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Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

Aug. 18, 1939

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Report No 64

INDIAN MEDICINAL PLANT USES OF SOME NEVADA PLANTS

Information secured by Percy Train, Agent, from informant given below.

Richard Birchum, Shoshone, Austin, Nev.

- X 1. *Populus angustifolia* (Cottonwood) bark only  
Rosa sp. root only  
Urtica sp. root only

Cottonwood bark, wild rose roots, and nettle roots are boiled together. 1 cup of this resulting solution is taken at each meal as a tonic remedy for general sickness, ill rundown condition, and to clean the blood.

- X 2. *Monardella odoratissima* Wild pennyroyal

(S) Bur-nut-zoo. Called this by Richard Birchum as it is his blood medicine.

Whole plant dried, boiled, taken as a tea drink tonic to clean the blood.

- X 3. -----unidentified.

(S) Boh-quah. This plant is still unidentified as I have been unable to get informant to go out in the mountains with or without me and dig a specimen for me. He had some of the roots at his home and the taste is very strong. He is a keen student of plants and says it belongs to the water parsnip family. He is to dig the plant and have it for me when I return thru Austin soon.

Piece of the root placed in tooth cavity deadens pain and stops ache in a short time.

Burn whiskey in a saucer to remove alcohol. Boil it with roots. Take for bad chest colds and cough. Root is also mixed with pine pitch, smoke inhaled for bad head colds.

INDIAN MEDICINAL USES OF SOME NEVADA PLANTS

Information secured from the following informants  
by Percy Train, Agent, U.S. Bureau of Plant Industry.

Nick Rogers, Shoshone  
Ella Rogers, Shoshone  
Frank Rogers, Shoshone

This old time Smokey Valley Indian family has lived in Manhattan, Round Mountain, and now own their own little ranch against the east slope of the Toiyabe Range N.W. of Millet, Nye Co. Nevada.

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Medicinal PlantsX 1. Rumex crispus (Dock)

(S) Dim-oo-ee, also Wya-nut-zoo, meaning burn medicine.

Root is mashed and applied as a moist poultice on skin burns.

X 2. Osmorhiza occidentalis (Sweet root)

(S) Bas-oh-wip

Roots gathered, soaked, not boiled, in a large container. This makes a weak tea which is taken often as an internal drink instead of plain water every day. It is claimed as a good remedy for shortness of wind due to high altitudes.

\* This is the first instance where any Nevada Indian has been aware of any discomfort due to high altitudes. It was stated an Indian friend had come to the mountains of Nye County, Nev. from lower elevations of California and suffered so much from shortness of breath, this remedy was tried, and he claimed it helped this condition.

Nick Rogers  
Ella Rogers  
Frank Rogers

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3. Pentstemon deustus

(S) Dimbahsego

Leaves and stems boiled in quantity, solution used as an external wash for running sores. Legs soaked in hot bath solution for swellings and swollen veins. External wash for persistent skin eruptions such as exema.

4. Clematis ligusticifolia and Plantago sp. (T 3401)

(S) Clematis .. Esha-wanna  
(S) Plantago.. Wee-dee

Leaves of the Clematis mashed, moistened a little with cold water, mixed with mashed Plantago leaves. Applied as a drawing poultice when it is desired to have boil, swellings, etc. come to a head and break.

\* This usage of Clematis leaves was given by an informant on Upper Reese River but when the notes were sent in, it was impossible to discover exactly what plant was used with the Clematis in order to make an effective drawing poultice. The Plantago leaves are the missing part of this remedy, of the species dug from Nick Rogers Ranch and herbarium specimens sent in as T 3401.

5. Purshia tridentata (Litterbrush)

(S) Huhnabbe

Leaves boiled, a little taken every day over a long period in cases of venereal disease.

6. -----unidentified (T 3402)

(S) no name

✓ Called white man's medicine since it is not a wild plant. This plant grown in the Indian garden, leaves dried, tea solution taken internally in cases of blood diarrhea,  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 cup will stop it. Used by quite a few Smokey Valley Indians who know Nick Rogers has it in his garden.

7. Achillea lanulosa (Yarrow)

(S) Dah-wun-gum-bah nut-zoo  
meaning: toothache medicine

While the root of this plant was known as a toothache remedy to this family, they had never tried it, but gave the name.

8. Sericotheca (Rock spirea) (T 3395)

(S) Toya-huhnsabbe  
meaning, mountain brush

Leaves and stems boiled, strong tea taken internally in portions of about  $\frac{1}{2}$  a cup for severe stomach ache.

Stems only are boiled, the tea being taken in small doses of less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup regularly every day for a long time in cases of venereal disease.

9. Gilia pulchella (Timpiute)

(S) Tim-bah-hay nut-zoo, bad disease medicine

Whole plant boiled, tea taken internally as a physic, also over a long period for cases of venereal disease.

10. Balsamorhiza saggitata

(S) Ah-kuk

Root boiled, solution used as a wash for itch and skin eruptions like exema. *eczema*  
Leaves mashed and bound on as a poultice for swellings.

These two remedies were told to Bick Rogers by a visiting Flathead Indian from Montana but have not been tried out by him.

11. Monardella odoratissima Wild pennyroyal (T 3354)

(S) Toya-abbe-hobe  
Whole plant boiled, tea solution taken as a drink. Small cup for coughs and colds.

12. Iva axillaris (Poverty weed) (T 3373)

(S) Du-du-zip

Whole plant boiled. Solution taken internally to clean the blood, and to stop passing of blood from bowels.

13. Rosa sp. (Wild rose)

(S) See-avvie

Lower thicker stems cut, bark and thorns removed. Inside bark scraped off in very fine shavings or powder and placed in deep cuts. Claimed very healing for bad cuts and wounds.

This same remedy is used on Upper Reese River.

14. Verstrum californicum (Skunk cabbage)

(S) Toya-div-oh-sah

Raw root chewed a little for sore throat and severe pains in throat from inflamed tonsils and heavy colds.

15. Artemisia gnaphalodes

(S) Coo-see-pah-wah-zip

Root and tops boiled, taken as a hot drink for heavy colds.

## Miscellaneous plant names:

Smilacine liliaceae	Pah-gun-dah-hoon
Limnia perfoliata	Ding-ah-moo
Dalea polyadenia	Mo-goon-du-hu
Gilia congesta	Be-he-vah nut zoo, venereal disease medicine.
Iris missouriensis	Sag-ee-dump, meaning "seeds rattle in pod"
Ceanothus velutinus	Mah-rah-numb
Prunus andersonii	Bahn-zon-ip
Delphinium sp.	Witch-ah-sch-oh, sage hen
Eriogonum inflatum	Woyah-no-comb
Sphaeracæa munroana	Wee-dah-goomp
Oenothera hookeri	See-wa-tum

INDIAN MEDICINAL USES OF SOME NEVADA PLANTS

(206)  
Report No 66  
Sept. 1-4, 1939

Round Mountain Shoshones

Round Mt. Nye Co. Nevada

Information secured from the following informants by  
Percy Train, Agent, U.S. Bureau of Plant Industry,

Mike Millett, Shoshone  
Mattie Millett, "  
Hazel Millett, "  
John Sunday, "

- Forssellesia nevadensis*
1. unidentified (T 34 21) Herbarium specimens for  
identification. Analysis  
material collected.

✓ (S) Bas-un-dook nut-zoo, meaning:  
Tuberculosis medicine

This tuberculosis medicine was known only to Mike Millett, whose Mother had gathered this shrub and given it to a number of Smokey Valley Shoshones suffering from early stages of T.B. in the early days, some 40 to 50 years ago. He said the shrub grew only in two places in one canyon (Wisconsin Canyon) on the eastern slope of the Toiyabe Range, just north of Ophir Canyon, Nye Co. Nevada. While only a boy, he remembered the shrub and locality, and acted as guide to the spot.

The brittle shrub was boiled, the tea taken in doses of several cups a day over a long period of time, and it is claimed was an effective cure.

2. Angelica sp.

✓ (S) Bas-un-dook nut-zoo

This root was gathered and boiled, tea taken over a long period of time for Tuberculosis also.

3. Asclepias speciosa (Milkweed)

(S) Be-jah-no-ko

Milky gum put on open cuts as a healing agent.

4. Osmorhiza occidentalis (Sweet root)

(S) Bas-oh-wip

Root boiled just long enough to make a weak tea. Given to children as a tonic and for indigestion.  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup once a day for several days.

Raw root used for toothache remedy.

5. Cicuta occidentalis (Poison parsnip)

(S) Hah-tee

Raw roots mashed, applied as a poultice to deaden muscular pains, but known as poison and never used on open cuts.

6. Gilia filifolia

(S) Din-ah-ee-goom

whole plant is boiled, less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup taken for a physic and emetic.

7. Clematis ligusticifolia (T 3413)

(S) Esha-wanna

Leaves boiled, tea taken for stomach ache, stomach cramps. 1, 2 or 3 cups taken at a time providing the tea has not been made too strong. Root was claimed better than the leaves for the same purpose.

8. Iva axillaris (Poverty weed)

(S) Du-du-zip

(see next page)



8. *Iva axillaris* continued:

If a Shoshone family in this area, having young children, use just one medicine plant, it is always the poverty weed which grows all over Reese River and Smokey Valleys around their camps.

Roots boiled, weak tea given to little children for stomach ache, in amount usually  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup.

At Round Mountain the roots are eaten often either raw or roasted or boiled, for general indigestion.

9. *Pinus monophylla* (Pinyon pine pitch)

(S) Wah-pee

Pitch gathered and kept in a jar. Used as a salve and drawing agent to bring boils to a head.

10. *Heuchera* sp. (Alum root) (T <sup>3422</sup> ~~4322~~)

Herbarium specimens and roots coll. for analysis

(S) Toya- dimba- wah-rumb, meaning:  
mountain rock medicine

Root boiled,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of the tea given three times a day to reduce a high fever.

This medicine was said to be very effective by Mike Millett who has used it among children of his family and Smokey Valley friends.

This is only the second time this plant has been given as medicine. It was used by the Beatty Shoshones as a drink for heart ailments.

11. *Leptotaenia multifida* (Cough root)

(S) Toh-sa, Toh-sup

Root dried, pieces shaved off to smoke. Smoke inhaled to clear head colds, tea made by boiling root for heavy colds.

12. Purshia tridentata (Bitterbrush)

(S) Huh-nabbe

Leaves boiled, strong tea taken internally in dose of  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 cup as an emetic and physic.

Not used as an external wash here.

13. Dalea (Parosela) polyadenia

(S) Mo-gun-du-hu

Stems and tops boiled, tea taken for colds and stomach ache.

14. Gilia congesta

(S) Be-he-vah nut-zoo, or Quee-dah-nut-zoo the latter term to be used with discretion, because it means evacuation medicine.

Used as a physic, by boiling the whole plant and drinking the tea. This family knew it also was used as a tea taken for venereal disease among the Reese River Shoshones. The Shoshones also have noted the fact that this plant grows only "on white ground", (volcanic ash soil.)

## \*Regarding Vitamin C:

This family does not use Rosa leaves for a beverage but they do have a liking for the Orobanche which they find on the sagebrush covered mountain slopes nearby. It is eaten raw or after roasting by grownups and children alike. Called "Doo" or "Dootzie-ah-roo"

Sept. 4, 1939.

Report No 67  
Sept. 4, 1939

INDIAN MEDICINAL USES OF SOME NEVADA PLANTS

Round Mountain Shoshones

Round Mt. Nye Co. Nevada.

Information secured from the following informants by  
Percy Train, Agent, U.S. Bureau of Plant Industry.

Jennie Johnnie (Aunt of Mrs. Lena Weeks at Stillwater  
Pansy Weeks, Shoshone, daughter-in-law of Mrs. L.W.  
Ida Smith, Shoshone  
Emma Ike, Shoshone wife of Big Ike, deceased,  
Smokey Valley medicine man

X 1. Monardella odoratissima (wild pennyroyal)

(S) Guy-moh

X This group of Shoshones use a tea made of  
the leaves and stems as a pleasant cooling  
beverage, being fond of the mint flavor.  
In the old days they said their families  
also used a great deal of the rose leaf tea  
as a steady beverage in their homes.

X 2. Sericotheca microphylla Rock spirea

✓ (S) wuh-toy-ee nut-zoo

X Leaves only boiled, tea taken for an emetic.  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  cup is the dose.

X 3. Clematis ligusticifolia (T 3413)

(S) Lsha-wanna

✓ X Leaves gathered in quantity, placed in a  
deep tub, boiled, cooled somewhat, and legs  
bathed in it for several hours at a time to  
reduce swelling due to dropsey.

X 4. Psathyrotes annua or ramosissima (Turtle back)

(S) no name known

✓ X Claimed the best physic medicine. Whole plant  
boiled. Not as strong a physic as Gilia filifolia  
and less liable to produce blood. Used for children.

X 5. Asclepias speciosa (Milkweed)

(S) Be-sha-no-ko or Be-ja-no-ko

X ✓ \*Milky juice applied to remove corns and foot calouses

X ✓ \*Root mashed, moistened with water, applied as a poultice several days to reduce swellings.

X 6. Heracleum lanatum (Bear paw)

✓ (S) Bas-un-dook nut-zoo, meaning: Tuberculosis medicine.

X Root boiled, tea taken over a long period to cure tuberculosis.

X 7. Pentstemon deustus

(S) Dim-bah-shego

X Leaves mashed, moistened, applied as a poultice for skin eruptions, itch, exema.

X 8. Gilia congesta

(S) Be-he-vah nut-zoo

X ✓ Tea made from boiling the whole plant is taken internally for venereal disease.

Used also occasionally as physic, but claimed too strong. They use Psathyrotes instead.

X 9. Osmorhiza occidentalis

(S) Bas-oh-wip

X Root boiled, tea taken for stomach ache and bad colds.

X 10. Pinus monophylla (Pinyon pine)

(S) Wah-pee

X Pitch applied as a salve or bound on as a poultice to draw out bad slivers, boils.

11. Aster scopulorum

(S) Bombe- nut-zoo

while not used in Smokey Valley, Emma Ike had heard it was used for headaches. Leaves boiled, tea taken internally.

