

## **EVALUATION OF SOUTH INDIAN MARKET SAMPLES OF *PIPPALI***

**S.N. Yoganarasimhan, K.V. Nair, T.R. Shantha, R. Sudha and B.V. Holla**

**(Received on 3.4.92 )**

*Pippali is an important drug in Ayurveda and Siddha. Two types of Pippali are mentioned in the Ayurvedic classics whereas in the Nighantu 5 types are mentioned. In the Siddha system, 2 types are mentioned. In the South Indian crude drug markets 6 types are sold and used as Pippali. These samples are botanically identified. Markata Pippali is equated with *Balanophora fungosa* ssp. *indica* which is a root parasite. The ayurvedic, botanical and techno-economic evaluation of these samples of Pippali along with some important uses, preparations and diseases are presented. A key to differentiate the genera and species is also provided.*