



# THE POWER OF PLANTS: A REVIEW OF HERBAL ADDITION IN HAIR COSMETICS

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**Abstract:** This study aims to examine the importance of medicinal plants in the treatment of hair problems such as baldness, hair loss, gray hair, dryness and various types of dandruff. Various herbal ingredients used in the recipe are: Aloe Vera, Alma, Curry Leaves, Camphor, Coconut oil, Eclipta, Hibiscus, Heena, Neem, Fenugreek, Sage, Apamarg, Onion, Grape seed, Jatamansi, rosemary, thyme, tulsi, garlic and people. All ingredients provide essential nutrients such as vitamins, terpenes and various essential oils to support the activity of the sebaceous glands and the overall skin and hair care.

**Index Terms** - Medicinal Plants, Hair problems,

## INTRODUCTION

The word cosmetics derives from the Greek word "kosmetikos", which means possession of power, order, adornment.[1] The birth of cosmetics creates a continuous narrative through human history as it evolves. Old man in 3000 BC He used colors for decoration to charm the animals he wanted to hunt, and man survived a rival's attack by coloring his skin and adorning his body to protect himself to protect himself from the enemy man or animal) to instill fear.[2] The origin of cosmetics has been associated with hunting, combat, religion and gullibility, and later with medicine.[3] Herbal cosmetics, referred to herein as products, are formulated using a variety of licensed cosmetic ingredients to form a base on which one or more herbal ingredients are used to provide only specific cosmetic benefits known as "herbal cosmetics" from herbs be designated.[4] From the 1990s, the cosmetics manufacturer redesigned the term "cosmeceuticals"; describe over-the-counter skin care products[5] that provide therapeutic benefits by adding botanical active ingredients such as alpha hydroxy acid, retinoic acid, ascorbic acid and coenzyme .[6] Health, habits, everyday work, climatic conditions and care were responsible for the beauty of the skin and hair of people.[7] Skin becomes dehydrated due to excessive summer heat causing wrinkles, freckles, blemishes, blemishes and sunburn. The extreme winter causes damage to the skin and coat in the form of tears, cuts, maceration, infection and hair loss.[8] They only had to rely on the knowledge and information about nature accumulated in Ayurveda. The science of Ayurveda has used many herbs and plants to create cosmetics that beautify and protect against external aggressions. Cosmetics, within the meaning of the Medicines and Cosmetics Act, are understood to be objects intended to be rubbed, poured, sprinkled or dipped into the body or any other part of the body in order to cleanse, beautify, beautify or enhance its appearance to change. Herbal cosmetics refer to cosmetics that use medicinal plants and their products for their aromatic properties in beauty preparations. This has led to the demand of herbal consumers for natural products and natural products in beauty preparations. 95% of hair consists of keratin; this is a spiral protein fiber (like a spiral) that forms part of the skin and all its attached structures (body hair, nails, etc.). [9]

### 1.1 DEFINATION OF COSMETICS:

"Cosmetics, within the meaning of the Medicines and Cosmetics Act, are substances that are applied, poured, sprinkled or sprayed, placed or otherwise applied to the human body for the purpose of cleansing or beautifying the human body or part of it, increasing its attractiveness or changing its appearance."

### 1.2 DEFINATION OF HERBAL COSMETICS:

Herbal cosmetics consist of a variety of beauty ingredients to form a base where one or more herbs are used to treat various skin conditions. Plants are often used to create new chemicals for cosmetics and medicine.