12. Cercocarpus ledifolius (Mountain mahogany)

(S) Doh-numbe

Bark boiled, solution used as a wash for sores and cuts.

Bark boiled, tea taken, about 1/2 cup to stop stomach ache.

13. rurshia tridentata (Bitterbrush)

(S) Huh-nabbe

Leaves boiled, tea taken internally over a long period for venereal disease.

14. Artemisia tridentata (Big sagebrush)

(S) Boh-hoe-be

Leaves boiled, tea taken hot or cold for bad colds.

Miscellaneous plant names:

- ✓ Leucocrinum montanum (Boo-e-ah-moo) roots as food
- ✓ Rumex crispus (Dim-who)
- ✓ Veratrum californicum (Toya-div-oh-sah)
- ✓ Juniperus utahensis (Samabee, or Oh-hee nut zoo) lvs. for
- ✓ Paeonia brownii (Bah-tee-vah) colds
- ✓ Abronia villosa (Bah-gun-boh-homb) Death mask moth food
- ✓ Eriogonum inflatum (Ungah-kah-sah-rumb)

Report No 68  
sept. 7-10, 1939  
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INDIAN MEDICINAL USES OF SOME NEVADA PLANTS  
USED BY SHOSHONE INDIANS AT MANHATTAN, NEVADA

Information secured by Percy Train, Agent, U.S. Bureau Plant Industry, from following informants:

Maggie Jack Ferral, Shoshone  
Maggie Ducker, "  
Mattie Tom, "

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Maggie Jack is an old squaw who has lived in Smokey Valley all her life. She was born at Darrough Hot Springs and late years married a white man and lives at Manhattan. Her Shoshone is easy to understand and she is particularly well informed on Indian plant uses.

1. Artemisia gnaphalodes (western mugwort)

(S) Coo-see pah-wah-zip

Whole plant boiled, 1 cup of the tea taken to stop diarrhea. Leaves only boiled, tea for colds.

2. Phlox canescens

(S) Eye-go-dun-um mut-zee

Roots collected, washed and scraped. Soak in cold water. Tea given to little children for stomach ache. Can be taken several cups a day, will not hurt them.

3. Sphaeralcea munroana

(S) Wee-doh-comb

Roots boiled, not enough to make tea too strong. 1 cup taken each meal for several days for upset stomach.

4. Ephedra viridis Jointfir, Mormon tea

(S) Too-roombe

Stems boiled. Made up fresh like tea beverage and taken often to clean the blood, as a tonic. Used also as a simple refreshing beverage with sugar added. Used a great deal here.

5. Pinus monophylla Pinyon pine

(S) wah-pee

Pine pitch gathered in pine nut season and kept in a can. Pitch boiled, the solution taken as a drink over a long period of time for venereal disease.

Heat the pitch, put it on a warm rag, use as we use a mustard plaster by placing over the aching part of the body.

6. Cercocarpus ledifolius (Mountain mahogany)

(S) Tu-nambe, Too-nambe

Scrape the wood. Inside bark used to make a tea which is taken in doses of  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup once a day for several days to clean the blood and as a tonic for general run down tired feeling.

7. ----- (T 3421) This shrub was sent in for analysis as Mike Millet's T.B. medicine.

(S) Bas-un-dook  
nut-zoo

It is of interest here because Maggie Jack recognized it and said it also grown off the trail up S. Twin River, and she had heard it had been used as T.B. medicine.

8. Frasera speciosa (Deer tongue) (T 3334)

(S) Coo-see - div-oh-savva

\*This means it looks like *Veratrum californicum*. Div-oh-savva is applied by Shoshones to all women without any children. It would appear when this *Veratrum* root was first given on Reese River as the plant which prevented further childbirth, the informants simply gave the *Veratrum* the name which meant "no children". They appear to have no other name for the plant, and go on calling it that whether they had heard it was used for birth control or whether they laugh at the idea. Now the name seems to have spread to this *Frasera*, with the prefix "grey".

Root boiled,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup taken once in a while for general weakness and general ill feeling, as a tonic.

X 9. Heuchera sp. (T 3422)

(S) Zee-guoy) This name was also given for Petrophytum and differs from Mike Millet's name for his fever remedy.

X Roots boiled,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup taken each morning for a long time, for venereal disease.

X 10. Iva axillaris (Poverty weed)

(S) Du-du-zip, Bee-wha nut-zoo

X whole plant boiled, tea taken to stop diarrhea.  
whole plant boiled, tea taken for stomachache.

X 11. Aplopappus nanus

(S) Dimbe-tah-ba-she-bupe, little rock brush

X Stems and tops boiled, tea made and taken for colds and cough.

X 12. Purshia tridentata (Bitterbrush)

(S) Huh-nabbe

This grows abundantly at Manhattan and is used. Leaves boiled, solution taken as a drink over a long period for venereal disease. Leaves boiled, solution used as an external wash for skin itch.

X 13. Physaria didymocarpa (Twinpod)

(S) Tah-pah-day

X Leaves soaked in cold water. Solution used as a wash for sore eyes and stys.

X 14. Gilia congesta

(S) Be-he-vah

X whole plant boiled. Tea taken for strong physic and emetic. Used here instead of Gilia filifolia which is claimed to be too strong a physic.

X 15. Argemone hispida (white flower prickly poppy)

(S) Wya-nut zoo

X Used at Tonopha but not in Smokey Valley. Seeds mashed applied to burns



X 16. Monardella odoratissima Wild pennyroyal

(S) Guy-moh, Oh-he nut-zoo, Quoy-he-nut-zoo  
\*Guy-moh, name of the plant,  
others mean, stomach medicine, cold medicine

X A tea is made from boiling the tops. Taken in  
dose of one cup for stomach ache, taken oftener  
for colds.

X 17. Sericotheca sp.

(S) Tot-zip, Tim-bah-hay nut zoo: Bad disease medicine.

X Tea is made of the leaves by boiling them.  
1 cup is taken three times a day over a long  
period for venereal disease.

X 18. Chrysothamnus nauseosus, subsp. speciosus (Nutt.) Hall

(S) Teh-beh-she-up

(73431)

X Root and tops of this Chrysothamnus boiled.  
Tea taken in dose of  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup to stop blood diarrhea.

X Stems, <sup>wood</sup>boiled. Used by Maggie Ducker for  
cold medicine. Taken in dose of  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup or less  
once or twice a day as a cough medicine.

X 19. Osmorhiza occidentalis (Sweet root)

(S) Bas-oh-wip

X Tea made by boiling the root. Taken for stomach  
disorders due to indigestion, gas on stomach, sour  
stomach, and cramps.

X 20. Gilia aggregata (Timpiute)

(S) Tin-piute

X Tea made by boiling whole plant. Taken as a drink  
for venereal disease.

X 21. Mentha occidentalis (wild mint)

(S) Pah-guanna

X whole plant boiled, tea taken for cold and stomach  
ache.

X 22. Artemisia tridentata (Big sagebrush)

(S) Boh-hoe-be

X Leaves boiled, tea taken for colds.

X 23. Clematis ligusticifolia  
and  
X Plantago sp. as coll.

(S) esha-wanna, Clematis

(S) wee-dee, Plantago

X Leaves of Clematis and leaves of Plantago  
mashed, slightly moistened, applied as a poultice  
for rheumatic pains and as a drawing poultice.

X 24. Salvia carnososa

(S) Toya-abba-hobe

X Leaves boiled, tea taken in small amounts of  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  cup or less for stomach ache.

X 25. Leptotaenia multifida (Cough root)

(S) Toh-sup

X Root boiled, always made up fresh, a little  
at a time. Tea taken in dose of  $\frac{1}{2}$  or less for  
colds, root shaved when dry and smoked for head  
colds, chewed in small pieces for sore throat.

Miscellaneous plant names:

✓ Lepargarea (Buffalo berry) wee-yumbe

✓ Sambucus (Elderberry) Doo-he-yemp

✓ Prunus (Chokecherry) Toh-numbe

✓ " andersonii (Wild peach) Bahn-zon-ip

Grindelia nana (Sah-nah) meaning: gummy, pitchy

✓ Chamabataria millefolium (Dogowah-an-gut-z-ah) Dogowah  
meaning rattlesnake

X 26. Achillea lanulosa (Yarrow)

(S) Pah-ronzee-ah, or Ah-tah nut-zoo. This evidently is another way of saying Toothache medicine.  
Round Mt. says:  
Dah-wun-gum-bah nut-zoo

X Root placed in tooth cavity or along gums to deaden pain.

X 27. Juniperus occidentalis (T 3429)

(S) Samabe

X small end branches of the Juniper boiled with Leptotaenis multifida. root just long enough so tea is not too strong. Taken for flu medicine.

X 28. Salix. sp. (Willow)

(S) Soo-vee

X Roots boiled, tea taken for stomach ache.

X 29. Paeonia brownii (Wild peony)

(S) But-tu-vah

X Roots boiled. Tea made and taken as a drink over a long period for vehereal disease.

X 30. Aquilegia formosa (Wild columbine)

(S) Enga-mo-wanya  
Fah-wah-gum

X Roots and leaves boiled, tea taken in amounts of  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup several times a day for 1 or 2 days for dizziness. Also used for billiousness.

X 31. Pentstemon deustus

(S) Dimbahshego

X Stems and leaves boiled, tea taken for stomach ache.

INDIAN MEDICINAL USES OF SOME NEVADA PLANTSUSED BY SHOSHONE INDIANS AT MANHATTAN, NEV.

Information secured by Percy Train, Agent, U.S. Bureau Plant Industry, from the following informants:

George Anderson, Shoshone  
Jennie Anderson, "

X 1. Physaria didymocarpa (Twinpod)

(S) Tah-pah-day

X Leaved dried, soaked in cold water. Solution used as a wash for sore eyes. Solution burns the eyeball, but does not smart too badly. Eyes bathed for several days 4 or 5 times a day to cure.

X 2. Iris missouriensis (Wild iris)

(S) Sag-e-dump, meaning: seeds that rattle in pod"

X Root washed, small pieces cut off and either placed along gums or in tooth cavity to deaden pain. Root also mashed and bound on as a pultice for rheumatic aches.

X 3. Leptotaenia multifida (Cough root)

(S) Toh-sup

X Used extensively all over Smokey Valley, Tonopah and Hot Creek. Every family has one or more of the roots. At Manhattan the root is usually cut into small cubes and carried about in the mouth and chewed slowly. The saliva is swallowed for cold and severe sore throat.

The Smokey Valley supply comes from the Austin Summit and Pablo Summit at south end of Toiyabe Range.

X 4. Pinus monophylla (Pinyon pine)

(S) Wah-pee pitch

X Pine pitch boiled. Tea taken for stomach ache and stomach cramps. Also pitch is applied to boils and sores.

X 5. Populus angustifolia (Cottonwood)

(S) So-ho-be

X Bark is peeled from tree, cut into small pieces and boiled. Tea taken over a long period for venereal disease.

X 6. Rosa sp. (Wild rose)

(S) See-avvie

X Roots mashed, slightly moistened, applied to deep cuts, wounds, and rope burns as a healing agent.

X 7. Osmorhiza occidentalis (Sweet root)

(S) Bas-oh-wip

X Root mashed, applied as a poultice on open sores.

Miscellaneous plant names:

- X Castilleja sp. (Dogwah-die-um)
- X Agastache urticifolia (Toya-pah-guanna) mountain mint
- X Leucocrinum montanum (name not known, but this informant claims the roots are poison and that it grows early in the spring at Belmont.) This plant always confuses Indians for they think it is an onion unless it is carefully explained, but George seemed to know it and was sure it was poison.
- X Cercocarpus ledifolius (Too-numbe) Tea from bark as a beverage.
- X Betula fontinalis (Lnga-cone-e-up)
- X Grossularia sp. (Boh-gom-be) berries eaten as food
- X Sphaeralcea munroana (Wee-dah-comb)
- X Monardella odoratissima (Guy-moh)
- X Sericotheca microphylla (Tot-zip)
- X Allium sp. (Wee-ah-moh)

Sept. 19, 1939 (221)  
Report No 70

INDIAN MEDICINAL USES OF SOME NEVADA PLANTS AS USED AT

Peavine Creek, Nye Co. w. of Manhattan, Nev.

Information secured from the following informants by Percy Train,  
Agent, U.S. Bureau of Plant Industry.

Andy Fraser, Shoshone  
Crazy Jane Fraser, Shoshone

1. Rumex crispus (Dock)

(S) Enga-pah-wee-ub  
Root boiled, tea taken for physic. Not used  
as burn remedy here.

2. Erigeron concinnus, var. aphanactis (Brass buttons)

(S) no specific name, just medicine remedy name,  
Boo-ee- nut-zoo, eye medicine.

Roots boiled. Solution cooled, used as eye  
wash, three drops at a time, several times a day

3. Clematis ligusticifolia (Wild clematis)

(S) Esha-wanna  
(S) ~~Bombe~~-gum-bah nut-zoo, headache medicine

Green leaves mashed and smelled. Informant  
Andy Fraser had suffered from chronic headaches  
and he claims he smelled these mashed leaves  
for a number of days, and his headaches left  
and he has not had them since.

4. Juniperus occidentalis (western juniper)

(S) Samabe

Leaves and end twigs ground up fine, heated  
over fire, placed in hot rag and bound on  
outside of throat for sore throat, heating  
again and again as it cools off.

5. Pentstemon deustus

(S) Dimbahshego  
Tops ground to a fine powder when dried, sprinkled  
on running sores due to venereal disease.  
Green leaves made into a poultice and slim smooth pencil whittled,  
of the root and inserted.

6.

6. Populus tremuloides (Quaking aspen)

(S) Sung-up

For venereal disease

Bark peeled off tree. Tea made by boiling bark, taken in doses of  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup three times a day over a long period. Abstain from drinking water during treatment.

7.

7. Leptotaenia multifida (Cough root)

(S) Toh-sup

Roots dug and kept for the winter. Small amounts shaved off and smoked in cigarette to clear nasal passages, pieces chewed for sore throat.

8.

8. Gilia aggregata (Timpiute)

(S) Timpiute)

Tops of the plant boiled, tea taken over a long period of time,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup a day, for venereal disease.

