STRUCTURALISM AND THE PLANT KINGDOM

VOLUME 1:
MONOCOTS

STEPHANIE NILE

HOMEOHELP PUBLISHERS

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Stephanie Nile

Bsc (Zoology), PgDip (Software Technology), Yr4 (2010), N.W.CH.

I came to Homeopathy late in life ... I am first and foremost a systems analyst. I started out modelling behavioural strategies for obtaining or protecting resources (such as the Hawks and Doves game) for my Zoology Degree. After that I worked as an assembly language games programmer. Soon after I did a Post-Grad Diploma in Software Technology which led to a University Career retraining post-grads in Unix, X-Windows and C. In Software Engineering you always have to be right. If you get it wrong something horrible happens - if you are lucky the system just crashes.

Meditation has been part of my life ever since I was 16. I eventually found a system that could withstand analytical debate from any angle ... the philosophical teachings and transmissions of my kind teacher, Venerable Geshe Kelsang Gyatso.

I started my Homeopathy course just after Dr. Sankaran published his first books on the Sensation Method. This was no coincidence. It felt like Homeopathy had made a step forward and was catching up with the rest of the world. Then came Jan Scholten's Element Theory, another giant step towards the Scientific Community. Now we have the Lanthanides. I have found a new benchmark. This is my "Lharampa degree in Homeopathic Logic"!

FOREWORDS

JOSE MIRILLI, AUTHOR OF THEMATIC REPERTORY

This is the time for developing homeopathic studies which organise all previous approaches to Homeopathy.

This is one of Stephanie's strengths.

Her natural powers of intuition and her skill in the synthesis of information makes her work a very good example of this new tendency.

The day I received the abstract from Stephanie's book I experienced an incredible synchronicity. The very same day I had a case of Veratrum album. The abstract came to me with some remedy pictures and amongst them was Veratrum!

I was amazed by Stephanie's image of Veratrum. I saw my patient in her remedy picture.

Then I read other remedy pictures and realized her ability to take quotations from several sources starting from proving symptoms and including clinical Materia Medica's to create a very coherent and insightful picture of all the remedies.

Her Materia Medica is surely going to help many Homeopaths find the simillimum for their patients - as I found in my own case.

My dear Stephanie in the name of all Homeopaths thanks so much for your excellent work that for sure is going to help the whole Homeopathic community!

lose

RUMEN STOYCHEV

Homeopathy occupies a special place within the Sciences with over two hundred years of development and practice. Its refinement owes much to the dedication and vision of its early pioneers, those who have painstakingly gathered and collated information on plants, remedies and the application of Homeopathic Science.

Towards the end of the 20th century and up until the present, improved methods of organising and understanding this information marked a new stage in the development of Homeopathy.

Within the last twenty years Homeopathy has truly taken root within the scientific community, presenting itself anew via such prominent thinkers as Jan Scholten, Rajan Sankaran, Frans Vermeulen, Massimo Mangialavori, Misha Norland, Jeremy Sherr and many others. Such writers have complemented Hahnemann's thinking, enriched his methods and broadened their applications. The connections between the major Natural Sciences have been made and bridged as never before by such writers. Now comes 'Structuralism and the Plant Kingdom' by Stephanie Nile.

The Twenty First Century has seen a burgeoning of information and discovery in all scientific fields and Homeopathy is no exception. Discoveries have been made on the nature, main themes and sensations of plant sources. This has led many, myself included, to seek a coherent way of organising such sources similar to that which had been created for minerals.

Could a Periodic Table of plants be designed?

It is to this very question, amongst others, that the author addresses herself with such flair and dedication.

In 'Structuralism and the Plant Kingdom' Stephanie Nile explores and addresses the problem and leads us to the answers in beautiful and intricate detail.

For she is amongst those scientists, researchers, academics and practitioners at the forefront of modern Homeopathic Science. Thanks to her broad interest, natural curiosity and profound knowledge of the natural Sciences, she dares to present new and colourful insights into the relationship between plant remedies.

With this table, each homeopathic practitioner will be able to prescribe plant remedies with added confidence.

