

LIST of DYING PLANTS.

Y E L L O W.

Curcuma, or turmeric. This plant grows in the East Indies; the root of it tinges a rich yellow colour; but it is not very durable.

Rumex maritimus, or golden dock, grows on roadsides, &c. The root dyes a fine yellow.

Thalictrum flavum, or meadow-rue, grows in marshes, on the banks of rivers, &c. Both the root and the leaves dye a very deep yellow.

Urtica dioica, or common nettle. The country people dye eggs a beautiful yellow with the roots of this plant at the feast of Easter.

Santalum album, or white sanders. The wood of this tree, which is a native of the East Indies, dyes a good yellow.

Lawsonia inermis, or alkanna, is a small shrub cultivated in Asia and Africa. The stem and branches of this plant afford an excellent yellow; the natives paint their bodies with it. The root, prepared with quick-lime, gives a fine shining red. The natives use it for dyeing their teeth, nails, faces, the mains of their horses, leather, &c.

Morus tinctoria, or fustic, grows in America. The wood of this tree is in great esteem among dyers for the fine yellow it affords.

Rhamnus frangula, or the black berry-bearing alder, grows in woods and hedges. The bark tinges a dull yellow; and the unripe berries dye woollen stuffs green.

Rhamnus catharticus, or purging buck-thorn, grows wild in woods and hedges. The bark gives a beautiful yellow.

Rhamnus minor, grows in the southern parts of Europe. The berries give an excellent yellow.

Rhus Coriaria, or sumach, grows in Italy, &c. The bark of the stem gives a yellow colour, and the bark of the root a yellowish red.

Berberis vulgaris, barberry or pimperidge-bush. The root of this plant gives an excellent yellow to cloth; and the bark gives leather a beautiful yellow colour.

Prunus domestica, or common plumb-tree. The country people use the bark for dyeing their cloth yellow.

Pyrus malus, or apple-tree. The dyers use the bark for giving cloth a yellow colour.

Carpinus betulus, the horn or hard beam tree, horse or horn-beach tree, grows in woods. The bark is used as a yellow dye.

Reseda luteola, or base-rocket, grows in pasture-grounds, meadows, and especially on a chalky soil. This herb, which is a native of Scotland, gives cloth a most beautiful yellow colour, and is much used by dyers, who import it in large quantities, though it might be easily cultivated in our own country.

Serratula tinctoria, or saw wort, grows in woods and meadows. This plant gives the same colour with the *reseda*, and, though not so beautiful, is much used by dyers.

Hierachium umbellatum, or narrow-leaved bushy hawkweed, grows in woods, hedges, and gravelly soils. This plant gives a very fine yellow.

Acanthus mollis, is a native of Italy. It appears that this plant was used by the ancients for dyeing yellow:

Et circumtextum croceo velamen acantho. VIRG.

Bidens tripartita, or trifid water hemp-agrimony, grows in marshy places. This plant gives a pretty elegant yellow.

Xanthium strumarium, or lesser burdock, grows near dunghills. When this plant is boiled entire, together with the fruit, it gives a pretty good yellow.

Salix pentandra, or sweet willow. The dried leaves give a fine yellow.

Betula alba, or birch-tree. The leaves give a faint yellow colour to cloth.

Stachys silvatica, or hedge-nettle, grows in woods and hedges, and gives a yellow colour to cloth.

Centaurea jacea, or common knapweed, grows in pasture and barren grounds. This plant is often used as a succedaneum for the *serratula* or saw-wort.

Polygonum persicaria, dead or spotted arsmart, grows in corn-fields, &c. and dyes cloth yellow.

Lyfimacha vulgaris, yellow willow-herb, or loose-strife, grows in marshes, and on the banks of rivers. This herb said to dye yellow.

Scabiosa succisa, or devil's-bit, grows in meadows and pasture-grounds. The dried leaves give a yellow colour; but it is seldom used.

Anthyllus vulneraria, kidney-vetch, or ladies-finger, grows on dry pasture-grounds. The country people use this plant for dyeing their cloth yellow.

Lichen juniperus, or juniper-liverwort, grows on the trunks and branches of trees. *Lichen parietinus*, or common liver-wort, grows on walls and the bark of trees. *Lichen candelarius*, or yellow liverwort. These three species of liverwort are used by the common people for dyeing their stuffs yellow.

Anthemis tinctoria, or common ox-eye, grows on high grounds. The flowers give a bright yellow colour.

Chærophyllum sylvestre, wild cicely, or cow-weed, grows in hedges, &c. The umbel or tops and flowers of this plant give an excellent yellow.

