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SAMBUCUS NIGRA. COMMON BLACK ELDER.

SYNONYMA. Sambucus. *Pharm. Lond. & Edinb.* Sambucus fructu in umbella nigro. *Bauh. Pin. p.* 456. Sambucus vulgaris. *Park. Theat. p.* 407. *J. Bauh. vol. i. p.* 544. *Raii Hist. p.* 1609. *Synop. p.* 461. *Gerard. Emac. p.* 1422. *Hudson Flor. Ang. p.* 130. *Flor. Dan.* 545. *Withering. Bot. Arrang. p.* 320. *Duhamel, t.* 61. Sambucus arborea, floribus umbellatis. *Hal. Stirp. Helv. n.* 670.

Varietates sunt,

β Sambucus fructu in umbella viridi. *C. Bauh.*

γ Sambucus laciniato folio. *C. Bauh.*

Class Pentandria. *Ord.* Trigynia. *Lin. Gen. Plant.* 372.

Ess. Gen. Ch. Cal. 5-partitus. *Cor.* 5-fida. *Bacca* 3-sperma.

Sp. Ch. S. cymis quinquepartitis, foliis pinnatis, caule arboreo.

THE root is woody, from which issues a shrubby stem often to the height of twelve or sixteen feet: it is much branched towards the top, and covered with a rough whitish bark: the wood is hard, tough, and contains in the centre a large proportion of medullary matter, or pith: the leaves are pinnated, consisting of two or three pair of pinnæ or leafits, with an odd one at the end; they are oval, veined, smooth, deeply serrated, and of a deep green colour: the flowers are small, white, and produced in large flat umbels or clusters: the calyx is permanent, placed above the germen, and divided into five segments: the corolla is monopetalous, wheel-shaped, somewhat convex, and divided into five obtuse segments: the filaments are tapering, spreading, equal in length to the corolla, and crowned with roundish antheræ: the germen is oval, and furnished with a prominent gland, which supplies the place of the styles, and supports three blunt stigmata: the fruit is a round succulent berry, of a blackish purple colour, and contains three seeds, which are flat on one side, and angular on the other. It is a native of Britain, in moist hedges and woods, and flowers in May and June.

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SAMBUCUS NIGRA. COMMON BLACK ELDER.

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β Sambucus fructu in umbella viridi. *C. Bauh.*

γ Sambucus laciniato folio. *C. Bauh.*

Class Pentandria. *Ord.* Trigynia. *Lin. Gen. Plant.* 372.

Ess. Gen. Ch. Cal. 5-partitus. *Cor.* 5-fida. *Bacca* 3-sperma.

Sp. Ch. S. cymis quinquepartitis, foliis pinnatis, caule arboreo.

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This ſpecies is the Ακτη [a] of the Greek writers, and has been long very generally employed for medical purpoſes. The whole plant has an unpleaſant narcotic ſmell, and ſome authors have reported its exhalations to be ſo noxious as to render it unſafe to ſleep under its ſhade.[b] The parts of the Sambucus, which are propoſed for medicinal uſe in the Pharmacopœias,[c] are the inner bark, the flowers, and the berries. The firſt has ſcarcely any ſmell, and very little taſte: on firſt chewing, it impreſſes a degree of ſweetiſhneſs, which is followed by a very ſlight, but durable, acrimony, in which its powers ſeem to reſide, and which it imparts both to watery and ſpirituous menſtrua. It is ſtrongly cathartic, and on this account was much uſed by Sydenham [d] and Boerhaave,[e] who recommend it as an effectual hydragogue; the former directs three handfuls of it to be boiled in a quart of milk and water, till only a pint remains, of which one half is to be taken night and morning, and repeated for ſeveral days: it uſually operates both upwards and downwards, and upon the evacuations it produces, its utility depends. Boerhaave gave its expreſſed juice in doſes from a dram to half an ounce. In ſmaller doſes it is ſaid to be an uſeful aperient and deobſtruent in various chronical diſorders.

"The flowers have an agreeable flavour, which they give over in diſtillation with water, and impart by infuſion both to water and rectified ſpirit: on diſtilling a large quantity of them with water, a ſmall portion of a butyraceous eſſential oil ſeparates. Infuſions made from the freſh flowers are gently laxative and aperient: when dry they are ſaid to promote chiefly the cuticular excretion, and to be particularly ſerviceable in eryſipelatous and eruptive diſorders." Externally they are uſed in fomentations, &c. and in the London Pharmacopœia directed in the form of an ointment. "The berries, in taſte, are ſomewhat ſweetiſh, and not unpleaſant; on expreſſion, they yield a

[a] Sambucus, Ἀκτὴ Græcis, a Sambuca muſico inſtrumento, quod alii pectida, alii magadin vocant, dicta putatur. Alii ab autore cui nomen Sambyx denominatam malunt. Nobis vox incertæ originis eſſe videtur. *Raii Hiſt. p.* 1609.

