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Quassia cedron

[Synonyms : *Simaba cedron*]

CEDRON is a shrub or tree. Native to the Amazon basin (South America) it has slightly fragrant dark yellow flowers.

It is also known as Cedron seeds.

Cedron has attracted its share of superstition. Local trust is often placed in its ability to counter poisoning provided the seed is carried upon one's person.

In Middle America local inhabitants scraped off a small quantity of the seed and (mixed with water) applied this to snake bites. At the same time 2 grains of the seed (in brandy or water) were taken internally.

It was introduced to Britain in 1699 and has long been used for treating malarial fevers.