Thaspia villosa, or deadly carrot, grows in Spain; and its umbel is used as a yellow dye by the inhabitants of that country.

Genista tinctoria, green wood, dyers-weed or woad-waxen, grows in pasture-grounds, &c. The flowers are much used as a yellow dye.

Hypericum perforatum, or St. John's wort, grows among brush-wood and in hedges. The flowers are used as a yellow dye, but it is not much esteemed.

Calendula officinalis, or garden marygold. The dried flower-leaves are sometimes used as a yellow dye: Their expressed juice, boiled with alum, makes an excellent yellow paint.

R E D.

Rubia tinctorum, or madder, grows in the southern parts of Europe. The roots are much used by dyers for giving a red colour to cloth.

Gallium boreale, or crosswort madder; *gallium verum*, yellow ladies bed-straw, or cheese-ricing. Both these plants grow plentifully in our own country; and their roots are used for dyeing cloth red.

Lithospermum tinctorium, grows in France. The root gives a red colour, but it is not easily fixed.

Rumex acetosa, or common sorrel, grows in meadows and pasture-grounds. The root is used by apothecaries for tinging decoctions, &c. with a red colour; but it is not used by dyers.

Cæsalpina Brasiliensis, or Brasil wood, is a native of the East Indies. The wood is commonly used by the dyers for giving a red colour.

Calamus rotang, or dragon's blood, is an East-India fruit. The inspissated juice is principally used by apothecaries for giving a red tinge to their medicines.

Bixa orellana, grows in both the Indies. The seeds of this tree are much used as a red dye, and the natives of America paint their bodies with them.

P U R P L E.

Cæsalpinia vesicaria. The wood of this tree gives a purple dye. The *cæsalpinia sappan* is used for the same purpose. The *lignum rubrum*, or Fernambuca wood, gives likewise a reddish purple dye.

Origanum vulgare, or wild marjoram, grows in woods, &c. The tops of this plant are used for dyeing cloth purple.

Carthamus tinctorius, is an annual plant, and a native of Egypt. The corollæ of this plant give a fiery red colour to cloth; but they are principally used for dyeing silks.

B L U E.

Isatis tinctoria, or woad. This plant grows wild in corn-fields, and gives a blue colour to cloth.

Indigofera tinctoria, or indigo, grows in the East Indies. The blue dye given to cloth by this plant is preferable to any other; because it is of so fixed and durable a nature, that it is not affected either by acid or alkaline substances.

Galega tinctoria, is a perennial plant of Zeylon. Hermannus affirms, that the blue obtained from this plant is even preferable to the indigo, although it has never hitherto been used by Europeans.

Fraxinus excelsior, or common ash-tree. The bark tinges water blue; and the inner bark is said to give cloth a very good blue colour.

V I O L E T.

Hæmatoxylon campechianum, or logwood, grows in the West Indies, and gives cloth a violet colour. It is, however, chiefly used as a basis for some other colours.

Empetrum nigrum, black-berried heath, crow or crane-berries, grows on high grounds. The berries, boiled with alum, are used as a purple dye.

G R E E N.

Senecio jacobæa, or common raywort, grows in pasture-grounds, &c. The whole plant is used, before it begins to flower, for dyeing cloths green.

Charophyllum sylvestre, or wild cicely. This plant, when the tops are taken off, dyes cloth a beautiful green.

Iris germanica, grows in the southern parts of Europe. The expressed juice of the corolla gives a green dye.

B L A C K.

Lycopus europæus, or water horchound, grows in marshy places. The juice of this plant gives a black dye of such a fixed nature, that it cannot be washed out.

Actæa spicata, herb-christopher, or barberries, grows among brushwood. The juice of the berries, when boiled with alum, affords a fine black ink.

Genipa americana, is an American tree. The unripe berries tinge cloths with a deep black. The natives dye their mouth with these berries, to give them a terrible aspect to the enemy. It remains fixed for many days.

Quercus, or oak-tree. The capsulæ of the oak, on account of their great stipticity, are used for fixing and improving the mineral black. They are used both by dyers and curriers.

THIS short sketch of the utility of botany with regard to Food, Medicine, and the Arts, will be sufficient to suggest the many advantages that may be expected from the cultivation of it. The objects presented by the science are curious, respectable, and useful. The natural history of plants is not even confined to the above important articles. It is strictly connected with agriculture and gardening. The structure of vegetables, the soils that naturally produce particular kinds, things that promote or retard their growth, are essential parts of their natural history. Hence a school of botany, especially when sufficient attention is paid to the useful part of the science, merits the highest encouragement from the public, and ought to be attended by farmers, landed gentlemen, gardeners, &c. as well as by physicians and philosophers.