### 1.3 COSMETICS FOR THE HAIR:

1. Hair preparation
2. Shampoos
3. Rinses & conditioners
4. Oily scalp hair tonics
5. Hair dressings
6. Fixatives
7. Bleaches
8. Depilatories [10]

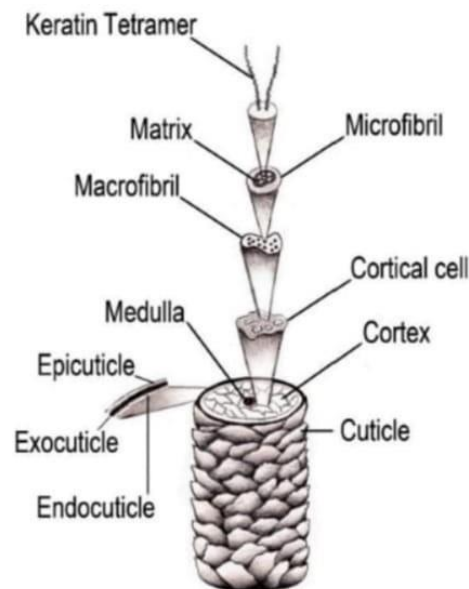


figure 1: the hierarchical structure of hair

## 1.4 ANATOMY OF HAIR

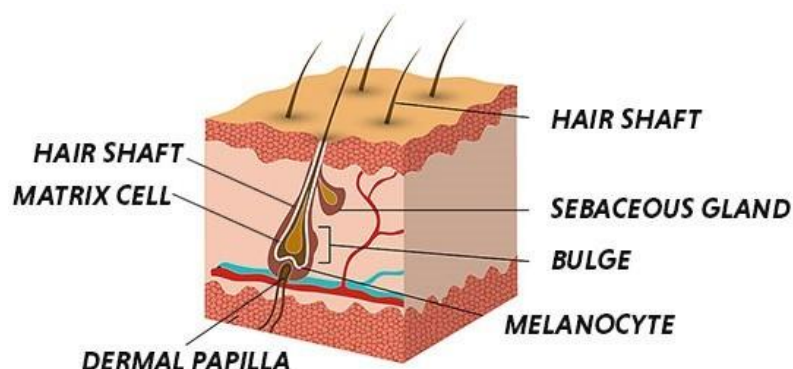


figure 2: structure of hair

The hair structure consists of 3 different parts:

**Medulla:** It is the inner layer of the hair shaft and is made of an amorphous, soft, oily substance.

**Cuticle:** thin, protective layer that contains the nutrients necessary for hair growth. It is highly keratinized, with scale-like cells arranged side by side, approximately 60 microns long and 6 microns wide.

**Cortex:** It is the main component of the hair and contains long keratin chains that give the hair flexibility, softness and durability. Cortical cells are held together by intercellular cement rich in lipids and proteins [11]

## 1.5 GROWTH CYCLE OF HAIR:

Hair growth cycle consists of four phases:

**Anagen (growth phase):** It is the growth phase. This stage lasts for many years.

**Catagen (transformation phase):** During this period, hair follicles shrink and hair growth slows down.

**Telogen (telogen):** Telogen, the phase in which hair growth stops and new hair begins to grow, triggers hair growth

**Exogenous phase:** the final phase of the hair growth cycle, when the hair strands completely fall out. Scalp and fall. [12]

