *Mikania congesta*.

Ref: 2,14,193,219.

Mikania guaco Humb. & Bonpl.

NAMES: FG Creole: guaco, radie grage, radie serpent, zerb grage. FG Wayana: lewe epit, yamaka hunami. Guyana: errawarang, errawareng.

USES: Whole plant: Ingredient in a decoction for syphilis. Leaf: Mixed in rum in a decoction applied to snakebite and wound of stingray; softened in a flame and applied on itching area of cutaneous eruptions by the French Guiana Boni. Excellent tonic; for a stimulant tea. French Guiana Amerindians use the alexiteric leaf-juice as an excellent antidote to snakebite.

Ref: 2,7,154,168.

Mikania hookeriana DC.

NAME: Guyana Creole: bitter tally.

USES: *Part unspecified*: Used as an antimalarial, for snakebite, or an antisymphilitic, and for treating skin ulcers and indigestion, by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

Ref: 238.

Mikania micrantha Kunth (*Mikania scandens* sensu auct., non (L.) Willd.)

NAMES: FG Creole: baume celeste. FG Wayapi: yamaka kunami. Guyana: bitter tally, bitter-tally. Surinam: brokobaka. Guyana Patamona: wha-cau-yik, wa-cow-yik.

USES: Whole plant: Tea for stomachache and to clean out the uterus (dilation and curettage). Boiled with other plants for tonic to reduce malarial fever. Stem and Leaf: Decoction for a children's clyster. Used to treat malaria and eczema om NW Guyana. Leaf: Juice for external ulcers and itch. Infusion for snakebite and syphilis; bowels; cholagogue. Leaf in liquid mixture for children's anal thrush, and placed in hot water bath for women after confinement for pregnancy. Decoction for a febrifuge bath; in a diuretic tea. Infusion used for washing rashes, skin eruptions and smallpox in Surinam. Leaves are boiled, and the water drunk as an anti-menorrhagic, by the Guyana Patamona. Leaves are boiled, and the water used for washing the skin as a treatment for chicken pox or for measles, by the Guyana Patamona. Juice from macerated leaves is applied to persistent sores and "bush-yaws", by the Guyana Patamona. Macerated leaves are vigorously rubbed on skin as a treatment for rashes, by the Guyana Patamona.

NOTES: This is possibly the species known to the Surinam Tirio as "tah-da-pu-lu" and to the Surinam Wayana as "ku-nah-ne-mah" (8). Synonymy follows Holmes, W.C. 1989. *Mikania*, pp. 575-582, in Howard, R.A., *Flora of the Lesser Antilles*, Vol. 6.

Ref: 2,3,4,9,190,195,234, 237,245.

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Mikania parviflora (Aublet) Karsten (*Eupatorium parviflorum* Aublet)

NAME: French Guiana: guaco.

USES: Leaf: Excellent tonic; for a stimulant tea. French Guiana Amerindians regard the leaf-juice as an excellent antidote to snakebite. Juice is alexiteric.

Ref: 154.

Mikania psilostachya DC.

USES: Stem and Leaf: Stems and leaves are boiled, and the water drunk for purifying the blood, by the Guyana Patamona. Leaf: Leaves are boiled, and the water drunk as an antipyretic, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Parthenium hysterophorus L.

NAME: French Guiana: absinthe indigene.

USES: Leaf: In French Guiana, leaves are macerated in tafia to make a liqueur used as an absinthe substitute.

Ref: 168.

Pectis elongata Kunth

NAMES: FG Creole: citronelle, citronelle Martinique.

USES: Leaf: Decoction as a substitute for true citronelle (*Cymbopogon citratus*) in remedying symptoms of fever, stomachache and grippe.

Ref: 2.

Pluchea carolinensis (Jacq.) G. Don

NAMES: FG Creole: guerit-tout, tabac du diable.

USES: Leaf: In a soothing decoction for cough, colds, fever and grippe.

CHEM: Aerial organs contain the terpenes campesterol and amyryne acetate.

Ref: 2.

Rolandra fruticosa (L.) Kuntze

NAMES: FG Creole: radie commandeur, tete de negre, tete negre. FG Palikur: atiuwiateu. Surinam: bokokosoe.

USES: Whole plant: Decoction for a febrifuge wash. Stem and Leaf: Aerial parts in a hypotensive infusion to diminish heart palpitations. Leaf: Mixed in rum for an alexiteric on wounds; poultice of crushed leaves with salt used for rheumatism and sprains.

Ref: 2,4,219.

Sparganophorus sparganophora (L.) C. Jeffrey (*Sparganophorum vaillantii* Crantz; *Struchium sparganophorum* (L.) Baker)

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NAMES: Guyana: ant's bush. Surinam Carib: yalati. Surinam Creole: kromantiwiwiri, kromanti wiwiri, kromanti-wiwiri, kromanti wiwirie.

USES: Whole plant: Juice rubbed on cuts and ulcers; boiled as a tea for colds, wheezing, asthma and backache. Leaf: To treat children's convulsions; juice administered orally or rectally for thrush. Ref: 3,14,193,195,219,234.

Sphagneticola trilobata (L.) Pruski (*Wedelia trilobata* (L.) Hitch.)

NAMES: Guyana: creeping daisy, creeping wild daisy, daisy, yellow creeping daisy.

USES: Whole plant: In Guyana, a strong decoction is employed to treat severe chest colds; in a tea, or in a syrup with *Lantana camara*, for colds. Leaf: In a cough and cold remedy which includes boiled leaves of *Commelina nudiflora* or *Hibiscus sabdariffa* and sometimes *Citrus aurantiifolia*.

CHEM: Contains acetylenes and derivatives of kaurenic acid (27).

Ref: 3,234.

Synedrella nodiflora (L.) Gaertner

NAMES: FG Creole: radie pisser, razie pisser. Surinam: bana wetie ede. Surinam Arawak: wolifeballi. Surinam Carib: koenamirang.

USES: Leaf: Decoction used in French Guiana as an effective diuretic.

Ref: 2,219.

Tilesia baccata (L.) Pruski (*Wulffia baccata* (L.) Kuntze)

NAMES: FG Creole: bouton d'or, manger lapin, zerb careme. FG Palikur: bareskut. FG Wayapi: kunamisili. Surinam: faja adjansa, soekioe kasa. Surinam Carib: kamalalai, kamasbalai, soebroedjarsa. Surinam Saramaccan: agban nekoe, agban neku.

USES: Leaf: In an antidiabetic decoction; as a febrifuge and refresher. Flower: Infusion for grippe. Part unspecified: Used by the Surinam Saramaccan Bush Negroes as an ingredient in herbal baths to remedy skin spots and blotches.

Ref: 2,193,219.

Unxia camphorata L. fil. (*Melampodium camphorata* (L. fil.) Baker)

NAMES: FG Creole: radie camphre. Guyana: camphor bush, haiwa-balli grass, sand bitters. Surinam: kampfbladeren. Surinam Arawak: ajawabolli. Surinam Carib: damoestoelalali.

USES: Whole plant: In Guyana, a decoction of whole plant or of leaves is drunk as a blood purifier. Decoction for colds and drunk as a bitter tonic in Guyana. Leaf: In French Guiana, leaves are macerated in alcohol and rubbed on the chest to alleviate bronchitis.

Ref: 2,3,219,234.

BALANOPHORACEAE

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Helosis cayennensis (Swartz) Spreng.

NAMES: Surinam Arawak: kamarassana. Surinam Carib: yoloka-alikoi. Surinam Sranan: didribi warung. Surinam Tirio: uh-koi puh-tuh-puh.

USES: Whole plant: Among the Surinam Tirio, smoke from burning plant is wafted over an arm or leg wounded by snakebite.

NOTES: The pulverized plant or its juice is used as a styptic by Brazilian and Colombian Indians (10).

Ref. 8.

BALSAMINACEAE

Impatiens balsamina L.

NAME: Surinam: balsemien.

USES: Leaf: In Surinam, the crushed leaves are added with salt to castor oil and packed around a finger affected by whitlow; the whitlow disappears in a short time. Also used to heal torn nails (fingernail, toenail).

Ref. 195.

BASELLACEAE

Anredera leptostachys (Moq.) Steenis

NAME: FG Creole: glycerine.

USES: Leaf: Liquid from ground leaves is used as an external wash to make skin and hair supple, due to a viscous substance. Leaf is eaten for the viscous substance which refreshes and remedies inflammations of the intestines.

Ref. 2.

BEGONIACEAE

Begonia glabra Aublet

NAMES: FG Creole: loseille-bois, salade tortue, salade toti.

USES: Leaf: For intestinal infections and stomach inflammations. The French Guiana Wayapi use the leaves to combat parasitic ankylostome larvae embedded interdigitally (between the toes) in children, by rubbing the infected area with *Capsicum frutescens*, and then using a hot foot-bath of *Begonia glabra* leaves in a decoction with *Citrus aurantiifolia* and *Ocimum micranthum*.

CHEM: Contains lipophilic flavonoids.

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NOTES: The Mayna Jivaro of Peru apply crushed leaves to the gums to alleviate teething pain in children (10).

Ref: 2.

BIGNONIACEAE

***Arrabidaea candicans* (Rich.) DC.**

NAMES: FG Wayapi: kalayulu. Surinam Carib: moussi.

USES: Stem: In French Guiana, a bark decoction is used as an external wash to treat fever and headache. Sap from cut stem used to medicate burns.

Ref: 2,218.

***Arrabidaea chica* (Humb. & Bonpl.) Verl.**

NAMES: FG Creole: calajourou. FG Galibi: krawiru. FG Palikur: karajura.

USES: Stem and Leaf: Decoction is drunk three times daily (morning, noon and night) in order to reduce tension.

Ref: 2.

***Arrabidaea oligantha* Bureau & Schumann**

USES: Stem and Leaf: The French Guiana Wayapi mix the bark and leaves in a decoction for the pain of sore knees.

Ref: 2.

***Arrabidaea patellifera* (Schlecht.) Sandwith**

NAME: Surinam Tirio: ah-de-me-ni-muh.

USES: Leaf: A leaf-tea is used as a decoction for treating sprains, rheumatism, muscular pains and contusions.

Ref: 8.

***Callichlamys latifolia* (Rich.) Schumann**

USES: Stem: Bark is grated into a decoction, or freshly grated bark is used alone, and placed on the ulcers of leishmaniasis; considered the best remedy for leishmaniasis by the French Guiana Wayapi.

Ref: 2.

***Crescentia cujete* L.**

NAMES: FG Creole: calebassier (tree), coui (fruit). FG Palikur: tumauwi. FG Wayapi: kwi. Guyana: calabash, gooby. Surinam: kalebas, kalebasboom. Surinam Arawak: iwida. Surinam Bush Negro: godo, koei. Surinam Carib: kwai. Surinam Creole: krabasi, krabasié.

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USES: Whole plant: Diuretic, used against hydropsy and diarrhoea. Leaf: Infusion for a cholagogue and purgative; infusion is vomitive if too concentrated. Boiled with sugar, soft grease or Buckley's white rub, and sugar in a syrup for colds. Juice of young leaves is drunk to remedy colds and lung diseases in Surinam. Leaf used to cleanse dirty wounds. Used for "evil spirits" in NW Guyana. Fruit: Juice for diarrhoea, pneumonia and intestinal irregularity; as a tea for abortion. Fruit-pulp for abortion, and in a mix to relieve severe menstrual pains by eliminating blood clots; emetic. Pulp for a purgative, vomitive and vermifuge. Syrup for consumption. Used as abortive and to ease birth in NW Guyana.

CHEM: Ripe fruit-pulp contains crescentic, tartaric, citric, tannic, chlorogenic and hydrocyanic acids, and may cause abortion in cattle. Seed-oil contains oleic acid. Stem-bark and leaf show antimicrobial activity (4,12,39,40).

NOTES: In Peru, the leaf is chewed to treat toothache (10).

Ref: 2,3,4,154,168,190,193,195,218,245.

Cydista aequinoctialis (L.) Miers

NAMES: FG Creole: liane panier. Surinam: oepretete. Surinam Arawak: hajaliballi diamaroe. Surinam Carib: japepoekoe, sjimio.

USES: Stem and Leaf: The French Guiana Wayapi use the stem-bark and leaves in a decoction for the pain of sore knees.

Ref: 2,218.

Jacaranda copaia (Aublet) D. Don (*Bignonia copaia* Aublet)

NAMES: FG Creole: bois-pian, coupaya, faux simarouba, onguent pian. FG Galibi: copaia. FG Palikur: padah. Guyana Akawaio: aku, pasai. Guyana and Surinam Arawak: futui. Guyana Carib: copaia. Guyana Creole: phootee. Guyana Macushi: pasa. Surinam Arawak: foete-i. Surinam Carib: koepaia, kopaja, njamoese. Surinam Creole: bois-pian. Surinam Sranan: goebai, goebaja. Surinam Saramaccan: jaiifi. Surinam Tirio: mah-re-mah-re. Guyana Patamona: pa-si-yar-ray-yik, pa-sa-yik.

USES: Stem: Leafy branches burned in the dry season to repel attacks of "simulie" ceratopogonid insects; bark infusion as a purgative and for dysentery. Bark used in an antisyphilitic powder. Leaf: In a plaster with soap to treat leishmaniasis (bos-yaws); decoction for fevers; extract for "pian" (perhaps yaws); in a pomade for skin diseases such as ringworm. Juice from the young leaves is warmed and applied to persistent sores, by the Guyana Patamona. Used for fevers and evil spirits in NW Guyana. Leaf and Wood: Leaves and wood are used for smoking as an insect repellent (Kabowra flis) by the Guyana Patamona. Part unspecified: Used for treating skin sores and ulcers, by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

NOTES: This species is introduced from Panama to French Guiana.

Ref: 2,8,40A,149,154,168,192,195,218, 237,238,245.

Macfadyena uncatata (Andrews) Sprague & Sandwith

NAMES: FG Creole: griffe chatte. Surinam Arawak: kamoro. Surinam Carib: lere simiole. Surinam Sranan: fowroefoetoe-tite, prasara-tite, prasaratete. Surinam Tirio: tah-kin-ah-deh. Surinam Wayana: wah-kah-gah-mu.

Medicinal Plants of the Guianas (Guyana, Surinam, French Guiana)

USES: Whole plant: Crushed, boiled, and the decoction used as a wash in treatment for aching joints; crushed and rubbed on chest for fevers. Leaf: Infusion for influenza.

CHEM: Contains saponins derived from quinovic acid.

Ref: 2,8,218.

Macfadyena unguis-cati (L.) A. Gentry (*Bignonia unguis-cati* L.)

NAMES: French Guiana: griffe chatte, griffe de chat, griffes de chat, ongle de chat, ongles de chat, z'ongchatte, zong'chatt. FG Palikur: msibiu awak.

