

CHINESE
MEDICINAL HERBS
OF HONG KONG
NEW EDITION



香港中草藥大全

主編 李甯漢 劉啟文
Li Ning-hon Lau Kai-man

商務印書館

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Chinese Medicinal Herbs of Hong Kong, New Edition

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謹以本書獻給
我們尊敬的老師
國際著名植物學家胡秀英教授

We sincerely dedicate this book to the memory of our teacher,
Professor Hu Shiu-ying, internationally renowned botanist.

《香港中草藥》第 1-5 輯編輯委員會編輯合照
Photograph of the Editorial Committee of the
Chinese Medicinal Herbs of Hong Kong (Volumes 1-5)



上圖攝於 1978 年 3 月 4 日。

前排：左起，劉啟文、梁澤民、丁煥清、莊兆祥、李甯漢、吳燕月、劉惠蓮。

中排：左起，韓碧霞、劉梅玉、張月媚、羅浩林、鍾國綱、黎承顯、杜麗幾、李天德。

後排：左起，甘長東、楊根錨、許清善、高耀、鄒平、劉振彪、蔡盤生、楊炳成、劉啟榮。

梁安好因事缺拍照。1979 年底，加入潘永權、何偉琪、李松杰三位編輯。

This photograph was taken on 4 March, 1978.

Front row from left: Lau Kai-man, Leung Chat-man, Ting Huang-ching, Cheung Siu-cheong, Li Ning-hon, Go Yan-guat, Lau Wai-lin.

Middle row from left: Hon Bik-ha, Lau Mui-ngiik, Chang Yuet-mui, Law Ho-lam, Chung Kwok-kong, Lai Sing-hin, To Lai-kei, Lee Tin-tak.

Back row from left: Kam Cheung-tung, Yeung Kan-lou, Hui Ching-sin, Ko Yiu, Chow Ping, Lau Chun-piu, Choy Pun-sang, Yeung Bing-shing, Lau Kai-wing.

Absent from the photograph is Leung On-ho. From 1979, the committee was enlarged to include Poon Wing-kuen, Ho Wai-kee, and Li Chung-kit.

《香港中草藥》第 6 - 8 輯編輯委員會合照
Photograph of the Editorial Committee of the
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上圖攝於 1992 年 12 月 6 日。

前排：左起，劉梅玉、吳燕月、劉啟文、胡秀英、李甯漢、梁澤民。

中排：左起，李天德、羅惠賢、羅浩林、麥翰雲、黎承顯、蔡盤生、梁安好、韓碧霞。

後排：左起，甘長東、楊炳成、施濟民、陳展華、何偉琪、林英偉、潘永權。

This photograph was taken on 6 December, 1992.

Front row from left: Lau Mui-ngiik, Go Yan-guat, Lau Kai-man, Hu Shiu-ying, Li Ning-hon, Leung Chat-man.

Middle row from left: Lee Tin-tak, Lo Wai-yin, Law Ho-lam, Mai Han-yun, Lai Sing-hin, Choy Pun-sang, Leung On-ho, Hon Bik-ha.

Back row from left: Kam Cheung-tung, Yeung Bing-shing, Sze Chai-man, Chan Jin-wah, Ho Wai-kee, Lam Ying-wai, Poon Wing-kuen.

《香港中草藥大全》編輯委員會合照
Photograph of the Editorial Committee of the
Chinese Medicinal Herbs of Hong Kong (New Edition)



上圖攝於 2006 年 11 月 5 日。

前排：左起，潘永權、李天德、劉啟文、胡秀英、李甯漢、韓碧霞、吳燕月

中排：左起，麥翰雲、羅惠賢、梁安好、劉惠蓮、蔡盤生

後排：左起，施濟民、陳展華、黎承顯、鄒平、羅浩林

劉梅玉編輯，甘長東編輯，在外地，缺照。

This photograph was taken on 5 November, 2006.

Front row: from left, Poon Wing-kuen, Lee Tin-tak, Lau Kai-man, Hu Shiu-ying, Li Ning-hon, Hon Bik-ha, Go Yan-guat

Middle row: from left, Mai Han-yun, Lo Wai-yin, Leung On-ho, Lau Wai-lin, Choy Pun-sang

Back row: from left, Sze Chai-man, Chan Jin-wah, Lai Sing-hin, Chow Ping, Law Ho-lam

Editors Lau Mui-ngiik and Kam Cheung-tung were not in the photo as they were not in Hong Kong at the time the photo was taken.