I have no doubt that her approach will eventually arm us with the Periodic Table of the Animal Kingdom as well, in which each remedy can be precisely differentiated and located at a glance.

The beauty of an idea is not only in its conception but in its transmission. In 'Structuralism and the Plant Kingdom" Nile invites her readers to share such ideas and by so doing brings them to fruition in the field of Homeopathic practice. She is truly a great part of the evolving and fascinating Art and Science of Homeopathy.

To read 'Structuralism and the Plant Kingdom" is to be at once enriched and excited, to unlock, as the author has done the beauty, art and science of Homeopathy.

Rumen Stoychev, Homeopathic Practitioner

OUTLINE OF THE BOOK

There is more that one way to study the phenomenon we normally think of as personality. Researchers have considered many different perspectives, usually developmental, psychological or social. Other systems use the elements, pressure points or the pulse- think of Tibetan Medicine, T.C.M. and Ayurvedic Medicine. They all attempt to describe and measure our personal state in some way, either from physiological indicators or from the investigation of our inner feelings and our impact on the world.

I am pleased to have the opportunity to introduce a method I came across whilst writing my thesis on animal behaviour, namely cluster analysis, and to discuss its implications for the study of Homeopathy in general and the Materia Medica in particular.

THE HYPOTHESIS UNDER TEST

In the context of determining the correct remedy, in Aphorism §153 Hahnemann said, "....the striking, singular, uncommon and peculiar signs and symptoms must be kept in view", and this is quite so, but perhaps an awareness of the common can give rise to a useful impression of the remedy state.

Grouping (clustering) of similar symptoms (usually expressed as rubrics) can, therefore enhance our understanding by giving rise to a hierarchy of relationships. The base of this hierarchy is a small set of interdependent personality traits. The traits included in these sets are sufficient to characterise any remedy and give reliable indications of well defined and global "Stages", each of which naturally slot into social strata described as the "Series".

Ultimately we are simply quantifying one single trait - happiness.

The Hypothesis gives rise to three axioms ...

Representation of Remedy Pictures:

The individual and family pictures can be represented qualitatively by comparison with Dr. Scholten's "Stages" and quantitatively by methods such as cluster analysis.

Pictures arise from Strategy:

At the level of a Botanical family remedy pictures evolve from states arising from the biological strategies, which is a response to the pressures of ecological selection.

Global Pictures:

At the level of Botanical order a global picture evolves out of the different aspects of its families.

May everyone be immeasurably happy!

INTRODUCTION TO STRUCTURALISM AND THE PLANT KINGDOM

PREFACE: A BIT OF PHILOSOPHY: THE POWER OF DELUSION

We all have the inborn capacity to abide in minds of great virtue and beauty. To accomplish this we just need to cultivate our ability to separate what is worthless and harmful from that which is precious and beautiful. Stephen Woolinsky in "Quantum Psychology" describes a process of stripping away thoughts, emotions, intentions which reveals a sense of "I AM". This process begins to separate that which "I am" from that which "I am not".

Caroline Brazier, author of "Buddhist Psychology", relates the 12 links of dependent origination to the basic mental process which cause attachment, and which ultimately become the essence and totality of that which "I am not".

She says: "The mind becomes attached to objects that reflect our self in some way and we become selective about the objects we surround ourself with (Rupa). The next process (Vedana) is the feeling or sensation that develops from these objects, and which then hooks us to them (Samjna). We then form habits (Samskaras). The next process a self-centred intention which builds identity (Chetana). The final link is grasping."

According to Nagarjuna's "Fundamental Wisdom", the greatest delusion of all is self-grasping. Once the innate sense of "I" is strongly established it is followed by a sense of "mine". We cans visuali e self-grasping as a collection of feelings, fears, cravings which ultimately add up to a mistaken cognition about the nature of reality by contributing further layers to our innate and natural reification of the Ego.

The cycle of self-grasping leads to attachment and attachment leads to anger and hatred. We are all quite familiar with the results! Perhaps a

three factor analysis, a careful study of the three poisons ... self-grasping ignorance, hatred and attachment, would come closer to uncovering the real causes of unhappiness than merely examining the effets, as we tend to do in the West.

