

# Fagopyrum Esculentum

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**Abstract:** *Fagopyrum esculentum*, prepared by Dr Dexter Hitchcock<sup>1</sup>, has had an extensive proving, yet there is little clinical experience with the drug, in record. There is certainly no other remedy which possesses a more marked characteristics and it can. It is safe to say that very less practising homoeopaths are aware of its pathogenesis or have ever put it into use. It is not just remedy acting chiefly on skin but is one amongst the many polychrests which, if brought to use, will help in curing a large number of cases.

**Keywords:** Fagopyrum esculentum, Materia Medica, Pruritus vulvae, Leucorrhea

## 1. Introduction

Fagopyrum esculentum is derived from the Latin and Greek word, “fago” (meaning beech) and “pyrum” (meaning nut); “esculentum” means “edible”

Garden buckwheat, also known as “Kuttu” in Hindi, is a cover crop widely cultivated to suppress weeds and improve the soil. It is widely used as an alternative cereal during fasting days in India.

**Natural order:** Polygonaceae

**Common name:** Garden buckwheat

### Preparation:

The fresh mature plant is rounded to a pulp and macerated in two parts by weight of alcohol.

### History:

Buckwheat arrived in the 14th century with the Mongols from its native country, Central Asia, to Central Europe and was originally referred to as “heath corn”. Later, it was known as “buckwheat” because it thrives on poor, sandy soils and therefore, previously the preferred locations for farming were the heath areas of North West Germany. In India and neighbouring countries, it is cultivated in Khasia hills, throughout the Himalayas.

Buckwheat is a quick-growing edible summer annual in the Polygonaceae family. Though not a legume is an excellent cover crop. The seeds germinate quickly, within 3 to 4 days of sowing and when harvested are edible as a grain. When densely planted it effectively suppresses weeds and supports a variety of beneficial insects, including honeybees. The flowers appear quickly on new plants and are long-lasting in bouquets.

- **Genus:** Fagopyrum
- **Species:** Esculentum
- **Family:** Polygonaceae
- **Life Cycle:** Annual
- **Country Or Region Of Origin:** Eastern Tibet to China
- **Wildlife Value:** A minor source of food for large and small mammals and songbirds. A nectar source for honeybees and other beneficial insects.
- **Edibility:** Cooked seeds can be eaten as a cereal grain.

### Homoeopathically:

Fagopyrum the common buck wheat is a neglected remedy despite the fact that it has been rather extensively proven, its pathogenesis occupies 24 pages in Allen’s encyclopedia of Materia Medica Pura.

An instructive paper on fagopyrum was read before the American institute in 1873 by D. C. Perkins of Rockland. It is safe to say that not one in ten of those who practice the healing art has ever used it or its familiar Dr. Perkins appraisal of this remedy.

### Pathogenetic Action:

The foliage is occasionally eaten by mammalian herbivores, including rabbits, deer, and livestock. However, a photosensitive reaction occurs in light-skinned animals that eat the foliage while in the presence of sunlight.

This reaction is called “**fagopyrism**,” producing such symptoms as swelling of the head and neck, blistering of the skin, and seizures.

Sometimes, people experience similar allergic reactions after eating products made from buckwheat flour or after exposing themselves to the foliage.

### Clinically:

- 1) Its action on the skin, producing pruritus, is very marked
- 2) Visible pulsations of the arteries
- 3) Fluent coryza
- 4) Offensive excretions
- 5) Itching erythema
- 6) Pruritus senilis
- 7) Post nasal catarrh
- 8) Dry crusts
- 9) Granular appearance of the posterior nares with itching

### Characteristic symptoms:

- 1) **Offensiveness** distinguishes many excretions.
- 2) Headaches involving **eyes, root of nose, and back of neck.**
- 3) Hot head; < bending head forward, > bending head backward.
- 4) Headache with tired neck.

- 5) Itching is general; scalp, eyes, margins of lids; ears; nose.
- 6) The nose is sore and has crusts in it.
- 7) Lips dry and cracked.
- 8) Rheumatic symptoms are > by motion.
- 9) Heat and restlessness after retiring.
- 10) Pruritis senilis.

**Mind:**

Bright, active dull, confused; inability to read or study; melancholy; irritability aversion to mental labour impaired memory; inability to concentrate.

**Head Complaints:**

Inability to study or remember. Depressed and irritable. Pain, deep in the head, with an upward pressure. Itching in and around the eyes and ears. Head hot, better bending backward, with a tired neck. Occipital headache. Bursting pain. Cerebral hyperemia.

**Eye Complaints:**

Itching and smarting, swelling, heat and soreness.

**Nose Complaints:**

Sore, red, inflamed. Fluent coryza, with sneezing, followed by dryness and crust formation.

**Throat Complaints:**

Soreness and feeling of excoriation, deep down in the pharynx. Uvula is elongated, and the tonsils are swollen (tonsillitis)

**Stomach:**

Eructions of scalding, hot, acid, watery substance; better, coffee. Bad taste in the morning. Persistent, morning nausea. Drooling.

**Female Complaints:**

Pruritus vulvae, with yellow leucorrhoea worse, rest. Burning in the right ovary.

**Heart Complaints:**

Pain around the heart, better lying on the back, extending to the left shoulder and arm (angina pectoris). Throbbing in all the arteries after retiring. Palpations with oppression. Pulse irregular, intermittent, rapid. Light feeling in the chest.

**Extremities:**

Stiffness with a bruised sensation in the muscles of the neck, sensation as if the neck cannot support the head (cervical spondylosis). Pain in the shoulder, with pain along the fingers. Vehement itching in arms and legs; worse towards the evening. Feet numb and pricking. Streaking pains in the arms and legs.

**Skin:**

Itching; better by bathing in cold water; worse scratching, touch and retiring. Sore, red blotches. Blind boils. Itching in knees, elbows and hairy portions. Itching deep in the hands. Vesicular, pustular, phlegmonous dermatitis. Skin hot, swollen.

**Modalities:**

Better, cold water, coffee; worse, in the afternoon; from sunlight, scratching.

Relationship: Compare: Dol., Bov., Urt-u

Dose: Third potency and 12x

**Rubrics:**

**Kent's Repertory:**

**Genitalia**-female-itching

**Synthesis Repertory:**

**Female genitalia**-itching-vulva

**Female genitalia**-itching-vulva, leucorrhoea from

**Extremities** – itching-bed-agg, in

**Skin** – itching-cold, bath, Amel

**Skin**-itching-cold, water, amel

**Throat** – swelling-tonsils

**Murphy Repertory:**

**Skin**-itching, skin

**Skin** – itching, air, cold, amel.

**Skin** – itching, air, open, agg

**Skin** – itching, bathing, amel

**Skin** – itching, bathing, cold, amel

**Skin** – itching, cold-amel

**Phatak Repertory:**

**Vulva**-itching-leucorrhoea with

**Itching** – cold-amel

**Itching** – old people, in (pruritus senilis)

**References**

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