

The properties of medicinal plants and their chemical composition

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Plants are an exhaustive source of various curative compounds. During the period of plants' life, various substances are formed, most of which affect on human and animal organisms. Plants are the source of alkaloids, heart glycosides and many other curative compounds.

Study and use of medicinal plants is associated with a distant past. This is confirmed by ancient written or oral evidence. Medicinal plants can be grouped according to their impact on organism: curing the nervous system, cardiovascular, gastrointestinal diseases, respiratory diseases, spasmolytic and analgesic agents, bleeding remedies, gynecological diseases, skin diseases. The medicinal properties are caused by existence of various biologically active, so-called acting compounds such are alkaloids, glycosides, organic acids, proteins, carbohydrates, saponins, essential oils, gumpies, gums, mucous, vitamins, phytochemicals and other.

In recent years, the demand in the production of medicinal entities on the base of vegetable raw materials has significantly increased. On the international pharmaceutical market, every second or the third product is made entirely or partly on natural raw material.