## Hair Growth Cycle

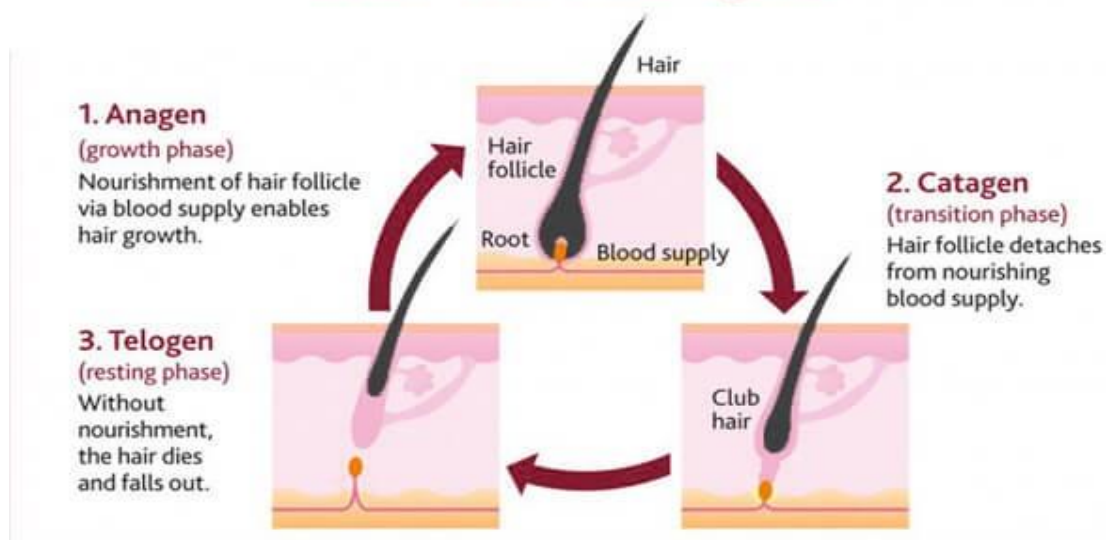


figure 3: hair growth cycle

## II. HAIR PROBLEMS:

**Hair loss:** The main causes of hair loss are stress, medications, hormonal changes and various hair products that can cause hair loss.

**Oily hair/Oily hair:** Oily hair is caused by the overproduction of natural oils (sebum) on the scalp. Sebum is produced by the sebaceous glands, which sometimes work "overtime" to produce excess oil.

**Dandruff:** Dandruff is a non-medical, harmless skin condition that affects the scalp and can cause hair loss. It is scaly and attached to the hair roots.

**Dry hair:** Dry hair occurs due to lack of protein in the diet. Menopause, anemia, hormonal imbalances and birth control pills can cause dry hair.

**Split ends:** Split ends occur when the ends of your hair dry out and due to other reasons such as exposure to extreme weather conditions. In addition to hair care products, hair care techniques such as straightening and curling can also cause split ends. [13]

## III. HERB USED IN DIFFERENT HAIR DISORDER

### 1. AMLA:



**Common name:** Amla, Indian Gooseberry

**Systemic name:** Embolic medicine

**Biological source:** dried and fresh fruits of medicinal plants

**Family:** Phyllanthus family

**Chemical constituents:** tannins; lutein-gallic acid; ellagic acid and glucose; Fruit Gum and Vitamin C

**Uses:** Vitamin C in Amla can act as antioxidants in the body. Amla purifies the blood and improves natural hair color, preventing premature graying. It contains antibacterial and antifungal properties to prevent dandruff and other fungal infections and improve scalp health. [14]

### 2. SHIKAKAI:



**Common Name:** Shikakai

**Systematic Name:** Acacia concinna DC

**Biological source:** it is the dried gummy exudation of stem and branches of acacia Arabica

**Family:** Fabaceae

**Chemical constituents:** Lupeol, spinasterol, acacic acid, lactone and the natural sugars, arabinose and rhamnose

**Uses:** Shikakai contains vitamins A, C, D, E and K, as well as other antioxidants that support hair growth. The micronutrients in shikakai help support hair follicles for natural, rapid hair growth. [15]

### 3. NEEM:



**Common name:**Neem

**Systematic name:** Azadirachta indica

**Biological source:** it consists of leaves and other aerial parts of Azadirachta indica

**Family:** lythraceous

**Chemical constituents:** Azadirachtin, Nimbin, Nimbidin, Gallic acid, epicatechin and catechin

**Uses:** Neem oil supports hair growth. The regenerative properties of neem oil promote hair growth by stimulating hair follicles. It also prevents excessive hair loss and thinning caused by factors such as pollution, stress and medication by increasing blood flow to the scalp. [16]

### 4. HENNA:



**Common Name:** Heena, Henna

**Systematic Name:** Lawsonia inermis

**Biological source:** it consists of fresh or dried leaves of the ant Lawsonia-inermis

**Family:** Lythraceae

**Chemical constituents:** Lawsone is the active constituent of the henna leaves. The other chemical constituents of henna are galic acid, white resin and sugars

