



Extrax Fax

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Draco Announces New Staff Additions

Please join us in welcoming the addition of two new key staff people in our San Jose, CA headquarters office. Corinna Benoit has joined us as our in house sales assistant. She is the cheerful voice on the phone when you call in to our office. She is also in charge of coordinating sales efforts for our field sales reps, and keeping mountains of paperwork and data organized and under control. Corinna recently graduated with honors from the University of California at Santa Cruz.

Also joining us is our new Technical Support Manager Brien Quirk, who comes to us with eight years of experience working both on the technical end in herbal supplement raw material supply and as a Nutrition Consultant in the clinical setting for MD's, Chinese, and Ayurvedic doctors. With his extensive biochemistry background and herbal research experience, he provides our valued customers with a comprehensive range of detailed scientific information on herbal products. Brien graduated with honors from the University of Wisconsin. ❖

Lychii Wonder Fruit

If you have used Lychii Fruit in any of your herbal products, you already know what a wonderful superior tonic this herb is. As an adaptogen, it has the effect of normalizing sex hormones, helping to restore normal sexual activities in cases of reduced sex drive, impotence, nocturnal emissions, and menstrual disorders. The Chinese revere this herb for its ability to replenish vital essence, improve eyesight, calm the nerves, and prolong life. Lycium berry polysaccharides are important constituents with immunotonic, antitumor, antimutagenic, antioxidant, antiaging, and antistress effects. The fruit is very high in vitamins, minerals and the enzyme betaine. With a high zeaxanthin and b-carotene content, Lychii is a strong antioxidant, targeting the eyes. It also helps protect the liver and kidneys, boosting detoxification and aiding regeneration of cells. Draco's Lychii Fruit extract is rich in polysaccharides and standardized to 15% betaine. ❖

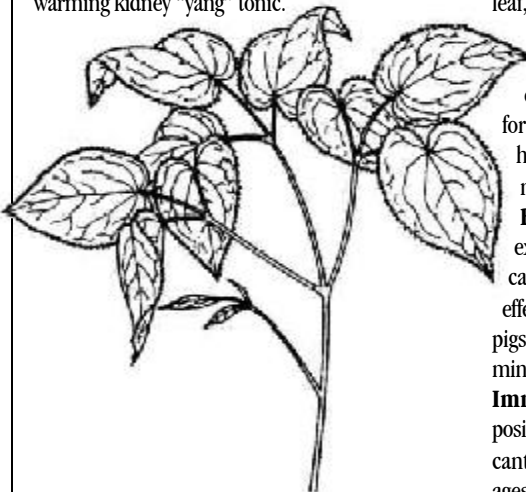
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Product Focus

Epimedium

Versatile Chinese Sexual Enhancement Tonic

In the rocky crevices and shady humid bamboo groves of temperate to subtropical Asia grows a woody evergreen perennial called Horny Goat Weed (Yin Yang Huo, *Epimedium saggitatum*). It was so named when it was noticed that goats, after ingesting this herb, would mate. Indeed, Epimedium is known to help increase the production of sperm in males, and to have estrogenic activity in females. But this herb, used for thousands of years in Traditional Chinese Medicine, has a surprisingly broad range of therapeutic applications, and is perhaps best known as a warming kidney "yang" tonic.



The leaf is the plant part used, and among the important active constituents it contains are the flavonol glycosides, such as icariin and, methylcariin. Much of the work on Epimedium has focused on either the whole herb or these glycosides, but the polysaccharide content is also of interest. The herb's activity is important in 5 main areas: reproductive, urinary, cardiovascular, respiratory and immune.

Reproductive • As a kidney yang tonic, Epimedium offers effective support in conditions that result from kidney yang deficiency, such as impotence and chronic prostatitis in males, and irregular menses, infertility and menopause in females. Epimedium's glycosides help to tonify and regulate both androgenic and estrogenic reproductive functions. The herb has been found to have aphrodisiac properties in males, increasing the production of sperm, filling the testes, thereby stimulating the sensing nerves, and indirectly promoting sexual desire. Epimedium

is ideal for adding to sexual enhancement formulas.

Urinary • As Epimedium targets the kidneys, it is not surprising that this herb is used to improve the general quality of life of dialysis patients. It improves immunologic deficiencies in chronic renal failure patients on dialysis, and was shown to significantly improve BUN and serum creatinine levels. In the glomeruli, it was shown to inhibit hypertrophy and capillary wall degeneration.

Cardiovascular • Epimedium acts to stimulate cerebral and peripheral circulation, similar to Ginkgo leaf, assisting with such conditions as memory loss, chronic tiredness, and numbness or tingling of the extremities. There is also a long last-ing cardiovascular relaxant effect, offering support for conditions such as hypertension and angina. It helps dilate the coronary vessels, increasing coronary blood flow by reducing vascular resistance.

Bronchial • The herb acts as an antitussive and expectorant. Studies of its effectiveness in 1,066 cases of chronic bronchitis demonstrated a 74.6% effectiveness rate in improving symptoms. In guinea pigs, it was effective in protecting them from histamine induced asthma.

Immune • Epimedium has some wide ranging positive effects on immunity. It was shown to significantly enhance the phagocytic activity of macrophages, to stimulate the migration of T-lymphocytes from the thymus to peripheral organs, and to promote both the proliferation of bone marrow cells and the synthesis of DNA. It also has antibacterial and antiviral properties, actively inhibiting the growth of staph, strep, and pneumonia bacteria. Epimedium polysaccharides were found to reverse the AZT induced inhibition of DNA synthesis and reduce the toxicity of AZT.

On its own, Epimedium is an effective tonic for a wide range of deficiency conditions, but it really shines when balanced with other herbs in a formula. With our extensive formulation background, we can help you create the correct balance for your own Epimedium formula, based on your own ideas and ingredients, proprietary Draco formulas, or proven traditional Chinese remedies. Draco Epimedium contains a Full Spectrum of plant constituents and is standardized to 5% icariin. ❖