Nagarjuna, in his Mulamadhyamakakarika (Fundamental Wisdom), asserts that the antidote must be the wisdom derived from investigating the emptiness of the self. This develops along with some degree of separation from attachment, some compassion, contentment, and peaceful abiding.

In general Homeopathy can make us aware of our habits, attachments and delusions, but if there is a path in Homeopathy it is the one we bring to it. The challenge Homeopathy addresses is really to realise our full potential and be the best we can be. It's not always easy.

We come into the world with nothing but our sense of self. We develop family and social relationships and begin to express ourselves through creativity and intellectual accomplishment. As we grow we develop a sense of our inner and outer power.

When we get stuck somewhere in this process Homeopathy can help by giving us the power to overcome the next hurdle ... the delusion that limits our perception of ourself and our abilities. In "Courage to Create", Rollo May describes this as a leap into the unknown, and the fear that prevents us taking it, as the existential anxiety of nothingness... It is this fear that makes us hold on and grasp to anything that seems to offer support.

According to the Bodhisattva, Geshe Chekhawa, author of "Training the Mind" the original text on the Lojong teachings, the antidote is to guard and maintain a peaceful mind:

"Always rely on a happy mind alone." [1]

PLANT KINGDOM PROJECT - INTRODUCTION TO A NEW ÉPISTÉMÈ

The spectrum of analysis and research in Homeopathy needs to be extended - we no longer need to focus on research showing that Homeopathy works- we need to focus on the cultural and scientific context of twenty-first century. The patient arrives with a mindset that has been influenced by all the social and cultural developments of this century, so Homeopathy now needs to be mapped onto a contemporary landscape.

We do need to connect to the psychology, therapeutics and culture of this century to respond to the global epidemic of uncertainty and fear which produces culturally disenfranchised, estranged and hooded Toxicodendrons and Anacardiums.

Without a map of this landscape the task of deriving a coherent picture of the patient is like trying to assemble a jig-saw without the picture on the lid.

With due care and attention, we can find many contemporary psychological models which provide valid and appropriate conceptual, and even metaphorical, frameworks which we can use to create a structuralist and post-modern approach to the understanding and interpretation of the deeper and hidden structures within the aging homeopathic data. This does tend to create a new meta-narrative, an oversimplification, and in turn it will inevitably be challenged and replaced by new ideas, but this ensures progression - we can never go backwards again.

Michel Foucault used the term *épistémė* to describe "the historical a priori that grounds knowledge within a particular epoch". An épistémè is wider than the idea of a paradigm, in that it includes fundamental assumptions and attitudes that are almost invisible to the people operating within its limits - a sort of 'epistemological unconscious' of an era.

This approach is nomothetic, that is, it identifies, classifies and maps the universal and common characteristics shared by everyone into logical dimensions, whereas classical Homeopathy is strongly ideographic,

focusing entirely on the unique aspects of the individual, and any attempt at "chunking up" to see the big picture is still an anathema to many.

In fact each approach has its own advantages, which become clear when we compare the overlap and variation within the D.S.M. categories with the "Big Five" (Costa & McCrea, 2007), a statistical model of personality derived from factor analysis. Each model makes its own valid point but without synthesis they remain incompatible.

Dr. Rajan Sankaran and Dr. Jan Scholten challenged this ideographic approach in the 90's and have identified and rationalised all the structural components of the Mineral and Plant Kingdoms. From a structuralist perspective the next stage is to bring the components of each division together to create a map which describes a unified whole.

A STRUCTURALIST APPROACH TO THE PLANT KINGDOM

There is a grand narrative running through this book - the classification of the Plant Kingdom according to the A.P.G. system of genetic similarity. This assumes that all the clades of the Plant Kingdom have their own unique themes and characteristics and show a sequence of evolutionary and developmental stages that correspond to the stages of life that we, human beings experience.

The magnoliids and commelinids (monocots) do indeed show a developmental narrative, from a childish need for support in the Piperales to the spiritual angst of the Liliales. When analysed in the context of evolutionary development the remedies simply fell into place.