**Uses:** Its antibacterial and anti-inflammatory properties can be effective on the hair and scalp especially in reducing premature graying and dandruff. However, you need to be especially careful when applying henna to curly and dry hair; Henna can dry out your hair. The natural form of henna is the best [17]

### 5. TULSI:



**Common Name:**Tulsi

**Systematic Name:** Ocimum tenuiflorum

**Biological source:**Tulsi consists of the fresh and dried leaves of ocimum species like ocimum sanctum L. and ocimum basilicum L. etc



**Family:** Labiatae

**Chemical constituents:** eugenol, estragole, borneol, camphene, and copane

**Uses:** Tulsi has been used to prevent hair loss or thinning and to increase hair thickness. Tulsi's anti-inflammatory components are thought to relieve scalp irritation [18]

## 6.ALOEVERA:



**Common Name:** Aloe vera,

**Systematic Name:** Barbados aloe

**Biological source:** Dried juice collected by incision from the bases of the leaves of various species of aloe

**Family:** Asphodelaceae

**Chemical constituents:** Lupeol, salicylic acid, urea nitrogen, cinnamomic acid, phenols and sulfur

**Uses:** Aloe vera contains vitamins A, C and E. All three vitamins help increase hair growth and hair shine. Aloe vera gel also contains vitamin B12 and folic acid. Both ingredients prevent hair loss. Promote hair growth and repair breakage. Contributes to the health of the scalp, improve hair. Aloe vera contains many ingredients and nutrients that can aid hair growth. Check hair oil. Aloe vera contains enzymes that remove excess oil (sebum) from your hair. Get rid of itchy scalp [19]

## 7.CALENDULA:



**Common Name:** Calendula

**Systematic Name:** Calendula officinal

**Biological source:** calendula flower derives from the marigold calendula officinalis

**Family:** Asteraceae

**Chemical constituents:** flavonoids, triterpenoids, glycosides, saponins, carotenoids, volatile oil, amino acids

**Uses:** Calendula oil helps strengthen hair. Rinse your hair with calendula oil to make your hair shiny and soft. It also soothes the scalp [20]

## 8.MANJISTHA/ INDIAN MADDER PLANT:



**Common Name:** Manjistha, Indian Madder Plant

**Systematic Name:** Rubia cordifolia Linn.

**Biological source:** obtained from dried stems of rakta pushpa rubia

**Family:** Rubiaceae

**Chemical constituents:** vasicinone and adhatodic acid

**Uses:** Manjistha powder can be used to treat hair problems such as graying of hair. Use Manjistha powder to enhance the natural color of your hair. Manjistha oil is effective in controlling hair loss. It helps control dandruff by getting rid of dryness, thus preventing hair loss. [21]

## 9.JASMINE:



**Common Name:** Jasmine

**Systematic Name:** Jasminum officinale

**Biological source:** it is derived from plant Jasminum officinale

**Family:** Oleaceae

**Chemical constituents:** Benzyl acetate, linalool, benzyl alcohol, indole, benzylbenzoate, cis-jasmone

**Uses:** One of the best benefits of jasmine oil is its ability to stimulate hair growth. Its rejuvenating properties stimulate hair follicles and increase blood circulation in the scalp. This blood supply promotes hair growth, makes hair strong and healthy, and helps prevent hair loss and thinning [22]

**10.LAVENDER:**

**Common Name:** Lavender

**Systematic Name:** *Lavandula angustifolia*

**Biological source:** it is obtained from the flower of *Lavandula angustifolia*

**Family:** Lamiaceae

**Chemical constituents:** linalool, linalyl acetate, 1,8-cineole, terpinen-4-ol, and camphor

**Uses:** Lavender is known for providing silky softness and smoothness while moisturizing the hair. If you're looking for something truly nourishing, we recommend our Argan oil and Lavender Leave-in Smoothie Conditioner, which is designed to help tame frizz and leave your hair with a wonderful aroma. [23]

