

# ACONITINE, POISON

THIS POISON IS EXTRACTED FROM THE ROOTS OF THE ACONITUM NAPELLUS PLANT. IT IS ALSO PRESENT IN THE SEEDS AND IN OTHER PARTS OF THE PLANT.

OTHER NAMES ASSOCIATED WITH THE PLANT:

WOLFSBANE, MONKSHOOD, FRIARS CAP, INDIAN ACONITE, ETC...

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THIS PLANT MAY BE MORE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN THAN SOME OF THE OTHER ALKALOID BEARING PLANT, BUT IT IS THE DEADLIEST OF THEM ALL. TWO TO THREE MILLIGRAMS OF ACONITINE FROM MONKSHOOD IS ENOUGH TO END ANYONE'S LIFE. THE PLANT ITSELF CONTAINS SO MUCH OF THE POISON THAT IT WILL CAUSE A NUMB, TINGLING SENSATION IN THE HAND THAT PICKS IT.

DEATH FROM ACONITINE POISONING IS NOT A PLEASANT THING. VICTIMS HAVE DIED SCREAMING. LUCKILY FOR THEM, THEY DON'T LAST FOR MORE THAN TWENTY MINUTES FROM INITIAL INGESTION.

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MOLECULAR WEIGHT IS (W)-645.72

FORM IS YELLOWISH-WHITE AMORPHOUS POWDER WITH AN INTENSELY BITTER TASTE.

HANDLING, AVOID INHALATION OF DUST, INGESTION AND SKIN CONTACT. THIS ALKALOID IS PERCUTANEOUS MEANING IT CAN BE ABSORBED THROUGH THE SKIN.

DOSAGE, 100MG OF THE STUFF WE SHOW YOU HOW TO MAKE. 2-4MG OF PURE STUFF. NOTE THAT CRYSTALLINE ACONITINE IS THE SAME AS PURE, FOR THE MOST PART.

SYMPTOMS, TAKEN ORALLY, THE SYMPTOMS USUALLY BEGIN WITHIN A FEW MINUTES, THOUGH THEY MAY BE DELAYED AN HOUR OR SO. THERE IS FIRST NUMBING AND TINGLING OF THE FACE AND MOUTH THAT LATER SPREADS TO THE ENTIRE BODY. VOMITING USUALLY BUT NOT ALWAYS OCCURS. THERE IS DIZZINESS, MUSCULAR WEAKNESS, LOSS OF SPEECH, CARDIAC IRREGULARITIES AND FINALLY HEART FAILURE.

DETAILS:

THE POWDERED ROOT OF THE ACONITE PLANTS HAVE BEEN USED AS A POISON SINCE THE TIME OF THE ANCIENT GREEKS. THE PLANT IS KNOWN WORLDWIDE BY A VARIETY OF NAMES. THE MOST POTENT VARIETY IS INDIAN ACONITE WHICH GROWS IN NORTHERN INDIA.

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ACONITINE IS SOLUBLE IN ALCOHOL, ETHER AND CHLOROFORM. IT IS ONLY SLIGHTLY SOLUBLE IN WATER.

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THE STIMULATION OF THE MEDULLARY CENTERS CAUSED BY ACONITE RESULTS IN SLOWING OF THE HEART AND REDUCTION OF BLOOD PRESSURE. NAUSEA, VOMITING, CARDIOVASCULAR COLLAPSE, DYSPNEA, CHEST PAIN, RESTLESSNESS, DIPLOPIA, AND SHOCK. DEATH USUALLY OCCURS FROM DIRECT PARALYSIS OF THE HEART.

TREATMENT IS PURELY SYMPTOMATIC. ACONITE IS NOT EMPLOYED ANY MORE IN MODERN THERAPEUTICS FOR ITS SYSTEMIC ACTIONS, DUE TO ITS TOXICITY AND BECAUSE THERAPEUTIC DOSES BORDER ON THE DANGEROUS.

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ACONITINE PRODUCTION MUST BEGIN WITH SAFETY...

WEAR RUBBER GLOVES AT ALL TIMES, WEAR A SMOCK AND EYE GOGGLES, YOU DO NOT WANT IT TO SPLASH YOU IN THE EYES. ANY CONTACT WITH THE POISON WITH YOUR SKIN WILL CAUSE NUMBING AND POSSIBLY SYPTOMS TO OCCUR.

FIRST YOU WILL NEED TO OBTAIN YOUR MATERIALS:

FILTER PAPER, AMYL ALCOHOL, METHANOL, SULFURIC ACID, ETHYL ETHER, AMMONIA, SEPARATORY FUNNEL, LOTS OF CONTAINERS (GLASS).

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#### *Aconitine Production*

- 1) Line the basket of a percolator with filter paper and fill with powdered aconite root until it is half full.
  - 2) Fill the percolator itself half full of a mixture of one part amyl alcohol and three parts methanol. Percolate for 30 minutes. (Do this in a well-ventilated area. Methanol fumes are both poisonous and flammable).
  - 3) Drain off the alcohol, add the same amount of fresh alcohol mixture to the percolator and repeat step 2.
  - 4) Drain off the alcohol. Take a small pinch of the powder from the basket and allow it to dry thoroughly. When dry, taste a tiny amount of the powder. If it numbs the tongue, repeat the extraction. If not, discard the powder and proceed to step 5. (Tasting a small amount of the powder will not harm you, but be sure not to swallow it and rinse your mouth out several times afterwards).
  - 5) Combine the alcohol extracts. Pour them into a distilling flask until it is about half full. Hook up an aspirator to provide vacuum and distill gently until the flask has only one quarter of the original volume left.
  - 6) Add this to a bottle of 1% sulfuric acid and shake for several minutes. There should be at least five times as much acid solution as alcohol extract.
  - 7) Add this liquid to a separatory funnel with an equal volume of ethyl ether and shake for several minutes.
  - 8) Drain the bottom (water) layer and save. Discard the upper (ether) layer.
  - 9) Add dilute ammonia until the pH is alkaline (8 or higher).
  - 10) Add this liquid to a separatory funnel with an equal volume of ethyl ether and shake for several minutes.
  - 11) Drain the bottom (water) layer and discard. Add a small quantity of cold water to the funnel and shake. Drain the water and discard.
  - 12) Evaporate the ether in a well-ventilated area away from any source of sparks. Ether fumes are explosive.
  - 13) Add the residue to a small amount of hot water, filter, and place in a refrigerator overnight to crystallize.
  - 14) Filter this solution and dry the powder. Store in an airtight bottle.
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