## **BERBERIS ARISTAT DC. FAMILY - BERBERIDACEAE**

It is an erect spinous shrub, 2-6 m high, often forming gregarious patches, pale yellowish brown bark, closely and rather deeply furrowed. Flowers are golden yellow.

**COMMON NAMES:** Chita, Rasaunt, Daruhaldi

#### **DISTRIBUTION:**

It occurs in the Himalayas between 2000-3000 m and also in Nilgiri Hills.

**PART USED:** Root bark, Stem, Wood and Fruit.

**CULTIVATION:** 

### SOIL AND CLIMATE

It can be cultivated in any type of soil. It grows well in temperate climate.

### NURSERY RAISING AND PLANTING

Propagation is from seeds, self-sown in nature. Seedlings or cuttings can be taken during spring, season after the berries are over. Seedlings are transplanted in to field at distance of  $100 \times 100$  cm.

#### THINNING AND WEEDING

Weeding and thinning of the plants may be done as and when required usually after 15-30 days for better growth.

## 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**

Irrigation may be done as per requirement (weekly/fortnightly)

## HARVESTING/POST HARVESTING OPERATION

The root bark removed from mature plant after two years of plantation & cut in a small pieces and dried in shade.

# **ECONOMICS**

The rate for a kg. of bark ranges from Rs. 25-30. (YEAR-2001)

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

# **INSTITUTE TO BE CONTACTED:**

HERBAL GARDEN, HERBARIUM & RESEARCH INSTITUTE, JOGINDER NAGAR, GOVT. OF HIMACHAL PRADESH, SHIMLA (HP)