USES: Whole plant: Juice is alexiteric. Decoction for febrifuge wash. Stem and Leaf: Infusion as sudorific for fevers; bechic, emollient. Used for female sterility and hemorrhage in NW Guyana. Leaf: Mixed with honey in an infusion to treat coughs, for a febrifuge and diuretic, and to treat snakebite.

Ref: 2,4,8,154,168,245.

Mansoa alliacea (Lam.) A. Gentry (*Bignonia alliacea* Lam.; *Pachyptera alliacea* (Lam.) A. Gentry; *Pseudocalymma alliacea* (Lam.) Sandw.)

NAMES: FG Creole: liane-ail. FG Palikur: ilay kamwi. Guyana Creole: garlic rope. Surinam: knoflookliaan, knof-looklian. Surinam Akuriyo: kwi-po-kan. Surinam Arawak: aboeja-mibia. Surinam Carib: woe-ipole. Surinam Creole: gonofroe-tite, tingi-tite. Surinam Sranan: koenofrokoetite, knoefloek tita, konoefrokoe-tete, konofruku tete. Surinam Tirio and Wayana: ah-kah-pota.

USES: Whole plant: To remedy fevers, head colds and rheumatic pain; vermifuge. Stem and Leaf: In a decoction for baths to treat fever, influenza, rheumatism and colds. Stem: Fragments in a decoction for an external wash to treat fatigue and lameness or lumbago. In Surinam, a piece of stem in a glass of water is drunk in the last month of pregnancy for a healthy confinement. Bark decoction for fever. Leaf: Cold water infusion for fever. Decoction and infusion for general weakness.

Ref: 2,8,9,14,192,193,195.

Mansoa standleyi (Steyermark) A. Gentry

USES: Stem: Fragments in a decoction for an external wash to treat fatigue and lameness or lumbago. The French Guiana Wayapi use macerated stems for an insecticide against ants (*Atta* sp.).

NOTES: The Tikuna of Colombia use the leaf for fevers and headache, while the Waorani of Ecuador use the stems and leaves for arthritis, fever and sore muscles (10).

Ref: 2.

Martinella obovata (Kunth) Bureau & Schumann

NAMES: Guyana and French Guiana: eye vine. Guyana: once-a-mile. Guyana Arawak: akoacorollii, uquilla, kamoro.

USES: Root: Juice from the freshly cut tuberous roots is used as an eyedrop to treat infections and relieve sore or irritated eyes. Used for sores and sore eyes in NW Guyana. Leaf: Boiled leaves for treating colds.

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Ref: 3,41,192, 243,245.

Memora flavida (DC.) Bureau & Schumann

NAMES: Surinam Tirio: pu-li-wa-muh. Surinam Wayana: o-lo-lo-puh-lah-kah-lah-sen.

USES: Whole plant: Used by the Surinam Akuriyo to treat aching facial muscles. Stem and Bark: In a decoction for treating body ache. Leaf: Used by the Surinam Tirio in a decoction for treating aching joints.

Ref: 8.

Memora flaviflora (Miquel) Pulle

NAME: Surinam Tirio: we-re-puh e-pah-na-i-deh.

USES: Leaf: The Surinam Tirio boil the leaves in a decoction for fevers.

Ref: 8.

Pyrostegia dichotoma Miers ex Schumann

NAME: Surinam Tirio: ah-de-me yo-ro-ko.

USES: Whole plant: The Surinam Tirio drink water extracted from the liana as a treatment for coughs.

Ref: 8.

Schlegelia violacea (Aublet) Grisebach (*Besleria violacea* Aublet)

NAMES: French Guiana: ortie d'eau. FG Creole: beslere. FG Wayapi: kalayulu. Guyana Arawak: bultatakubia. Surinam Arawak: alasoabo. Surinam Carib: koepai jalang.

USES: Stem: Watery sap from the cut stem is used to treat sore eyes and burns. Bark is used by the French Guiana Wayapi to treat fever and headache. Leaf: Sudorific.

Ref: 2,9,154,192,218.

Stizophyllum riparium (Kunth) Sandwith

NAME: Surinam Tirio: ru-a-muh.

USES: Stem: Sap from cut stem is drunk for coughs. The Surinam Wayana drip liquid from the cut stem into aching ears. Sap used for irritated eyes in NW Guyana. Leaf: Decoction of crushed leaves used as a wash for treating sore thigh muscles and cramps.

Ref: 8,245.

Tabebuia capitata (Bureau & Schumann) Sandwith

NAMES: FG Creole: ebene verte. Guyana Akawaio: arauin, arawnig. Guyana Arawak: hakia. Guyana Creole: ironwood. Guyana Macushi: ranoi. Guyana Wapishana: konawadranup. Surinam: koenatepi, makkagroenhart.

USES: Stem: Decoction of the bark used as an external wash for a febrifuge by the French Guiana Wayapi.

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Ref: 2,192,218.

Tabebuia insignis (Miq.) Sandwith

NAMES: Guyana: white cedar, warakuri. Surinam: zwamppanta, pantahoedoe. Surinam Arawak: waloekoelie, warokoeli, warokorie. Surinam Carib: panda, panta.

USES: Bark: Used for malaria in NW Guyana. Stem: Infusion of bark employed for treating skin diseases and syphilis. Part unspecified: Used for treating skin diseases, by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

Ref: 3,9,218, 238,245.

Tabebuia serratifolia (Vahl) Nicholson (*Bignonia leucoxydon* L.; *Tecoma leucoxydon* (L.) P. DC.)

NAMES: French Guiana: ebene vert, ebene verte, ebenier de Guyane. FG Creole: lebene. FG Galibi: arawone. FG Palikur: kwik. FG Wayapi: tayi. Guyana: greenheart, ironwood. Guyana Akawaio: arauin, arawnig. Guyana Arawak: hakia. Guyana Macushi: ranoi. Guyana Wapishana: konawadranup. Surinam: groenhart. Surinam Arawak: wassiba. Surinam Carib: alaone, araawene.

USES: Whole plant: In a decoction mixed with honey to relieve coughing. Stem: Dried bark of the trunk is grated and applied as a plaster for a remedy for leishmaniasis, and plaster is changed daily until ulcer is cicatrized; bark used against fever. Alexiteric; bark used as an antidote to snake poison and manchineel poison; wood used in a sudorific decoction. Flower: Corolla in a decoction with sugar is used as a pectoral syrup to remedy rheumatism, coughing and grippe. CHEM: Plant contains lapachol, a naphthoquinone having antitumor activity on rat carcinosarcoma Walker 256 and Yoshida sarcoma.

Ref: 2,154,168,192,218.

Tabebuia subtilis Sprague & Sandwith

NAME: Guyana Patamona: e-ma-war-ii-ya-pwa-li-yik.

USES: Bark: Bark is scraped, soaked in water overnight and drunk as a purgative, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Tanaecium nocturnum (Barb. Rodr.) Bureau & Schumann

NAMES: FG Creole: liane noyo. FG Palikur: ihipkunau, kunau. Surinam Tirio: ah-mo-de-ah-tuh.

USES: Stem: Bark is drunk with milk for treating pulmonary discomfort; bark decoction is drunk for fevers, and used as a bath for cutaneous eruptions and head colds. Leaf: In decoction with stems as a wash for violent headaches; leaves rubbed on skin ailments by French Guiana Wayapi; Surinam Tirio use a cold water infusion for coughs. The French Guiana Wayapi use crushed leaves to stupefy honey bees in their nest.

CHEM: All organs are rich in cyanogenetic heterosides, which yield the hydrocyanic acid that puts bees to sleep for the French Guiana Wayapi, who employ the leaves, and sometimes the pulverized bark, to stupefy bees to obtain honey.

NOTES: This plant is used to make a hallucinogenic snuff by the Paumari Indians of the Brazilian Amazon (42).

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Ref: 2,8.

BIXACEAE

***Bixa orellana* L.**

NAMES: FG Creole: rocou, roucou, rocouyer. FG Galibi: ururu. FG Wayapi: uluku. Guyana: ruku. Surinam Akuriyo: ku-cha-muh. Surinam Arawak: schiraboeli billi, sjiraboeli. Surinam Carib: koeseweweran, koeswe, kuswe, toenataletano koesoewe. Surinam Sranan: koesoewe. Surinam Tirio: weh-de-whe-pwe-muh, wu-sha-muh, wu-she-muh. Surinam Wayana: oh-not, o-no-toi-meh. Guyana Patamona: ah-non-da-yik.

USES: Whole plant: In mixture applied to feet to prevent chigoes (*Pulex penetrans*). Stem: Young shoots applied locally on abscesses. Sap from bark and crushed leaves for skin rashes; bark decoction for malaria; angina, asthma. Leaf: Sap from petiole used, in hot water with rum, to remove secretions from encrusted eyelids as a treatment for blepharitis; antiemetic. Decoction for dysentery, and as a wash for fevers. Infusion used by Surinam Wayana as a wash for muscular aches and fevers; for children's fevers and vomiting; deterrent; manioc poison antidote. Seed: Shell, pulp and juice are vermifuge and insecticidal; red coloring matter used for mosquito repellent. Employed for asthma and nasal cavity problems. Washed seeds are boiled until the water becomes viscous, then strained, and mixed with coconut oil or palm oil and daubed with cotton onto the skin of young girls at the time of puberty to prevent "bad-eyes" or "evil-eyes", i.e., to prevent the girls from being stared at to make sickness, by the Guyana Patamona. Fruit: Fruit is used for flavoring food, especially curry, as well as used to rub the skin to prevent sores, probably from sunburn, by the Guyana Patamona.

CHEM: Leaf contains cyanidine and ellagic acid. Seed yields a red carotenoid pigment, bixin, made into a paste widely used by Amerindians of the Guianas as a decorative body-paint, and by manufacturers and homemakers as a food coloring agent under the names "achiote" and "annato".

NOTE: Informant for the "bad-eyes" use of the seeds was Mrs. Elsie Pio, a Patamona Indian of Guyana (S. Tiwari, pers. comm., 16 September 1995).

Ref: 2,7,8,12,154,193,195.

BLECHNACEAE

***Blechnum serrulatum* Rich.**

USES: Rhizome: In French Guiana, an infusion of the rhizome is used as a vermifuge. Leaf: Used to treat abscesses in NW Guyana.

Ref: 4,245.

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BOMBACACEAE

Catostemma commune Sandw.

USES: Seed: Used in treatment of snoring in NW Guyana.

Ref.: 245.

Catostemma fragrans Bentham

NAMES: Guyana Akawaio: simana. Guyana Arecuna: paiu. Guyana Arawak: adaurona, baromalli. Guyana Creole: baramanni. Guyana Macushi: kamatana. Guyana Wapishana: koron. Surinam Arawak: baromali. Surinam Sranan: barmani. Surinam Tirio: pah-meh-ti-muh.

USES: Stem: The Surinam Tirio use a decoction of the bark as a wash for the treatment of fevers.

Ref.: 8,192.

Ceiba pentandra (L.) Gaertner

NAMES: FG Creole: fromager. FG Boni: kakatri. FG Palikur: kumak. FG Wayapi: kumaka. Guyana Akawaio: kumak. Guyana Arawak: kumaka. Guyana Carib: makau. Guyana Creole: cotton, jumbie tree, silk. Guyana Macushi: kumae. Guyana Wapishana: wirin. Surinam: wilde kapokboom. Surinam Sranan: kankantri.

USES: Stem: The French Guiana Wayapi wash in a decoction of the bark for its febrifuge properties. Leaf: Surinam Indonesians use juice from bruised young branches in a preparation to treat asthma. Infusion for dissolving phlegm and to soothe rectal inflammation. Leaves stewed for a gonorrhoea remedy.

CHEM: Leaf contains derivatives of quercetin and kaempferol, tannins and caffeic acid.

Ref.: 2,155,192,195.

Durio zibethinus J. Murr.

NAME: Surinam: doerian.

USES: Fruit: Sold for use as an aphrodisiac by the Surinam Chinese at Lelydorp.

Ref.: 195.

Eriotheca globosa (Aublet) A. Robyns (*Bombax globosum* Aublet)

NAMES: French Guiana: fromager. Guyana Akawaio: kamakuti. Guyana Carib: ulumaruru. Guyana Creole: wild silk cotton. Guyana Macushi: asari. Guyana Wapishana: chon.

USES: Stem: Bark is vomitive; shoots are diuretic. Fruit: Source of a butter used to stimulate transpiration.

Ref.: 154,192.

Pachira aquatica Aublet (*Bombax aquatica* (Aublet) Schumann)

NAMES: French Guiana: cacao sauvage. Guyana: bastard cocoa, water cocoa. Guyana Akawaio: maumau, webiaku. Guyana and Surinam Arawak: kanihiri. Guyana Warrau: kobel. Surinam

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Arawak: kaniri. Surinam Paramaccan: momow. Surinam Sranan: bosch-cacao, watra cacao, watrakakaw. Surinam Wayana: se-se-po-kan.

USES: Whole plant: In an alexiteric decoction in French Guiana. Bark: Used for diarrhoea in NW Guyana. Leaf: A cold water infusion of the crushed leaves is employed by the Surinam Wayana to treat a burning sensation in the skin. Fruit: Surinam Caribs spread fruit on village grounds to repel sand fleas.

CHEM: Seed-oil contains palmitic acid, cyclopropene fatty acids and beta-sitosterol (10).

Ref. 8,154,155,192,195,245.

Quararibea turbinata Poiret

NAME: FG Creole: bois lele.

USES: Stem: Wood-ashes are mixed with tobacco (*Nicotiana tabacum*) leaves and macerated in a small amount of water and eau-de-Cologne, and used to reinforce the narcotic effect of tobacco.

Ref. 2.

Rhodognaphalopsis flaviflora (Pulle) A. Robyns (*Bombax flaviflorum* Pulle)

NAME: Guyana Patamona: kha-sawh-proc-yik.

USES: Seed: If swallowed, the endosperm will swell in the stomach and intestine, ultimately killing the individual (used as a poison by the Guyana Patamona).

Ref. 237.

BORAGINACEAE

Anchusa officinalis L.

NAME: French Guiana: buglosse.

USES: Part unspecified: Bechic.

NOTES: Plant introduced to French Guiana.

Ref. 168.

Cordia curassavica (Jacq.) Roemer & Schultes (*Cordia graveolens* H.B.K.; *Cordia macrostachya* (Jacq.) Roemer & Schultes; *Lithocardium curassavicum* O. Kuntze; *Varronia curassavica* Jacq.)

NAMES: FG Creole: monjoly, montjoly. FG Palikur: tarub. Guyana: black sage. Surinam Creole: baaka oema, baaka uma, blaka oema, blaka-oema, blaka-oema-wiwiri, blaka uma wiwiri, blakka-mama, blakka oema wiri.

