QUALITY CONTROL OF CRUDE DRUGS

Microscopical Evaluation



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EVALUATION

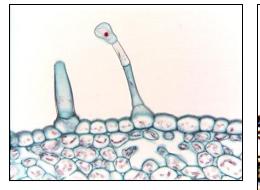
MICROSCOPICAL EVALUATION

- Refers to the character and arrangement of these tissues as they are present in the herb.
 - Transverse section (T.S.)
 - Longitudinal sections (L.S.)
- The sections are cut by razor or microtome, treated with **choral hydrate and HCl** solution with gentle heating to remove chlorophyll and treated with phloroglucinol to give coloured section.
- Powdered herbs posses very few macroscopic features of identification outside of colour, odour and taste.

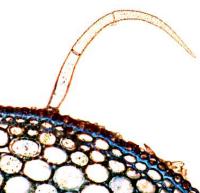
POWDER MICROSCOPY

• Leaves:

- Trichomes (Glandular and Covering)
- Crystals of calcium oxalate (Rosette, needle shaped)
- Stomata (paracytic, diacytic, anisocytic, anomocytic)
- Epidermis cells, palisade,
- Vessels



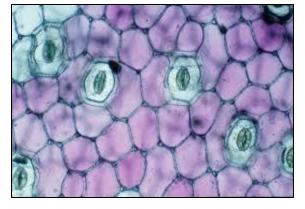
Glandular Trichomes *A. belladona*



Covering

Trichomes

D. stromonium



Paracytic Stomata Senna leaves



• Flower:

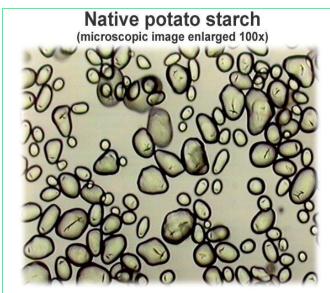
- Trichomes (glandular and covering)
- Epidermis, stigma, anther.
- Pollen grain
- Volatile oil

• Fruits and seeds:

- Starch grains (Polyhedral, oval)
- Aleurone grain
- Sclerenchyma
- Vittae
- Endocarp

• Bark & wood:

- Phloem, xylem
- Trachides, Parenchyma, wood Parenchyma
- Fibers, medullary rays, cork, cambium.



QUANTITATIVE MICROSCOPY

- Palisade ratio: Number of palisade cells under one epidermal cell using four continuous epidermal cells for the count.
- Stomata index: It is the percentage of the number of stomata to the total number of epidermal cells, each stomata being counted as one cell.

Stomatal index= (S/E+S)* 100

- (S) Number of stomata per unit area
- (E) Number of epidermal cells in the same unit area.
- Cassia angustifolia (Indian)(both surface) 17.1-18.7-20
- C. acutifolia (Alexandrian) (both surface) 11.4- 12.2-13

• Stomatal numbers:

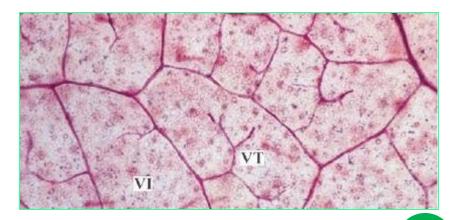
It is an average number of stomata per mm² of epidermis.

	Stomatal number	
Plant	Upper surface	Lower surface
Atropa belladonna, Europen	7.5-10-17.5	77.5-113-176.5
<i>Atropa acuminata</i> Indian	6-14-37.5	62.5-93-174

•Vein-islet number

Average number of vein islet per mm² of the leaf surface midway between the midrib and the margin.

Cassia angustifolia 25-30 Cassia acutifolia 19-23

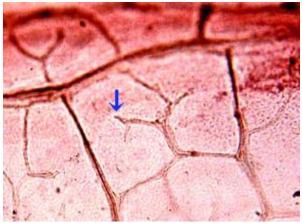


VI= Vein Islet VT= Vein Termination

• Vein-termination number :

Average number of vein termination per mm² of the leaf surface midway between the midrib and the margin.

- It can be used to distinguish between leaves of closely related species.
- Atropa belladonna 6.3-10.3
- Digitalis purpurea 2.5-4.2
- Hyoscymus niger 12.4-19.0



Vein Termination

THANK YOU