There is also a counter-narrative, a thesis, that these stages can somehow be related to the developmental spiral of the Periodic Table, which itself covers all the 'life passages' from infancy to death.

To accomplish this the remedies of each order and Family are semiotically deconstructed, rubric by rubric, into signifiers of the internal and external elements of the struggle involved in every experience - the challenge and its context.

Dr. Sankaran's description of the "Depth and Pace" of each miasm gives us the nature of the challenge the main feature of Dr. Scholten's Stages. Hence the nature of the challenge becomes a signifier of both the miasm and of the stage ... the ten miasms then slot perfectly into the ir respective stages.

The stages become the base unit of a common currency shared by both Kingdoms. Since valid cross kingdom comparison is now possible the process of mapping the Plant Kingdom onto the Stages and then onto the Spiral becomes a simple routine.

CONSTRUCTING A PLANT METAPHOR BY COMPARISON WITH THE MINERAL KINGDOM

There are some points at which the Plant and Mineral Kingdoms intersect, which are especially important when we are using the 1M Potency. With this potency it is almost as if we are using an electron microscope to observe and experience the world of forms and forces within the substance. In plants we are peering deep into the cell and unlocking the secrets of its D.N.A. and in minerals we are peering into the atomic structure and observing the quantum behaviour of the orbitals.

At this level both plants and minerals have structure. In plants the structure is quite stable (think of a 2000 year old Olive tree). All structures are resisting entropy, and when their energy fails they weaken and eventually the structure collapses. The end is inevitable. In minerals the atomic structure can decay spontaneously. When the nucleus loses



Figure 1: *Diamond*

energy it emits radiation. Carbon-14, for example, which has a half-life of about 5730 years decays into nitrogen-14.

Stability is also found in the Mineral Kingdom. Under the right conditions supersaturated ions or molecules pack closely together to form a perfectly pure and symmetrical three dimensional crystal lattice. Diamonds form an

extremely rigid lattice. Like Diamonds, Rocks such as granite have been cooled slowly and under great pressure. (Figure 1)

Reactive substances can become extremely unstable and produce violent reactions between cations and anions. Where structure is constant it will not be an issue. With the mineral remedies issues arise when the structure is deficient... the outer orbitals of the molecule are more stable when they are filled or shared. This gives rise to attraction in the Mineral kingdom, and following on from attraction come glamour and perhaps even desire.

EXTENDING THE EXISTING METAPHOR FOR THE MINERAL KINGDOM

The properties of the Mineral Kingdom are reflected in the dynamic structural relationships and connections which define and organise the components of our lives. They become the basis of our values, such as self worth, security and safety. To function well the structure needs a degree of stability and solidity. To accomplish this stability boundaries are defined and laws are observed. These characteristics of the Mineral kingdom almost automatically suggest a developmental, sociological, and even psychological metaphor for the human realm ... a scale, or series of stages, that starts with the weakness and instability of an infant and culminates in the powers of Kings and Governments. The metaphor implicitly emphasises a psychological dimension based on values and power. The psychological complaints are often characterised by a feeling of being inadequate to face the challenges of life in general and society in particular [2]

The developmental qualities found in Minerals

Stage 1	Stage 2-3	Stage 4-5	Stage 6-9	Stage 10-12	Stage 13-18
Symbiotic	Impulsive	Conformist	Individualistic	Autonomous	Withdrawal

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The structure of plants is complex and beautiful. Attraction and glamour are raised to new heights to fulfil the purpose of reproduction. Although plants are 'born', and driven by photosynthesis, grow by assimilating minerals, the creation of the kind of bonding structures we find in the Mineral kingdom is much more complex, so the simple sociological metaphor of the Mineral kingdom seems less appropriate. There is also ecological pressure, struggle and competition, which influences and even distorts their structure over many generations.