USES: Stem and Leaf: Infusion for a stomachic, sudorific, to treat hypertension, biliousness, diarrhoea and colds. Stem: Chewed to clean the teeth and destroy bad breath. Leaf: Dried and boiled in a liquid drunk to control heavy menstrual flow. Macerated leaves used externally as dandruff treatment. Leaf employed in Surinam to remedy gonorrhoea. Boiled in a tea for a coolant; in a bath for fever. Infusion of young leaves for grippe, and as an aromatic, pectoral and stimulant. Leaves crushed and rubbed on the skin to prevent mosquito bites. Leaves used by Surinam Saramaccan Bush Negroes in curative herbal bath. Boiled infusion of sun-dried leaves is employed

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for a gonorrhoea remedy in Surinam. Juice of finely crushed leaves is used for alleviating monthly stomach pains (menstrual cramps).

CHEM: Branches and leaves show antimicrobial activity (12).

Ref: 2,3,4,14,190,192,193,195,232.

***Cordia nodosa* Lam.**

NAMES: FG Creole: lamousse fourmi. FG Wayapi: yawatai. Guyana Akawaio: piaima-pomai. Guyana Creole: ant's tree. Guyana and Surinam Arawak: hoereuereroko, huruereroko. Surinam: bonsoehoedoe. Surinam Arawak: horowe joe lokko, horowejoreroko. Surinam Carib: achira-mou-rou, aloeko uonare, arreuonoe, awali emoeloe, awelemoeloe. Surinam Saramaccan Bush Negro: mattoe toenbalobbi. Surinam Sranan: boesi tafrabon, knopotafrabon. Surinam Tirio: she-tu-u-ru. Guyana Patamona: tak-kou-ro-yik.

USES: Stem: The French Guiana Wayapi finely grate the inner bark in a pectoral decoction for colds and breathlessness. Leaf: Decoction for fevers; crushed and rubbed on body for rheumatism, sprains, muscular pain and contusions. Used for headache, hypertension and whooping cough in NW Guyana. Fruit: Fruits are given to babies to suck when they are dribbling, by the Guyana Patamona.

NOTES: People along the upper Rio Vaupes in Colombia make a leaf-paste to kill botfly larvae embedded in the flesh (10).

Ref: 2,8,192,232, 237,245.

***Cordia polycephala* (Lam.) I.M. Johnston**

NAME: black sage.

USES: Wood or Stem: Wood or stem is used for scrubbing the teeth, by the Guyana Patamona.

Leaf: Macerated leaves are used as a fish poison, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

***Cordia sagotii* I.M. Johnston**

NAMES: Surinam: anoemalatti, tafelboom, tafraboom. Surinam Arawak: arowtroeka, dokka, dokoa, kakoro. Surinam Carib: anaakara, aratroeka, kokoro konokodikoro. Surinam Saramaccan Bush Negro: boggi lobbi, danlieba, toenba lobbi.

USES: Fruit: An infusion of the fruit is irritating to the stomach, and used as a laxative in French Guiana.

Ref: 4,232.

***Cordia tetrandra* Aublet**

NAMES: Guyana Arawak: yuwanaro. Guyana Creole: clammy cherry, iguana wood, table tree, torch tree, turkey berry. Surinam: tafrabom, tafrabon, tafelboom, tafabon. Surinam Arawak: kakhoro. Surinam Carib: alatoeloeka, aratroekoe. Surinam Saramaccan : boggi lobbi, toenbalobbi.

USES: Leaf: Decoction of dried, finely crushed leaves in water is used for high blood pressure in Surinam.

Ref: 15,192,195,232.

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***Cordia tomentosa* Lam. ex Roem. & Schult.**

NAME: French Guiana: montjoly.

USES: Leaf: In baths and compresses to ease swelling, soothe pain and fortify nerves.

Ref. 149.

***Heliotropium indicum* L.**

NAMES: FG Creole: creque coq, crete coq, crete-coq, crete de coq, crete dinde, crete d'inde, herbe a malingres, verveine pian. Guyana: white clary, white cleary, wild clary. Surinam Creole: kakakankan, kaka-kankan, kaka kankan, kakakangkang, kakafowru kankan, koko ding, koko-rode.

USES: Whole plant: Boiled and the beverage employed as a heat rash remedy in Guyana. Decoction for thrush, diarrhoea, and frequent excretion of urine. Boiled with *Desmodium* sp. (ironweed) in a decoction used as a purgative of the reproductive system to function as a "cleanout" for men and women. Used for diabetes and to treat venereal disease in NW Guyana. Leaf: Juice to treat and soothe the pain of conjunctivitis. Leaf-juice mixed with coconut oil and small amount of salt is administered to children for colds, grippe and coughing. Infusion for asthma, ulcers, dysentery, bronchitis, red eyes, boils, stomachic and as an antihemorrhagic. Boiled with *Mikania micrantha* for upset stomach. Flower: To control menstrual blood loss; yaws; skin ulcers.

CHEM: Contains the hepatotoxic pyrrolizidine alkaloids heliotrine and lasiocarpine (24). The major alkaloid, indicine, shows antitumor activity (43).

Ref. 2,3,4,12,154,168,190,193,195,232,234,245.

***Symphytum officinale* L.**

NAMES: French: grande consoude. FG Creole: bibloze, grand consoude.

USES: Leaf: An infusion is drunk for relief of varicose veins and circulatory problems; hypotensive.

CHEM: The plant tissues accumulate potassium nitrate and contain alkaloids toxic to the central nervous system.

Ref. 2.

***Tournefortia scandens* Miller**

NAME: French Guiana: herbe aux chiques.

USES: Whole plant: Bitter; in a decoction for removing sand fleas (*Pulex penetrans*).

NOTES: While said to be a plant introduced from Jamaica to French Guiana, the identity of this plant in French Guiana and elsewhere is probably untraceable.

Ref. 154.

BRASSICACEAE

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Lepidium virginicum L.

NAME: French Guiana: cresson-savane.

USES: Whole plant: Antiscorbutic and diuretic.

Ref. 154.

Nasturtium officinalis R. Br.

NAME: French Guiana: cresson.

USES: Leaf: In French Guiana, an infusion is used to treat bronchitis.

Ref. 4.

Raphanus sativus L.

NAMES: Guyana: radish. Surinam: ramenias, rammenas.

USES: Root: Eaten in Surinam for a healthy liver, and for its beneficial effect on gallstones.

Ref. 193.

BROMELIACEAE

Ananas comosus (L.) Merr. (*Ananas sativus* Schult.)

NAMES: Guyana: pineapple. Surinam: ananas. Surinam Sranan: ananasi, nanasi. Guyana Patamona: ah-pa-tuk-yik.

USES: Leaf: Used for fractures in NW Guyana. Fruit: In Guyana, the green, unripe fruit is eaten by women to cause an abortion. In Surinam, the green fruit is cooked with *Citrus aurantiifolia* for an abortive agent. Partly ripe fruit is eaten to ease a sore throat. Fully ripe fruit is eaten to cure indigestion, and eaten with salt as an aperient. The immature fruit is eaten to abort a fetus less than 1 month old, by the Guyana Patamona. Fruit is grated, soaked in water, sweetened with sugar and used as a beverage or tonic, by the Guyana Patamona. Used as abortive in NW Guyana.

Ref. 190,193,195, 237,245.

Bromelia plumieri (E. Morren) L.B. Smith (*Bromelia karatas* L.)

NAME: French Guiana: carata.

USES: Whole plant: Juice is used to cicatrize recent sores and wounds; alcoholic tincture of the juice for a detergent on ulcers. Juice is said (by unconfirmed reports) to be employed as a saponin-containing soap substitute.

NOTES: Plant introduced from Panama to French Guiana.

Ref. 154.

Tillandsia usneoides (L.) L.

NAMES: English: Spanish moss. Surinam: spaans mos. Surinam Arawak: adatima.

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USES: Whole plant: To strengthen and make the hair more attractive, the Surinam Arawak steep the plants in a pot of water until decomposed, and wash their hair in the liquid to impart a glossy shine.

NOTES: In French Guiana, the juice of an undetermined species of *Tillandsia* is used to treat rheumatism (4).

Ref. 14,195.

BURSERACEAE

Bursera simaruba (L.) Sarg. (*Bursera gummifera* L.)

NAMES: French Guiana: bois-cochon, gommier.

USES: Stem: Yields a resin effective as a vulnerary.

Ref. 154.

Dacryodes nitens Cuatrecasas

NAME: Guyana Patamona: ou-ra-e-yik.

USES: Bark: Bark is warmed and used as a bandage around joints as an anti-arthritic, by the Guyana Patamona. Bark is warmed and wrapped around swellings, or areas of muscular aches and pains for relief, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref. 237.

Dacryodes cf. nitens Cuatrecasas

NAME: Guyana Patamona: ou-ra-yik.

USES: Bark: Juice of inner bark is applied onto ringworm, sores on the skin, or other forms of skin rash as an antifungal agent, by the Guyana Patamona. Inner bark is boiled and the water used as an antipruritic or as an herbal bath, by the Guyana Patamona. Inner bark is used as a poultice to tie around persistent sores on the skin, by the Guyana Patamona. Extract (juice) from the bark is used for treating sores on the skin, by the Guyana Patamona. Wood: Wood is used as incense, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref. 237.

Protium aracouchini (Aublet) Marchal

NAMES: Guyana and Surinam Arawak: haiawa. French Guiana and Surinam Carib: aracouchini. Surinam Creole: tingi-monnier. Surinam Sranan: tingimoni. Surinam Tirio: e-twe.

USES: Stem: Sap used as balm for wounds and skin conditions. Resin from sap mixed with *Bixa* and oil of *Carapa* is rubbed on body as insect repellent and perfume. Resin mixed with gum of *Eperua* sp. used as a plaster for wounds. Leaf: The Surinam Tirio use a decoction as a wash for fevers and general body aches and pains.

CHEM: Contains the phenolic substances quercetin, camphor oil, p-coumaric acid and leucocyanin (44).

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NOTES: In Guyana, an undetermined species of *Protium* provides a gum from which an astringent decoction is made and the vapor inhaled to relieve lung congestion (9).

Ref: 8,45,149,154,192,201.

Protium decandrum (Aublet) Marchal

USES: Stem: Exudate used for arthritis in NW Guyana. Bark used for burns and wounds/cuts in NW Guyana.

Ref: 245.

Protium guianense (Aublet) Marchal var. **guianense** (*Amyris guianensis* (Aublet) Willd.; *Icica guianensis* Aublet; *Protium hostmannii* (Miq.) Engler)

NAMES: French Guiana: bois de'encens, encens, encens grand bois. Guyana Arawak: haiawa. Guyana Creole: incense tree. Surinam Arawak: ajawa, hajawa balli. Surinam Carib: koesewe iekolju, miejoelwa, pakiria sipiolo. Surinam Creole: tiengi-monni, tingi moni.

USES: Sap: Sap is used to purge the stomach, by the Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana. Stem: Yields a resin which is burned in French Guiana as a mosquito repellent or used for remedying coughs. Alcoholic tincture of the aromatic resin is used as a topical application for ulcers in French Guiana; for phthisis; to relieve asthma.

Ref: 149,154,192,193,201,238.

Protium heptaphyllum (Aublet) Marchal subsp. **heptaphyllum** (*Amyris ambrosiaca* Willd.; *Protium octandrum* Swart)

NAMES: FG Creole: avore de l'encen, encens. FG Galibi: arouaou. Guyana Arawak: haiawa. Guyana Creole: incense tree. Surinam Arawak: ibajawa. Surinam Carib: siepio, tapoekjan ajaawa. Surinam Creole: tiengi-monnie, tingi moni.

USES: Stem: Bark yields a resinous material (called "busnigre kandra" or "boesnegre kandra" in Surinam) which hardens on contact with air, and is put in water; the liquid is drunk to remedy chest afflictions, bronchitis and asthma. The Guyana Macushi mix the resin into a red body paint which also has *Humiria balsamifera* var. *floribunda*, *Arrabidaea chica* and/or *Genipa americana* as ingredients, and rub the paint onto a child's head to prevent sickness caused by evil spirits.

Ref: 7,149,192,193,201.

Protium sagotianum Marchal

NAMES: Guyana Patamona: che-pau-yik, chi-pau-yik.

USES: Wood: Burned wood is used as incense by the Guyana Patamona. Bark: Bark is boiled, the water allowed to cool, and drunk as a medication to purify the blood, by the Guyana Patamona.

Gum: Gum is ground, mixed with powdered greenheart seed, boiled with water, and drunk for stomach and liver ulcers, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Protium cf. **sagotianum** Marchal

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NAME: Guyana Patamona: chi-bo-yik.

USES: Wood: Wood is used as incense sticks by the Guyana Patamona. Bark: Bark is boiled and the water drunk as an antidiarrheal or as a tonic to purify the blood, by the Guyana Patamona. Gum: Gum is grated, mixed with water and drunk as an antidiarrheal, by the Guyana Patamona. Gum is ground, mixed with ground greenheart seed, boiled and the water drunk for stomach ulcers and cirrhotic liver, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Tetragastris altissima (Aublet) Swartz (*Icica altissima* Aublet)

NAMES: French Guiana: cedre blanc. Surinam Creole: roode salie, salie.

USES: Resin: Emulsion of the fresh aromatic resin in water is used in French Guiana to treat bronchitis and lung infections.

Ref: 149,154,201.

Trattinnickia burserifolia Martius

NAMES: Guyana Akawaio: wayama. Guyana Arawak: ulu. Surinam Arawak: ioellieballie, olo. Surinam Carib: patjera-siepjorie. Surinam Creole: saly, tingiemonnie, tingimoni. Guyana Patamona: war-gang-yik.

USES: Bark: Bark is allowed to stand in water overnight and drunk for success in a hunting expedition, by the Guyana Patamona. Bark is boiled with water and drunk as a treatment for colds, by the Guyana Patamona. Stem: Yields a gum used in remedies for asthma and other chest afflictions in Surinam.

Ref: 192,195,201, 237.

Trattinnickia sp.

NAME: Guyana Arawak: ulu.

USES: Stem: Decoction of bark used as an emetic and sudorific. Part unspecified: Used as an emetic and sudorific by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

Ref: 9, 238.

CACTACEAE

Cereus sp.

NAME: FG Creole: raquette a quatre faces.

USES: Stem: Cooked under ashes, and the extracted juice is mixed with pumpkin leaves, honey and lemon and used to treat coughs.

Ref: 4.

Epiphyllum phyllanthus (L.) Haw.

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USES: Leaf: Used for back pain, coughs and colds, as laxative and for whooping cough in NW Guyana.

Ref: 245.

Opuntia cochenillifera (L.) Mill. (*Nopalea cochenillifera* (L.) Salm-Dyck)

NAMES: FG Creole: raquette. Guyana: cochineal. Surinam: nopal. Surinam Sranan: nopari.

