

## **MICROSCOPIC STUDIES ON THE ROOT OF *ALOE BARBADENSIS* MILL. -A SIDDHA DRUG**

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*Aloe barbadensis* Mill. (Liliaceae)

is a coarse perennial with short stem and shallow root system; leaves fleshy, in rosettes, sessile, often crowded with horny prickles on the margins, convex below, tapering to a blunt point, surface pale green with irregular white blotches; flowers yellow or orange in racemes, fruits loculicidal capsule. Root is used in leprosy, piles, mental disorders, colic, cough and asthma. It can be characterized by the presence of abundant starch grains, raphide bundles, radially arranged exarch vascular bundle, sclerenchyma ring inside xylem rings.

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