

Timur

English Name: Nepalese Pepper

Scientific Name: *Zanthoxylum armatum* DC.

Family: Rutaceae

Introduction:

Spiny shrub or small tree about 3 m high. Petiole odor. Leaves alternate, slightly winged, with stipular spine at the base, odd pinnate, leaflets three to nine with red colored thorn. Flowers small, whitish in loose inflorescence. Fruit spherical, red when matured, splitting into two valves, 3 to 4 mm in fresh, odor.

Availability:

Distributed from 1000 to 2500 m in Hilly regions throughout east to west Nepal in natural conditions and edge of cultivated land. Abundant in hilly areas of Mid-western Nepal.

Harvesting Time:

October to December.

Part used in Trade: Fruit.

Description of traded part:

Fruits are small bean shaped, black or brown colored essential oil scented, with biting and numbing taste. Majority fruits are broken into two pieces but unseparated. Along with fruit, sometimes dark brown colored seed is also present.

Uses:

Fruits are used for headache, toothache in Ayurvedic Medicinal System. It is also used as spice and pesticide. Essential oil extracted from fruit is used for cosmetic materials, food materials and medicinal purposes.

Conservation Status:

Government of Nepal has prioritized it for Cultivation and Conservation.

