

106. *CROTON ELEUTHERIA* Sw. (EUPHORBIACEAE) — Cascarilla

Bark extracts used in beverages and bitters not to exceed *circa* 800 and 100 ppm. Essential oil used, up to *circa* 75 ppm used in alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages, baked goods, candy, condiments, desserts, frozen dairy products, and relishes.²⁹ Prominent in some oriental and masculine perfumes, up to 0.4%, creams, detergents, lotions, perfumes, and soaps. Also, used as an aromatic bitter and tonic, sometimes added to tobacco.²⁹ Sometimes added to cinchona to arrest vomiting caused by the cinchona. Morton⁴² states that it was used instead of quinine when the quinine caused vomiting. Bark yields a good black dye.² Essential oil is antiseptic.²⁹

Reported to be balsamic, digestive, hypotensive, narcotic, stomachic, tonic, is a folk remedy for bronchitis, debility, diarrhea, dysentery, dyspepsia, fever, leprosy, malaria, nocturnal emissions.^{2,32 57} Colombians use the bark for dysentery. Bahamans take the leaf and bark tea for colds, fever, and flu.⁴²

Contains 1.5 to 3.0% essential oil containing primarily *p*-cymene, dipentene, *d*-limonene, beta-caryophyllene, gamma-terpineol, and eugenol; also, cascarillic acid, cascarillidone, carcarillone, cineole, cuparophenol, methythymol. Bark also contains *circa* 15% resin, cascarillin A (a bitter substance), vanillin, betaine and tannin, gum, wax, pectic acid, lignin, potassium chloride.^{2 29 33 42}

Toxicity — Possibly narcotic.² As an aromatic additive to tobacco, it is said to have caused intoxication and vertigo⁴² (GRAS § 182.20).²⁹