The formative forces found in plants are much more highly developed and organised than those of the minerals, whose reactivity is dictated by thermodynamics and so forth, which means that a structural metaphor for the Plant kingdom would have additional aspects of dynamic and developmental sophistication such as feeling or sensation, and hence emotional and psychological growth. The psychological dimension is competitive, reactive and sensitive. Consequently the psychological complaints are often characterised by over-reaction followed by dullness and a subsequent loss of the ability to react.

THE EVOLUTIONARY FORCE OF SURVIVAL

According to Aristotle the distinction between the Plant and Animal kingdoms is that plants do not move. Since Plants are rooted to the spot their growth and survival depends on their immediate environment. Growth depends on the nutrients in the soil, space, water, light and the temperature. If these change t hey have to adapt or die. Plants are sensitive and become reactive. Their survival also depends on having some defence against attack by bacteria, fungi and herbivores. This need to find adaptive solutions from within is the driving force behind plant evolution.

In the Animal kingdom similar forces drive adaptive radiation. Instinctive forces of attraction and reproduction give rise to parental care and hence the first inklings of love. In both Kingdoms defence and attack are crucial to survival (the human realm is part of the Animal kingdom). In every kingdom there is action and reaction. It is hardly surprising that some of

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the defence mechanisms that have evolved in nature can be beneficial to human beings.

Stasis	Instinct	Primitive	Primary	Higher Emotion	
		Emotions	Emotions	Tilgilei Lillotiolis	
Sensitivity/	Safety/Tension	Wanting/	Love/Hate	Altruism – Justice	
Reactivity	Anxiety/Fear	Satisfaction	Joy/Depression	Caring	
		Belonging/		Compassion	
		Loneliness		Compassion	

The qualities of emotional affect in Plants and Animals

THE SPECTRUM OF LIFE

Evolution only offers us a rather mechanistic view. Since the Stone Age we have been delighted by possessing gemstones and precious metals. All the beautiful forms, the perfection of colours, patterns, textures and perfumes of the Plant Kingdom often resonate deeply with our feelings and sensitivities... the mystical fragrance of the aromatic resin of Boswellia sacra (Frankincense) automatically arouses spiritual associations and is

conducive to meditation.



Figure 2: A natural fractal: Frosty Glass

The lives of plants offer us an awesome cascade of delights as the seasons progress. In the Animal Kingdom we find domestic animals that rise above instinct to provide companionship and loyalty, and true individuality begins to emerge. Yet we easily dismiss the play of creative intelligence in the lower kingdoms as virtually insentient, even though we let go of our own will and ego when we fall asleep.

The Homeopathic proving of Adamas yields delusions of spiralling galaxies, of being old, and that everything is sparkling. It seems as if the substance transmits its life force to the prover. We can only speculate on the nature of the life force of a perfect crystal! Perhaps nature builds everything from a simple set of building blocks using an inherent creative intelligence as described in Rig Veda. (Figure 2)

Lord of creation! no one other than thee pervades all these that have come into being.

SENSATIONS IN THE PLANT KINGDOM

Until recently Homeopaths have only been able to delve into the patient's world at the levels of Name (12c), Fact (30c), Emotion (200c) and Delusion (1m) by studying and combining rubrics derived from provings.

In the last decade or so Dr. Rajan Sankaran has given us the interviewing techniques and the map to the territory we need to follow in order to go deeper - to the next level, which is the realm of the Sensation.

To go to this next level we also need an intuitive understanding of the nature of the substance. The nature of each remedy, be it a mineral, plant, or animal needs to be grasped in its entirety. Its behavioural ecology is the result of millions of years of evolution and it will be reflected in the energy of the remedy at every level, from Name and Form through to pure energy. This is the energy we need to recognise in the patient.

Consider the Rosales for example, can it really be a coincidence that there is detachment and estrangement in those Families that produce vicious thorns as a defence mechanism? If there is such a relationship we must learn how to recognise the manifestation of this energy in the patient. In Crategus (Hawthorn) we find darting pains, exactly the sensation we experience when we carelessly grab a handful of cuttings.