9.

9. Phlox canescens

(S) Eye-go-dun-un

Roots soaked in cold water. Solution used as a wash for sore eyes.

10.

10. Artemisia gnaphalodes

(S) Coo-see pah-wah-zip

Leaves boiled, tea taken for heavy colds.

11.

11. Plantago sp.

(S) Wee-dee

Leaves gathered green, mashed, mixed with leaves of the Clematis and applied as poultice for swellings.

12.

12. Gilia filifolia

(S) Tin-ah-eye-gump

whole plant boiled, tea taken in dose of less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup, for physic.

Sept. 21, 1939.

Report No 71 (223)

Sept. 21, 1939

INDIAN MEDICINAL USES OF SOME NEVADA PLANTS AS USED AT

TONOPAH, Nye Co. Nevada.

Information secured from following informants by Percy Train,  
Agent, U.S. Bureau of Plant Industry.

Peavine Johnnie, Shoshone  
Minnie Johnnie, Shoshone  
Minnie Antone, Shoshone  
Anna Bonney, Shoshone, interpreter

-----  
Peavine Johnnie and his wife are well informed concerning  
medicine plants, having quite a few of the dried roots in  
their home kept in medicine bags.

Minnie Antone also knows many of the medicine plant uses.  
She was raised near Tybo and suffered a severe head injury  
when a child and has one paralyzed arm. Mrs. Anna Bonney is  
a graduate of Carson Indian school and speaks good English  
and was successfully used as an interpreter at Tonopah.

-----  
1. Ephedra viridis (Joint fir, Mormon tea)

(S) Too-roombe  
while tea is made from this plant and used  
as a beverage a great deal, it is also used  
at Tonopah for kidney trouble, being taken  
in doses of several cups a day to stop too  
frequent urination.

2. Ephedra nevadensis

(S) Coo-see too-roombe, meaning grey or dusty  
and same plant as above  
but different species.

This is the first time an Indian has made any  
distinction between these two species of ephedra.  
This *E. nevadensis*, the silvery blue species  
grows here at Tonopah among the houses and on  
dry rocky hillsides of the vacant lots.

Minnie and Peavine Johnnie say it is used here  
as a tea taken internally for venereal disease.

3. Monardella odoratissima (Wild pennyroyal)

(S) Guy moh  
Used here a great deal. Tea made of the tops  
for heartburn due to indigestion. Also several  
cups taken at a time to relieve distress due  
to gas pains.



4. Iva axillaris Poverty weed

(S) Tu-du-zip, Du-du-zip (At times the T and D sounds cannot be separated. Depends on the clearness of enunciation on part of the informant.)

whole plant boiled,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup taken to stop blood diarrhea. Not used for stomach ache here.

5. Osmorhiza occidentalis (Sweet root)

(S) Bas-oh-wip

Tea made by boiling the root. Taken for colds.

6. Juniperus occidentalis (Mountain juniper)

(S) Samabe

✓ Berries only: Boiled, resulting solution taken as a drink, less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup twice a day for sharp local pain internally, like appendix trouble. Not used for general stomach trouble or ill feeling, just in cases of a sharp pain in one place.

Juniper leaves mixed with *Pinus monophylla* needles. Boiled, tea taken for colds at Basalt, Nevada.

7. Leptotaenia multifida (Cough root)

(S) Toh-sup

Root boiled, tea taken in dose of less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup every morning and evening over a long period for miner's consumption.

✓ Anna Bonney's husband has worked in the Tonopah mines for years and has Miner's Con. He claims constant use of this tea made from the cough root has helped him. A number of years ago *Leptotaenia* could be purchased at the drug store here under trade name of *Balsamea*.

8. Clematis ligusticifolia (Wild clematis)

(S) Esha wanna

Leaves dried, mashed to a fine powder. Sprinkled on gonorrhoea sores to dry them up. Leaves also boiled, solution as external wash for

*cyphillitic*

*same purpose*

9. Argemone hispida (white flower prickly poppy)

(S) Sag-ee-dump

Seeds gathered when ripe, roasted in frying pan. Mashed and moistened with a little water, taken for a physic. Dose used about 1 or 2 teaspoons.

Indians don't measure things by spoonsfull, the best one can pin them down to is  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup or 1 cup as a measure, but from the way they spoke it would seem one to two teaspoons full was the amount taken in this case.

10. Erigeron conspicuus, var. aphanactis

(S) no name

Stems boiled, Tea taken to relieve stomach ache. Action is not that of a physic.  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup taken.

11. Pentstemon deustus

(S) Dim-bah-shego

Tops dried, ground to fine powder, sprinkled on external sores due to gonorrhoea, also on skin eruptions. *Syphilis*

12. Pinus monophylla

(S) Wah-pee

Fitch is gathered in pine nutting season and kept in a can. Used as a drawing poultice for deeply imbedded slivers, boils.

13. Sambucus melanocarpa (Elderberry)

(S) Du-yembe

Flowers gathered, boiled, tea taken for colds.

14. Eurotia lanata (winter fat)

(S) She-shup

Tops boiled, solution used as a scalp tonic to prevent falling hair. Used every day for a long time.

15. Purshia tridentata

(S) Huh-nabbe

Leaves boiled, tea taken internally for venereal disease.

16. Gilia congesta (S) Be-he-vah. whole plant boiled. Regarded as a strong emetic & physic. Taken for stomach trouble and venereal disease

Miscellaneous plant names:

\*In regard to Mrs. Murphey's Tonopah medicinal plant notes of Sept. 22, 1937.

M 642. Wo-orra

This name in Shoshone simply means "stomach" and not a name of a plant. I have asked the Tonopah Indians what plant they generally use and term "worra-nut-zoo" (stomach medicine). They say *Gilia congesta* and *Iva axillaris*. Am unable to trace the plant she gives as having a lavender flower or purple flower growing flat on the ground.

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Balsamorhiza saggitata (S) | Nu-wah ah-kuk, meaning Indian sunflower  |
| Abronia villosa .....      | " Pah-gah-dah-bohn-ub, meaning, basket marker<br>This root makes a yellow dye used for basket designs. |
| Veratrum californicum      | " Tu-vah-savva, resembling the Div-oh-savva of Reese River.  |
| Betula fontinalis          | " Hoo-gee-jup  |
| Caulanthus crassicaulis    | " Sah-wah-taggie, tops for food  |
| Lomatium ss.               | " Dah-guh, eaten for food  |
| Pine nuts (P. monophylla)  | " Tu-bah   |

---

Nellie Sam of Tonopah, met at Manhattan. Only knew one medicinal remedy used by her father and that was for horses not people.

1. Heuchera sp.

(S) Zee-guoy

Leaves mashed and boiled, solution used as a wash for saddle sores on horses.

Sept. 22, 1939.

Report No 72 (227)  
Sept 22, 1939

INDIAN MEDICINAL USES OF SOME NEVADA PLANTS USED AT

TONOPAH, Nye Co. Nev.

Information secured by Percy Train, Agent, U.S. Bureau of Plant Industry, from the following informants:

Wagon Johnnie, Shoshone  
Lucy Johnnie Shoshone  
Mable Sam, Shoshone, Tim Hooper's wife.

X 1. Ephedra viridis

(S) Too-roombe

Stems boiled slightly, tea taken as a beverage also as a blood tonic.  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup twice a day for a long period.

X 2. Ephedra nevadensis

(S) Coo-see too-roombe

Stems boiled, tea taken internally for venereal disease. Two families say this species of Ephedra is used for this purpose at Tonopah.

X 3. Osmorhiza occidentalis

(S) Bas-oh-wip

Root boiled, tea taken in doses of  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup a day over a long period for venereal disease. Also taken for colds.

X 4. Gilia aggregata (Timpiute)

(S) Timpiute, enga-mutz-oh-y-newie, the latter meaning red flowers hanging on each side of the stem.

whole plant boiled. Tea taken for a physic, and for stomach ache,

X 5. Phlox canescens.

(S) Eye-go-dun-um

Root soaked in cold water. Solution used as wash for sore eyes.

6. Artemisia nova

(S) Du-boh-hobe, meaning: little black sage.

Leaves gathered, boiled, tea taken for colds.

(S) Bah-que-numb, meaning big sagebrush.  
Entirely different name than is usual.

7. Leptotaenia multifida (Cough root)

(S) Toh-sup

Root chewed, shaved and smoked, boiled and tea taken for heavy colds, flu, pneumonia.

\* wagon Johnnie says it is also good to cure a horse of distemper. The root is mashed, moistened, and heated in a pan. Placed in a nose bag. The afflicted horse is given a short run to make him breathe deeply, then the nose bag is put on. He inhales this warm aromatic smell from the Toh-sup, and they claim it is a sure cure.

8. Psathyrotes annua or ramosissima

(S) Dogowah-nut-zoo, meaning snake bite remedy

whole plant mashed up, applied as a poultice over the snake bite.

9. Juniperus occidentalis

(S) Samābe

Berries only:

Boiled, tea taken internally, 1 cup a day for heart trouble, shortness of breath, pains in region of heart.

10. Gilia congesta

(S) Be-he-vah

whole plant boiled, used with caution as it is a very strong physic and emetic. Usually less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup taken. Also taken as blood tonic and for stomach ache.

11. Iris missouriensis

(S) Pah-sag-e-dump

Root used as toothache remedy, to dead n pain.

12. Purshia tridentata

(S) Huh-nabbe

Roots boiled, tea taken for physic in dose of  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup to 1 cup.  
Leaves boiled, tea taken for venereal disease.  
" " external wash for skin irritations

13. Leptodactylon pungens

(S) Duh-nah-eye-gum

Roots boiled, solution cooled, used as a wash for sore eyes.

14. Salvia carnososa

(S) Toya-abba-hobe

Leaves and stems boiled, tea taken internally for stomach ache.

15. Clematis ligusticifolia

(S) Lsha wanna

Leaves mashed, moistened, applied as a poultice to reduce swellings.

Miscellaneous plant names:

- ✓ Atriplex confertifolia Gah-um-be
- ✓ Dondia sp. wah-dah
- ✓ Greasewood (Sarcobatus vermiculatus).. Toh-noh-bah

\*This is of interest  
 for here is where Tonopah got its name. The Shoshones called the place Toh-noh-bah, meaning the place of greasewood and water. Bah, and Pah depend on the individual Shoshone doing the pronouncing and it is often hard to determine whether they say one or the other, The majority of Shoshones say Pah when they say water.

Still translating Shoshone, Weepah, Nevada, means "rain water."

- ✓ Food: Tuh-cup
- ✓ Rumex hymenosepalus (S) Soo-sah
- ✓ Tetradyxia comosa (S) Boh-sohm-be
- ✓ Lappula occidentalis (S) Soh-wha
- ✓ Any fern (S) Duhn-dah-hamp
- ✓ Moss (S) Duhn-gun-boop

INDIAN MEDICINAL USES OF SOME NEVADA PLANTS AS USED AT  
TONOPAH, Nye Co. Nevada.

Medicinal information secured from the following informants  
by Percy Train, Agent, U.S. Bureau of Plant Industry.

Mrs. Orna Jagles, Paiute-Shoshone  
Mrs. Anna Bonney, (her daughter) Shoshone

-----  
Orna Jagles is a California Paiute, born near Bishop, Cal. Her parents both died while she was still a child and she was raised by her grand-parents, and great-grandmother, Shoshones, and brought to the Beatty area of Nevada. Thus she was raised a Shoshone and learned their language. However, she still uses a few of the Paiute terms for some plants. Her grand-parents were medicine doctors and she learned the plant uses from them and today is regarded as the Tonopah woman medicine doctor. Her stock of dried medicinal roots is fairly large and she treats Indians and whites both. She is quick, energetic, and quite up-to-date, speaks good English and acted as guide in the Tonopah region to show the medicinal plants which grew there. Her daughter, Anna, married a white man, and lives in Tonopah, and was used as an interpreter among other Indian families. They travel a good deal in the Beatty-Reese River-Smokey Valley area as well as Bishop, Cal. and have a knowledge of a wide range of plants as a result. A number of the Covillea belt medicinal plants are used as well as those of the higher mountains of central Nevada.  
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Medicinal Plants

1. Enceliopsis nudicaulis (T 1653) <sup>1a</sup> 1938 (T 3453) 1939  
(S) Coo-see ah-kuk (Tonopah) *Some roots dug*  
(S) Anga-go-ahp (Beatty and Lida) *for drug analysis.*  
Roots boiled, tea taken internally to stop blood diarrhea.  
Roots boiled, tea taken internally for venereal disease.  
\*This plant grows at Hornsilver, Nev. (Goldpoint) and Beatty and Tonopah Indians come here to dig it.

1a.

2. Cucurbita foetidissima (Desert gourd)(S) Poo-nono *Tontah-kay nut 300*

Pieces of this large root roasted in hot rocks and ashes, thoroughly dried. When dried the pieces look like petrified wood. A small piece not much larger than a stick of chewing gum is boiled in two quarts of water.

one cup or less is taken as a dose.

It acts as a continuous emetic first, then physic. Takes away all pains, but leaves the patient very weak.

Taken for venereal disease.

Informants always warn that uninformed Indians usually boil up too much of the root and it is known that several have died as a result.

3. Anemopsis californica (Yerba mansa)

P (S) Soo-pon-ib (Tonopah Paiute)

(S) Chew-pon-iv (Beatty Shoshone)

(S) Chew-pon-iv (Lida Shoshone)

\*Note that the Paiute and Shoshone names are practically the same. Orna had a supply of roots at her home. The plant was brought years ago from Beatty and planted in Maggie Shaw's garden at Lida. It has spread and forms quite a patch beside a spring and Tonopah Indians come here to Lida to dig the roots.

Occasionally the roots boiled, tea taken for stomach ache, but mainly the roots are boiled, tea taken for general rundown condition due to cold. Used a great deal in the winter time as a tonic. Usually  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup taken every day for a week.

4. Clematis ligusticifolia (wild Clematis)

(S) Esha-wanna, esha-wannup (Some use the "p" sound some do not.)

Leaves dried, mashed to a fine powder, inhaled like snuff in cases of severe headache.



