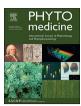


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Correspondence

The ESCOP-monographs for universities



The well-known ESCOP monographs represent an important source of scientific information on herbal medicinal products and are used by manufacturers, health authorities, universities, researchers, health professionals among others. The consolidated effort of the members of the ESCOP-Scientific Committee provides comprehensive scientific compilations of relevance for assessing clinical efficacy, pharmacological effects, side effects and a safety profile of a herbal medicinal product, including its major constituents.

Since 2011 the monographs have been published exclusively on-line as single stand-alone documents. Currently, 41 monographs are available, 13 of which are completely new. ESCOP is continuing the work on the revision of existing monographs based on new literature data. For example, recently an extensive revision of Hyperici herba has been finalised and will be published in due course. Further revision projects such as Allii sativi bulbus, Calendulae flos, Solidaginis herba, Agni casti fructus and several others are ongoing. Upcoming new monographs are Equiseti herba or Rhodiolae roseae radix.

All can be obtained conveniently by payment via credit cards and immediate download as pdf documents through the ESCOP website (www.escop.com).

Nevertheless, payment via credit card turned out to be quite cumbersome or even impossible for institutions such as university libraries. Thus, ESCOP has a new option for such institutions: It has cooperated with EBSCO Information Services (https://www.ebsco.com/) because many institutional libraries worldwide are subscribers of this service. At the moment thirty of the on-line ESCOP monographs are available at EBSCO. These monographs are combined in three bundles, which can be purchased at a very reasonable price for EBSCO's institutional subscribers.

Content of ESCOP Monograph Collections I, II and III:

Collection I	Collection II	Collection III
Black Cohosh	Barbados Aloes	Aniseed
Bearberry leaf	Cape Aloes	Bilberry fruit
Bogbean leaf	Comfrey root	Cascara
Feverfew	Elder flower	Centaury
Hydrastis rhizoma	Hamamelis bark	Clove oil
Java Tea	Hamamelis leaf	Cola
Lady's Mantle	Hamamelis water	Gentian root
Melissa leaf	Myrrh	Mullein flower
Tormentil	Ribwort Plantain leaf/herb	Pelargonium
White Horehound	Wild Thyme	Sage leaf, trilobed

ESCOP's future aims include further preparation and updating of monographs with emphasis on medicinal plants with relevance in the European market and the focus on the medicinal use of these plants. Thus, at the moment the fourth bundle of ten monographs is under elaboration containing the following new monographs and revisions: Birch Leaf, Black Horehound, Burdock Root, Grindelia, Ispaghula Husk, Mallow Flower, Meadowsweet, Nettle Root, Restharrow Root and Wild Pansy. The upcoming monograph Hypericum, which is the biggest project ESCOP has ever finalised, will represent the fifth "bundle". Both publications are planned for 2017.

With the option of monograph bundles for subscribers of EBSCO Information Services ESCOP hopes to meet the demands of many institutional customers and the needs of academics who want to use the ESCOP monographs as indispensable scientific information in the field of phytotherapy.

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