**11.INDIAN SARSAPARILLA/ANANTMULI:**

**Common Name:** Anantmuli, Indian Sarsaparilla

**Systematic Name:** *Hemidesmus indicus*

**Biological source:** sarsaparilla is obtained from the dried roots of several tropical species of smilax

**Family:** Zingiberaceae

**Chemical constituents:** saponin, glycoside, sarsaponin, and dextrose

**Uses:** Sarsaparilla contains hair growth hormone. A decoction of the roots is used as shampoo to stimulate hair growth. [24]

**12.FENUGREEK:**



**Common Name:** Fenugreek, Greek-clover, Greek hay, Assamese

**Systematic Name:** Trigonella foenum-graecum

**Biological source:** fenugreek consists of dried of Trigonella foenum-graecum

**Family:** Fabaceae

**Chemical constituent:** carbohydrates, proteins, lipids, alkaloids, flavonoids, fibers and saponins

**Uses:** Fenugreek hair oil improve blood circulation content and helps reduce dandruff.

Fenugreek seeds have high protein and niacin and are known for their ability to fight hair loss and dandruff. It also treats dry hair, controls baldness and hair thinning.[25]

### 13. BHRINGRAJ:



**Common Name:** False daisy, Yerba de tago Karisalankanni, and Bhringraj

**Systematic Name:** Eclipta alba

**Biological source:** it is obtained from plant Eclipta alba Hassk

**Family:** Asteraceae

**Chemical constituent:** Hentriacontanol, heptacosanol, and stigmasterol ecliptal, eclabatin

**Uses:** Eating Bhringraj will help in hair growth. Bhringraj has antibacterial, anti-inflammatory and anti-allergic properties and is one of the main ingredients in herbal preparations used to treat hair. It also helps prevent hair loss and gray hair. [26]

### 14. CHAMOMILE:



**Common Name:** Chamomile, Italian camomilla, German chamomile, Hungarian chamomile, Wild chamomile or Scented mayweed

**Systematic Name:** Matricaria chamomilla

**Biological source:** it is obtained from dried flower head of Chrysanthemum cineraria folium

**Family:** Asteraceae

**Chemical constituents:** flavonoids, coumarins, volatile oils, terpenes, sterols, organic acids, and polysaccharides

**Uses:** Chamomile oil is known to promote hair growth as it improves blood circulation to the scalp and hair follicles. This way, your scalp will be healthy and able to absorb the nutrients necessary for hair growth. Chamomile oil can also help hair growth by stimulating collagen production.[27]

**15.SAGE:**

**Common Name:** Garden sage, Common sage

**Systematic Name:** *Salvia officinalis*

**Biological source:** it is obtained from driedleaves of *salvia officinalis*

**Family:** Lamiaceae

**Chemical constituents:** 1-8-cineole, camphor, borneol, and viridiflorol

**Uses:** In addition to controlling hair loss, sage may also help stimulate the growth of new hair follicles. Sage can help improve blood circulation in the scalp and strengthen hair follicles. Regular use of sage can help improve overall hair quality and repair dry or thinning hair.[28]

**16.MENTHA:**

**Common Name:** *M. balsamea* Willd, Peppermint, Vilayati pudina, Poduna, Pudina

**Systematic Name:** *Mentha piperita*

**Biological source:** obtained from freshleaves of *mentha piperita*

**Family:** Lamiaceae

**Chemical constituents:** menthol, menthone cincole, and limonene

**Uses:** Menthol, the main component of peppermint oil (and responsible for its cooling effect), has been shown to increase blood flow to the scalp. This has a positive effect on blood vessels, promoting regeneration and hair follicle depth, making the hair thicker and stronger [29]

**17.GOTUKOLA:**

**Common Name:** Gotu kola, Asiatic Pennywort, Indian pennywort, Indian water-navelwort, Wild violet, Tiger herb

**Systematic Name:** *Centella asiatica*

**Biological source:** it has long – stalked, green reniform leaves of *centella asiatica*

**Family:** Umbelliferaceae

**Chemical constituents:** pentacyclic triterpenes, asiaticoside, madecassoside, Asiatic and madecassic acids

**Uses:** It promotes microcirculation, allowing hair follicles to absorb oxygen and nutrients, promoting hair

growth. How it works: Improves hair texture: Gotu Kola has been shown to help hair become healthier, shinier, and easier to manage. This herb has also been shown to reduce hair loss and breakage.[30]

