

***Pinellia ternata* (Thunb.) Breitenb.****Araceae**

Korean Name: Ban-ha

English Name: Three-leaf pinellia

Parts used. Corm.*Traditional uses.* Vomiting, damp and phlegm.

Description. Perennial herb with corm. Corm 1 cm in diameter. Leaves 1-2, directly from the corm, ternate; petiole 10-20 cm long, with bulbils borne on the petiole; leaflets 3, sessile, entire, 3-12 cm long, 1-5 cm wide, ovate-elliptical to oblong, glabrous. Scape solitary, 20-40 cm long; spathe green, 6-7 cm long; the tubular part 1.5-2 cm long; the blade lanceolate, rounded at apex, puberulent inside; spadix with appendage filiform, erect, 6-10 cm long. Fruit berry, small, green. May - Jun.

Habitat. Common in cultivated fields and roadsides.*Distribution.* Korea, Japan, China.

Bio-Activities. Anti-emetic (1), sedative, antitussive, expectorant activities by boiled extract, emetic action by unprocessed extract. Mitogenic, haemagglutinating activities by pinellin (2). Aldose reductase inhibition (3).

Chemical components. Amino acids, polysaccharides (1,4), homogentisic acid, ephedrine, 3,4-dihydroxybenzaldehyde-diglucoside (5), pinellin (low molecular weight crystalline protein), phytosterols.

References.

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