5. Dalea polyadenia (T 3443)

(S) Mo-goon-du-hu

This shrub grows at Goldfield and is the one Tonopah Indians use.

Stems gathered, dried, one small handful boiled in a quart of water. Tea taken for colds and cough/ Causes patient to sweat.

6. Pentstemon deustus

(S) (Dim-bah-shego) *Tim-bah-hay nut 300: God disease medicine*

Reese River, Smokey Valley, Tonopah Indians place great faith in this plant as good medicine and generally if a family has two or three medicines on hand, one will be *Leptotaenia*, the other, *Gilia congesta*, and the third, this *P. deustus*.

Medicine men collect the plant, grind it to a fine powder, and sell small amounts, less than one cup, for as much as \$5.00 to other Indians. Since it is ground so fine the uninformed Indians are unable to tell what it looks like, and thus the medicine man's source of income is secure. There is always a great deal of interest when they see the pressed specimen.

Uses: Impetigo

1. Stems and leaves dried, ground to a powder, moistened into a paste, used on face and body for skin eruptions such as exema, and Impetigo. From description Anna Bonney gave we are sure she meant Impetigo. She said she caught it at Bishop.
- 2.

Gout? Orna gave a case which could be caused by gout. A relative came to her with one ear swollen to twice normal size, outer margins inflamed and puffy as tho filled with water, rim broken so as to cause running sore which oozed a clear mucous. Patient said it was very painful and pain in inner ear as well.

*P. deustus* leaves and stems boiled in little water till it was strong solution. Cooled to luke warm,  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon dropped into ear drum, outer ear bathed with solution, then quickly covered with warm cloth.

This was done once a day for three days and it began to heal, pain lessened, and in short time he was cured.

Pentstemon deustus, continued: Uses:

3. Tops boiled, solution used as a douche in venereal disease for both men and women.

(Informant says this plants grows at Mound House, between Carson City and Virginia City, near R.R. in rocks, Dayton area)

7. Sambucus melanocarpa (Elderberry)

(Paiute) Koon-oo-gip  
(Shoshone) Du-yembe

Roots mashed, used as a poultice on cuts and wounds.

8. Purshia tridentata (Bitterbrush)

(S) Huh-nabbe

Inner bark boiled, solution taken internally to heal internal rupture due to a fall from a horse.

For milk leg, after child birth:

Instead of drinking tea, a small bundle of inner bark of Purshia is dipped in cold water, and bark is sucked.  
Solution made by boiling leaves used as external wash for milk leg.

9. Artemisia tridentata (Big sagebrush)

(S) Boh-hoe-be

Newly born babies washed in warm solution made by boiling leaves of big sage, as antiseptic wash.

*Pneumonia remedy. Leaves boiled in water to which pinch of salt is added. Solution given Tablespoon at a time while warm. Every time. Patient coughs. Claims sure cure.*

10. Datura meteloides (Jimson weed)

(S) Moh-eep

Recognized as narcotic root. Not used.

11. Eurotia lanata (Winter fat)

(S) She-shup

Tops boiled, solution cooled, used as a rinse every time the hair is washed, to check falling hair.

12. Osmorhiza occidentalis (Sweet root)

(S) Bah-soh-wip (Tim-bah-hay nut-zoo)

Root boiled, tea taken internally for venereal disease. Less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup once a day for a long period.

13. Monardella odoratissima (Wild pennyroyal)

(S) Guy-moh

Tops and root collected, dried, a little at a time boiled, tea taken for colds.  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 cup a day.

14. Phlox canescens

(Paiute) Tu-be-man-up

Root soaked in cold water, solution for eye wash.

15. Erigeron <sup>coninus</sup> conspicuus, var. aphanactis (Brass buttons)

(S) no name

Roots and tops boiled, less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup taken to relieve stomach cramps. Not a physic.

16. Gilia filifolia

(S) Duh-nah-eye-go

Whole plant boiled, tea taken for venereal disease, Physic, and stomach ache.

17. Salvia carnos Purple sage

(S) Toya-abba-hobe

Used for children's sore throats.  
Leaves boiled, hot tea taken.  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup a day.  
warm solution ~~also~~ also used as external wash  
on head and throat.

18. Argemone hispida (White flower prickly poppy)(S) Sag-ee-dump, Bōo-see-ah nut-zoo, meaning lice  
medicine.

Ripe seeds ground up fine, moistened,  
this paste rubbed all over scalp at roots  
of hair to kill head lice.

\*Dr. Beiter asked about a remedy for head and  
body lice, this is the first time we have  
run across it.

19. 685 (Lichen on rocks)

(S) (Timbe-boon-goo), meaning: rock horse

Lichens scraped off rocks. Black, orange or green  
ones used. Soak overnight in cold water.  
Taken internally to stop diarrhea.

20. Castilleia sp. Venereal disease:(S) Dogowah-die-um (S) at Lida: Anga-quee-ah-wee-tumb

Informant was looking at pressed specimen of  
C. linoides, but it could well be C. linariaefolia.  
They were positive, however, that none of the  
wide leaf Castilleias would do for medicine.  
This plant used grows at Lida so positive ident-  
ification could be made in season. No plants  
at this late date could be found at Lida, but no  
doubt could be collected in quantity next spring.

Roots only. Boiled. Tea taken in small amounts  
acts as physic + emetic over a long period for  
venereal disease.  
Called Lida Tim-bah-hay-nut-zoo  
Informant seemed positive this  
was a good medicine for the  
purpose.

Beatty Indians come  
here for this root.

21. Eriogonum sp. (T 3438) collected for analysis at Lida under number T 3451, probably same species as Tonopah.

(S) Anga-kah-sah-rumba, name of plant  
or

Bas-ah-oh-he nut-zoo, dry cough Tuberculosis medicine. This term

(Painte) Pee-wee-guy-womb- specifically refers to  
mutz-zee T.B. characterized by  
the chronic hard dry cough

Another term more general is:  
Bas-un-dook-nut-zoo.

*Informant viewed  
sacked analysis  
material and said  
she had also used  
the Lida Eriog.  
with same success.*

Roots and tops collected, dried.  
Boiled in large quantity as the solution  
keeps well. Bottled.  
This solution is taken instead of water every  
time patient wants a drink.  
Must be taken steadily for a year.  
Claimed as a sure cure for T.B. cough.  
One patient began taking this after he  
had reached the stage of having numerous  
hemorrhages, throwing up black and red blood,  
the hemorrhages ceased, his strength returned,  
he gained some weight, and felt much better.

\*Similar species of Eriogonum with a wider  
leaf were shown this informant and she said  
they would not do. The species used grows at  
Tonopah but could not be collected in large  
quantities at points visited, so that plants  
were collected at Lida, Nev.

22. Cercocarpus ledifolius (Mountain mahogany)

(S) Too-nambe

Inner bark of the Mountain mahogany  
boiled, tea taken once a day,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup,  
over a long period. For venereal disease.

23. Leptotaenia multifida (Cough Root)

(S) Toh-sup

Roots dug every year in Sierras at Bishop, Cal.  
Kept on hand. Boiled, tea for colds, cough,  
influenza, smoked for head colds.

Orna Jagles...Tonopah.

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Miscellaneous plant names:

- ✓ *Sitanion hystrix* (S) Weh-she-up
- ✓ *Poa pratensis* (S) Som-beh, seeds eaten
- ✓ *Dondia* ssp. (S) Ah-rumba, ripe seed eaten
- ✓ *Pinus monophylla* (S) Wohn-govie, meaning lumber tree
- ✓ *Juniperus* (P) wah-ap
- ✓ *Beckwithia andersoni* (S) Hoe-y-yuh
- ✓ *Crepis andersonii* (S) Mooz-oo-hee, leaves for greens
- ✓ *Lomatium* (Indian potato) (S) Dah-guh, roots for food
- ✓ *Lomatium orientale* (S) Eshan-dah-guh, meaning coyote food, this species not eaten
- ✓ *Allium* ssp. (S) wee-ah-moh
- ✓ *Trifolium* ssp. (S) Poh-see-dah
- ✓ *Amelanchier alnifolia* (S) Too-avvie
- ✓ *Camassia quamash* (P) Tim-boosee
- ✓ *Atriplex confertifolia* (Shadscale) (S) Kah-umbe
- ✓ *Sarcobatus vermiculatis* (S) Toh-noh-bah
- ✓ *Chamaebatiaria millefolium* (S) Shoshone medicine doctor's stick used in ceremony is always made of this wood. Bu-ah-borro
- ✓ *Leucocrinum montanum* (S) Gahn-guh
- ✓ *Rumex crispus* (S) Pah-wye, or water seed
- ✓ *Iva axillaris* (S) Doo-oo simba. Note that Tonopah does not use *Iva axillaris* for medicine. The name is Du-du-zip, but also this name above, for they have observed that *Orobanche* sp. steals nourishment from *Iva* roots in this area, which is quite observing on their part.
- ✓ *Baileya multiradiata* (S) Goh-mu-das-um-beh, me ning rabbit foot
- ✓ *Astragalus* ssp. (S) Tah-pah-gee-dohn-um, meaning, the seeds make a cracking noise when stepped on.

Note: Ona Jagels says "PAMAHABE" is a Paiute word meaning Grass.

INDIAN MEDICINAL USES OF SOME NEVADA PLANTS AS USED AT  
LIDA, Esmeralda County, Nevada.

Information secured from the following informants by  
Percy Train, Agent, U.S. Bureau of Plant Industry.

Maggie Shaw, Shoshone, (ex-wife of Ike Shaw at Beatty)  
John Shakespeare, Shoshone, Uncle of Maggie  
Ella Shakespeare, " , Wife of John

-----  
Maggie Shaw was born at Lida, Nevada, and has lived at Beatty and also in Grapevine Canyon, Death Valley. She speaks good English and is aware of medicinal plants and uses them. Her former husband was a medicine man at Beatty, and her aunt is Mrs. Orna Jagles of Tonopah. A reliable informant.

John Shakespeare is about 85 years old and lived at Belmont, Nevada till he was 14 then came to Lida.

-----  
Medicinal Plants

X 1. Anemopsis californica (Yerba mansa)

(S) Chew-poh-iv

Roots dried, roasted and browned in the oven. Roots then boiled in plenty of water, the solution poured into bottles, as it will keep.  $\frac{1}{4}$  to 1 cup taken often in a day for a tonic due to rundown condition due to bad colds. Root mashed and applied to burns as a poultice.

X 2. Atriplex canescens (Saltbush) (T 3449)

(S) Moo-roon-up

Roots dug, boiled with a little salt in the water.  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup taken for physic.

X 20. Enceliopsis nudicaulis (T 1653) 1938 (coll. for analysis T 3453)

(S) Anga-go-ahp

Roots boiled. tea for venereal disease  
(grows at Hornsilver (Goldpoint. Nev.)

3. Cucurbita foetidissima (Desert gourd)(S) Poo-nono

Root pieces roasted in hot rocks and ashes, then dried. A small piece one inch wide, 2 inches long and  $\frac{1}{2}$  thick boiled, tea taken in dose of  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup for venereal disease. Acts as a physic and emetic.

4. Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus, sub-sp. stenophyllus

(Common rabbit brush) found in alkaline situations where water is close to the surface. Grows abundantly at Lida about spring, and some attain a height of six feet.

(S) Tah-beh-she-up

Stems and leaves mashes, moistened, applied as a poultice for rheumatism.

5. Purshia tridentata (Bitterbrush)(S) Huh-nabbe

Boil leaves down till solution very bitter. Drink less than half cup for emetic. Tea made not too strong, taken for venereal disease less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup every day for a long time. Tea made not too strong, tea taken internally in measles cases to cause rash to come quickly to the surface. Makes patient sweat.

6. Argemone hispida(S) Sag-ee-dump

Ripe seeds roasted then mashed fine. 1 teaspoon full taken as an emetic and physic.

7. Abronia villosa (Pink sand verbena)

(S) no name

Root mashed, applied as moist poultice to burns.



8. Sphedra viridis (Jointfir, Mormon tea)

(S) Too-tumbe

Roots, boiled in salted water. Taken for physic.

9. Grindelia sp. (T 3435)

(S) Woh-ah-gum

Roots boiled, tea taken for stomach ache.

10. Osmorhiza occidentalis (Sweet Root)

(S) Bas-oh-wip

Root boiled, tea taken internally for venereal disease over a long period.

11. Psathyrotes ramosissima (John Shakespeare's medicine)

(S) Quoy-hee- nut-zoo, meaning stomach medicine

whole plant dried, boiled, tea taken for stomach ache, also physic. Soaked in warm water, solution used to wash forehead to relieve headache.

12. Salvia carnososa (Purple sage)

(S) Toya-abba-hobe

Leaves boiled, tea for colds.

13. Euphorbia sp. (T 3439) grows at Lida also Goldfield

(S) Nah-com-boot-zip

whole plant mashed, applied as poultice to snake bite.

whole plant boiled, tea taken for general tonic for tired run-down feeling. Not a physic.

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✓ 14. Gilia aggregata or pulchella (Timpiute)

(S) Timpiute

whole plant mashed, moistened, applied as poultice to relieve rheumatic aches.

+ 15. Seriocotheca microphylla (Rock spirea)

(S) Tot-zip

Tops, upper stems, leaves and flowers, boiled. Solution used as an external antiseptic wash. Taken as a drink to relieve internal swelling. \*Informant said feeling is that of inner organs being swollen too large, causing shortness of breath, inability to bend over or lie down. Tea taken in dose of  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 cup three times a day for one week. Enlarged liver? *Certain symptoms were not due to gas*

X 16. Rosa sp. (Wild rose)

(S) See-avvie

Inner bark and wood shaved and ground to a powder. Applied to deep cuts and wounds as healing agent. Tea from leaves for ill feeling.

X 17. Pinus monophylla (Pinyon pine)

(S) Pitch, small stems and needles mixed with end twig leaves of Juniper. Boiled. Tea taken for colds and heavy coughs. This makes patient sweat and tends to break up a cold.

Pitch warmed, smeared on warm rag and applied to region afflicted with siatic rheumatism. Symptoms described are confined to aching hip joint as a result from a fall from a horse and pains at times disappear then recur again.

