

Giloe

***TINOSPORA CORDIFOLIA* MIERS. FAMILY - MENISPERMANCEAE**

A large extensively spreading, perennial woody climber with succulent stems. Leaves simple, alternate, cordate-ovate; flowers unisexual dioecious, yellow. Fruit of 3 shortly stalked subglobose drupes.

**COMMON NAMES:** Guduchi, Amrita, Gurach, Tinospora.

**DISTRIBUTION :**

The plant occurs throughout tropical regions of India extending from Kumaon to Assam and Myanmar, Bihar, Konkan to Sri Lanka. It is a large climber which grows over the highest trees in the forests and throws out aerial roots which reach the length of 10 metres, though not thicker than pack-thread.

**PART USED:** Stem.

**CULTIVATION:**

**SOIL AND CLIMATE**

It grows well in almost any type of soils and under varying climatic conditions.

**NURSERY RAISING AND PLANTING**

The plant is cultivated by stem cutting in the month of May-June. It requires some support preferably Neem and Mango trees, such plants are supposed to possess better medicinal values.

**WEEDING AND HOEING**

Periodical hoeing is done, both in the nursery and field as per requirement.

**MANURES, FERTILISERS AND PESTICIDES**

The medicinal plants have to be grown without chemical fertilizers and use of pesticides. Organic manures like, Farm Yard Manure (FYM), Vermi-Compost, Green Manure etc. may be used as per requirement of the species. To prevent diseases, bio-pesticides could be prepared (either single or mixture) from Neem (kernel, seeds & leaves), Chitrakmool, Dhatura, Cow's urine etc.

**IRRIGATION**

The field after plantation should be irrigated periodically as and when required weekly or fortnightly.

**HARVESTING/POST HARVESTING OPERATION**

Mature plants are collected, cut into small pieces and dried in shade.

**YIELD**

Approximately 8-10 q./ha.

**ECONOMICS**

The rate for a kg. of dried stem ranges from Rs. 15-20. (YEAR-2001)

**NOTE:** MARKET FOR MEDICINAL PLANTS IS VOLATILE AND THE ECONOMICS MAY VARY.