USES: Stem: The "pads" are applied to treat mycoses (fungal skin infections), fever, and as a shampoo for fine, delicate hair; pads are warmed and placed on the forehead as a refresher by the French Guiana Palikur. Roasted branches are sliced and applied as a poultice to relieve pain, swelling, and localized burning sensation resulting from filaria. Sap used for baby's colds and wheezing. Grated stem mixed with corn meal and soft grease is warmed for external application to relieve heavy chest colds and fever associated with pneumonia. Leaf: Used for spleen problems in NW Guyana.

Ref: 2,3,195,245.

Opuntia vulgaris Mill. (*Cactus opuntia* L.)

NAMES: French Guiana: raquette. Guyana: cochineal (incorrect name), scrutchineal (incorrect name); prickly pear.

USES: Stem: Bit of stem placed in water, and the water given for dropsy. Several thin slices of stem are warmed and placed in water, and the water is drunk for stomach inflammations. Slices of stem applied to inflammations of the joints, skin and intestines to draw off heat. Ground stem in an infusion used for treating stomach ulcers. Small piece of stem in a glass of water is used for removing mucus from inflamed eyes. Fruit: Diuretic; makes red urine.

Ref: 4,154,168,190.

Rhipsalis baccifera (J. Mill.) Stearn (*Rhipsalis cassutha* Gaertn.)

NAMES: FG Palikur: duhudumna rubban. Surinam: tjimoe, tyimu.

USES: Stem: Crushed and used with juice of *Lonchocarpus chrysophyllus* to treat bite of coral snake (*Micrurus* sp.) by the French Guiana Wayapi. Used with *Philodendron* sp. to soothe the wound of venomous stingray (*Potamotrygon* sp.) in a cataplasm of peeled stem, by the French Guiana Palikur. Whole plant: Used by Surinam Saramaccan Bush Negroes as an ingredient in a curative herbal bath.

Ref: 2,193.

CAESALPINIACEAE

Aldina insignis (Benth.) Endl.

NAMES: Guyana Akawaio: tatang. Guyana Arawak: dacambally, dakamaballi, dakama-balli.

USES: Fruit: Starch is injected anally to treat typhoid and dysentery in Guyana. Seed: In Guyana, the nutritive seed is mixed with cassava flour when cassava bread is scarce.

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Ref: 9,190,191,192.

Bauhinia guianensis Aublet (*Bauhinia outimouta* Aublet)

NAMES: Guyana and Surinam Arawak: hikuritarafon (turtle steps). Surinam Carib: guayamufrati. Surinam Galibi: ya-outi-mouta. Surinam Sranan: sekepatoe trapoe. Surinam Tirio: mo-ro-go-go eh-heh. Surinam Wayana: ku-yu-le huh-hah-nu-kut-puh. Guyana Patamona: kha-woui-eng-gu-ma-pui-yik, kha-wouii-eng-gou-ma-pouii-yik.

USES: Whole plant: Liquid made from liana is a wash for fevers. Root: Used to treat diarrhea in NW Guyana. Sap: Used to treat diarrhea in NW Guyana. Bark: Bark is boiled with water and drunk as an antidiarrheal, by the Guyana Patamona. Bark decoction used as a wash by the Surinam Tirio to treat fevers. Stem: Decoction of wood is drunk by the Surinam Tirio to expel stomach worms. In NW Guyana, stem used in treatment of venereal disease. Wood: Wood is ground, soaked in water for about ½-1 hour and used as an anti-diarrheal, by the Guyana Patamona. Wood used for pain and as aphrodisiac in NW Guyana. Stem and Leaf: The Surinam Wayana use a decoction for cramps. Guyana Carib employ it as a piscicide.

Ref: 8, 237,245.

Bauhinia kunthiana Vogel

NAMES: FG Creole: echelle tortue, echelle toti. FG Wayapi: ayayula sili. Guyana Akawaio: kapui-engomapai. Guyana Arawak: hikuritarafon. Guyana Creole: monkey ladder, turtle steps. Guyana Macushi: kopaimengo.

USES: Stem: French Guiana Wayapi use the finely grated stem in a decoction several times a day for dysentery and diarrhoea. Part unspecified: Used as a fish poison and as a treatment for malaria, by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

Ref: 2,8,192, 238.

Bauhinia rubiginosa Bong.

NAMES: Guyana Patamona: ka-wue-yeng-ku-ma-pu-yik, kha-woui-eng-gu-puii-yik.

USES: Wood: Wood is boiled, and the water drunk as an antidiarrheal or as an antidysenteric, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Bauhinia scala-simiae Sandwith

NAMES: Guyana Arawak: hikuri-tarafo, hikuritarafon. Guyana Creole: monkey ladder, turtle-step, turtle steps. Guyana Wapishana: oradapor. Guyana Patamona: kaw-ne-yeng-ku-ma-pu-yik, kah-wouii-eng-goui-ma-pouii-yik, kha-moui-yeng-gu-ma-pui-yik.

USES: Root: Used for diarrhea in NW Guyana. Wood: Wood is boiled, and the water drunk as an antidiarrheal or as an antidysenteric for bloody dysentery, by the Guyana Patamona. Used for malaria and diarrhea in NW Guyana. Stem: Decoction, or infusion in wine, used as a tonic and aphrodisiac. Decoction for backache. Often mixed with species of *Smilax*, *Strychnos*, *Doliocarpus* and *Philodendron*. Macerated stem is soaked overnight in water and drunk as an antidiarrheal by the Guyana Patamona.

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Ref: 3,192, 237,245.

Bauhinia surinamensis Amsh.

NAME: Guyana Patamona: kha-woui-eng-gu-ma-pui-yik.

USES: Wood: Wood is boiled, and the water drunk as an antidiarrheal or as an antidysenteric for bloody dysentery, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Bocoa alterna (Bentham) Cowan

USES: Stem: The Guyana Waiwai prepare a solution of the bark which is used to wash the feet as a treatment for ground itch.

Ref: 8,16.

Bocoa prouacensis Aublet

NAMES: Surinam Arawak: itikiboroballi hororadikoro. Surinam Carib: aliana-oeu, ietjoetanoe aliano, wepetano tamoene. Surinam Paramaccan: aie-udu. Surinam Saramaccan: wajewoe. Surinam Sranan: gandoe, isri-ati. Surinam Tirio: ku-tah-de.

USES: Stem: Cold water infusion of the bark is drunk as a treatment for malaria by the Surinam Tirio.

Ref: 8.

Brownea latifolia Jacq.

USES: Stem: Bark used for hemorrhages in NW Guyana. Flower: Used for coughs and colds, hemorrhage, whooping cough, and tuberculosis in NW Guyana.

NOTE: The bark of *Brownea coccinea* Jacq., a Venezuelan plant not yet recorded from the Guianan flora, is reportedly used in Guyana for treating "women's diseases" such as menorrhagia, vaginal hemorrhagia and menstrual pains (cf. Klitgaard, B.B., pp. 235-247 in: Rios, M. and H. B. Pedersen. 1994. *Las Plantas y El Hombre*. Quito, Ecuador: Ediciones ABYA-YALA).

Ref: 245.

Caesalpinia bonduc (L.) Roxb. (*Guilandina bonduc* L.; *Guilandina bonducella* L.)

NAMES: French Guiana: bonduc, graines-tigues, oeil de bourrique, oeil de chat. Guyana: nicker seed. Surinam: bonducella. Surinam Arawak: horotoballi. Surinam Bush Negro: awariston. Surinam Carib: pararapo.

USES: Whole plant: For syphilitic diseases in Guyana. Root: For gonorrhoea in French Guiana. Seed: Vomitive, very bitter. Crushed fresh seed is used as a febrifuge and to treat snakebite in French Guiana. Dried seed used as a children's anthelmintic in Surinam. Parched and pounded for a dropsy medication in Guyana.

CHEM: Contains the febrifuge bonducine (154).

Ref: 4,7,154,168,190,195.

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Caesalpinia pulcherrima (L.) Swartz (*Poinciana pulcherrima* L.)

NAMES: FG Creole: macata. Surinam: boontje krere krere, krekrere, krere-krere, sabinabloem. Surinam Djuka Bush Negro: ayoowiri. Surinam Sranan: djoepinda.

USES: Root: Bitter, toxic, astringent; for diarrhoea. Leaf and Flower: Infusion is diuretic. Leaf, Flower and Seed: For stomach, urinary bladder and kidney problems. Leaf and Seed: Infusion is drunk by the Djuka to induce quick, uncomplicated abortion in early pregnancy. Leaf: Infusion is drunk for kidney stones, and to accelerate childbirth. For a febrifuge, tonic, excitant, emmenagogue, and possibly an abortive at a certain dosage. Leaves of the yellow-flowered form, f. *flava* (Bailey & Rehder) DeFilipps, *Ornamental Garden Plants of the Guianas* 85 (1992), are used in Surinam for stomachache. Flower: Febrifuge; infusion drunk as a tea for gall bladder problems in Surinam. Fresh flowers are sudorific. Those of the red-flowered form (f. *pulcherrima*) are used in Surinam for urinary tract problems. Seed: Pectoral.

Ref. 2,154,193,195,200,216.

Campsiandra comosa Benth.

NAME: Guyana Arawak: apikara.

USES: Part unspecified: Used as an antidysenteric by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

Ref. 238.

Campsiandra sp.

NAME: Guyana Arawak: apikara.

USES: Stem: Decoction of the bark is used to treat dysentery.

Ref. 9.

Cassia acuminata L.

NAME: French Guiana: sene.

USES: Fruit: Infusion for a cholagogue.

Ref. 4.

Cassia fistula L.

NAMES: French: casse des Antilles. FG Creole: casse. Surinam: goudenregen.

USES: Fruit: Purgative. Pulp between seeds used as laxative. Seed: Pulverized seeds used for a laxative.

CHEM: Fruit-pulp contains derived anthracenes.

NOTES: Plant introduced from tropical Asia to French Guiana.

Ref. 2,154,168,195.

Cassia grandis L. fil. (*Cassia brasiliana* Lam.)

NAMES: French Guiana: casse. Guyana Arawak: warua. Guyana Creole: monkey molasses.

USES: Fruit: Pulp is bitter, used as a purgative and laxative in French Guiana.

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NOTES: Plant introduced from Panama to French Guiana.

Ref. 154,192.

Cassia javanica L.

NAMES: French Guiana: casse-para.

USES: Fruit: Pulp is bitter, used as a purgative and laxative.

Ref. 154.

Chamaecrista apoucouita (Aublet) Irwin & Barneby (*Cassia apoucouita* Aublet)

USES: Seed: Seeds are crushed into a powder, mixed with water, and drunk as an analgesic, by the Guyana Patamona. Seeds are crushed into a powder, and used as an anti-venom (snakebite) by the Guyana Patamona. Seeds are crushed into a powder, and inserted into cavities as a treatment for toothache, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref. 237.

Copaifera guianensis Desf.

NAMES: French Guiana: copahu, copalier. FG Creole: bois capayou, coupawa. FG Palikur: maraura. FG Wayapi: kupaiwa. Guyana Creole: maran. Surinam: hoepelboom, hoepelhout, hoepel-olie, hoepro, oepro-olie. Surinam Arawak: koepajoewa. Surinam Carib: apaoewa. Surinam Saramaccan Bush Negro: passie moetie. Surinam Sranan: oepro-oedoe.

USES: Stem: Oil, or oleoresin, extracted from the trunk is used to alleviate gonorrhoea, water-filled swellings, throat and urinary tract inflammations, kidney stones, haemorrhoids, rheumatism and stomach cramps; fractures; diarrhoea. Bark of trunk in a decoction for dysentery.

NOTES: In Guyana, the resin from undetermined species of *Copaifera* is used to anoint wounds, due to its ability to coagulate blood (9).

Ref. 2,154,192,193,195,216.

Copaifera officinalis (Jacq.) L.

NAMES: French Guiana: copahu, copaiou, copaiier.

USES: Stem: Incised bark yields an oleoresin and balsam ("baume de copahu") which is used in an emulsified decoction for pulmonary infections.

Ref. 154,168.

Copaifera pubiflora Benth

NAMES: French Guiana: copahu. Guyana Akawaio: maranyo. Guyana Arawak: kopaiyuwa. Guyana Carib: apauwa. Guyana Creole: copaiba balsam, maran. Guyana Macushi: marana. Guyana Wapishana: maranai.

USES: Stem: Incised stem yields a resin which, in emulsified decoction, is used in French Guiana for pulmonary infections.

Ref. 154,192.

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Copaifera sp.

NAME: Guyana Arawak: maran.

USES: Part unspecified: Used as an anticoagulant by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

Ref: 238.

Dimorphanthra conjugata (Splitg.) Sandwith

NAMES: Guyana and Surinam Arawak: dakama. Guyana Carib: akayoran. Surinam: boschkasjoe. Surinam Carib: akajoeran. Surinam Saramaccan: kadjoe mattoe.

USES: Stem: Decoction of inner bark for ulcers, asthma and dysentery; aqueous extract of bark for washing cuts, ulcers and areas infected with "ground itch" between the toes; powdered bark is sprinkled on sores and wounds to encourage healing.

Ref: 3,9,192,216.

Dinizia excelsa Ducke

NAME: Guyana Wapishana: parakwa.

USES: Stem: The French Guiana Wayapi drink a decoction of the bark as a remedy for venomous snakebite.

Ref: 2,192.

Eperua falcata Aublet

NAMES: FG Arrouage: ouapa. FG Boni: biiudu. FG Creole: wapa. FG Palikur: wap. FG Wayapi: tapaka. Guyana: soft wallaba, wallaba, waraba, white wallaba. Guyana Carib: parewe. Guyana Patamona: wopa. Surinam: baboen walaba, bijlhout, birihoedoe, zwarte wallaba, wallaba koeleroe, witte wallaba. Surinam Arawak: itoeli walaba, walaba. Surinam Carib: pala eh, pale eh, tamoeno pale-o, tutto amote. Guyana Patamona: wo-pa-yik.

USES: Bark: Resin from the bark is placed on warm leaves and tied around cuts and sores as a poultice, by the Guyana Patamona. Resin is used for treating ulcers, sores and dysentery, by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana. Stem: Bark is decocted as a dental analgesic by the French Guiana Boni. Bitter bark used as an emetic by the French Guiana Arrouage. Resin used to cicatrize wounds by the French Guiana Saramaccan. Wood yields an oil used in Surinam as an ointment for rheumatism and to treat wounds.

CHEM: Resin may have slight bactericidal and antifungal properties, which account for its use as a cicatrizant.

Ref: 2,154,161,192,195,216, 237,238.

