

**Plant Profile: *Plumbago zeylanica*
(Chitrak)**

Botanical Name	Plumbago zeylanica																		
Common Name	Chitrak																		
Classification	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Kingdom:</td> <td>Plantae</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Subkingdom:</td> <td>Tracheobionta</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Division:</td> <td>Magnoliophyta</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Class:</td> <td>Magnoliopsida</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Subclass:</td> <td>Caryophyllidae</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Order:</td> <td>Caryophyllales</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Family:</td> <td>Plumbaginaceae</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Genus:</td> <td>Plumbago</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Species:</td> <td>zeylanica</td> </tr> </table>	Kingdom:	Plantae	Subkingdom:	Tracheobionta	Division:	Magnoliophyta	Class:	Magnoliopsida	Subclass:	Caryophyllidae	Order:	Caryophyllales	Family:	Plumbaginaceae	Genus:	Plumbago	Species:	zeylanica
Kingdom:	Plantae																		
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Division:	Magnoliophyta																		
Class:	Magnoliopsida																		
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Order:	Caryophyllales																		
Family:	Plumbaginaceae																		
Genus:	Plumbago																		
Species:	zeylanica																		
Part used	Root and root-bark.																		
Medicinal Properties	Root-bark: antiperiodic and sudorific. Root: abortifacient and vesicant, antidiarrhoeal, antidyspeptic, appetizing, sudorific, digestive.																		
Medicinal Use	Prescribed for oedema, abdominal diseases, piles, sprue, worms and pruritus. Root-bark: milky juice applied with benefit in scabies and ulcers. Root: useful in anasarca, piles, intermittent fevers and in skin diseases.																		
Chemistry	Protein in pollen grains; volatile oil from leaves and stem; root-bark: fructose, glucose, invertase and protease. Root: chitranone, plumbagin, catechol tannin.																		
Regional Habitat	Throughout Rajasthan. Also grown in gardens.																		
Description	A sub-scandent, perennial shrub, branches diffuse. Leaves: alternate, ovate, narrowed into the petiole. Flowers: borne in spikes, rachis of the spike pubescent or glandular. Corolla white, tube long and slender. Base of																		

the style glabrous. Fruits: oblong and pointed capsules, enclosed by persistent viscid calyx. Flowers and fruits during the winter.