✓  
18. Eriogonum sp. ( T 3451)

✓  
Tops boiled, tea made and used often at Lida but only as a beverage, not medicine.

✓  
19. Heliotropium sp. (Species growing at Beatty)

no name known

✓  
Tops boiled. Taken internally to make measles come to the surface of skin.

✓  
20. Leptodactylon pungens

✓  
(S) Boo-ee nut-zoo, eye medicine  
Roots and stems soaked in cold water.  
Solution as a wash for sore eyes

✓  
21. Psathyrotes ramosissima (Turtle back)

(S) no name

✓  
After the plant begins to die and turn brown it is boiled.  
Tea taken as a drink, less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup a day for a long time, for venereal disease.

✓  
22. Salix exigua (little grey creek bottom willow)

(S) Soo-vie

✓  
Roots and bark boiled. Tea taken internally for venereal disease. It is not known how much of a dose or how often each day.

✓  
23. Aquilegia formosa (wild columbine)

✓  
(S) Enga-moh-wanya, or in this instance, Boo-see-ah nut-zoo...head lice medicine.

✓  
Ripe seeds mashed, moistened, rubbed vigorously among hair roots on scalp for head lice.  
Maggie Shaw says this plant grows in Grapevine Canyon, Death Valley and Indians there use it for this purpose.

24. Thamnosma montana

(S) Mo-gun-du (Notice similarity to name for Dalea)

Not used at Lida, but Beatty and Death Valley  
dry roots and shave off pieces to smoke in a  
cigarette as they do Leptotaenia multifida, for colds.

25. Gilia congesta

(S) no name known at Lida and not used here  
but plant recognized and it is known it  
is used for blood tonic, physic, and venereal disease

26. Artemisia tridentata (big sagebrush)

(S) (Boh-hoe-be)

Leaves boiled, solution as antiseptic wash on  
open cuts and sores, also tea for colds.

27. Castilleja sp. probably linoides or linariaefolia

(S) Anga-quee-ah-wee-tumb

Roots boiled, tea for venereal disease by the  
Beatty shoshones. They come to Lida to collect it.

It also grows at Indian Garden, Reville Mill, Kawich, Nev

28. Sphaeralcea sp. species growing at Lida

(S) wee-dah-gom

Roots only. Tea made by boiling roots.  
Acts as physic and emetic in treatment  
of venereal disease.

Beatty use of pulp inside cactus pads as healing agent  
for cuts & wounds checked here. Maggie Shaw's grandmother  
used a cactus for this purpose, but Maggie thought it a  
flat pad, red flower, long spine species, not *Opuntia*  
*basilaris*.

## Miscellaneous plant names:

- ✓ *Thelypodium lanciniatum* (S) wee-wah-dah
- ✓ *Beckwithia andersoni* (S) Tah-cah-ve-hubinga (N. Shoshones)  
(S) Tah-hah-ve, hoopie, (S. Shoshones)  
means snow flower
- ✓ Lupine. any species (S) Tah-be-boon-ee-cat-ah
- ✓ *Grossularia* (S) Boo-goom-be
- ✓ Cactus (S) Nah-vomb
- ✓ Thistles (*Cirsium* sp.) (S) Quoy-yeh
- ✓ *Grayia spinosa* (S) Boh-comb-be
- ✓ *Sarcobatus vermiculatis* (S) Toh-noh-bah, also Quee-yohm-be
- ✓ *Agrostis hiemalis* (S) Moh-nop
- ✓ *Hordeum nodosum* (S) Kohn-wah-zip, meaning rat tail grass
- ✓ *Sitanion hystrix* (S) Mutz-oh soh-nip, mustache grass

checked

Percy Train  
Rida. Nev  
Sept. 25, 1939

### Undetermined Collections:

Page 21 of Dr. Archer's list, 1938.

Some Paiute names translated by: Maggie Shaw at Lida.

who understands some Paiute.

This may help in finally tracing the plants.

- ✓ 1. ah-ku-pu (P) means general term for any sunflower <sup>(ah-kuuk)</sup>
- ✓ 2. ah-paw-cha (P) means "cup" cup flower
- ✓ 3. na-tu-sua (S) another pronunciation of mit-zoo = medicine
- ✓ 4. cau-gee-ah-den-ne-lu (P) also called Koggie-a-den-up  
 { refers to Calachortus nuttallii  
 See-cau = see-go, sego lily. <sup>calachortus</sup>  
 but never had it reported except as food.
- ✓ 5. ta-baa-see-gueh (S) means Tah-bah-she-go = zygadenus
- ✓ 6. durnie (W.?) could be Doo-oo (S) = Orobanche
- ✓ 7. hepaw na-tusua (S)  
 { Informant says he-paw is Paiute  
 meaning towel medicine.
- ✓ 8. homo-mo-dap-apele (W): see Train Washoe notes  
 Willie Smokey list. Dresserville  
 { Angelica breweri = Dah-ho-mo-mo  
 dah-o-pah-pshu-le

Percy + Agnes Train

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checked ✓

## Translation of undetermined collection list terms

9. hu-na-tu-su-ah (S) } Hu-nas means little bug which eats holes in boards. They will bite if touched.  
 Thus: "Hu-na-tu-su-ah"

means: Insect bite medicine, or medicine to cure bite of this insect they call "Hu-nas."

The remedy is powdered rock lichens.

10. ku-da-gu-pah (na-tu-zuaah) = medicine (P)  
 (S) goo-da-goop-ah means "outside neck medicine, throat medicine."

11. orr-bu (na-tu-zuaah) = medicine (P)  
 "Orr-bu", a corrupt expression of elbow simply, elbow medicine.

12. see-vee (S) soo-vee (S) Tonopah  
 Pah-see-vee (P) means little water willow basket willow, creek willow

13. tutu-mo (S) Shoshone way of saying "Too-roombe" at Ely. Ephedra viridis.

14. uro-orra (S) means stomach, uro-orra nut-zoo: stomach medicine at Tonopah, gives constipation and also an illness.

✓ (Venereal disease medicine)

Tim-bah-hay nut-zoo  
at Lida. Nev.

1. *Cucurbita foetidissima* roots
2. *Purshia tridentata* leaves
3. *Osmorhiza occidentalis* roots
4. *Psathyrotes ramosissima* whole plant
5. *Salix exigua* bark + root
6. *Gilia congesta* whole plant
7. *Castilleja linariaefolia* roots
8. *Sphaeralcea munroana* roots
9. ~~*Enceliopsis nudicaulis* roots.~~

Tim-bah-hay nut-zoo. Jonopah

1. *Enceliopsis nudicaulis* roots
2. *Cucurbita foetidissima* roots
3. *Pentstemon deustus* tops + roots
4. *Osmorhiza occidentalis* roots
5. *Gilia filifolia* whole plant
6. *Castilleja linariaefolia* roots
7. *Cercocarpus ledifolius* inner Bark
8. *Ephedra nevadensis* Tops
9. *Gilia congesta* whole plant
10. *Clematis ligusticifolia* lvs
11. *Purshia tridentata* lvs

Arcy Train

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INDIAN MEDICINAL PLANT USES OF SOME NEVADA PLANTS

AS USED AT BELMONT, Nye Co. Nevada.

Information secured from the following informant by  
Percy Train, U.S. Bureau of Plant Industry.

Sarah Spud, Shoshone

Only permanent Indian resident of the old mining camp of Belmont, Sarah was born here about 65 years ago, and lives alone.

-----

1. Ephedra viridis (Jointfir, Mormon tea)

(S) Too-roombe

Tea from the stems used often as a beverage, but used specifically by this informant to stimulate blood circulation.

2. Iva axillaris (Poverty weed)

(S) Tu-du-zip

The roots boiled, solution taken in dose of less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup to relieve stomach ache.

3. Osmorhiza occidentalis (Sweet root)

(S) Bas-oh-wip

Root boiled, solution taken hot as a tea to relieve indigestion, overfull feeling due to overeating, gas pains.  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup taken.

4. Prunus melanocarpa (choke cherry)

(S) Tohn-quah-zip

Bark strips boiled. Tea taken for upset stomach, indigestion.

✓ 5. Artemisia tridentata (Big sagebrush)

(S) Boh-hoe-be

Leaves gathered, boiled, but not enough to make bitter. Less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  taken as a hot drink for heavy colds. An overdose of this is an emetic and should be used carefully.

✗ 6. Iris missouriensis (Wild iris)

(S) Pah-sag-ee-dump

Root fragments placed in tooth cavity to stop toothache.

✗ 7. Purshia tridentata (Bitterbrush)

(S) Muh-nabbe

Roots only gathered, cooked by boiling in quantity. Solution is bottled as it will keep. One cup full taken internally three times a day over a long period for venereal disease.

✗ 8. Leptotaenia multifida Cough root

(S) Toh-sa

The universal flu and heavy cold remedy of all Nevada Shoshones. Root boiled, tea taken internally, root dried, shaved finely, powdered shavings placed in cigarettes to clear head passages and sore throat.

✗ 9. Juniperus occidentalis (Mountain juniper)

(S) Sah-ma-be, samabe

End twig branches boiled, tea taken for colds in doses of  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 cup at a time till cold is cured.

✓ 10. Salvia carnososa (Purple sage)

(S) (Toya-abbe-hobe

Leaves soaked in cold water. Tea taken as a drink for colds.

11. Pinus monophylla Pinyon pine

(S) wah-pi, wah-pee

PITCH boiled. one cup a day of this water in which a lump of pitch has been boiled, taken over a long period for venereal disease.

12. Rumex crispus (T 3457)

(S) Be-jah-no-ko

Root only. Brown skin is peeled off as one would peel potatoes. Then the roots are boiled. This makes a strong yellow colored tea.  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup every day was taken of this solution in one case where an Indian had suffered from pains over the abdomen, distended stomach, bladder pains, and could not eat. In two weeks he was well.

13. Astragalus sp. (T 2714)

(S) no name, general name: Tim-bah-hay-nut-zoo

Specimen dug by informant at Belmont was same as herbarium specimens taken in the spring at Manhattan, hence the same number.

Roots scraped, cleaned, boiled. Solution taken internally over a long period for venereal disease.

14. Populus tremuloides (Quaking aspen)

(S) no name

Bark is boiled, since it is quite strong, only  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup a day is taken as a tea for venereal disease.

15. Sphaeralcea munroana (Mallow)

(S) quoya-no-comb

Root boiled, tea for venereal disease. Also in one case the whole plant was boiled in quantity in a tub, removed, stuffed in gunny sack and bound on as a hot wet poultice to a horse's knee which had been badly cut on barbed wire. Left on all night, swelling was reduced, & leg heal

INDIAN MEDICINAL USES OF SOME NEVADA PLANTS AS USED

at SCHURZ, NEVADA.

Paiute Indians met at Stone House, Nye Co. Nevada.

Information secured by Percy Train, U.S. Bureau of Plant Industry, from following informants:

Willie Frank,	Paiute,	Schurz
Lillie Frank,	"	"
Charley Lawrey,	"	"
Allie Lawrey,	"	"
Dewey Sam,	Shoshone	Tonopah
Mable Sam,	"	"

These were visitors at Stone House & some Paiute plant uses were obtained.

X 1. Cicuta occidentalis (Poison parsnip)

(P) Hah-kee-noop  
Known as poison root. Not used.

X 2. Lygodesmia spinosa

(P) I-goon-zon-um  
Tops boiled. Tea taken for a physic.

X 3. Rumex hymenosepalus

(P) Too-ah-goh-no-gip  
Root boiled, solution taken as a tea  
in influenza cases.  
Root mashed, applied as poultice to sores  
and burns.

X 4. Osmorhiza occidentalis

(P) name not remembered  
Root boiled, tea taken for colds.

X 5. Juniperus occidentalis

(P) Wah-pee  
End twigs boiled, tea taken for colds.

X 6. Dalea polyadenia

(P) Moh-goon-du-hoop  
Stems boiled, tea taken for colds, also  
taken for venereal disease over a long period.

X 7. Achillea lanulosa (Yarrow)

(B) Toh-tae-tone-e-gah

Whole plant boiled, solution used as a wash for sores and skin rashes, as an antiseptic.

X 8. Iris missouriensis (Wild iris)

(P) Poo-gocey-rub

Root mashed, applied to gums or tooth cavity to deaden pain.

X 9. Rumex crispus

(P) Pah-wee-ub, or enga-pah-wee-ub, meaning red water weed

Roots boiled, tea taken in small doses of less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup every day for venereal disease.

X 10. Gillia filifolia

(P) Si-yah-gum

Whole plant boiled, solution as a tea to cause both physic and vomiting.

X 11. Artemisia spinescens (Bud sage)

(P) Kuh-eeb tah-cun-oh-gwah, meaning squirrel-food

Leaves mashed, applied moist as a poultice to reduce swellings.

X 12. Rosa sp.

(P) See-avvie, same as Shoshone  
Inner bark and wood ground fine and applied to bad cuts as a healing agent.

X 13. Ephedra viridia

(P) Too-roop-ee

Tea made from stems, taken for kidney troubles.

Willie Frank group, page 3

Miscellaneous plant names:

plants:

- Astragalus sp. Tah-gah-gee-noop
- Gooseberry Moh-good-see-a-booie
- Gymopterus sp. Yoo-dutz
- Astragalus (white pod like A. candelarius)  
Quee-nat-zee, meaning: little bird
- Prunus melanocarpa Sahn-abbe or Toh-isha-booie
- Castilleja sp. Soh-noy tah-cun-oh-quah  
meaning: little humming bird eats it
- Eriogonum inflatum  
Hey-gwup-oss
- Salvia carnosia Too-bee-she-gin-ooop
- Zygadenus sp. Seego-oh-buh
- Chrysothamnus sp. Sae-goop

Oct. 1, 2, 1939.

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INDIAN MEDICINAL USES OF SOME NEVADA PLANTS AS USED IN

MONITOR VALLEY, Stonehouse, Nye Co.,  
Nevada.