Introduction

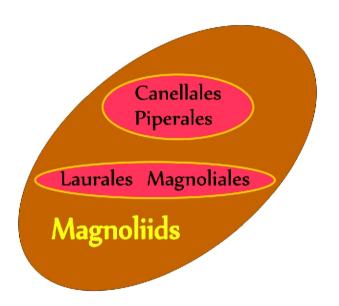
In many orders there are excited and pleasurable sensations - but when a pleasant sensation goes on and on, it gradually becomes annoying and eventually, even painful. A good example is a piece of music. The first time you listen it is wonderful but if you hear it again and again it becomes a bore, and it eventually becomes annoying, and finally overwhelming. In some families, the sensation of pleasant tingling becomes amplified into the pathology of stabbing.

Suddenly, we find ourselves looking at remedies in a new way - with a natural understanding of the relationship between their form and function, and the destructive or curative energy behind the sensations.

Now we can use our observations of nature to guide us. We must get closer to nature!

MATERIA MEDICA

MAGNOLIIDS ATTENTION SEEKING



Piperales	Excitement and fruitless effort
Laurales	Lost and insignificant
Magnoliales	Weak and disorientated

Order Piperales Excitement and fruitless effort

Themes from the Synonym database:
Asar: Light (euphoric), Sensitive

Family Aristolochiaceae Rx: Aristolochia cl.; Asarum;

Family Sensations: Pressure vs. Exhilaration.

Top (core) Aristolochiaceae Rubrics:

- Mood alternating; Anger.
- Aversion, everything to, OR husband to
- Senses acute
- Slowness

Repertory Work

A search for PRESSURE in Kingdoms > Aristolochiaceae gives ...

• Urine; BLADDER PRESSURE IN: asar[1], camph[1]



Asarum europaeum

Wild ginger

Proving experience:

- Lively and erotic dreams about relationships.
- Superficial talk on the same subjects.
- Difficulty communicating deeper issues.
- Mutual respect. Increased empathy and patience. (curative).
- Deep sense of connection and support to/from mother (curative).
- Awareness of suppressed emotional issues. Self awareness (curative).

T. F. Allen: Feels quite stupid in the head; is not disposed to do anything. Weeping, sadness, and anxious feeling.

Mirilli (Chagrin): At night vexatious and annoying dreams of being put to shame.

Image: Emotional Numbness. Extremely oversensitive patients with mood swings. They are fragile and easily upset by contradiction. They push themselves to breaking point and then become upset and give up on relationships.

They eventually have to suppress their sad feelings, subsequently becoming emotionally withdrawn, dull and bland. In this state everything grates on the nerves and cause irritation (Mirilli: chagrin, crumble).

Emotions:

- Ailments from emotions; from reprimands.
- Brooding. Anger, trifles. Fastidious. Handle things anymore, cannot.

- Prostration. Vanishing thoughts. Confusion. Senses dull.
- Loathing, general. Aversion, everything, to.
- Forsaken feeling. Dreams: Shameful; guilt; insults; mortification.

Ambition: Though sensitive they try hard ...

- Ambitious, achieve things, desire to. Haughty. Ailments from ambition.
- Ailments from business. Business averse to. Succeeds, never.

The euphoria almost feels like a spiritual trance, and there is a desire for genuine understanding, coming from the feeling that the state is too etherial.

- Delusions, floating, walking, while; flying; light incorporeal, he is. Vertigo.
- Exhilaration. Euphoria, alt. quietness, desire for. Light, desire for.
- Sensitivity: Oversensitive. Senses, acute. Noise, scratching on linen silk.

Sensation: Pressing together. Def: crush. force. Stitching, tearing (muscles).

Miasm: Sycotic and Syphilitic. Ringworm (means: exertion vs. prostration)

Using Dr. Sankaran's approach we can **Cross** the Miasm and Sensation: Pressed down by something. Put under pressure. Then released.

Therapeutics: Longing for alcohol. Nausea. Sensation of digging in stomach the morning after. Pain in the kidneys, urethra and penis.

Mineral analogues: Natrums (Silica series, Stage 1) - sensitive and emotionally withdrawn. Kalis (Ferrums, Stage 1) become two dimensional, emotionally controlled and rigid people with a strong sense of duty. Calc, (Ferrums, Stage 2) are easily hurt and try hard because they want to be appreciated.

