

Medicinal Plant Images

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Figure 1: *Grevillea robusta* A. Cunn. ex R. Br. is a tall evergreen tree that is endemic to Australia. As with other *Grevillea* spp., *G. robusta* is also commonly referred to as spider flower trees and Australian silky oaks. *Grevillea* flowers were used as a food source by Australian Aborigines. The flowers were sucked for their sweet nectar or used to make sweet drinks.¹ They were also used by Australian Aborigines as traditional bush medicines to treat wounds and sores, skin diseases, diarrhoea and dysentery and as bactericidal preparations.^{1,2} Some studies have also reported antibacterial activity for several *Grevillea* spp.³⁻⁵



Figure 2: *Elephantorrhiza suffruticosa* Schinz (commonly known as skew-leaved elephant root) is a southern African plant that ranges from northern regions of South Africa to Namibia, southern Angola, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Malawi and north to Tanzania. *Elephantorrhiza* spp. have a wide variety of medicinal uses including uses to treat diarrhoea and dysentery, haemorrhoids, skin diseases (including acne)⁶ and for the treatment of malaria.⁷ Whilst the phytoactive components have not yet been extensively studied, it is believed that tannins may be responsible for some of the reported therapeutic properties.

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