### 18.PRIYANGU:



**Common Name:** Priyangu

**Systematic Name:** Callicarpamacrophylla Vahl

**Biological source:** It is obtained from the plant callicarpa macrophylla

**Family:** Amaranthaceae

**Chemical constituents:** ursolic acid, oleanolic acid, methylbetulinate, and baurenol

**Uses:** priyangu is good for hair. It supports hair regeneration, prevents breakage, strengthens hair follicles, and prevents itching and dandruff. [31]

### 19.FIGWORT:



**Common Name:** Common figwort

**Systematic Name:** Scrophularia nodosa

**Biological source:** it is obtained from flower of Scrophularia nodosa

**Family:** Moraceae: Scrophulariaceae

**Chemical constituents:** camphor cineole borneol anborneo lacetate

**Uses:** It is used to prevent dandruff and can also be used to protect the scalp. [32]

### 20.BLACK PEPPER:



**Common Name:** Black pepper, Kali mirch,

**Systematic Name:** Piper nigrum

**Biological source:** it consists of dried unripe fruits of piper nigrum linn



**Family:** Piperaceae

**Chemical constituents:** piperine, piperittine, caryophyllene and elemol

**Uses:** Black pepper is an herb that can help stimulate hair growth. Its main ingredient, piperine, helps improve scalp blood circulation and stimulate hair growth. [33]

## 21. ROSEMARY:



**Common name:** Rosemary

**Systematic name:** salvia rosmarinum

**Biological source:** Oil of Rosemary is distilled from the flowering tops of leafy twigs of Rosmarinus officinalis,

**Family:** Lamiaceae

**Chemical constituents:**  $\alpha$ -Pinene, 1,8-cineole, camphor, and borneol

**Uses:** rosemary essential oil strengthens circulation. As a result, it could prevent hair follicles from being starved of blood supply, dying off, and leading to hair loss [34]

## 22. ARNICA MONTANA:



**Common name:** Arnica Montana

**Systematic Name:** wolf's bane, leopard's bane, mountain tobacco and mountain arnica

**Biological source:** it is obtained from dried flower head of arnica Montana

**Family:** Asteraceae

**Chemical constituents:** Sesquiterpene lactone, Helenalin, Isocomene, Arnidiol

**Uses:** Arnica Montana Oil is made from homeopathic medicine that helps control hair loss and promotes hair growth. Using this hair oil increases the growth power of hair, makes hair grow faster and makes hair stronger . [35]



**23.JATAMANSI:**

**Common Name:** Jatamansi

**Systematic Name:** Nardostachy jatamansi

**Biological source:** obtained from dried roots and rhizomes of Nardostachy jatamansi

**Family:** Valerianacea

**Chemical constituents:** Jatamansi contains 1 to 2% of pale-yellow volatile oil, resin, sugar, starch and bitter principle, an alcohol and its isovaleric ester. It also contains jatamansic acid and ketones jatamansone and nardostachone.

**Uses:** Jatamansi root is made into a paste and applied to the scalp to promote hair growth. Extracted Jatamansi Hair oil reduces hair fall, promotes hair growth and also reduces dandruff jatamansi hair oil can also darken hair and can be used as a natural dye. [36]

**24.THYME:**

**Common Name:** Thyme






**Systematic Name:** Thymus vulgaris L.





**Biological Source:** it is obtained from plant Thymus vulgeria

**Family:** Labiatae







**Chemical constituents:** monoterpenes, bicyclic monoterpenes, monoterpenes, and bicyclic monoterpenes as well as sesquiterpene lactones