Sensitivity, Reverence (= Puls only), Ambition and Aversion to business, Loathing and feeling forsaken are found in Pulsatilla, Calc and Kali-c.



Aristolochia clematitis

Birthwort

A remedy sometimes used for ripening puberty, when there is physical or emotional immaturity (Mirilli: beautiful). Arist is more hardworking than Asarum and makes a serious effort to overcome her problems.

- Anxiety, future. Hurry. Industrious, mania for work
- Dreams of unsuccessful efforts to do various things.

When she fails she wants to be alone. There is a sense of isolation and of threat (Mirilli: abandoned, bothered).

- Mocking, sarcasm.
- Fear, alone, of being. Fear, people of.
- Forsaken, isolation, sensation of.
- Inconsolable. Company, aversion to, presence of others agg.
- Dreams: war; explosion; fire; threats; guilt; rape.

Mirilli (Beautiful): Need to be beautiful, attractive, desirable. Desire to look sexy and wear sexy clothes.

Mirilli (Abandoned): Forsaken, sensation of isolation. Weeping and tearful mood.

Image: Hard working. Forsaken, Fearful, Rejecting. Similar to Ferrum met.

Sensations: Tearing (joints) **Def: Tear:** A rent or split.

Therapeutics: PMS. Leukorrhea. Abortion. Varicocele. Kidney and bladder pain. Herpes. Lacerations. Wounds, snake bites or bites from rabid dogs.

Miasm: Leprosy (means: defeat)

Cross the Miasm and Sensation: Torn away from something, e.g. other people.

Aristolochia milhomens

Amorous dreams. Disgusting dreams. Dreams of business.

Therapeutics: Diabetes mellitus. Stiffness and cramping of legs and Achilles tendonitis.

Aristolochia serpentaria

Virginia snakeroot

Rubrics:

- Dullness. Weakness of memory. Morose.
- Restless. Stomach anxiety.
- Dreams: Amorous. Frightful.

As in A. clematitis there is an affinity for wounds and bites. The root has been used to treat snakehite...

Bio-Strategy: Wikipedia states that Aristolochic acid prevents the inflammatory response caused by arachidonic acid which is released by melittin in the venom of snakes, bees and wasps. The connection with the Piperales family is that the pain is HOT!

Chinese herbal medicines, used for slimming, contain Aristolochic acid and have been implicated in the development of kidney problems. Aristolochic acid is also found in Asarum spp.

Family Piperaceae

Rx: Piper nigrum, Cubeba, Mati, P-meth, P-sarmentosum

Family Sensations: Blandness (Boredom)

Top (core) Piperales Rubrics are:

- EXCITEMENT, (excitable)
- MEMORY, active
- MEMORY, weakness, of

Dr. Sankaran noted that the fiery nature of the Piperales is expressed in the need for entertainment. When we are stuck in a rut with only one inevitable outcome life becomes one dimensional and boredom is the outcome.

If you walk past a queue of excited young clubbers in Ibeza you will get some impression of the Pipearales. Life is mundane, a daily round that pays the bills. The Holiday is an escape from the mundanity, which they cannot face.

When the excitement is over the Piperales are quite self-pitying. In the strongest member of the pepper family, Cubeba, the feeling of being unfortunate turns to cruelty, envy and malice.



*Piper nigrum*Black pepper

In Pip-n. there are cutting and burning pains and they try to work through the pain, it is as if they are afraid to stop. Even though they are anxious about their ailments they are still preoccupied with sexual thoughts (Mirilli: amative).

- Sadness. Occupation, diversion amel. Thinking of complaints agg.
- Fear pain of the pain.
- Concentration impossible.

- Generals pain, neuralgia. Burning.
- Dryness lips. Cracked lips.
- Perspiration hot.
- Desires cold food. Open air amel.

Mirilli (Amative): Amorous thoughts and desires, with hypochondria.

Sensations: Heat (Open air amel). Trembling. Shocks (abdomen). Dryness (lips). Burning (uterus, bladder).

