

Barhang

Medicinal Plants Section, Islamic and Traditional Medicine Department, Iranian Academy of Medical Sciences

Abstract:

"Barhang", a genus from the family of Plantaginaceae, has been identified in Iranian traditional medicine with different names such as "Lessan-al-hamal", "Bartang", and "Khargooshak". Two kinds of this plant, major and minor, has been considered in the Iranian traditional manuscripts. In this paper, we tried to determine the scientific names of these two species, according to their characteristics mentioned in the Iranian traditional manuscripts and also propose appropriate Persian names for these scientific names. It was concluded that the characteristics of the two species of "Barhang" in the traditional medicine are completely matched with the two species of *Plantago*; "major" with *P. major* and "minor" with P. lanceolata. The suggested Persian names for the species are "Barhange-kabir" for *P. major* and "Barhang-e-sarneizehee" for *P. lanceolata*.

Keywords: Iranian Traditional Medicine; *P. lanceolata*; *P. major* Corresponding Authors: Gh. Amin, A.A. Mohagheghzadeh Emails: amin@sina.tums.ac.ir, mohaghegh@sums.ac.ir