Information secured by Percy Train, Agent, U.S. Bureau of Plant Industry from following informants:

Tim Hooper,	Shoshone
Jennie Hooper,	" (his wife)
Mamie Hooper,	Paiute (" daughter-in-law)
Albert Hooper,	Shoshone (" son)
Long Haired Bill,	(visitor from Tonopah) Shoshone

Tim Hooper is a well known reliable Shoshone rancher and stock man of Monitor Valley, having lived there all his life. He had a homestead on Pine Creek on east side of Toquima Range, and raised his family there. Within the last few years he has traded with white ranchers for the Stone House Ranch, and now lives at this latter place. It was an old stage station on the freight line between Salt Lake City and Belmont in the early days. Jennie Hooper, his wife, was raised in Monitor Valley and at Hot Creek and Belmont. The family travels the Smokey Valley Reese River country often and are well informed as to medicinal plants. Unfortunately, it was the opening of deer season as well as the peak of the pine nut season and men were horseback in the hills and women out after nuts, and Stone House presented a busy encampment of many tents occupied by visiting relatives and friends who had come to pine nut or join in the deer hunt. These latter were Paiutes from Nixon and Schurz, and could we have seen the Hooper family under quieter circumstances, no doubt more information could have been obtained. Long Haired Bill was also very reliable and well informed on medicinal plants and their names. Mamie Hooper, is a Paiute from Schurz, and speaks both Paiute and Shoshone.

1. Mentha occidentalis (Common wild mint)

(S) Pah-guanna

Whole plant boiled slightly, tea taken as a beverage and considered a blood purifier, and used as such in the spring of the year.

2. Psathyrotes ramosissima (Turtle back)

(S) no name known

Plant mashed, applied as a poultice to snake bite and sometimes called, "Dogowah-nut-zoo", snake medicine.

*Mentha occidentalis* *canadensis*

"pah-quanna-av", "pah-quanna", "toh-see-ten-ava" (white roots), "quee-boh-nay", "pah-quanna-ah" (P); "pah-quanna", "pah-quanna" (S); "common wild mint", "wild mint"

- Beverage:** tea from plant. Tops soaked in water. Plant soaked, solution taken. Tops steeped, solution taken. Leaves steeped, solution taken. Plant decoction, cooled, and taken.
- Blood purifier:** whole plant boiled, decoction used.
- Colds - head:** fresh leaves placed up nostrils to clear nasal passages.
- Coughs & colds:** tops boiled, hot decoction taken. Leaves mashed, placed up nostrils. Plant boiled, warm decoction taken. Whole plant boiled, decoction taken.
- Emetic:** tea from plant.
- Fever:** tops soaked in water. Tops boiled, decoction taken. Leaves boiled, decoction used as a wash.
- Gas pains:** leaves and stems dried, weak decoction taken. Tops steeped in water, solution taken hot for gas pains in intestines. Tops boiled, decoction taken.
- Headache:** tops boiled, decoction taken. Tops bound on head and forehead. Leaves boiled, decoction used as a wash. Leaves mashed, bound on head. Tops soaked in water, solution used as a lotion.
- Stomachache - indigestion:** ripe seeds only. Ground fine, added to  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup hot water, solution taken. Plant boiled, decoction taken for indigestion; indigestion in children. Leaves and stems dried, weak decoction taken. Leaves steeped, solution taken hot. Tops boiled, hot decoction taken. Whole plant boiled, decoction used.
- Stomach cramps:** ripe seeds only, ground fine, added to  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup hot water. Tops steeped in water, solution taken. Tops boiled, decoction taken. Plant boiled, decoction taken hot.
- Sweating:** plant boiled, decoction used.
- Swellings:** leaves crushed and applied.

(Continued on page 2)



3. Juniperus occidentalis Mountain juniper

(S) Samabe, Sah-mah-be

and twigs boiled, tea made, taken hot for a cold remedy.  
Branches burned as a fumigant after illness.  
Leaves and twigs boiled, solution used as an external wash for smallpox and measles.

4. Dalea (Parosela) polyadenia

(S) Moh-goon-du-hu

Stems gathered, dried, boiled. Tea taken to break up heavy colds, for flu, sore throat. Also boiled, tea taken over a long period for venereal disease.

5. Gilia congesta

(S) Be-he-vah

Whole plant boiled, venereal disease medicine, but dosage not known. Used also as a physic.

6. Iris missouriensis (wild iris)

(S) Pah-sag-ee-dah

Portion of the root mashed, stuffed in cavity or placed along gums to deaden pain from toothache.

7. Purshia tridentata (Bitterbrush)

(S) Huh-nabbe

Leaves gathered, boiled, just a little, tea taken for stomach ache. Less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup. Leaves and stems boiled in quantity, solution used as an external wash for measles, and as antiseptic wash for skin irritations, rashes. Root only. Boiled, tea taken internally over a long period in small regular doses every day for venereal disease.

8. Rumex hymenosepalus Cansigre

(S) wya-nut-zoo. Here only the remedy name is used. Root mashed, applied as moist poultice to burns. means, burn medicine.

200 *Rumex crispus* roots. Tea for venereal disease (Be-ja-no-ko)

9. Monardella odoratissima (wild pennyroyal)

(S) Gay-moh

Stems and leaves boiled, tea used as a beverage and as an aid for indigestion occasionally.

10. Populus tremuloides (Quaking aspen)

(S) Sing-gah-ve

Bark peeled off tree, strips boiled, taken in regular doses, less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup a day over a long period, for venereal disease.

\*Note a peculiar thing in regard to this.

Reese River and Austin and Smokey Valley swear by the Cottonwood bark as a venereal disease remedy, and ignore the aspen.

Tonopah and Monitor Valley use the aspen bark, and say the cottonwood has no value. They make a positive distinction between the two trees so they are not confusing the genus.

11. \_\_\_\_\_ (T 3421) Mike Millet's T.B. medicine

(S) Called by the remedy name, simply: Bas-un-dook nut-zoo, Tuberculosis medicine.

Notice also that Shoshones note the dry hard chronic cough which indicates T.B. by saying, "Bas-ah-oh-hee-nut-zoo", (Oh-hee, meaning cough and cold)

Long Haired Bill said this shrub also grows in Grapevine Canyon and is used by the Death Valley Shoshones for Tuberculosis.

12. Gilia filifolia

(S) Duh-nah eye-gom

whole plant boiled, tea taken, less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup for an emetic in cases of upset stomach.

13. Argemone hispida

(S) Sag-ee-dump, meaning rattle pod seeds

Ripe seed mashed, applied as salve to burns.

14. Artemisia tridentata, Big sagebrush

(S) Boh-hoe-be

Leaves boiled, hot tea taken for colds and cough. Patient goes to bed and covers up well. Causes sweating and breaks a cold. External wash by boiling leaves used for headache.

15. Pinus monophylla, Pinyon pine

(S) wah-pee PITCH. Gathered in cans when

pine nutting, smeared while soft and warm on boils, to draw them to a head.

16. Plantago sp.

(S) Wee-dee

Fresh green leaves moistened, mashed, applied as a poultice to reduce dropsical swelling on limbs, also on affected area to bring pus to surface.

17. Rose sp.

(S) See-avvie. wild rose red berry seed called, See-ah-booie.

wood and inner bark ground to fine powder and placed on deep cuts, wounds, burns, and sores as a healing agent.

18. Ephedra viridis (Mormon tea, Jointfir)

(S) Too-roombe

Stems boiled, tea taken instead of water in quantity, many times a day, for kidney trouble, too frequent urination.

19. Gilia aggregata (Timpiute)

(S) Timpiute

whole plant boiled, tea taken in small dose of less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup as a physic and emetic. Also for venereal disease.

Note: Inconitor Valley, Shoshones  
do not recognize *Pentstemon densatus*  
by sight or by name as medicinal.

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Oct. 2, 1939.

Report No. 79

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INDIAN MEDICINAL USES OF SOME NEVADA PLANTS AS USED AT

Monitor Valley, Potts Ranch  
Nye Co. Nevada.

Information secured from the following informants by  
Percy Train, U.S. Bureau of Plant Industry.

Dick Allison, Shoshone

Dick Allison, about 65 years of age, works and lives at Potts Ranch with his elderly wife, Susie. Susie would not talk to white people, so Dick was without her aid in remembering plant names. He was born on Allison Creek on the east slope of the Monitor Range. He said when he was a little boy his family had a hard time getting enough to eat. They camped in many canyons of the Monitor and Toquima Ranges hunting ripe seed, edible roots, rabbits, and pine nuts. He said when he was about six years old all he did all day was hunt chipmunks with his bow and arrow for his mother to cook.

-----

X 1. Leptotaenia multifida (Cough root)

(S) Toh-sa

Root boiled, tea taken for heavy colds, root dried, shaved off and smoked, smoke inhaled for head colds, root chewed, saliva swallowed for sore throats.

X 2. Osmorhiza occidentalis (Sweet root)

(S) Bas-oh-wip

Root boiled, tea taken for colds, also solution taken as a drink over a long period for venereal disease.

X 3. Sphaeralcea munroana (Mallow)

(S) quoya-no-comb

Root boiled, tea taken for venereal disease. Dosage was not known, but taken over a long period.

4. Pinus monophylla Pinyon Pine

(S) Wah-pee

PITCH. Pitch melted over coals till it runs clear in color. Smearred on warm cloth while hot. Placed as a drawing poultice over aching portion of body to relieve pain as we use a mustard plaster.

5. Populus tremuloides (Quaking aspen)

(S) Sing-gah-ve

Bark peeled off tree, strips boiled. Tea taken in dose of 1 cup three times a day for venereal disease for a long time.

6. Heuchera sp.

(S) Zee-guoy

Root of this plant used often by his family when they lived at Allison Creek but he could not recall just what they used it for. Monitor Valley checks with Smokey Valley in use of this root.

7. Ephedra viridis (Jointfir, Mormon tea)

(S) Too-roombe

Used all the time by this family as a beverage also considered a valuable blood tonic, and an aid in kidney disorders.

8. Phlox canescens

(S) could not recall name

Root washed, scraped, soaked in cold water for eyewash.

9. Physaria didymocarpa (Twinpod)

(S) Tahp-ah-day

Root washed, scraped, soaked in cold water considered more effective as eyewash than above.

Miscellaneous names:

(S) Duh-dah, meaning little

(S) Doh-nobe, *Atriplex confertifolia*

(S) Du-umbe, *Amelanchier alnifolia*

INDIAN MEDICINAL USES OF SOME NEVADA PLANTS USED AT

RUBY VALLEY, Elko Co. Nevada.

Information secured by Percy Train, Agent, U.S. Bureau of Plant Industry from the following informant:

Margaret Knight, Shoshone

Margaret Knight, wife of Oscar Knight, living on Gardner Ranch, Ruby Valley. She is a Shoshone, born and raised at Cherry Creek, White Pine Co. Nevada.

-----  
1. Osmorhiza occidentalis (Sweet Root)

(S) Bas-oh-wip

Root boiled, tea taken hot, several teaspoons at a time as a remedy for whooping cough.

Root boiled, hot tea used as a beverage every meal with sugar added, especially in winter months, to ward off colds and sore throat.

Root boiled, solution used as a wash to get rid of head lice.

2. Grindelia nana

(S) Sah-nah-goop-ah-rah

Whole plant boiled, less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup taken three times a day for measles.

Whole plant boiled, tea taken over a long period for venereal disease.

3. Ephedra viridis (Jointfir, Mormon tea)

(S) Tu-tumbe, Too-toom-be

Stems boiled. In common use as a beverage, not used by informant for medicine.

4. Juniperus occidentalis (Mountain juniper)

(S) Sah-mah-be, Samebe

Small end twig branches mashed, applied as a poultice for burns. Berries alone boiled, tea taken internally in cases of failure to urinate.

5. Artemisia gnaphalodes (Western mugwort)

(S) Coo-see pah-wah-zip

Whole plant boiled. Hot tea taken for cough.

6. Artemisia tridentata (Big sagebrush)

(S) Boh-hoe-be

Tops-flowers and leaves dried for winter kept in a bag. Handfull boiled in water to cover with a little salt added. Cooled, taken often for bad cough.

7. Balsamorhiza sagittata (Balsam root)

(S) Coo-see ah-kuk, grey sunflower

Root mashed, applied externally to syphillotic sores.

8. Leptotsenia multifida (Cough root)

(S) Toh-sup

Root boiled, tea taken in doses of less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup several times a day for influenza. Chewed for sore throat.9. Argemone hispida (White flower prickly poppy)

(S) Wya-sag-gee-gee

Ripe seeds mashed, applied as salve to burns

10. Achillea lanulosa (Yarrow)

(S) Pah-ron-zee-ah

Root mashed, applied to aching tooth, to deaden pain.

11. Salix exigua (Basket willow)

(S) Suh-ee-be

Small branches and leaves boiled in not too much water. Solution rubbed well into scalp several days in succession to rid scalp of dandruff.

X 12. Lithospermum ruderale

(S) Nom-ish-aw

Root boiled, tea taken for stomach pains, also more generally used as a remedy to stop blood diarrhea.

X 13. Verstrum californicum (Skunk cabbage)

(S) no name known

Informant had never used this plant but she had heard it had been tried as a birth control by Shoshones near Cherby Creek in early days.

X 14. Crepis acuminata

(S) Ah-zah-div-o-wip

Informant's grandfather had some foreign object stuck in one eyeball and had tried everything. Finally the root of this plant was dried, ground to a smooth powder, sprinkled on eyeball. This was done several days. The object came out and inflammation due to irritation was rapidly healed.

X 15. Hypericum scouleri (St. John's wort)

(S) Andra-vitch guanna

whole plant mashed, applied as moist poultice to reduce swellings.

X 16. Purshia tridentata (Bitterbrush)

(S) Huh-nabbe

Leaves boiled, tea taken in doses of less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup a day for chicken pox, and solution used as an antiseptic wash.

X 17. Gilia filifolia

(S) no name known

whole plant boiled, tea taken as a physic.



INDIAN MEDICINAL USES OF SOME NEVADA PLANTS IN USE AT

Ruby Valley, Indian Camp, Elko Co. Nev.

Information secured from the following informants by Percy Train, Agent, U.S. Bureau of Plant Industry.

- Billy Long, Shoshone
- Topsy Long Shoshone, his wife
- Chief Tumok, Shoshone
- (Comoke) Tumoke.