Eperua grandiflora (Aublet) Bentham subsp. **guyanensis** Cowan

NAMES: Guyana Arawak: yoboko. Guyana Creole: ituri wallaba, yokobo wallaba. Surinam Arawak: itoeri walaba.

USES: Stem: Decoction of the inner bark used to relieve toothache.

Ref: 48,161,192,216.

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Eperua spp.

NAME: Guyana: wallaba.

USES: Whole plant: Gum mixed with gum of *Protium aracouchini* is used as a plaster for wounds.

Stem: Bark is boiled in water for an emetic to treat diarrhoea and for washing ulcers.

Ref. 9,45.

Haematoxylum campechianum L.

NAMES: French Guiana: campeche. Guyana: logwood.

USES: Stem: Bark and wood is astringent, used to treat chronic diarrhoea in French Guiana.

Ref. 154.

Hymenaea courbaril L.

NAMES: French Guiana: copal, copal du Bresil. FG Creole: caca chien, courbaril. FG Palikur: simigl, simir. Guyana: alikuya, kanawari, k'wanarri, locust, simiri, stinking toe. Guyana Macushi: moire. Guyana Wapishana: not. Surinam: lokus, rode lokus, zwarte lokus. Surinam Arawak: kawanahalli, kawanali, kawanari. Surinam Carib: semeri, semiri, simiri. Surinam Saramaccan: kakanja bosoe. Surinam Saramaccan and Sranan: loksi. Guyana Patamona: kha-moui-lea-yik, ma-sek-yik, ah-mui-le-yik.

USES: Bark: Bark is boiled, and the water drunk as an analgesic for back pain, by the Guyana Patamona. Bark is boiled, sugar added, and drunk as a beverage, and as a tonic, by the Guyana Patamona. Bark of trunk is depurative and antipyretic. Resin exuding from bark used for treating fresh wounds. Decocted bark tea is employed by the French Guiana Palikur for upset stomach; decoction for dysentery when mixed with barks of *Humiria* sp. and *Manilkara* sp.; boiled with other plants for bilious diarrhoea and for use as an aphrodisiac. Bark decoction or infusion for a carminative, vermifuge, purgative, dysentery and diarrhoea; bark infusion drunk for a good fatigue tonic and blood cleanser. Bark used as aphrodesiac and to treat coughs and colds in NW Guyana. Resin: Used as a cicatrizant and for pulmonary infections by the Guyana Patamona.. Fruit: French Guiana Wayapi use resinous secretion for dysentery.

CHEM: Resin contains copalic acid and other diterpenes (49).

Ref. 2,3,9,40,154,190,192,193,195,216,237,245.

Macrolobium cf. **acaciifolium** (Benth) Benth

NAMES: Guyana and Surinam Arawak: sarebebe. Guyana Wapishana: sirkir. Surinam: boschtamarinde, bostamarinde. Surinam Carib: alapai, aratapalli. Surinam Paramaccan: wasipa. Surinam Sranan: boesitamalin, boesi tamalin, walatapa. Surinam Tirio: pah-det.

USES: Leaf: The Surinam Tirio use a wash of decocted leaves to treat fevers.

Ref. 8,161,192,216.

Macrolobium aff. **angustifolium** (Benth) Cowan

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NAMES: Guyana Akawaio: muka. Surinam: watrabihoedoe, witte walaba. Surinam Arawak: sarebebe. Surinam Carib: atapa. Surinam Sranan: walatapa, watra-biri-odedoe. Surinam Tirio: pah-det.

USES: Stem: Bark decoction used internally and externally for fevers by the Surinam Tirio.

NOTES: The bark of an undetermined species of *Macrolobium* is decocted in Guyana as an emetic and for breaking a stubborn fever (9).

Ref: 8,161,192.

Mora excelsa Bentham

NAMES: Guyana and Surinam Arawak, Guyana Akawaio: mora. Guyana: black mora, red mora, sand mora. Guyana Carib: parakava. Surinam Carib: palaloea, parakoea, prakowa. Surinam Saramaccan: peto. Guyana Patamona: tho-ro-yik.

USES: Whole plant: Anthelmintic; for cleaning and healing sores and cuts. Bark: Bark is either boiled or mixed with water and drunk as an antidiarrheal, by the Guyana Patamona. Inner bark is scraped, soaked in water overnight and drunk as an antidiarrheal, by the Guyana Patamona. Bark decoction for an antispasmodic to treat uterine infections, diarrhoea and dysentery, although the pink decoction is said to have a nauseating odor and aftertaste. Used to treat diarrhea in NW Guyana. Part unspecified: Used for treating skin, worm and urinogenital infections, by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

Ref: 3,9,192,216,237,238,245.

Sclerolobium cf. **albiflorum** Benoist

NAMES: Surinam Arawak: jawaredan belero. Surinam Carib: tamoene arauama, tamoene araurama. Surinam Paramaccan: matawai gedoe. Surinam Saramaccan: mattawari ninge djedoe. Surinam Sranan: redi gedoe, rode djedoe, roode djedoe. Surinam Wayana: ah-lah-pah-te.

USES: Stem: Cold water infusion of rasped bark is used by the Surinam Wayana to treat fevers.

Ref: 8,216.

Sclerolobium aff. **melinonii** Harms

NAMES: Surinam: djedoe, witte djedoe. Surinam Arawak: jawalidan, jawalidan hottohotokoro, jawaredan. Surinam Carib: alaoelama, apaakanirian, auraurama, jawalidan lokolemeroe, tamoene araurama, toepoeroe aloelama. Surinam Paramaccan: kiaguidia. Surinam Saramaccan: djakidja. Surinam Sranan: djadidja. Surinam Tirio: u-de-pwe-muh. Surinam Wayana: u-ruh-huh-e-yeh.

USES: Whole plant: The Surinam Tirio use water from the liana as a wash for children with fever.

Stem: Infusion of the rasped bark is used by the Surinam Wayana as a wash for treating cramps.

Ref: 8,216.

Senna alata (L.) Roxb. (*Cassia alata* L.)

USES: Root: Infusion for tympanitis. Cooked in water for uterus problems and filaria worm expulsion. In NW Guyana, used for diarrhea, bete rouge, as laxative, and for sores and skin fungi.

Flower: Used as laxative and for worms in NW Guyana. Leaf, Flower and Fruit: Mixed in an infusion for stomach problems. Leaf: Infusion for a laxative tea and to cleanse the blood. In a

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tincture for skin blemishes and ringworm. Finely ground and used alone or mixed with oil to treat various skin conditions, such as tetter, scurf, scaling skin, ulcers, eczema, ringworm, dermatitis; decoction as an externally applied febrifuge; decocted with or without *Tripogandra serrulata* and *Persea americana* for biliousness and hypertension. Decocted with egg-white and "casareep" for pneumonia, colds and fever. Flower: Decoction for a vermifuge; decoction with *Zingiber officinale* for grippe and as an abortifacient; decocted with coconut milk for a laxative; infusion for remedying spleen conditions. Seed: Cooked and used as a laxative anthelmintic remedy for intestinal worms. CHEM: Leaf contains purgative anthraquinone, and shows some antimicrobial activity. Stem contains chrysophanol, emodin, rhein and aloe emodin (3). Leaf and fruit contain purgative anthracene derivatives of aloe emodin and rhein (3).
Ref: 2,3,4,8,12,14,16,168,193,195,216,234,245.

***Senna bicapsularis* (L.) Roxb. (*Cassia bicapsularis* L.)**

NAME: Guyana: money bush.

USES: Leaf: Infusion or sap from macerated leaves is applied externally, with salt, to treat rashes, sores, bites, stings, eczema, "lotta", scabies, ringworm and thrush.

Ref: 3, *Kvist 374*, coll. 1977 (US).

***Senna hirsuta* (L.) Irwin & Barneby var. *hirsuta* (*Cassia hirsuta* L.)**

NAME: FG Creole: cafe zerb pian.

USES: Root: Tincture is rubbed onto rheumatic areas. Leaf: Infusion is an effective remedy for renal calculi. Seed: Roasted as a coffee substitute.

CHEM: Leaf contains derived anthracenes. Roasting of seed destroys the toxalbumin present in fresh seed.

Ref: 2.

***Senna obtusifolia* (L.) Irwin & Barneby (*Cassia obtusifolia* L.)**

NAME: FG Creole: cafe zerb pian.

USES: Same uses as given for *Senna hirsuta* var. *hirsuta*.

Ref: 2.

***Senna occidentalis* (L.) Link**

NAMES: FG Creole: cafe zerb pian, digo, indigo, indigo cafe. Guyana: cafie balli, mayamal, wild coffee. Guyana Carib: tumuka. Surinam: spookerwt, spookerwten. Surinam Saramaccan Bush Negro: misi konde owi. Surinam Sranan: jorkapesi.

USES: Whole plant: Decoction for hypertension, diabetes, biliousness and fever; grippe, thrush; boiled and gargled for throat trouble; pounded and mixed with wood-ash and rubbed on areas of leishmaniasis and eczema. Used for coughs and colds and for "lining cold" (puerperal fever) in NW Guyana. Root: Tincture rubbed onto rheumatic areas; decoction for a purgative and emetic; infusion for cholagogue and skin diseases. Infusion for bilious fever, ordinary fever, stomachache, and to ease menstruation. Tea made from roots and dried flowers is used for colds and upset stomach. Used for diarrhea in NW Guyana. Leaf: Remedy for renal calculi. Leaves are made into a tea for

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treating afterbirth problems. Used for treating fevers, coughs and colds, headaches, hemorrhage and thrush in NW Guyana. Flower: In a preparation to reduce stomach acid in children. Seed: Dried, pulverised and roasted as a coffee substitute, and for use as a febrifuge. Infusion is drunk to calm one's nerves. In NW Guyana, used for treating kidney problems, hemorrhage, worms, and cleaning womb and tubes in NW Guyana. Part unspecified: Used by the Surinam Saramaccan as an ingredient in a curative herbal bath.

CHEM: Extracts of leaf and seed show antibiotic activity (3,142). Leaf contains flavonoid glycosides, an anthraquinone, and a bianthraquinone (3,46). Seed contains N-methyl morpholine, campesterol and beta-sitosterol glucosides (47).

Ref: 2,3,4,14,190,193,195,216,234,245.

Senna quinquangulata (Rich.) Irwin & Barneby (*Cassia quinquangulata* Rich.)

NAMES: Guyana Arawak: lokonanjo. Surinam Arawak: lokonanjo. Surinam Paramaccan: malako-pesi. Surinam Sranan: jorkapesi, jorkapetie. Surinam Tirio: ah-de-me kah-law. Surinam Wayana: pu-nah-tah-wah. Guyana Patamona: a-gai-mar-gai-yik.

USES: Trunk and Stem: Trunk and stem are scraped, boiled, and the water used as an anti-venom, by the Guyana Patamona. Leaf and Stem: The Surinam Tirio crush the leaves and bark in a decoction to wash body for fevers. Leaf: Cold water infusion used by Surinam Wayana as wash for exhaustion; decocted for a fever remedy by the French Guiana Wayapi.

Ref: 8,192,216, 237.

Senna reticulata (Willd.) Irwin & Barneby (*Cassia reticulata* Willd.)

NAMES: Guyana: carrion crow bush. Surinam: afoejodo, slabriki.

USES: Leaf and Flower: Crushed in water for treating eczema and other skin eruptions, the crushed leaves being used as a sponge. Leaf: For the cure of ringworm in Guyana. Used for treating fevers and pneumonia, and as a laxative in NW Guyana. Flower: As an emetic in Guyana. As a laxative in NW Guyana.

Ref: 190,216,245, *Archer 2509*, coll. 1934 (US).

Senna sophera (L.) Roxb.

USES: Seed: In the vicinity of Georgetown, Guyana the boiled seeds are used for the treatment of Bright's disease.

Ref: *Archer 2626*, coll. 1934 (US).

Swartzia bannia Sandwith

NAME: Guyana Patamona: pa-ra-guay-yik.

USES: Bark: Bark is boiled with water and drunk as an antidiarrheal, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Swartzia benthamiana Miquel var. **benthamiana**

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NAMES: French Guiana: agui, anakoko, montouchi, namba. Guyana Akawaio: okraprabu. Guyana Macushi: morompo. Surinam: bergibebe, gandoe, ijzerhart, itikiboro djamaro, kakabroeke. Surinam Akuriyo: kah-lah-lu-e-bwe-muh. Surinam Arawak: itiki boroballi. Surinam Carib: oelana beta, okelana beta. Surinam Paramaccan: agi, moetoesji, nimba. Surinam Saramaccan: ergi bebe kakabrokoe wajawoe, wajoewoe. Surinam Tirio: kwe-ah-de um-bah-tah.

USES: Whole plant: The Surinam Wayana put the red latex on a piece of cotton which is packed into the cavity of a tooth to relieve toothache. Stem and Leaf: Crushed leaves and bark are decocted by the Surinam Akuriyo and applied to aching teeth. Used as a sudorific in Guyana.

Ref: 8,9,161,192,216.

Swartzia laevicarpa Amsh.

NAME: Guyana Patamona: tu-mour-reng-yik.

USES: Bark: Bark is scraped, soaked in water, and drunk as a charm for hunting savanna deer, by the Guyana Patamona. Bark is boiled, and the water drunk as an emetic, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Swartzia leiogyne (Sandw.) Cowan

NAME: Guyana Arawak: itikiboroballi.

USES: Part unspecified: Used as a sudorific by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

Ref: 238.

Swartzia panacoco (Aublet) Cowan (*Robinia panacoco* Aublet; *Swartzia tomentosa* DC.)

NAMES: French Guiana: grand panacoco. Guyana: ironwood. Guyana Patamona: karwai.

USES: Stem: Decoction of the bark is drunk as a sudorific in Guyana and French Guiana. Bark contains a balsamic red resin.

Ref: 7,8,9,149,154,192.

Swartzia sp.

NAME: Surinam Tirio: ku-ta-do.

USES: Stem: The Surinam Tirio use a decoction of the bark for malaria.

Ref: 8.

Tachigali paniculata Aublet

NAMES: Surinam Creole: bois-fourmi. Surinam Galibi: tachigali. Surinam Paramaccan: gangi udu, kotikoe. Surinam Paramaccan and Sranan: gedoe. Surinam Sranan: miragedoe. Surinam Tirio: she-den-yeh. Surinam Wayana: yeh-neh-ah-pu.

USES: Stem: Cold water infusion of the bark is used by the Surinam Wayana for stomachache.

CHEM: Indole alkyl amines are present in small amounts (10).

NOTES: This plant is used as a pain reliever or stimulant by the Makuna, Kubeo, Tikuna and Aiwano Amerindians of northwestern Amazonia (10).

Ref: 8.

Medicinal Plants of the Guianas (Guyana, Surinam, French Guiana)

Tamarindus indica L.