[b] The Berries are ſaid to be poiſonous to poultry. (*Barthol. Hiſt. anat. rarior. Cent. iv. p.* 248.) And the flowers to peacocks. *Linn. Flor. Suec. p.* 79. If turneps, cabbages, fruit-trees, or corn, (which are ſubject to blight from a variety of inſects) are whipped with the green leaves and branches of Elder, the inſects will not attack them. *Withering. l. c.* See *Phil. Tranſ. vol. lxii. p.* 348.

[c] The leaves are purgative like the bark, but more nauſeous. *Oper. p.* 496. [d] *Hiſt. Plant. P. I. p.* 207.

fine

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Pyrus Cydonia

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fine purple juice, which proves an useful aperient and resolvent in recent colds and sundry chronical diseases, gently loosening the belly, and promoting urine and perspiration."[a] The officinal preparation of these berries is the succus baccæ sambuci spissatus. (Pharm. Lond.)

[a] *Lewis M. M. p.* 576.

PYRUS CYDONIA. COMMON QUINCE TREE.

SYNONYMA. Cydonium malum. *Pharm. Lond. & Edinb.* Malus Cotonea. *Gerard. Emac. p.* 1452. *Raii Hist. p.* 1452. *J. Bauh. Hist. vol. i. p.* 35. Malus Cotonea vulgaris. *Park. Theat. p.* 1504. Mala cotonea majora. *Bauh. Pin. p.* 434. *Flor. Austr. v. iv. t.* 342. Duplex varietas in hortis colitur, scil. 1. Cydonia fructu oblongo læviori. *Tourn. Instit. p.* 632. Mala Cotonea majora. *C. Bauh. l. c.* depicta ab ill Du Hamel, in *Traité des Arb. fruit. ad p.* 206. 2 Cydonia fructu breviore et rotundiore. *Tourn. l. c.* Mala cotonea minora. *C. Bauh. l. c.* depicta in Du Hamel *Traité des Arb. et Arbustes Tab.* 83. Prostat et alia 3 varietas: Cydonia latifolia lusitanica. *Tourn.* cujus fructus oblongus succosior et minus acerbus, sed rarioris proventus. Vide *Murray App. Med. vol. iii. p.* 196.

Class Icosandria. *Ord.* Pentagynia. *Lin. Gen. Plant.* 626.

Ess. Gen. Ch. Cal. 5-fidus. *Petala* 5. *Pomum* inferum 5-loculare, polyspermum.

Sp. Ch. F. fol. integerrimis, flor. solitariis.

THIS tree seldom rises very high, being usually crooked and distorted: it sends off several branches, and is covered with a brown bark: the leaves are simple, roundish or oval, entire, on the upper side of a dusky green colour, on the under, whitish, and stand upon short footstalks: the flowers are large, solitary, of a pale red or white colour, and placed close to the axillæ of the leaves: the calyx

Pyrus Cydonia

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fine purple juice, which proves an uſeful aperient and reſolvent in recent colds and ſundry chronical diſeaſes, gently looſening the belly, and promoting urine and perſpiration."[f] The officinal preparation of theſe berries is the ſuccus baccæ ſambuci ſpiſſatus. (Pharm. Lond.)

[f] *Lewis M. M. p.* 576.

PYRUS CYDONIA. COMMON QUINCE TREE.

SYNONYMA. Cydonium malum. *Pharm. Lond. & Edinb.* Malus Cotonea. *Gerard. Emac. p.* 1452. *Raii Hiſt. p.* 1452. *J. Bauh. Hiſt. vol. i. p.* 35. Malus Cotonea vulgaris. *Park. Theat. p.* 1504. Mala cotonea majora. *Bauh. Pin. p.* 434. *Flor. Auſtr. v. iv. t.* 342. Duplex varietas in hortis colitur, ſcil. 1. Cydonia fructu oblongo læviori. *Tourn. Inſtit. p.* 632. Mala Cotonea majora. *C. Bauh. l. c.* depicta ab ill Du Hamel, in *Traité des Arb. fruit. ad p.* 206. 2 Cydonia fructu breviore et rotundiore. *Tourn. l. c.* Mala cotonea minora. *C. Bauh. l. c.* depicta in Du Hamel *Traité des Arb. et Arbuſtes Tab.* 83. Proſtat et alia 3 varietas: Cydonia latifolia luſitanica. *Tourn.* cujus fructus oblongus ſuccoſior et minus acerbus, ſed rarioris proventus. Vide *Murray App. Med. vol. iii. p.* 196.

Claſs Icoſandria. *Ord.* Pentagynia. *Lin. Gen. Plant.* 626.

Eſſ. Gen. Ch. *Cal.* 5-fidus. *Petala* 5. *Pomum* inferum 5-loculare, polyſpermum.

Sp. Ch. F. fol. integerrimis, flor. ſolitariis.

THIS tree ſeldom riſes very high, being uſually crooked and diſtorted: it ſends off ſeveral branches, and is covered with a brown bark: the leaves are ſimple, roundiſh or oval, entire, on the upper ſide of a duſky green colour, on the under, whitiſh, and ſtand upon ſhort footſtalks: the flowers are large, ſolitary, of a pale red or white colour, and placed cloſe to the axillæ of the leaves: the calyx