-----

Topsy and Billy Long are elderly alert and reliable Shoshones living at the Indian community clustered near the Ruby Valley store on west side of the Ruby Valley road. Well informed on Indian medicinal plant uses, Topsy speaks good English, and is a neice of old Broncho Charlie, Ruby Valley medicine man interviewed 2 years ago.

(Comoke) or Tumoke

Chief Tumok, is the son of the famous Ruby Valley Chief of the same name whose interesting political and military career among the Shoshones in aiding the whites between 1854 and 1863 is briefly described on p. 149 of Steward's Basin-Plateau Aboriginal Sociopolitical Groups. Bur. Amer. Ethnology, Bull. 120. Tumok still resents the ingratitude of the whites for the aid his father gave, and violation of a treaty which gave much Ruby Valley territory to their family as a reward in 1863, so he was in no mood to talk about medicinal plants, and inclined to be indignant that Broncho Charlie had divulged some medicinal information. However, we proceeded with our interview with Topsy and her husband, and curiosity overcame Tumok. He joined our group and was soon offering a few plant names and correct pronunciation of Shoshone terms in use in this area, and when we left, was cordial.

-----

X 1. Gilia congesta

(S) Hoo-na

X whole plant boiled, tea taken in dose of less than half cup to relieve distress due to liver trouble, biliousness, heartburn and continuous vomiting. Used also as a tonic to clean the blood.

X 2. Achillea lanulosa (see page 3)

(S) Fah-ron-zee-sh

X Root mashed applied to tooth cavity, deaden pain  
Whole plant mashed, applied as poultice for reducing swellings.

3. Pyrola asarifolia Michx. (Shinleaf)(S) Goo-ye guanna

Roots only. Boiled, tea taken in dose about  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup or small glass once a day for several days as a remedy for liver trouble.

Roots also boiled, solution put in bottle and given to sick horses, tho it could not be determined just what kind of sickness the horse had.

\*Note: this plant occurs sparingly at Thomas Creek Camp ground in Lamoille Canyon on west side of Ruby Mts. too late to find now, but this is the first instance of this plant being used medicinally.

4. Grindelia nana (S) Das-e-ah-nut-zoo, smallpox medicine

(Add this to the nut-zoo

(S) Sah-nah cav-oh-no-ah, meaning:

list)

gummy.....head

Smallpox remedy. whole plant boiled, tea given in very small doses. 1 teaspoonfull 3 times a day.

whole plant boiled, removed from pan and while warm, applied as poultice to broken leg bone. Billy Long's leg was caught in a wagon wheel and clean break suffered of leg bone. This poultice was changed and new one applied every day for 4 weeks. The solution was used as an antiseptic wash. The leg healed and he walks as usual.

*Whole plant boiled. Tea for venereal disease*

5. Cowania stansburiana (Cliff rose)

(S) Be-ah huh-nabbe, big, like Purshia  
Leaves mixed with pine pitch  
boiled, solution used as an antiseptic wash  
for measles and smallpox.

6. Osmorhiza occidentalis (Sweet root)

(S) Bas-oh-wip

Root chewed raw to relieve sore throat.  
Root boiled, tea for colds.

X 7. Chaenactis douglasii

(S) Bay-quee nut zoo, Bag-wee nut-zoo  
This plant appears to have no specific name  
just the remedy name, swelling medicine.

Plant mashed, applied as moist poultice to swellings.

X 8. Achillea lanulosa

(S) Pah-ron-zee-ah

Root mashed, applied to tooth cavity to deaden  
pain.

\*An interesting side light was cast on  
this well known toothache remedy by  
Chief Tumok, who claimed he used this  
root on his badly decaying teeth for six  
or seven years. It dulled and deadened  
the pain all right, but it also caused  
his teeth to crumble and break off in  
pieces, so he doubts the wisdom of  
continued use. He now has false teeth.

whole plant mashed, applied as poultice to reduce  
swellings.

X 9. Smilacina sessilifolia

(S) no name known

Root mashed, soaked in cold water, used as  
eyewash.

X 10. Cicuta occidentalis

(S) Hah-tumbe

Topsy's grandmother mistook this poison root  
for Yomba root and ate it. It killed her.

X 11. Lithospermum rudersale

(S) Nom-1sh-aw

Root boiled, solution taken internally to  
stop diarrhea.

X 12. Artemisia gnaphalodes

(S) Bah-vah-hobe

1 big teaspoonfull several times a day  
as a remedy for colds. Tops only boiled.

X 13. Hypericum scouleri (ST. John's wort)

(S) Andra-vitch gwanna

Whole plant dried, powdered up fine,  
placed on cuts and bullet wounds as healing  
agent.

X 14. Gilia aggregata

(S) Tim-piute

whole plant boiled, tea taken for venereal  
disease over long period.

X 15. Leptotaenia multifida

(S) Toh-sup

Root boiled, tea taken for influenza  
Root smoked, and chewed for head colds and sore  
throat.

X 16. Argemone hispida

(S) wya-sag-gee-gee  
meaning: seeds that rattle in pods used for burns

Ripe seed mashed applied as salve to burns

X 17. Rumex hymenosepalus

(S) Bah-rah-zip  
Root mashed applied to burns. Yellow dye for  
baskets.

X 18. Juniperus occidentalis

(S) Samabe

Leaves and berries boiled, tea taken for colds  
and to reduce fever by causing sweating.

## Miscellaneous plant names:

- ✓ Ephedra viridis (S) Too-toombe, tea for beverage  
 ✓ Castilleja sp. " Dogowah-goonah  
 ✓ Food " Tic-up  
 ✓ Oenothera hookeri " Ip-ooie, meaning daytime, hubinga, flower  
 ✓ Equisetum sp. " Bah-hoe-gip  
 ✓ Lupinus sp. " Bah-wee-duh-quanna  
 ✓ Iris missouriensis " Pah sag-gee-gee  
 ✓ Prunus melanocarpa " Tone-quish-up  
 ✓ Chamaebat<sup>aria</sup> millefolium Ting-weeb

Chief Tumok: Oct. 10. 1939.

✓ Nicotiana attenuata

(S) Poo-e-pah (evidently corruption of  
pui-bah-hoon)

✓ Tops boiled. 1 tablespoon  
3 times a day for worms.

✓ Argemone hispida

(S) Wya-sag-gee-gee

✓ Ripe seed mashed, applied  
as poultice to bring boils to a head.

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INDIAN MEDICINAL USES OF SOME NEVADA PLANTS USED AT

Ruby Valley, Indian Camp, Ruby Valley Stove,  
6 m. North.

Information secured by Percy Train from following informants:

Billy Mose,	Shoshone
Brownie Mose,	"
Maggie Mose,	"
Doreen Mose,	"

Billy Mose is the oldest Shoshone now living in Ruby Valley. He and his father, Chief Egan John, were born at Egan Canyon in Steptoe Valley. Billy Mose came to live in Ruby Valley while still a young boy. He said before the railroad came to Nevada he accompanied his father and eight bands of Shoshones under direction of Chief Tumoke, to Wyoming where they spent one winter hunting buffalo. He said he was a very young boy but that winter he killed his first buffalo, and from then on during their stay the Indians did not eat bread once. These Ruby Valley Shoshones are peculiar in that the old timers appear to have traveled widely. Tumoke often took his family to Jarbidge for the summer hunting, or to Idaho, and many families traveled east across the Salt Lake deserts for buffalo hunts. The Ruby Valley Shoshone are often referred to jokingly as the "Be-sh ningee" or Big ear people, from an old chief of that name who lived at the north end of the valley near Secret Pass. The more common name for Ruby Valley people was "wada-dika" or Dondie seed eaters. Bands of Shoshoni in the sly area were called Tu-ba-dika, pine nut eaters. Ruby Mts. were called Tah-cah-ve toya, snow mountain

Medicinal plants

1. Prunus melanocarpa (Western chokecherry)

(S) (Tone-quish-up)

Bark peeled from the tree, boiled, face held over boiling bark so that steam rises into eyes. Remedy used for snow blindness.

2. Paeonia brownii (wild peony)

(S) Bah-dib-ah, or Nas-ee-kah nut-zoo, cut medicine

Root mashed, applied as healing poultice to deep cuts and wounds.

X 3. Iris missouriensis (Wild iris)

(S) Pah-sag-gee-gee

Root boiled, solution cooled to luke warm several drops at a time placed in the ear to cure ear ache.

X 4. Cowania stansburiana (Cliff rose)

(S) Be-ah huhnabbe

Leaves of the Cowania, powdered rock lichens, and dung of Kah-seep (mountain rat) mixed. Boiled. Solution taken in dose of  $\frac{1}{8}$  cup each morning and evening for smallpox cure.

\*The writer was shown some of this mountain rat dung used in the preparation of this smallpox cure. It did not have the appearance of ordinary rat excrement tho they said it came out of the mountain rat's nest. It was hard, black, shiny, irregular in shape and had all the appearance of the so-called rat manure found in caves and had a typical asphaltum appearance and smell.

X 5. Lithospermum ruderale (Gromwell)

(S) Nom-ish-aw

Roots boiled, tea taken in dose of  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup for stomach ache.

X 6. Angelica sp?

(S) Be-ah-bogo, or biabogo

Root dried, shaved fine and smoked in cigarette for colds much as Leptotaenia root is used. Root boiled with a little whiskey. 1 teaspoon taken hot several times a day for heavy chest colds and cough. (Root seen but too late in year for herb. spec.) Can be collected in summer on creek back of Billy Mose Ranch, Ruby Valley.)

X 7. Chaenactis douglasii

(S) Witch-ah das-ah-dee-ah, meaning:  
Sagehen foot

Tops of the plant mashed, moistened, applied as poultice to reduce swellings.

X 8. Artemisia gnaphalodes and Osmorhiza occidentalis

(S) Bay-oh-hoe,

✓(S) Bas-oh-wip.

A. gnaphalodes tops and leaves mixed with O. occident. root. Boiled, Less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup at a time of warm solution taken internally as a cough medicine.

X 9. Nicotiana attenuata (Wild tobacco)

(S) Poo-ee-pah

Leaves mashed, placed along gums in mouth to cure toothache.

X 10. Chrysothamnus nauseosus speciosus

(S) Tah-bah-she-up

Stems of this plant mixed with Artemisia gnaphalodes tops. Boiled, solution taken as a tea for cold and cough.

X 11. Achillea lanulosa (Yarrow)

(S) Pah-ron-zee-ah

Tops boiled, tea for stomach ache. Not used for toothache here.

X 12. Grindelia nana

(S) Sah-nah cav-oh-no-ah  
gummy head

whole plant boiled, solution taken in dose of less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup a day as smallpox cure, also taken for a long time as remedy for venereal disease.

X 13. Gilia aggregata (

(S) Timpiute

whole plant boiled, tea for venereal disease.



X 14. Hypericum scouleri

(S) Andra-vitch gwanna, meaning:  
Wild Indian smell

whole plant mashed, moistened slightly, applied  
as poultice to reduce swellings.  
Tops boiled, tea taken in dose of less than  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  cup a day over a long period for venereal disease.

X 15. Rumex crispus

(S) New-wha no-ko, or New-wha nut-zoo, meaning:  
Liver medicine

Root boiled, tea taken internally  
as a remedy for liver complaints.  
Root mashed, applied as a poultice to reduce swellings

X 16. Iva axillaris

(S) Du-du-zip

whole plant boiled slightly, tea taken in  
small dose for stomach ache.

X 17. Leptotsenia multifida

(S) Toh-sup

Root dried. Smoked, chewed and boiled. Remedy for  
colds and cough.

X 18. Gilia filifolia

(S) no name known  
whole plant boiled, tea for stomach ache and physic.

X 19. Argemone hispida

(S) wya-sag-gee-gee

Ripe seeds mashed, applied as salve to burns.

## Miscellaneous plant names:

- ✓ *Monardella odoratissima* (Toya-guy-moh)  
 ✓ *Mentha occidentalis* (Pah-quanna)  
 ✓ *Smilacina liliaceae* (Boh-hoe-gumbe)  
 ✓ *Juniperus occidentalis* (Sah-nah-paw wah-pe Not used for med  
 ✓ *Sambucus* (Too-em-be here  
 ✓ *Purshia tridentata* (Duh-dah huhnabbe--little Huhnabbe.  
 ✓ *Ceanothus velutinus* (Tah-cah-ve hoopie) snow brush  
 ✓ *Balsamorhiza hirsuta* (Wohn-go-voh  
 ✓ *Castilleja* sp. (Dogowah-goon-ah.. snake fire  
 ✓ *Veratrum californicum* (Toya-wanda-vassop  
 ✓ *Leucocrinum montanum* (Pah-moo... water onion  
 ✓ *Juniperus sibirica* (Bah-sah-mup... water cedar  
 ✓ *Phlox canescens* ( So-go de-he boh-hum--So-go, ground  
 ✓ *Geum strictum* (Coo-jum-bok---cow plant  
 ✓ *Oenothera hookeri*... .. ( Ip-ooie hubinga... sleeping flower  
 ✓ *Equisetum* sp. (Bah-hoe gup  
 ✓ *Primula parryi* ..... ( Not-tee-vot-ah  
 ✓ Lake..... (Pah-gah-dit) Mountain lake (Toya pah-gah-dit)  
 ✓ Creek... (Oh-qwip)

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INDIAN MEDICINAL USES OF SOME NEVADA PLANTS USED AT

ELKO, Elko Co. Nev.

Information secured by Percy Train, U.S. Bureau of Plant Industry, from the following informants:

Maggie Patterson, Shoshone  
Grant Patterson, Paiute (her husband)

-----  
Maggie Patterson, Shoshone, was born <sup>at Eureka</sup> ~~in Ruby Valley,~~ and is a niece of Broncho Carlie, medicine man. She at one time was married to a son of Chief Tumoke, but is now married to a Paiute and lives in Elko. In her early years she was raised by a grandmother who lived mostly on wild seeds and pine nuts, and she knows the old time customs and medicinal plant uses of the Ruby Mountain area well. Is particularly able to translate Shoshone into understandable English and is quite a reliable standby for the white people concerning the Shoshones in this area.