NAMES: French Guiana: bois des iles, tamarinier. Guyana: tamarind. Guyana and Surinam Hindi: imli. Surinam: tamarinde, tamaring. Surinam Javan: asem. Surinam Sranan: tamaren, tamarin.

USES: Leaf: Warmed and tied to affected areas to relieve swellings and pains, particularly sprains. Decoction or infusion for a coolant, and for bathing sores or to bathe persons suffering from measles or allergies; in a rash and scabies remedy. Leaf and Flower: In a sweetened tea drunk by children for measles. In a preparation which was drunk in early Guyana as a malaria remedy instead of drinking rain water. Fruit: Syrup of ripe fruit is drunk for keeping digestive organs in good condition, for an aperient, as well as for a cough medicine and to remedy chest colds; pulp as a laxative. Flesh of fruit eaten to cure fevers and control gastric acid. Flower: Decoction of flower buds used to remedy children's bedwetting and urinary complaints.

CHEM: Plant contains pyrazines and thiazoles; seed contains polyoses; bark yields proanthocyanidin and hordenine (3,50).

Ref: 3,154,161,190,193,195,216.

Vouacapoua americana Aublet

NAMES: Surinam: broinharti, bruinhart, tjatjaboetja. Surinam Arawak: dakamaballi, dakamballi. Surinam Carib, Tirio and Wayana: wah-kah-pu. Surinam Carib: tjanaren wakapoe, wakapoe. Surinam Paramaccan: boena-ati. Surinam Sranan: broin-ati.

USES: Stem: Wood decoction as a wash for body aches caused by overwork. Bark decoction drunk to treat malaria. Leaf: Decoction as wash for fevers.

Ref: 8,216.

CAMPANULACEAE

Centropogon cornutus (L.) Druce

NAMES: FG Creole: radie petey, Saint John. Guyana: karo-shiri, parrot-beak.

USES: Whole plant: Boiled and the liquid is drunk to remedy venereal disease in Guyana. Exudate: Used for irritated eyes in NW Guyana. Leaf: Used for a tonic and abortive decoction in French Guiana. Used for bed wetting and to treat urinary tract problems in NW Guyana. Flower: An infusion of the flowers steeped in hot water with silks (elongated styles) from maize (*Zea mays*) is used as a diuretic to treat stricture in Guyana.

CHEM: Contains chelidonic acid.

Ref: 2,3,245.

CANNABINACEAE

Medicinal Plants of the Guianas (Guyana, Surinam, French Guiana)

Cannabis sativa L.

NAMES: Guyana: cannabis, marijuana. Surinam: hennep. Surinam Hindi: ganja.

USES: Leaf: Occasionally smoked as a narcotic, although cultivation of the plant is discouraged.

Ref: 14,173.

CANNACEAE

Canna indica L.

NAMES: French Guiana: balisier. Surinam: canna. Surinam Creole: joro-joro, kanan. Surinam Oyana: palaka. Surinam Sranan: sakasiri.

USES: Root: Diuretic. Juice from roots is used for treating venereal disease, by the Guyana Patamona. Rhizome: Infusion for a stimulant and febrifuge. Decoction for a diaphoretic and diuretic. Made into an emollient cataplasm. Leaf: Leaves are boiled, and the water used as a diuretic, by the Guyana Patamona. Leaf and Seed: Leaves and powdered seeds are mixed, and used to treat dermatoses, by the Guyana Patamona. Seed: In Surinam, seeds are mixed with water in a poultice which is placed on the forehead to remedy headache. Seeds are ground into a powder, and used as an anti-infective agent or as a treatment for persistent sores and “bush yaws”, by the Guyana Patamona. Seeds are crushed into a powder and used for treating itching, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 4,154,195,197, 237.

CAPPARACEAE

Capparis cf. maroniensis Benoist

NAME: Guyana Patamona: kha-rie-bung-yik.

USES: Bark: Bark is stripped from the trunk and used as paper for rolling tobacco, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Cleome spinosa Jacq.

USES: Leaf: Juice of leaf is a vesicant which is used in French Guiana as a substitute for cantharides (Spanish fly) without having an unpleasant affect on the urinary tract.

Ref: 154.

Cleome sp.

NAME: French Guiana: radier colique.

USES: Whole plant: Infusion for treating colic in babies.

Ref: 4.

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Crateva tapia L.

NAME: French Guiana: tapier.

USES: Root: Bitter, vesicant. Stem: Bitter, tonic, used for treating intermittent fevers.

Ref. 154.

CAPRIFOLIACEAE

Sambucus canadensis L. (*Sambucus simpsonii* Rehder)

NAMES: FG Creole: fleur sirio, siro, sureau. Surinam: vlier.

USES: Leaf: Crushed, added to petroleum, and applied onto skin to treat whitlow. Decoction in a bath as a febrifuge and for measles. Inflorescence: Infusion is an emetic for grippe.

CHEM: Flower is rich in potassium, nitrate, mucilage, polyphenolic and chlorogenic acids, and the flavonoid rutoside.

NOTE: *Sambucus simpsonii* is synonymous with this plant, according to Howard, R.A. 1989. *Flora of the Lesser Antilles* 6: 473-474, whereas *S. simpsonii* is treated as a distinct species by Grenand et al. (1987, p. 179 [Ref. 2] and by Little, E.L. et al. 1974. *Trees of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands* 2: 980).

Ref. 2,195.

CARICACEAE

Carica papaya L.

NAMES: FG Creole: papaye, papayer. FG Wayapi: mau. Guyana: papaw, papaya. Surinam: papaja, papaya. Surinam Javan: kates. Guyana Patamona: ma-pa-ya-yik, map-pa-ya-yik.

USES: Root: Infusion in alcohol is rubbed on the limbs to treat rickets; for bladder and kidney problems. Infusion of root-bark used as an aphrodisiac; macerated root employed in gonorrhoea treatment. Decoction used externally for abdominal stricture, also drunk for the same purpose. Root is boiled, and the water drunk as an antidiarrheal, as an antimalarial or as a treatment for intestinal worm infection, by the Guyana Patamona. Bark: Used for diarrhoea in NW Guyana. Leaf: As a meat tenderizer. Green leaves cooked for a tertiary malaria remedy; for irregular bowel movement in children. For high blood pressure and painful womb; smoked for asthma. Used for diarrhoea in NW Guyana. Flower: Infusion for laryngitis and bronchitis. In milk and butter for an appetite stimulant. Used to treat venereal disease in NW Guyana. Fruit: Sap (milky latex) is drunk in water for intestinal colic, worms in intestinal mucous membranes, and children's chlorosis. Sap is drunk for a mild digestive and anthelmintic, and to treat sunburn-caused reddish patches; latex for dyspepsia, gastritis and gastroenteritis. Pulp mixed with lard in a pomade to remedy abscesses; infusion of young, latex-filled, green fruit as a children's vermifuge; juice to dissolve warts, hypertension and diabetes. Latex locally applied for toothache. Immature fruit is boiled and eaten as

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an anti-hypertensive, by the Guyana Patamona. Use for hypertension in NW Guyana. Seed: Eaten as a children's vermifuge, anthelmintic, laxative; to increase visual acuity.

CHEM: Latex contains the protein-degrading (proteolytic) and mucolytic enzymes papain and chymopapain. Plant contains hydrocyanic acid, carpaine, terpene hydrocarbons, terpene alcohols, cyanogenic glycosides (3,51,166).

NOTES: Fruit is employed to induce abortion in China and Colombia. The Tikuna of Colombia eat the grated immature fruit with aspirin to induce abortion (10,52).

Ref: 2,3,4,154,168,173,190,193,195, 237,245.

CARYOCARACEAE

Caryocar glabrum (Aublet) Pers.

NAMES: French Guiana: pekea, pikia. Guyana Akawaio: walgo, waruko. Guyana Arawak: kula. Guyana Creole: water sawari. Guyana Macushi: kawai, tararongye. Surinam: sopo-oedoe.

USES: Stem: Surinam Amerindians use the stem-bark for its saponin content as a hairwash. Fruit: In Surinam, the shell of the fruit is burned along with maize (*Zea mays*) and banana peels, mixed with cinnamon and anise in water, and ingested to cure diarrhoea. Seed: Contains a buttery substance used to soothe burns.

Ref: 14,154,192,195.

Caryocar microcarpum Ducke

NAMES: FG Creole: chawari d'l'eau. FG Palikur: kwailu. Guyana Arawak: kula. Guyana Creole: bats sawari, water sawari.

USES: Stem: The French Guiana Palikur mix the bark in water with leaves of *Elephantopus scaber* and *Lagenaria siceraria* as a foot-bath remedy for the "puwuski" mycosis and "wiuri" microfilarial worms. Bark used to treat back pain in NW Guyana. Fruit: Nuts are used as a fish poison, by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

CHEM: Stem and leaf contain triterpene saponins, free triterpenes and tannins. Fruit contains ichthyotoxic and ant-repellent chemicals (10,150,151).

Ref: 2,192, 238,245.

Caryocar nuciferum L.

NAMES: FG Garipon: tata-youba. Guyana Akawaio: imbo. Guyana Arawak: hora. Guyana Carib: alokomali. Guyana Creole: butternut, sawari. Guyana Patamona: imba. Surinam: sawarinoot. Surinam Arawak: hoera. Surinam Carib: soeari. Surinam Creole: ingi-noto.

USES: Whole plant: Used for a febrifuge in Guyana. Fruit: Edible, tasty.

Ref: 9,192.

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CARYOPHYLLACEAE

Drymaria cordata (L.) Willd. ex Roem. & Schult. (*Holosteum cordata* L.)

NAME: French Guiana: mignonette. Guyana Patamona: ka-ri-ma-tak-yik.

USES: Whole plant: Plant is boiled, and the water drunk as a medication for colds, or the plant is chewed for the same purpose, by the Guyana Patamona. Plant is boiled, and the water drunk as an antimalarial, as a diuretic or as a treatment for biliousness, by the Guyana Patamona. Leaf: Used in a refreshing salad. Leaves are boiled, and the water drunk as a remedy for jaundice, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 154, 237.

CECROPIACEAE

Cecropia angulata I.W. Bailey

NAMES: Guyana Akawaio: kamang. Guyana Arawak: wanasoro. Guyana Creole: congo pump, trumpet tree. Guyana Patamona: ka-mai-ying-yik.

USES: Leaf: Dried leaves are decocted for a diuretic, which is extensively used in Guyana to alleviate kidney disorders. Fresh green leaves are boiled, and the water drunk as an antimalarial, by the Guyana Patamona. Leaves are boiled, and the water drunk as a treatment for back pain or as a tea or tonic, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 9,192, 237.

Cecropia obtusa Trecul

NAMES: FG Creole: bois canon. FG Palikur: tukuwi. Guyana Patamona: ka-ma-ying-yik.

USES: Seedling: In a cataplasm to remedy skin parasites such as fly larvae. Root: Macerated roots are used as a glue, by the Guyana Patamona. Stem: Grated inner bark used in a cataplasm to reduce fractured bones, to resorb haematomas and before cicatrizing a wound. Wood-pulp used in an emollient with *Eupatorium odoratum*. Leaf: Infusion of yellowing leaves is diuretic; infusion of green leaves used in a wash to disinfect the genitals prior to childbirth. Dried leaves are boiled, and the water is drunk for back pain, by the Guyana Patamona. Leaves are boiled and the water drunk to purify the blood by the Guyana Patamona. Used to treat back pain in NW Guyana. Flower: Dried and powdered, then mixed with tallow in a pomade for leishmaniasis.

Ref: 2, 27,245.

Cecropia peltata L. (*Cecropia dielsiana* Snethlage; *Cecropia surinamensis* Miq.)

NAMES: French Guiana: bois-canon, bois canons. Guyana: congo pump, monkey pump, trumpeter, trumpet-tree, wanasoro. Surinam: boesi papaja, busi papaya, oema-boesipapaja, pospapaja.

USES: Stem: Decoction of inner bark for dysentery; hot poultice of young shoots used for dressing ulcers and bush sores; sap used to treat fresh cuts. Juice for warts and darte. Shoot used to treat abscesses, and for wounds and cuts in NW Guyana. Stem and Leaf: A tea or decoction of the dried leaf or inner stem-bark is used in Guyana to treat hypertension and Bright's disease. Bark and leaves

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are an astringent used as an antibleorrhagic. Leaf: Tea prepared from dried leaves used for back pain. In French Guiana, an infusion is sometimes injected vaginally after childbirth. In an infusion to treat albuminuria, kidney infections, heart conditions and nervous diseases, and to promote good kidney function; for albuminuria. Used for back pain, kidney problems, and for sickness in general in NW Guyana.

CHEM: Leaf contains many flavonoids which variously have cardiogenic, vasodilating, spasmolytic, antiedemic, diuretic, hypotensive, anticoagulant, anti-inflammatory or antitumor properties.

Ref: 3,4,9,15,154,193,245.

***Cecropia sciadophylla* Martius**

NAMES: Guyana Akawaio: sararai. Guyana Arawak: wanasoro. Guyana Creole: congo pump, floatwood. Surinam: hoogland-bospapaja. Surinam Arawak: wara-soro. Guyana and Surinam Carib: sorosoro, soro-soro. Surinam Sranan: manboespapaja, manbospapaya, man busi papaya, mang boesi papaja. Surinam Tirio: ku-deh-deh.

USES: Stem: Bark squeezed in water for a preparation to stupefy wasps in Surinam. Bark used to treat abscesses, wounds and cuts, and for kidney problems in NW Guyana. Leaf: Diuretic tea made from the leaves is used to lessen kidney and bladder discomfort. The Surinam Tirio topically apply sap from crushed leaves to treat eye problems, and use a leaf decoction to remedy fevers. In Surinam, a fallen leaf is boiled in water, and the liquid is drunk to calm a nervous heart. Used for heart and liver problems in NW Guyana.

NOTES: An undetermined species of *Cecropia* known to the Surinam Wayana as "tah-da-ha-kah" provides roots which are rubbed on the abdomen to relieve pain caused, it is believed, by an evil curse, and sap which is used as a wash by the Surinam Tirio for treating children's fevers (8).

Ref: 8,14,192,193,245.

***Cecropia* sp.**

NAME: Guyana Creole: congo pump.

USES: Leaf: Leaves are used for healing sores, cuts and skin problems, by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

Ref: 238.

***Cecropia* spp.**

NAMES: Surinam: bospapaja. Surinam Sranan: boesipapaja.

USES: Leaf: Surinam Bush Negroes make a tea for kidney and bladder problems from the leaves. Decoction of leaves of the male plant used for gonorrhoea.

Ref: 195.

***Coussapoa* cf. *asperifolia* Trecul**

NAMES: Surinam Paramaccan: fauchi-inkatoe. Surinam Sranan: abrasa. Surinam Tirio: ahah-de-hah-nah.

