

# Senna occidentalis

*Senna occidentalis* is a pantropical plant species.<sup>[1]</sup>

Vernacular names include : 'au'auko'i in Hawaii, *coffee senna*, *coffeeweed*, *Mogdad coffee*, *negro-coffee*, *senna coffee*, *Stephanie coffee*, *stinkingweed* or *styptic weed*.

The species was formerly placed in the genus *Cassia*.

The plant is reported to be poisonous to cattle.<sup>[2]</sup> The plant contains anthraquinones. The roots contain emodin<sup>[3]</sup> and the seeds contain chrysarobin (1,8-dihydroxy-3-methyl-9-anthrone) and N-methylmorpholine.<sup>[4]</sup>

## 1 Uses



*Coffee Senna seeds*

Mogdad coffee seeds can be roasted and used as a substitute for coffee. They have also been used as an adulterant for coffee. There is apparently no caffeine in mogdad coffee.

Despite the claims of being poisonous, the leaves of this plant, *Dhiguthiyara* in Dhivehi,<sup>[5]</sup> have been used in the diet of the Maldives for centuries<sup>[6]</sup> in dishes such as *mas*

*huni* and also as a medicinal plant.<sup>[7]</sup>

## 2 References

- [1] "*Senna occidentalis* (L.) Link". *Germplasm Resources Information Network*. United States Department of Agriculture. 2004-01-22. Retrieved 2009-03-28.
- [2] Coffee Senna (*Senna occidentalis*) poisoning in cattle in Brazil. Barth AT, Kommers GD, Salles MS, Wouters F and de Barros CS, *Vet Hum Toxicol*. 1994 Dec;36(6):541-5.
- [3] Emodin, an antibacterial anthraquinone from the roots of *Cassia occidentalis*. J.C. Chukwujekwu, P.H. Coombes, D.A. Mulholland and J. van Staden, *South African Journal of Botany*, Volume 72, Issue 2, May 2006, Pages 295-297, doi:10.1016/j.sajb.2005.08.003
- [4] Isolation of N-methylmorpholine from the seeds of *Cassia occidentalis* (coffee senna). Hyeong L. Kim, Bennie J. Camp, Ronald D. Grigsby, *J. Agric. Food Chem.*, 1971, 19 (1), pp 198–199, doi:10.1021/jf60173a026
- [5] Thimaaveshi - Catalogue of Plants
- [6] List of food items in 'Maldives Coding System'
- [7] Xavier Romero-Frias, *The Maldivian Islanders, A Study of the Popular Culture of an Ancient Ocean Kingdom*. Barcelona 1999, ISBN 84-7254-801-5

## 3 External links

- "*Senna occidentalis*". Integrated Taxonomic Information System.
- Cassia occidentalis* poisoning as the probable cause of hepatomyoencephalopathy in children in western Uttar Pradesh
- Cassia occidentalis* in West African plants – A Photo Guide.

## 4 Text and image sources, contributors, and licenses

### 4.1 Text

- **Senna occidentalis** *Source:* <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Senna%20occidentalis?oldid=588683910> *Contributors:* Stemonitis, Woohookitty, Kintetsubuffalo, Rkitko, Marco Schmidt, Jheiv, Nono64, SieBot, Addbot, Luckas-bot, Yobot, Martin-vogel, AnomieBOT, Xufanc, தகவலுழவன், Krish Dulal, EmausBot, WikitanvirBot, Jkadavoor, Helpful Pixie Bot, DrumstickJuggler and Anonymous: 3

### 4.2 Images

- **File:Coffee\_Senna\_2.jpg** *Source:* [http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/11/Coffee\\_Senna\\_2.jpg](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/11/Coffee_Senna_2.jpg) *License:* CC BY-SA 4.0 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* **Jeevan Jose, Kerala, India**
- **File:Commons-logo.svg** *Source:* <http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/4/4a/Commons-logo.svg> *License:* ? *Contributors:* ? *Original artist:* ?
- **File:RoyalPoinciana.jpg** *Source:* <http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/ed/RoyalPoinciana.jpg> *License:* CC-BY-SA-3.0 *Contributors:* first upload en.wikipedia 06:25, 12 June 2004 by Seglea as en:Image:RoyalPoinciana.jpg (150563 bytes) (Royal Poinciana in the courtyard of Santo Domingo, Oaxaca) *Original artist:* Stephen Lea
- **File:Wikispecies-logo.svg** *Source:* <http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/df/Wikispecies-logo.svg> *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* Image:Wikispecies-logo.jpg *Original artist:* (of code) cs:User:-xfi-

### 4.3 Content license

- Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0