Grant Patterson was born along the Humboldt somewhere between Lovelock and Fallon, but has lived with the Shoshones for 37 years and has forgotten much of the Paiute tongue, so was no help on plant names.

-----  
1. Juniperus scopulorum? (T 3466) (S) Bas-um-ah-be, or Bah-samabe  
meaning water juniper

Rocky Mountain Red cedar

Specimen secured from medicine bag and pressed for identification, was secured by Grant Patterson at Osceola, White Pine County, Nevada. High on the mountain and canyon slopes.

Slender drooping end branches boiled, tea taken over a long period in dose of less than 1/2 cup a day for venereal disease.

2. Argemone hispida (White flower prickly poppy)

(S) (Sag-ee-dah)

Root warmed, mashed, applied to gums and tooth cavities to relieve toothache. Mashed and heated, put in warm cloth along jaws for neuralgia and toothache.

3. Artemisia spinescens (Bud sage)

(S) Dootsie-up, chipmunk food

Tops ground up fine while green, not boiled. Used as a poultice to reduce swellings.

4. Nicotiana attenuata (Wild tobacco)

(S) New-wha bah-hoon, meaning:  
Indian tobacco

Leaves mashed, moistened, applied as poultice to reduce swellings. Informant had heard of this plant used as a cure for worms, but had not used it.

5. Urtica sp. (Nettles)

(S) By-wee-ah

Leaves mashed, warmed, applied in warm cloth as remedy to relieve rheumatic pains.

6. Gilia congesta

(S) Hoo-ni

Whole plant boiled. 1 tablespoon of the solution taken every morning before breakfast as a blood tonic, to clean the blood. Claim it makes one ill at first then the system gets accustomed to it and it is a beneficial tonic.

For venereal disease. Plant mashed and applied as external poultice to heal running sores and skin eruptions due to this disease.

7. Juniperus occidentalis (Mountain juniper)

(S) Samabe, Sah-mah-be

Leaves ground fine, soaked in cold water. Strained thru a very fine cloth. Tea taken internally to rid the system of worms. This was a personal cure and Maggie said the tea acted as a strong physic but brought out the worms, and not till after it was used did she begin to gain weight and improve in health.

8. Osmorhiza occidentalis (Sweet Root)

(S) Bas-oh-gway Note slight difference here from usual S. Bas-oh-wip

Root dried, shaved to fine powder, smoked and chewed for bad colds.

9. \_\_\_\_\_ unidentified & unavailable

{ Could be  
Ericog. or  
Antennaria

(S) Say-qwee

Low flat circular mat plant. Possible that informant will be able to have a specimen next spring.

Plant boiled, taken to stop blood diarrhea.

see typewritten list  
med. plants p. 8  
Eriogonum  
Aphanisphaerum

10. Leptotaenia multifida (Cough root)

(S) Toh-sah

Root boiled, chewed, smoked, for bad colds head colds, influenza, pneumonia. Pieces placed on live coals, aroma inhaled for head colds.

Leptotaenia, Angelica & pitch  
\*In connection with this, Toh-sah or (Toh-sup) Biabogo, and Pine pitch are mixed together placed on coals in a container, and held under a hood about a horse's head so that he must inhale the smoke. Sure cure for distemper in horses.

11. Heuchera rubescens (Alumroot)

(S) Be-ah nut-zoo. Just the name, big medicine

Roots boiled, tea taken as a tonic for general rundown condition. Used a great deal in some families.

12. Phlox canescens

(S) So-go ron-zee-ah, meaning:  
Ground-close to the ground flower  
Roots soaked in cold water. Eyewash.

13. Purshia tridentata (Bitterbrush)

(S) Huh-nabbe

Leaves boiled, used as an external wash for smallpox.

14. Rosa sp. (Wild rose)

(S) See-avvie

Roots boiled, solution taken in dose of  $\frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup to stop diarrhea. Drink while still warm.15. Artemisia tridentata

(S) Boh-hoe-be

Leaves boiled,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of tea taken to break a fever.16. Gilia aggregata (Timpiute)

(S) Enga-moh-wanya

Whole plant boiled, taken for physic.

17. Paeonia brownii(S) Bah-dib-ah, meaning "water peanuts" referring to the three large seeds.

Root dried, scraped, placed on bad cuts as healing agent.

18. Lithospermum ruderales

(S) Nomishaw

Roots boiled, tea taken to stop blood diarrhea.

19. \_\_\_\_\_ unobtainable this time of year  
and unidentified.

(S) New-waha-no-ko (liver plant) or New-waha-nut-zoo  
liver medicine

Informant is to locate plant and have  
specimens next spring. Grows near  
Maggie Patterson's house in Elko.

Used as a remedy for liver complaint,  
billiousness due to sluggish action of  
liver, by this informant and evidently  
unknown by rest of Shoshone colony there.

20.

Miscellaneous plant names:

- ✓ Eriogonum sp.... So-go sh-so-bin, ground flower
- ✓ Equisetum sp..... Quee-ja-ho hubinga, whistle flower
- ✓ Mentzelia lavaecaulis Wee-gah zah-moh-nee-ah, meaning:  
plant that rolls on the blanket and sticks
- ✓ Ceanothus velutinus... Tot-zip, means, thick brush
- ✓ Eriogonum inflatum.... Engat-sah-rah, meaning: thin red plant  
hardly seen
- ✓ Betula fontinalis.... who-gee-jup, meaning, strong stick
- ✓ Crepis acuminata..... Eshan-div-o-wip, meaning nothing-just weeds  
Eshan, easily confused  
with Esha (coyote) in  
rapid or poorly spoken  
Shoshone.
- ✓ Sarcobatus vermiculatus... Doh-no-be  
\*Note difference from Tonopah's Tone-oh-pah

✓ Shoshone color terms:

- ✓ Yellow: Oh-waha betah
- ✓ Red: Enga- betah
- ✓ White: Dosa- betah
- ✓ Black: Doo- betah
- Blue: Boole- betah
- ✓ Brown: Oh-waha- soonduh -gah-tah

Elko, Elko Co. Nevada

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Information secured by Percy Train, U.S. Bureau of Plant Industry from the following informants:

Dacey Jim, Shoshone,  
Minnie Coochum, " (spelled Cauchum)  
Josephine Coochum "  
Nellie Holy Jim

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These Indians all live at the Elko Indian Colony. Minnie Coochum was very old yet spoke English a little and was well informed on medicinal plant uses. Her husband is very deaf and we were unable to talk to him but her use of medicinal plants is well known in Elko. Dacey Jim is the medicine man of the colony.  
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X  
L. Paeonia brownii

(S) (Bah-div-ah) or Dag-e-boh nut-zoo, kidney medicine.  
*or Bah-gel-boh*

Roots dried, boiled. 1 big cup of the resulting tea taken three times a day for three years.

X  
Remedy for kidney stones.

\*It might be supposed that informant was not clear on this exact ailment, but in order to illustrate exactly the pains her husband suffered from she reached to the ground, picked up a stone, and placed it over her left kidney. She said he passed such a stone and was very sick. He took this tea and has had no more trouble. Root also boiled, tea to stop diarrhea.

X  
2. Aquilegia formosa

(S) Enga-moh-wanya

Not used at Elko, but claimed this plant is the Paiute venereal disease medicine.

X  
3. Gilia congesta

(S) (Hoo-ni)

Whole plant boiled, tea taken for physic.

X  
4. Salvia carnosia

(S) Kahn-gwanna, or rat smell  
Stems and leaves boiled, tea for cold remedy.



5. Asclepias speciosa

(S) Be-jeh-no-ko

Roots boiled, less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of solution taken to stop blood diarrhea.

6. Rosa sp.

(S) See-avvie

Roots cut fine, boiled, tea taken in dose of  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 cup as a physic.

7. Angelica sp.

(S) Who-ah-voh

Roots mashed, bound on knees in cases of rheumatic ache and swellings.

8. Veratrum californicum

(S) Wanda-veh-sah

Root washed, mashed to a pulp, placed in warm rag, applied to portion of body troubled by severe rheumatic pains. Informants at Elko had heard this plant had been tried for birth control, but had not used it.

9. Heuchera sp.

(S) Be-ah nut-zoo

Roots boiled, tea bottled, taken in regular doses of less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup every day as a tonic for general rundown condition.

\*It is strange when every other remedy has either a specific plant name by which it is known, or a general remedy medicinal term, that this plant in two widely separated groups, should be known as "big medicine."

10. Phlox canescens

(S) So-go div-oh-sah

Root washed, soaked in cold water, eyewash.

## 11. \_\_\_\_\_ (T 3467) (Brickellia?)

(S) Sahn-a-wap *Sah-nah (S), Sahn-ah (S)*

This is evidently a pet remedy of Minnie Coochum. She took us to the dry wash a short distance from her house and we dug the plant. From her medicine bag she produced broken fragments. It appears to be a Brickellia.

Other Shoshones in this colony did not know the name she gave nor did Maggie Patterson know the plant had medicinal value. Minnie was too vague as to her use of this plant and it should be checked again. She appeared to boil the stems and leaves as a stomach remedy. The name is not quite appropriate (*Sah-nah*) for a Brickellia, as Sahn-ah means gummy, sticky, and usually given to Grinde~~X~~lia

12. Rumex crispus

(S) New-wha nut-zoo, liver medicine

Root boiled, tea taken in dose of less than half a cup for two days as a remedy for swelling internally due to enlarged liver, biliousness due to liver trouble, not indigestion.

Root mashed, applied as poultice to reduce swellings.

13. Ephedra viridis

(S) Too-roombe

Stems boiled, tea as a beverage. Used a great deal here.

14. Tanacetum vulgare

Informants had no name

Leaves boiled, sometimes stems also, solution used while warm as an antiseptic wash. Used also as an external wash in cases where flesh is sore from bruises or influenza, rheumatism, etc. Dacey Jim remedy.

15. Artemisia gnaphalodes

(S) Bav-oh-hoe-be

Tops boiled, tea taken internally for colds.

✓ 16. Juniperus occidentalis

(S) Samabe

End twigs boiled, tea taken for colds.

X 17. Osmorhiza occidentalis

(S) Bas-oh-gway

Tea made from boiling the roots, taken for heavy colds. Solution cooled, used as an eyewash.

X 18. Dalea (Parosela) polyadenia

(S) Mo-goon-du-hu

Tea from the stems used for colds, also taken in small doses of less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup as a cure for smallpox.

X ✓ 19. Marrubium vulgare

(S) Sheep - sohm-boh-nay

Informants have no medicinal use for this plant, simply calling it the plant that sticks in the sheep's wool.

X ✓ 20. Grindelia nana or squarrosa

(S) Sah-nah cav-oh-no-ah

whole plant boiled, solution taken in small doses regularly every day as a remedy for venereal disease, also used as a smallpox remedy here.

X ✓ 21. Monardella odoratissima

(S) no name at Elko, but they had heard the name used by other Shoshones, Guy-moh

Tops boiled, tea made.  
1 cup taken as a physic.

X ✓ 22. Artemisia spinescens

(S) (Doot-sie-up

Whole plant boiled, mashed, or soaked. Used for a wide variety of general minor ailments such as swellings, rash, itch, stomach ache.

23. Nicotiana attenuata

(S) Nu-wha bah-hoon, Indian tobacco

Leaves boiled, tea as a remedy for worms.

24. Smilacina liliaceae

(S) no name

Whole plant boiled, tea taken internally for a long period, remedy for venereal disease.

25. ~~Veratrum californicum~~  
Leptotaenia multifida

(S) Toh-sah

Root boiled, chewed, smoked, for head and chest colds. Also supply comes from Ruby Valley.

26. Achillea lanulosa

(S) Pah-ron-zee-ah

Root mashed, used for toothache remedy.

27. Salix exigua (Basket creek bottom willow)

(S) Soo-be

Roots of this small water willow used by mashing well and applying it to the gums as a toothache remedy.

28. Purshia tridentata

(S) Huh-nabbe

Leaves boiled, used as external wash for smallpox and measles, solution also taken internally in these diseases.

29. Linum lewisii

(S) Boole-nut-zoo

Whole plant mashed, soaked in cold water, used as eyewash

30. Lithospermum ruderale

(S) Nom-ish-aw

Root boiled, tea taken to stop blood diarrhea.

Bas-un-dook	nut-zoo.....	Tuberculosis medicine		
Bas-ah-oh-hee	nut-zoo.....	Tuberculosis dry cough medicine		
Sohn-go	nut-zoo.....	Lung medicine		
Quee-dah	nut-zoo.....	Physic medicine		
Oh-hee	nut-zoo.....	Cough medicine		
Wya	nut-zoo.....	Burn medicine		
Bay-quee	nut-zoo.....	Swelling medicine		
Be-heu-ah	nut-zoo.....	Heart medicine		
Buh	nut-zoo .....	Blood cleanser medicine		
Bombee	nut-zoo .....	Headache medicine		
Du-ee-nah	nut-zoo .....	Rheumatism medicine		
Booie	nut-zoo .....	Eye medicine		
Tim-bah-hay	nut-zoo .....	Venereal disease medicine		
Dah-gee-boh	nut-zoo .....	Kidney medicine		
Eee-wah Quoy-hee Worra	} nut-zoo .....	Stomach medicine		
Boo-see-ah			nut-zoo .....	Head lice and body lice medicine <sup>medicine</sup>
Doh-numb			nut-zoo .....	Neck medicine
Das-e-ah	nut-zoo .....	Smallpox medicine, or rash		
Nas-e-kah	nut-zoo .....	Cut medicine		
New-wha	nut-zoo.....	Liver medicine		
Buh-quoy-hoy	nut-zoo.....	Bloody diarrhea medicine		
Dah-wah-gum-bah	nut-zoo .....	Toothache medicine		
Nom-bay nu-utz-seqwon	nut-zoo....	Foot pains medicine		

\*Ash-ah nut-zoo, It is medicine.  
 \*Kay-nut-zoo, No medicine.  
 \*Zahn-de nut-zoo, Good medicine.  
 \*As-ah-it nut-zoo, Poison-no good medicine.

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Iodga!

Root pounded up & placed  
in a sieve basket and moved  
about in water where fish  
abound. Steepifies fish.

(Anna Downington informant)  
W. W. Parks. 8-31-39.

84a