

American Herbal Pharmacopoeia® *and Therapeutic Compendium*

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STANDARDS OF ANALYSIS, QUALITY CONTROL, AND THERAPEUTICS



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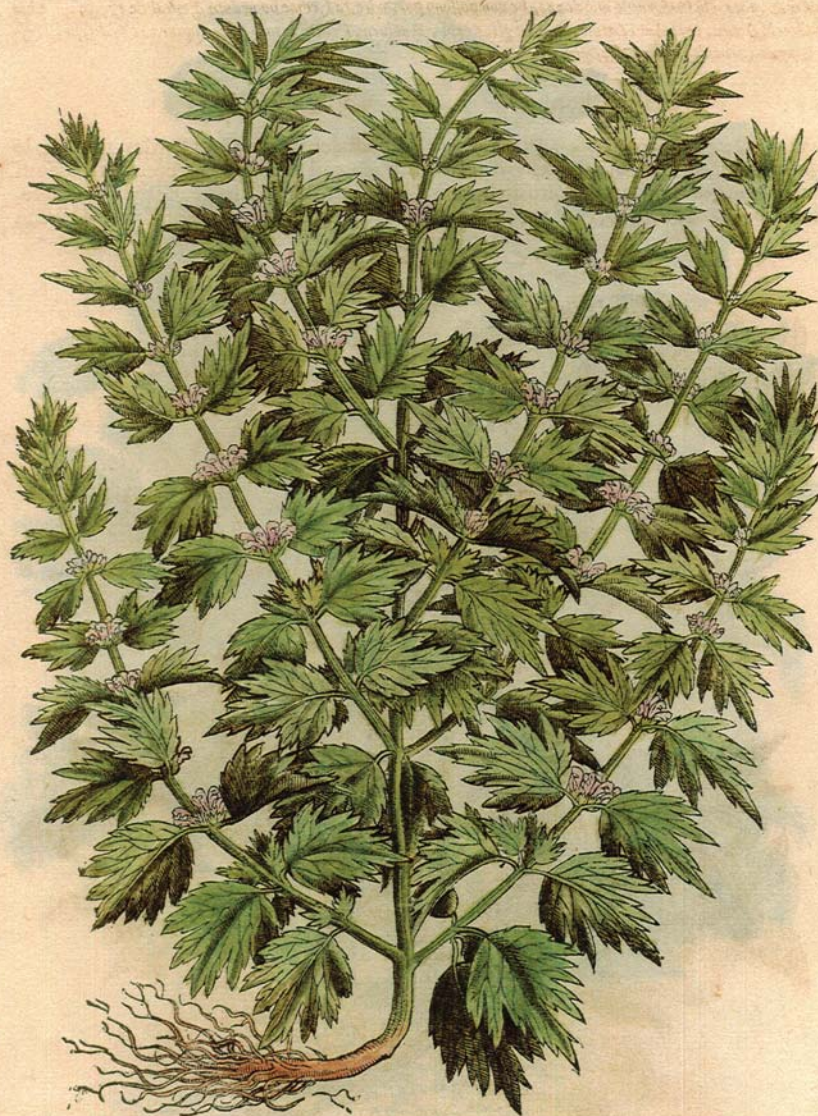
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©2018 *Leonurus cardiaca* courtesy of Steven Foster, Eureka Springs, AR

CARDIACA.



Cardiaca, &
sua historia, &
facultà.

bo, se già d ciò non necessitasse la fame. Ma è ben utile, come companatico, & come medicamento: per solvere ella il corpo. Tutto questo dell'Ortica scrisse Galeno. Ma hauendomi ella ridotto à memoria la CARDIACA (così chiamano hoggi i moderni una pianta, che si rassembra in non so che modo all'ortica) ne dirò qui quel tanto, che da altri n'ho ritrovato scritto. La Cardiaca adunque tiene quasi forma d'ortica, ma produce le frondi più tonde, crespe, pelose, & intagliate allo intorno, come quelle del ranuncolo. Produce il fusto quadrangolare, su per lo quale escono le frondi à due à due distanti di pari intervallo, ma più all'intorno intagliate. I fiori, i quali nel bianco porporeggiano, sono molto simili, se ben minori, à quelli dell'ortica fetida, di cui nel seguente capitolo diremo. Nascono questi allo intorno del fusto, doue i picciuoli di tutte le frondi hanno la loro origine, come fa il marrobio. Produce la radice, che nel rosso gialleggia, con altre piccole radici allo intorno. Nasce nelle piazze, & lungo le strade à canto alle siepi, & lungo alle mura delle castella. Al gusto è così amara, che facilmente si può giudicare essere ella calida nel secondo, & secca nel terzo ordine. Lodanla i moderni per il batticuore, onde s'ha ella preso il nome di cardiaca. Lodasi nello spasmo, & per

10

Historical illustration of *Leonurus cardiaca*

Source: Mattioli A. *Commentarii in sex libros Pedacii Dioscoridis* (1565)

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