

## Sample Monograph

BELLADONNA

1.1

1033

1.2

BELL

1.3

NAME IN CONTEMPORARY USE: *Atropa belladonna* L. — 1.4

SYNONYMS: — 1.5

Latin: *Atropa lethalis* Salisb., *Belladonna baccifera* Lam., *B. trichotoma* Scop.  
English: Deadly nightshade, Banewort, Death's herb, Dwale, Poison black cherry  
Spanish:  
French: Belladone  
German: Tollkirsche

BIOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION: Family Solanaceae (Nightshade Family)

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CHEMICAL FORMULA AND MOLECULAR WEIGHT: Not Applicable

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DESCRIPTION:

A large, bushy, perennial herb, with a thick, fleshy, juicy, branched and spreading root, pale-brown externally, white internally, when fresh. The stems are erect, 0.9 to 1.5 m high, thick, cylindrical, smooth, dividing at first into three, then dichotomous, frequently branching, the youngest shoots pubescent. The leaves are numerous, alternate below, in pairs above, one larger than the other, short stalked, 7.6 to 23 cm long, ovate, entire, dark green in color. The flowers, May to August, are solitary (rarely two or three together), axillary, stalked, drooping, with the pedicel as long as or longer than the calyx, with short, glandular hairs; the calyx is five cleft. The corolla is bell-shaped, about 2.5 cm long, cut into five lobes, dull reddish-purple, tinged with pale green below. The glossy, black berries ripen in September. The whole plant is fetid when bruised, and of a dark purplish color.

RANGE AND HABITAT: — 5

Native of southern and central Europe, Asia Minor, and Algeria, where it is common in ruins and waste places. Cultivated in North America.

PREPARATION AND CLASSIFICATION:

Tincture of the whole plant, when beginning to flower (Class C or Class M).

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MEDICATION: OTC: 3X — 7  
Ext. Use: TINC.  
Rx: TINC.  
HPN: N/A