

Embelia ribes Burm. f.

Fam. Myrsinaceae

Ayurvedic name	Viavidang, Bai bidang Krimighna, Chitramandula, Valle
Unani name	Baobarang, Babrang
Hindi name	Baberana, Wawrung
English name	Embelia
Trade name	Vidanga
Parts used	Berries, Roots



Embelia ribes

Morphological Characteristics

It is a large scandant shrub with long branches, slender, flexible, terete and long internodes. The bark is studded with lenticels. Leaves are coriaceous, 5X2-4 cm long, elliptic or elliptic-lanceolate, shortly and obtusely acuminate, entire, glabrous on both sides, shining above, pales and somewhat silvery beneath, base rounded or acute and main nerves numerous. Petioles are more or less margined and glabrous.

Floral Characteristics

Flowers are small, greenish-yellow, numerous in lax paniced racemes. Calyx is minute, sepals connate, broadly triangular, ovate and ciliate. Petals are 5 and free. Stamens are 5, but shorter than the petals. Flowering time is February. Fruits are 2.4-4.0 mm in diameter and globular with warty surface, smooth, succulent. The colour of fruit is dull black and rarely dull red.

Distribution

The plant is found in moist and shady places upto an altitude of 1500 meter.

Climate and Soil

Tropical and subtropical climate is required for the cultivation of this crop. Medium black well drained soils are best suited for the crop. The optimum temperature required for the crop is 18^oC-35^oC, with annual precipitation of 700 to 1500 mm.