**Uses:** Thyme may help reduce dandruff by preventing inflammation and nourishing hair follicles, creating healthy new hair growth. Thyme can also stimulate blood circulation in the scalp and promote hair growth. [37]







| Botanical name      | Common name | Function   | Figure   |
|---------------------|-------------|--|--|
| Phyllanthus emblica | AMLA        | Enhances natural hair colour, prevents dandruff and improves scalp health        |    |
| Acacia concinna     | SHIKAKAI    | Promote hair growth, Nourish the hair follicle, help hair growth                 |   |
| Azadirachta indica  | NEEM        | Neem oil promotes hair growth, stimulates hair follicles and prevents hair loss. |  |
| Lawsonia Inermis    | HENNA       | Good for hair and scalp, reduced dandruff  |  |
| Ocimum tenuiflorum  | TULSI       | Prevents hair loss, increases hair thickness and strengthens the scalp.          |  |




|                         |                               |   |  |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---|--|
|                         |                               |   |  |
| Aloe barbadensis miller | ALOEVERA                      | Promote hair growth, help hair shine, prevent hairloss, promote heal thy scalp, control oily hair.                |    |
| Calendula officinalis   | CALENDULA                     | Calendula oil help strengthen the hair make thehair shine, make the hair soft and smooth.                         |   |
| Rubia cordifolia        | MANJISHTA/INDIAN MADDER PLANT | Manjishta Powder improves natural hair colour and Manjishta Oil is used to control hair loss and reduce dandruff. |  |
| Jasminium               | JASMINE                       | Jasmine oil promotes hair growth, strengthens hair follicles, and controls hair loss and thinning.                |  |



|                      |                                |  |  |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Lavendula            | LAVENDER                       | It can moisturizethe hair, make the hair silky, soft smooth and make the hair beautiful.             |     |
| Hemidesmus, indicus  | INDIAN SARSAPARILLA/ ANANTMULI | Indian sarsaparilla contains hair growth hormone. Use to remove dandruff                             |    |
| Trigonella           | FENUGREEK                      | Promote hair growth, help hair shine, prevent hair loss, promote healthy scalp,                      |   |
| False daisy          | BHRINGRAJ                      | Helps hair growthand controls hair loss  |  |
| Matricaria chamomila | CHANOMILE                      | Chamomile oil isused for hair growth and improves blood circulation to the scalp and hair follicles. |  |
| Salvia Officinalis   | SAGE                           | Control hair loss, renew hair follicles, Nourish hair follicles Control thinninghair                 |  |



|                       |             |  |  |
|-----------------------|-------------|--|--|
| Mentha pipreta L      | MENTHA      | Cool hair, make hair strong and thick  |     |
| Centella asiatica     | GOTUKOLA    | supports hair growth, improves hair structure, gives shine to hair, controls hair loss and breakage. |    |
| Callicapa Macrophylla | PRIYANGU    | Stimulates hair regeneration, Prevents hair itching and dandruff                                     |   |
| Scrophularia          | FIGWORT     | It is used to prevent dandruff, prevent drying of the scalp and help control dandruff.               |  |
| Piper Nigrum          | BLACKPEPPER | It is beneficial for hair growth and increases blood circulation in the scalp.                       |  |
| Salvia rosmarinus     | ROSEMARY    | prevents hair loss by preventing insufficient blood flow to the hair follicles.                      |  |

|                                |                       |  |   |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--|---|
| <p>Mountain Arnica</p>         | <p>ARNICA MONTANA</p> | <p>helps control hair loss and proliferation of hair fiber cells</p>                   |    |
| <p>Nardostachys, jatamansi</p> | <p>JATAMANSI</p>      | <p>Supports hair growth, Jatamansi hair reduces hair loss, is used in natural dyes</p> |   |
| <p>Thymus vulgaris</p>         | <p>THYME</p>          | <p>Prevents dandruff, nourishes hair follicles, supports hair growth</p>               |  |

**CONCLUSION:**

It seems that the information about the medicinal plants people use is well known due to their culture and traditions. This article explains the role of different plants in skin, hair care and cosmetic treatment. Some plants have been found to have dual uses, both medicinal and aesthetic.

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