Therapeutics: Angina. Palpitation.

Piper methysticum

Kava-kava - The Root of Happiness

Kava produces similar effects to alcohol. It is used by Australian Aborigines instead of alcohol because it is cheaper. As in other Piperales, excitement provides a pleasant release from oppressive conditions.

Piper Meth likes to be busy andcannot stand to be still. They love dancing. Rajan notes that P. meth can be love-struck. His client enjoyed playing Ragas but also lighter, romantic tunes which suggests that discrimination, feelings and sensitivity are very important aspects of this family.

Rubrics:

- Cheerful. Industrious. Amusement, desires. Occupation amel. Dancing. Jumping
- Ennui, tedium entertainment amel. Sensitive. Excitement agreeable.
- Ideas abundant, clear. Exaltation of fancies.
- Wild, amorous dreams. Dreams of fire.

The restlessness and excitement gives way to prostration ...

- Silent, taciturn. Weakness of memory. Irritable when questioned.
- Fear, daytime. Apprehension, dread, suffering of.
- Mental exertion desires. Thinking of his complaints agg.
- Generals: Catalepsy. Paralysis.
 Weakness, nervous.
- Generals pain, neuralgic, burning.
 Extremities hot (inflamed) or cold.
- T. F. Allen: I feel more lively than usual; in better spirits; inclined to work (sixth day).

Miasm: Cancer.

Therapeutics: Herpes. Cystitis. Burning during micturition, gonorrhoea.

Calc, Phos and Aurum have fear of suffering and also the core rubrics found in Pip-m and Lachesis: Desire for amusement, Dancing (= Lachesis only), Industrious with Abundant ideas, Amorous dreams and dreams of fire.



Cubeba (Piper cubeba)

An aggressive and ill-humoured state, which can lead to excesses of debauchery, cruelty and malice. There is no spiritual dimension. Nothing is left but the extremes of either lamentation (Mirilli: apathy) or excessive pleasure.

Rubrics:

- Speech Incoherent. Obscene, lewd, talk. Shameless. Eccentric. Desire increased.
- Starting. Excitement, feverish. Restless, anxious, irritable.
- Delusion unfortunate. Feels unfortunate. Morose.
- Malice. [Dreams of cruelty.] Envy. Wicked disposition.
- Dreams: Exciting. Amorous. Parties. Fights. Fire.

T. F. Allen: Furious insanity, with wickedness; he breaks everything within his reach, out of sheer malice.

Mirilli (Apathy): Fits of dejection, apathy, insensibility; is indifferent to everything.

Sensations: Trembling and shaking. Cutting (ovaries). Burning (abdomen). Desires: Almonds.

Therapeutics: Cystitis. Urethritis with mucus, burning or cutting. Prostatitis with yellow discharge.

Miasm: Cubeba has anti-Syphilitic and anti-Leprotic layers.

Bio-Strategy: The pungent peppery taste in the Piperales is caused by Piperine, which increases the bioavailability of selenium, coenzyme Q10 and curcumin (from turmeric). It has anti-inflammatory and anticonvulsant effects. [**Ref**: http://drzarkov.com/delano/Articles/piperine-multiplies.html]

Family Saururaceae

Saururus cernuus

Lizards tail grows in swampy woods. This may explain its affinity for the urinary system.

Rubric:

• Bladder - Inflammation, of.

Family Hydnoraceae

Hydnora is a member of a parasitic family of leafless plants which extract nutrients from the roots of their host. Their smell attracts pollinating beetles and flies (See: Watson, L., and Dallwitz, M.J. 1992).



Order Piperales

Discussion

The theme of the Order Piperales seems to be hurry and excitement which lead to fruitless effort. They are very sensitive and when they fail they drop out, shut it out, and become irritable, self-pitying and withdrawn.

There is a dread of suffering in the Piperales. Dr. Sankaran describes the Piperales sensation as an escape from pain through excitement. The pain is burning and neuralgic - they jump about as if the world is on fire (Pipm) and even dream of fire!

Note: Dr Sankaran groups the Aristolochiaceae (Arist, Asar) with the Magnoliales.