USES: Whole plant: Surinam Tirio use the latex as a wash for treatment of fevers.

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Ref: 8.

Coussapoa microcephala Trecul

NAMES: Guyana Arawak: mabakubia, makubia. Guyana Creole: yale.

USES: Whole plant: Watery sap used to treat sore eyes in Guyana.

Ref: 8,48,192.

Pourouma cecropiaefolia Mart.

NAME: Guyana Patamona: mik-wa-yik.

USES: Bark: Warmed bark is used as a poultice for hard boils, by the Guyana Patamona.

NOTE: This plant is a Brazilian species not yet recorded in taxonomic literature from the Guianas.

Ref: 237.

CELASTRACEAE

Goupia glabra Aublet

NAMES: French Guiana, Guyana and Surinam Creole, and French Guiana and Surinam Galibi: goupi. FG Palikur: pasis. FG Wayapi: pasisi. Guyana Akawaio: kabiuk, waramai. Guyana Arawak: kabukalli. Guyana Carib: kupiye. Guyana Creole: stinkwood. Surinam Arawak: kabokhali, kabudalli. Surinam Carib: koepi-i, koepi-ie. Surinam Creole, Sranan and Paramaccan: kopi, kopie. Surinam Tirio: pah-se-se.

USES: Bark: Bark is used for soothing a toothache, by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana. It is used for toothache and to treat chickenpox and eczema in NW Guyana. Stem: Juice from fresh inner bark is applied to cotton wool and inserted in an aching tooth cavity as an excellent dental analgesic. Bark decoction drunk for malaria. Cold water infusion of bark is drunk for a vermifuge. Sap of inner bark drunk as vermifuge. Leaf: Decoction used as a wash to treat headache and fever. In French Guiana, leaves are used in an astringent decoction to treat syphilis.

Ref: 2,8,9,149,154,192, 238,245.

Goupia tomentosa Aublet

NAME: French Guiana: goupi.

USES: Leaf: Crushed leaves yield a juice used to treat eye inflammations.

Ref: 149,154.

Maytenus cf. **guyanensis** Klotzsch ex Reissek

NAMES:

USES: Stem: Bark used for burns in NW Guyana.

Ref: 245.

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Maytenus myrsinoides Reissek

NAMES: Guyana Arawak: kaiarima.

USES: Stem: Decoction of bark used to cleanse sores; fresh inner bark used to dress cuts.

Ref: 9,192.

CHENOPODIACEAE

Chenopodium ambrosioides L. (*Chenopodium anthelminticum* L.)

NAMES: French Guiana: herbe a vers, herbe aux vers, the du Mexique. FG Creole: poudre aux vers, semen-contras, simin contra. Surinam Creole: foekoe, foekoe foekoe menti, foekoe menti, fuku fuku menti, tieni menti, tingimenti, tingi menti, tingi-menti, tinigi menti, worong menti, woronmenti, woron-menti. Guyana Patamona: matrush, tu-ra-ra-yik.

USES: Whole plant: Infusion for children's and adult vermifuge; macerated in rum for grippe; decoction for a vermifuge; decoction and infusion for stomach pain; decoction for internal haemorrhage due to prolapse; for shoulderblade pain; sap to treat wounds. In French Guiana, used as a substitute for *Artemisia semen-contras*, the excellent vermifuge. For urinary tract inflammation in Surinam. Macerated plant in water is used as a herbal bath, by the Guyana Patamona. Plant is boiled and the water drunk as an antidiarrheal, antipyretic, and as a cough medicine by the Guyana Patamona. Dried plant is boiled and used as a tonic by the Guyana Patamona. Leaf: Leaf-sap is mixed with molasses and drunk to expel worms in Surinam. Leaves are boiled, and the water drunk as an antipyretic or a cough medicine, by the Guyana Patamona. Leaf and Inflorescence: Macerated leaves and flowers are mixed with a pinch of salt, and used as a poultice for treating persistent sores, by the Guyana Patamona. Inflorescence: Flowering-tops for anthelmintic in French Guiana.

CHEM: Oil is high in ascaridol, a nematicidal terpene peroxide which is active against ascaris worms and ankylostomes.

NOTES: The plant is often cultivated in Surinam for local use as a vermifuge, and is used as an anaesthetic in Brazil (53,173).

Ref: 2,4,7,14,154,168,193,195,203, 237.

CHRYSOBALANACEAE

Chrysobalanus icaco L.

NAMES: FG Creole: puru, icaquier, prune-coton, prune-coton, prune d'anse, prune de l'anse, prune zicaque. Guyana: caramio. Guyana Arawak: kurimiru. Guyana Creole: fat pork. Surinam Arawak: koenatapie, kodibiussiballi, koelimiro. Surinam Carib: koenoto-epoe, erejoeroe. Surinam Sranan: pruim.

USES: Root, Stem-bark and Leaf: Astringent, used for diarrhoea and leucorrhoea. Root and Leaf: In French Guiana, the juice mixed with oil is used to contract the sphincters of the vulva by women

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wishing to simulate virginity, and the same preparation is used by men for treating flaccid scrotum.

Fruit: Astringent, antidiarrhoeic; edible.

Ref: 2,154,162,192.

Couepia guianensis Aublet

NAMES: French Guiana: couepi, kwepie.

USES: Fruit: Very bitter.

Ref: 154.

Licania alba (Bernoulli) Cuatrecasas (*Licania venosa* Rusby)

NAMES: Guyana Creole: counta, countaballi. Guyana Carib: farsha. Guyana Akawaio: maiwarai. Guyana Arawak: kaudanaro, kautaballi. Guyana Macushi: kauada. Guyana Wapishana: tokor. Guyana Creole and Arawak: brown kaunta.

USES: Stem: Powdered outer bark used to dry and clean ulcers and sores; decoction of inner bark for snakebite. Part unspecified: Used for treating skin ulcers, by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

Ref: 3,8,9,162,192, 238.

Licania cuprea Sandwith

NAMES: Guyana Arawak: araudanni, counta, konoko, kunoko, murikautaballi, unikiakia.

USES: Stem: Bark decoction for tuberculosis.

Ref: 3,8,9,162,192.

Licania cyathodes Benoist

NAMES: FG Creole: bois gaulette. FG Palikur: bukutru ateupriye.

USES: Stem: Bark decocted by the French Guiana Palikur for a tepid bath to remedy the cutaneous eruptions of chicken pox.

Ref: 2,162.

Licania densiflora Kleinh.

NAME: Guyana Patamona: tung-seng-yik.

USES: Bark: Bark is boiled, and the water is drunk as an antiasthmatic, as an antidiarrheal, or “to purify the blood”, by the Guyana Patamona. Inner bark is scraped, boiled and the water used for treating chicken pox, measles or sores, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Licania elliptica Standley

NAMES: Surinam Arawak: marisiballi tataro, marishiballi, marishiballi hariraroe, witte foengoe. Surinam Carib: wekoloe koepesine. Surinam Sranan: bongro, foengoe. Surinam Wayana: mah-kah-ri-mah.

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USES: Seed: The Surinam Wayana rub grated seeds on the forehead to relieve headache.
Ref: 8,162.

Licania heteromorpha Bentham

NAMES: Guyana: kairiaballi. Guyana Patamona: wha-rha-mei-yik.

USES: Bark: Inner bark is boiled and the water drunk as a treatment for tuberculosis, by the Guyana Patamona. Bark used to treat venereal disease in NW Guyana. Part unspecified: Used as an antidiarrheal by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

Ref: 237,238,245.

Licania heteromorpha Bentham var. **perplexans** Sandwith

NAMES: Guyana: counta. Guyana Akawaio: tensen. Guyana Arawak: kairiballi, kairi-balli, kariballi, kautaballi. Guyana Carib: yapopare. Guyana Creole: man wattle. Guyana Wapishana: tiwowatan.

USES: Whole plant: Sap is applied externally to sores and skin blemishes such as "lotta", a fungal infection. Stem: Infusion of bark used to treat gonorrhoea and diarrhoea; powdered outer bark sprinkled on wounds to keep them clean and dry.

Ref: 3,8,9,162,192.

Licania macrophylla Bentham

NAMES: FG Creole: anawa, grisgris rouge, gris-gris coumate. FG Palikur: inura. FG Paramacca: anaola. FG Wayapi: anawila. Surinam: sergeants-kloot, sponshoedoe, sponshout. Surinam Arawak: alauna, anaura.

USES: Stem: Bark used in antidiarrheal decoction by French Guiana Wayapi. Seed: Macerated aril used in an antidiarrheal decoction.

CHEM: Seed-oil contains licanic acid.

Ref: 2,8,162.

Licania micrantha Miquel

NAMES: French Guiana: bois gaulette. FG Wayapi: pali, payula. Guyana Akawaio: mai, maiwarai. Guyana Carib: farsha, soroma. Guyana and Surinam Arawak: marishiballi. Surinam Arawak: marishiballi kibebe kiberoebana. Surinam Arekuna: macara-yek. Surinam Carib: saroma oembakoloire. Surinam Sranan: braka foengoe, foengoe, man foengoe, santihoedoe. Surinam Tirio: pi-pah-nah-pe-de. Surinam Wayana: kah-de-poi-muh.

USES: Stem: The Surinam Tirio rub the rasped bark onto the forehead and in the hair to relieve headache. Seed: Kernel is eaten by French Guiana Wayapi.

Ref: 8,54,162,192.

Licania persaudii Fanshawe & Maguire

NAME: Guyana Arawak and Creole: white kaunta.

USES: Part unspecified: Used as a cough medicine by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

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Ref: 238.

Licania sp.

NAME: Guyana Patamona: e-tha-nea-pu-lei-yik.

USES: Bark: Inner bark is scraped, boiled and the water drunk as an antiasthmatic to treat tuberculosis, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Parinari campestris Aublet

NAMES: Guyana Akawaio: makarai. Guyana Arawak: burada. Guyana Carib: kupisini. Guyana Creole: candlewood. Guyana Macushi: wamuku. Guyana Wapishana: wamuk. Surinam: foengoe.

USES: Stem: In Surinam, the thick, brown indumentum (coat of hairs) is mixed with sweet oil and applied in a poultice to hasten expulsion of filaria worms from an infected leg.

Ref: 192,195.

Parinari parvifolia Sandwith

NAME: Guyana Arawak: bohorada.

USES: Part unspecified: Used for treating snakebite by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

Ref: 238.

Parinari rodolphii Hub.

USES: Stem: Bark used to treat snakebites in NW Guyana.

Ref: 245.

Parinari sp.

NAMES: Guyana Arawak: aiomoradan, burada.

USES: Stem: Decoction of the outer bark for an aphrodisiac.

Ref: 9.

CLUSIACEAE

Calophyllum brasiliense Camb.

NAMES: FG Creole: bois caiman, manil rouge.

USES: Stem: The French Guiana Palikur employ the trunk-bark in a decoction with the root-bark of *Coutarea hexandra* as an antidiabetic and vermifuge.

CHEM: Plant contains xanthenes including guanandine, isoguanandine and jacareubine.

Ref: 2.

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Calophyllum lucidum Benth

NAMES: Guyana Akawaio: kopo, marawaro. Guyana Arawak and Creole: korahara, kurahara. Guyana Macushi: serena, se-re-na. Guyana Wapishana: watschir.

USES: Part unspecified: Used by the Guyana Arawak to dress sores, and for a headache remedy by the Guyana Akawaio.

Ref: 190,191,192.

Caraipa densifolia Martius

NAME: Surinam: laksiri.

USES: Stem: Yields a gummy resin (balsam) used to treat wounds and rubbed on skin to treat skin diseases.

Ref: 193,195.

Clusia cuneata Benth

NAME: Guyana Patamona: mang-yik.

USES: Root: Root is boiled, and the water drunk as an antidiysenteric, by the Guyana Patamona.

Bark: Bark is boiled with water and used as an antidiarrheal and an antidiysenteric, by the Guyana Patamona. Latex: Latex is applied onto persistent sores for rapid healing, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Clusia fockeana Miquel

NAMES: Guyana Akawaio: wakwami. Guyana Arawak: madaburi. Guyana Patamona: mang-yik.

USES: Bark: Bark is boiled and the water drunk as an antidiarrheal, by the Guyana Patamona.

Stem: Poultice of pulverised young stem applied externally for snakebite and ulcers. Exudate of stem used in the same way.

Ref: 3,192.

Clusia grandiflora Splitgerber

NAMES: FG Creole: bois roi. FG Palikur: patakwik. Guyana: kupa-rope. Guyana Akawaio: kopai, rumak. Guyana and Surinam Arawak: kufa. Guyana Macushi: kodawkodaw. Surinam Carib: prespres. Surinam Sranan: abrasa. Surinam Wayana: da-da ah-nah-pah-mwe. Guyana Patamona: nuu-yik. Guyana Arawak: kupa.

USES: Whole plant: Decocted with species of *Smilax*, *Strychnos*, *Doliocarpus*, *Philodendron* and *Bauhinia scala-simiae* for a tonic. Liquid from the cut liana used by Surinam Tirio as a wash to relieve aching bones. Exudate: Used as treatment for botfly larvae in NW Guyana. Aerial Root: Cut pieces soaked in water or wine make an infusion used as tonic for back pain; latex is used effectively in a plaster by the French Guiana Palikur to treat body aches. Root used to treat back pain in NW Guyana. Bark: Latex from the bark is applied to wounds for healing, by the Guyana Patamona. Latex is mixed with water and used as an antiseptic, by the Guyana Patamona. Wood: Wood is boiled, and the water is used as an antiseptic agent, for treating sores or as a treatment for

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cuts and wounds, by the Guyana Patamona. Sap: Sap is used to remove botfly larvae, by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

CHEM: Leaf is rich in flavonoids.

Ref: 2,3,8,192,237, 238,245.

Clusia nemorosa G. Meyer

NAMES: FG Creole: bois roi. FG Palikur: patakwik. Guyana Arawak: madaburi. Guyana Patamona: mang-yik.

USES: Aerial Root: The French Guiana Palikur use the latex in a plaster on painful areas to effectively treat body aches. Bark: Macerated inner bark is mixed with a small amount of water and used as an antiseptic or as a treatment for cuts and wounds, by the Guyana Patamona. Latex from the bark is used as a treatment for cracked heels, by the Guyana Patamona. Latex is used for dermatoses, to treat persistent sores and for “bush yaws”, by the Guyana Patamona. Latex is mixed with water and used as an antiseptic, by the Guyana Patamona.

CHEM: Leaf is rich in flavonoids.

Ref: 2,192,237.

Clusia* cf. *palmicida L.C. Rich.

NAME: Guyana Patamona: ka-ro-yik.

