REVIEW ARTICLE

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A Review on an important plant-Tila (Sesamum indicum)

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Abstract

Sesame is a condiment which is used in every house hold for culinary, religious and medicinal purposes. The seeds of *Tila* (*Sesamum indicum* Linn.) have *Katu, tikta, kashaya, madhura rasa, snigdhaguna, Katuvipaka, UshnaVirya, Vatahara karma. Tila* belongs to Pedaliacae family, grows allover India. It is having proteins, Moisture, Fats, Carbohydrates, Oxalic acid, Calcium, phosphorus etc. *Tila* is having *Katu, Tikta, Kashaya, Madhura Rasa, Snigdha Guna, Ushnaa Virya, Katu Vipaka. Tila* is mentioned in *Charkokta Swedopaga Mahakashaya, Purishveranjaniya Mahakashaya and Sushrutokta Mudgaadi gana*. It's useful part is seed, leaves, roots etc. It's important formulations are *Narayana Taila, Nirgundi Taila, Shadbindu Taila* etc. It is used as an adulterant in Olive oil and Almond oil. The present article aims in projecting a detailed review of the plant regarding its morphology, chemical composition and pharmacological properties.

Keywords

Tila, Morphology, Chemical composition, Rasapanchaka, Therepeutic uses



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INTRODUCTION

Sesamum is a flowering plant in the genus Sesamum, also called benne. It is widely naturalized in tropical regions around the world and is cultivated for its edible seeds which grow in Pods or buns. The world harvested 4.2 million metric tons of Sesame seeds in 2013, with India and China as the largest producers.

Botanical nam: Sessamum indicum Linn¹.

Family name : Pedaliaceae

Botanical Synonym: Sessamum orientale

VERNACULAR NAMES²

Indian Languages

1. Hindi : Tila

2. Kannada: Ellu

3. Gujarati : Tal

4. Sindhi : Tir

5. Konkani : Pilli

6. Oddia : Khasa

7. Malayalam: Chitelu, Ellu

8. Marathi : Til

9. Tamil : Ellu

10. Telugu : Gubbul

11. Bengali. : Tila

12. Punjabi : Kunjad, Til

Foreign languages

English : Gingelly

Brazil : Gergelim

French : Benne

Arabic : Simsim, Samsam

Persian. : Kunjad

German : Sesam

Decan : Bariktel

Egypt : Semseme

HABITAT

Sesame has many species, most being wild and native to sub-saharan Africa. Sesame indicum, the cultivated type, originated in India and is tolerant to drought like conditions, growing where other crops fail³.

DESCRIPTON OF THE PLANT

Morphology

a) Family Characters (Pedaliaceae)⁴

Herbs, rarely under shrubs.

Leaf- Opposite or upper alternate, entire, toothed, incised or pedatified.

Flower- Irregular, hermaphrodite. Solitary (rarely fasciled or racemose), usually axillary.

Fruit- Hard, indehiscent or a 2(rarely 3-4) valved capsule.

b) Genus Characters (Sesamum)

Erect herbs

Leaves- opposite below and alternate above.

Entire, toothed, lobed or divided.

Flowers- Axillary, solitary or few &

fascicled, shortly pedicellate)

c) Species character⁵

Erect 0.3-0.9m high, more or less foetid and glandular, usually also pubescent.

Leaves : Simple above, lanceolate or oblong or upper most linear and alternate, lower opposite often lobed, intermediate leaves usually ovate or toothed.

Flowers : Purple and whitish with purple or yellow mark, suberect or drooping. Sepalsnarrow, lanceolate, hairy. Capsule-2.5cm long, oblong, erect, dehiscent from above downwards.

Seeds: Three varieties of seeds are knownblack, white, red.

CHEMICAL COMPOSITION

Table 1 Showing Chemical constituents of *Tila*⁶

	White Variety (whole seeds)	Black variety (whole seeds)
Moisture	5.4	5.2
Fat	50.2	49.8
Protein	19.8	20.0
Crude fibre	3.2	3.3
Carbohydrates	14.9	14.7
Mineral matters	4.8	5.2
Oxalic acid	1.72	1.80
Calcium	1.06	1.21
Phosphorus	0.47	0.62

RASAPANCHAKA

Table 2 Showing the *Rasa Panchaka* of *Tila*⁷

THERAPEUTIC USES⁸

RASA PANCHAKA	
RASA	Katu
	Tikta
	Kashaya
	Madhura
GUNA	Snigdha
VIRYA	Ushna
VIPAKA	Katu
DOSHAKARMA	Vatahara

MATERIALS

A review of various literary books of ayurveda and Internet media

Table 3 List of Books and Resources

SAMHITHA/ NIGHANTU	Gana/Varga
Charaka	Swedopagamahakashaya &purishviranjniyamahaka shaya
Sushruta	MudgadiGana
Vagbhata	Simbidhanyavarga
DhanvantariNighantu	Suvarnadihvarga
MadanapalaNighantu	Dhanyadivarga
ShaligramaNighantu	TailaVarga
Raja Nighantu	SalyadiVarga
NighantuAdarsha	TiladiVarga
BhavaprakasaNighantu	DhanyaVarga
KaiyadevaNighantu	DhanyaVarga
SodhalaNighantu	TailaVarga
PriyaNighantu	ShatpushpadiVarga

Table 4

Sr.No.	Part Used	Disease
1	Seeds	Burns and Scalds
2	Leaves and Roots	Greying of Hairs
3	Seed Oil	Leucoderma
4	Seeds	Piles
5	Whole plant (decoction) with sugar	Cough
6	Whole plant kshara	Constipation
7	Whole plant Kshara with milk and Honey	Renal stones
8	Seeds	Ammenorhoea, Dysmenorrhoea
9	Seed oil	Gonorrhoea
10	Leaves	Dysentery

PART USED⁹:

Root, Leaf, Seed, Oil

DOSAGE⁹:

Powder: 5-10 gm/day

SUBSTITUTES AND

ADULTERANTS⁹

Sesamum oil is used as substitute and adulterant to Olive oil and Almond oil.

that the plant belongs to pedaliaceae family. It is having a wide range of medicinal value like antidiarrhoeal, wound healing property, used in Amenorrhoea, dysmenorrhoea, piles, leucoderma, burns and scalds etc. The phytoconstituents includes moisture, fats, carbohydrates, calcium, phosphorus etc. *Tila* is having *katu*, *tikta kashaya*, *madhura rasa*, *Katu vipaka*, *ushna virya*. Its dose is 5-10gms/day ,Its useful part is Roots, Leaves, Seeds.

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