USES: Exudate: Used for treatment of botfly larvae in NW Guyana. Aerial Root: Used in treatment of impotence and for back pain in NW Guyana. Bark: Bark is boiled with water and drunk as an antidysenteric, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237,245.

Clusia panapanari (Aublet) Choisy

NAMES: FG Creole: bois roi. FG Palikur: patakwik. Guyana Arawak: kufa. Guyana Patamona: mang-yik.

USES: Aerial Root: Same uses as given for *Clusia nemorosa*. Used for treating back pain in NW Guyana. Bark: Bark is scraped and boiled, the water is allowed to cool and drunk for “bad-belly” (bloody dysentery), by the Guyana Patamona. Latex: Purgative.

CHEM: Leaf is rich in flavonoids.

Ref: 2,154,192,237,245.

Clusia rosea Jacq.

NAMES: French Guiana: bois roi, figuier maudit, mille-pieds. Guyana Arawak: kufa.

USES: Whole plant: Latex is bitter, balsamic, purgative. Flower: Bechic.

Ref: 154,168,192.

Ckusia schomburgkiana (Planch. & Triana) Benth. ex Engler

NAME: Guyana Patamona: mang-yik.

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USES: Bark: Inner bark is boiled with water and drunk as an antidiarrheal and as an antidysenteric (bloody dysentery), by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Clusia scrobiculata Benoist

NAMES: FG Creole: bois roi. FG Palikur: patakwik. Guyana Patamona: mang-yik.

USES: Aerial Root: Same uses as given for *Clusia nemorosa*. Root is boiled and the water drunk as an antidysenteric, by the Guyana Patamona.

CHEM: Leaf is rich in flavonoids.

Ref: 2, 237.

Havetiopsis flavida (Benth.) Planch. & Triana

NAME: Guyana Patamona: mang-yik.

USES: Bark: Juice from macerated bark is mixed with a little water, and used as an antiseptic, by the Guyana Patamona. Latex from the bark is applied to cuts and wounds for healing, by the Guyana Patamona. Latex is used for treating cracked heels, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Mahurea palustris Aublet

NAME: FG Palikur: atitkamwi.

USES: Latex: Used in combination with latex of *Hura crepitans* as a war poison by the French Guiana Palikur.

Ref: 2.

Mammea americana L.

NAMES: French: abricot d'Amerique. FG Creole: abricot-pays. Surinam: mami.

USES: Seed: In French Guiana, an insecticide is made from the seeds which will repel ticks and sand fleas from the flooring of dwellings; rubbed on skin to repel lice. In Surinam, finely ground seeds are mixed with the sap and used to kill sand fleas ("sika") on the feet and skin. In NW Guyana, used to treat jiggers, fleas and lice.

CHEM: Contains coumarins, especially mammeine.

Ref: 2,14,193,195,245.

Moronobea coccinea Aublet

NAME: Guyana Patamona: mo-rum-bai-yik.

USES: Bark: Inner bark is scraped, boiled, and the water used as a herbal bath or as an antiseptic for various skin conditions, by the Guyana Patamona. Inner bark is scraped and rubbed on the skin as a treatment for chicken pox, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

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Platonia insignis Mart.

NAME: Guyana Patamona: kah-nong-yik.

USES: Bark: Bark is boiled, and the water drunk as an antidiarrheal, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Rheedia benthamiana Planch. & Triana

NAMES: FG Creole: confiture macaque, gros piton. FG Palikur: wakukwatirano. FG Wayapi: kulupita. Guyana Arawak: asashi. Guyana Arecuna: awarintaru. Guyana Macushi: arawindru. Guyana Wapishana: achedan.

USES: Latex: The French Guiana Palikur use the latex in a plaster for bruised and battered muscles, and the remedy is completed with a decoction of the young branches.

CHEM: Root-bark contains rheediaxanthones.

Ref: 2,192.

Rheedia macrophylla (Mart.) Planch. & Triana

NAMES: French Guiana and Surinam Creole: confiture macaque. FG Creole: gros piton. FG Palikur: wakukwatirano. FG Wayapi: kulupita. Guyana Arawak: asashi. Surinam Akuriyo: puh-leh-pwe-mih. Surinam Arawak: arashi. Surinam Carib: pakoerian. Surinam Sranan: pakoeli. Surinam Tirio: i-u-mah-rah da-to-to. Surinam Wayana: pah-ku-de.

USES: Stem: Latex in a plaster for bruised muscles; inner bark is rasped into cold water and infusion drunk for stomachache and diarrhoea. Stem and Leaf: Decoction of leaves and bark for relief of pains in the side of body; latex for skin sores. Leaf: Surinam Tirio use a decoction of boiled leaves as wash for fevers caused by eating fish, and decoction poured into cracks in the skin of the foot.

Ref: 2,8,192.

Rheedia virens Planch. & Triana

USES: Latex: Vomitive.

Ref: 154.

Symphonia globulifera L. fil.

NAMES: FG Creole, Surinam Arawak and Creole: mani. FG Wayapi: wanani. Guyana Akawaio: maitakin. Guyana Arawak: manni. Guyana Creole: buckwax tree. Guyana Macushi: karamanni. Surinam Creole: mataki. Surinam Saramaccan: manipau. Surinam Sranan: mataki. Guyana Patamona: mi-dah-ying-yik, mi-ta-king-yik.

USES: Bark: Latex from the bark is used as wax, by the Guyana Patamona. Stem: Latex is applied in a wrap on various dermatoses, particularly eczematous ones. Bark infusion for bathing ulcers. Used for diarrhea, thrush, and for sickness in general in NW Guyana. Latex is hardened, burnt and the ash is used as paint, by the Guyana Patamona. Exudate used for treatment of abscesses in NW Guyana. Seed: Used to treat skin fungi in NW Guyana. Part unspecified: Burnt ash is used for treating sores, by the Guyana Patamona.

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CHEM: Wood contains euxanthone, maclurine, polyhydroxyl xanthenes and benzophenone precursors.

Ref: 2,9,190,192,195, 237,245.

Tovomita calodictyos Sandwith

NAME: Guyana Patamona: mu-le-a-yik.

USES: Bark: Bark is heated and used as an emollient, by the Guyana Patamona. Fruit: Fruit is boiled, and the water drunk as an intoxicating beverage, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Tovomita obovata Engler

NAME: Guyana Arawak: awasokule.

USES: Sap: Sap is used to remove botfly larvae, by Amerindians at Kurupukari, Guyana.

Ref: 238.

Tovomita schomburgkii Planch. & Triana

NAME: Guyana Patamona: wa-ka-mik-yik.

USES: Root: Bark of the root is boiled and the water drunk as an aphrodisiac, for back pain and for impotence, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Vismia cayennensis (Jacquin) Persoon

NAMES: French Guiana: baptiste, bois-batiste, bois-a-fievre, bois d'acajoes, bois-sang, gomme-gutte d'Amerique, gomme-gutte de la Guyane. Guyana Arawak: orali. FG Boni: pindia udu. FG Creole: bois darte. FG Palikur: suwinpa. FG Wayana: osiepit. FG Wayapi: suwilani. Guyana Creole: bloodwood. Surinam: pinja. Surinam Arawak: orali. Surinam Sranan: oemapinja. Surinam Tirio: mah-ne-muh, weh-de-gui-mah. Guyana Patamona: wa-ya-mak-yik, wong-we-sa-yik.

USES: Bark: Juice from macerated bark is applied around the groin region as an antiherpetic, by the Guyana Patamona. Stem: Orange latex from inner bark is applied onto skin infections; inner bark with heavy latex content in a decoction for a body-wash to treat skin rash, scabies and other cutaneous eruptions, dermatitis, and as a mouthwash for children's gum infections. Fruit: Latex for treating yaws and leishmaniasis. Part unspecified: Latex is used in an ointment as an antipruritic, as an anti-fungal agent, or for treating scaling of the skin, by the Guyana Patamona. Latex is used as an antiinfective agent, by the Guyana Patamona. Latex is dropped into the eyes to cure infections, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 2,8,154,192,195, 237.

Vismia glaziovii Ruhl. (*Vismia amazonica* Ewan)

NAME: Guyana Patamona: wa-ya-mak-yik.

USES: Bark: Orange-red latex from the bark is applied onto the skin as an anti-fungal, by the Guyana Patamona. Bark and Sap: Bark and sap are applied to persistent sores for complete healing,

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by the Guyana Patamona. Sap: Orange-yellow sap is applied on the skin for treating ringworm as an anti-fungal, by the Guyana Patamona. Sap is used for treating eczema, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Vismia guianensis (Aublet) Choisy

NAMES: FG Creole: bois dartre, bois de sang, bois a la fievre. Guyana: bloodwood, fine-leaf bloodwood, small-leaf bloodwood. Guyana Akawaio: waiama. Guyana and Surinam Arawak: orali. Guyana Wapishana: tawayor. Surinam Arawak: warha. Surinam Carib: ajoewinani, sjoewingni, tamoene, tapirin soewinjani, wakere soewinjani, weh-de-wheh-pwe-muh. Surinam Sranan: weti pinja. Guyana Patamona: wa-ya-mac-yik.

USES: Whole plant: Latex for purgative, and to relieve itching, "lotta", ground itch (athlete's foot), ulcers, minor cuts and bruises. Latex is applied onto ringworm and other fungal infections for healing, and is applied onto persistent sores to promote healing, by the Guyana Patamona. In NW Guyana, exudate used to treat ground itch, fungal infections and warts. Bark: Juice from macerated bark is used as an anti-infective agent, by the Guyana Patamona. Bark used to treat sores in NW Guyana. Stem and Leaf: Boiled together and drunk for thrush. Stem: Orange latex from inner bark is applied on skin infections, e.g., white spots called "oxi" by Surinam Tirio and Wayana. Leaf: Boiled for intermittent fevers. Fruit: Latex for yaws and leishmaniasis.

CHEM: Plant contains the terpene phellandrene, flavonoids, coumarins and rodoxantin (55). Fruit contains ferruginin A, delta-hydroxyferruginin A and delta-y-dihydroxyferruginin A (196).

Ref: 2,3,8,9,149,192, 237,245.

Vismia japurensis Reich.

NAME: Guyana Patamona: wa-ya-mac-yik.

USES: Latex: Latex is used for treating ringworm, as an anti-fungal, by the Guyana Patamona. Latex is vigorously applied around the genital area to cure herpes, by the Guyana Patamona.

Ref: 237.

Vismia latifolia (Aublet) Choisy

NAMES: FG Creole: bois dartre, bois de sang, bois a la fievre. Guyana Arawak: orali. Guyana Creole: bloodwood.

USES: Whole plant: Exudate applied to skin ailments ("dartre") to relieve itching; exudate drunk for purgative. Stem: Inner bark, which produces orange latex, is applied onto skin infections. Fruit: Latex for treating yaws and leishmaniasis.

Ref: 2,8,149,192.

Vismia laxiflora Reich.

USES: Stem: Exudate used to treat fungi affecting the skin in NW Guyana. Bark used for eczema, itches and skin fungi in NW Guyana.

Ref: 245.

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***Vismia macrophylla* Kunth**

NAMES: Guyana Creole: bloodwood, large-leaf bloodwood. Guyana Arawak: orali. Guyana Patamona: why-ah-mac-yik, wouy-wey-yik, wa-ya-mak-yik.

USES: Bark: Inner bark is boiled, and the water drunk as an antidiarrheal, by the Guyana Patamona. Inner bark is ground into powder and inserted into the vagina as a treatment for genital herpes or as a treatment for syphilis, by the Guyana Patamona. Macerated inner bark is used for treating yeast infections, by the Guyana Patamona. In NW Guyana, bark is used in the treatment of fungal infections. Bark and Latex: Inner bark and latex are used as an anti-fungal, by the Guyana Patamona. Latex: Orange latex from inner bark is used to treat measles, ulcers, bush yaws, ringworm, "lotta" and many other skin infections. Latex is used as a medicament for treating genital herpes, as an anti-infective, as an ointment for treating eczema, for itching or for scaling, and also as a medicament for ringworm infection, by the Guyana Patamona. Latex is applied to athlete's foot as a treatment for healing, by the Guyana Patamona. In NW Guyana, it is used in the treatment of fungal infections. Leaf: Used to treat diarrhea in NW Guyana. Fruit: Latex is employed in treating yaws and leishmaniasis.

CHEM: The fruit of *Vismia* spp. contains anthracene derivatives such as vismin, ferruginins A and B, haruganin and ferruanthrone (3). Amazonian *Vismia* spp. contain vismiaquinone.

Ref: 2,3,192, 237,245.

***Vismia sandwithii* Ewan**

USES: Same uses as given for *Vismia macrophylla*.

Ref: 2.

***Vismia sessilifolia* (Aublet) Choisy (*Hypericum sessilifolium* Aublet; *Vismia rufescens* (Lam.) Pers.)**

NAMES: French Guiana: bois baptiste, bois dartre, millipertuis. Guyana Arawak: orali. Guyana Creole: bloodwood.

USES: Whole plant: Latex as a purge, and for treating ulcers and skin eruptions such as dartre. Stem: Orange latex from inner bark is applied onto skin infections. Leaf: Boiled and drunk for intermittent fevers. Fruit: Latex for treating yaws and leishmaniasis.

Ref: 2,7,8,154,168,192.

COMBRETACEAE

***Buchenavia parvifolia* Ducke**

USES: Leaf: The Guyana Waiwai boil the leaves with *Trichomanes* sp. to make a decoction for internal bleeding.

Ref: 8,16.

***Bucida buceras* L.**

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NAME: French Guiana: grignon.

USES: Stem: Bark is astringent.

Ref. 149,154.

Combretum cacoucia (Baill.) Exell ex Sandwith

NAMES: FG Palikur: karu arib. Guyana Arawak: yariman. Surinam Arawak: jalimana. Surinam Carib: sekema. Surinam Creole: fremoesoe-wisi.

USES: Seed: Burnt for the fumigant smoke which repels bats in the house.

Ref. 2,14,192.

Combretum rotundifolium L.C. Rich.

NAMES: FG Creole: peigne singe rouge. FG Palikur: meu abesu. Guyana Creole: bottlebrush, firebrush.

USES: Stem: Crushed for an externally applied decoction as a febrifuge; French Guiana Wayapi rub sap on forehead to alleviate headache.

NOTES: The Karijona tribe of Colombia chew the flowers to strengthen gums that are bleeding and weak (10).

Ref. 2,192.

Terminalia catappa L.

NAMES: French Guiana: amandier, badanier. Surinam: amandel. Surinam Sranan: amandra.

USES: Root: Root-bark is astringent; decoction used for dysentery, diarrhoea, intestinal catarrh and to treat bleeding. Stem: Stem-bark used for bilious fevers. Leaf: Macerated in palm oil and applied to abscessed tonsils. Leaves are mixed with guava root-bark in a preparation to remedy dysentery.

Ref. 154,195.