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Lau Mui-ngiik, Lai Sing-hin

Photography: Mai Han-yun, Lau Wai-lin, Lau Kai-man, Li Ning-hon

English Translation of Text: Go Yan-guat

Plant Description (Chinese and English): Mai Han-yun

Editors: Chan Jin-wah, Kam Cheung-tung, Lo Wai-yin,
Leung On-ho, Poon Wing-kuen, Lee Tin-tak, Chow Ping,
Choy Pun-sang, Sze Chai-man, Hon Bik-ha, Law Ho-lam

卷首語

廿一世紀是香港中醫藥大發展，百花齊放的時代，《香港中草藥》像一朵美麗的鮮花，參與盛放！

從 1976–2000 年，歷時 25 年，香港第一套實地攝影、中英對照、彩色精印的《香港中草藥》1-8 輯終於完成。我與本書作者認識很久，早在 1978 年初，在李賢祉博士引領下，審閱了該書第 1 輯初稿，已故老朋友莊兆祥醫生作伴，我鼓勵編輯們：「草藥先鋒隊，繼續前進！」那時，他們放映給我看的幻燈片，我認出其中一種是細辛屬 (*Asarum*) 植物，及後經華南植物研究所黃淑美教授鑒定，是世界新種香港細辛 (*Asarum hongkongense* S. M. Hwang et T. P. Wong) (刊於《香港中草藥》第 7 輯頁 16)。

冬去春來，時光飛逝！他們沒有辜負我的期望！1986 年 4 月 16 日，我在美國得知《香港中草藥》1-5 輯完成，特致函李甯漢醫師祝賀：

「請接受我衷心的祝賀，《香港中草藥》全書五輯的成功完成，你和全體編輯的鑽研精神，令我十分欽佩，惟有狂熱愛好這門學問的人，才能有你們那樣的幹勁。特別是負責攝影的工作者，要捕取那些鏡頭是非常不容易的。我在香港研究植物八年，知道有些品種是極難覓見的：它們生長在高山之巔，深谷之底，人跡罕至的海邊。香港的氣候，更令到每次採集標本歸來，都是泥濘滿身，幾成落湯雞——由雨水或汗水所淋！那些圖片十分美麗，它們清楚顯示各品種的特徵。」

1992 年我又回到香港，作較長時間停留，繼續研究香港植物，7 月 15 日，在曾孝濂畫家陪同下，同往屏南石澗採集標本，李甯漢詩贈我曰：

屏南仲夏伴山行，挾耳飛流擊石聲。

苦荳花開迎遠客，童顏白髮展新程。

同年 12 月 10 日，在李甯漢醫師陪同下，往青山找尋蛇菰 (*Balanophora*) 標本，當時正在開花，我拿返中文大學，查閱《中國植物誌》第二十四卷及有關資料，均無記載，乃請當時在香港訪問工作的曾孝濂畫家畫線條圖，他觀察入微的細心，和嫺熟的技巧，做到科學與藝術結合的繪圖，那就是我們經十年反覆考證，發表於《美國哈佛大學植物學報》(Vol. 7, No. 2, 2003) 的世界新種香港蛇菰 (*Balanophora hongkongensis* K. M. Lau, N. H. Li et S. Y. Hu) 的繪圖，該圖並作為學報封面，足顯示頗受重視與歡迎。

1993 年初，本書攝影師經多年積累了數百幅幻燈片，決定出版 6-8 輯，並邀請我作編輯顧問，我欣然接受，並負責第 6 輯形態英譯。及後因事返美，7-8 輯形態英譯則由麥翰雲先生負責。直至 2000 年全書 8 輯完成。

去年，我虛齡百歲大壽時，李甯漢醫師詩賀我曰：

哈佛奇才百歲齡，冬青蘭菊盡研精，

攀山豁達心慈愛，造極登峰享盛名。

我希望本書作者，繼續行山影相，研究草藥，鍛鍊身體，益壽延年！也希望新版《香港中草藥》能夠為香港藥用植物研究增添光輝，為世界醫學增加華彩。

《香港中草藥》記載的 800 種中草藥，特別是前 5 輯，經過二十年時間，有些新資料可以補充，如果形態說明能加上英譯，會更方便外國人閱讀！欣聞本書將進行增訂新編，我樂為之序。

胡秀英

於香港中文大學，時年 98 歲

2006 年 2 月 12 日



Prologue

The 21st century witnesses a great development in Hong Kong's traditional Chinese medicine, like the blossoming of a hundred flowers. *The Chinese Medicinal Herbs of Hong Kong* series is playing its part in this process, like a beautiful flower!

Consisting of eight volumes, *The Chinese Medicinal Herbs of Hong Kong* was the first set of books of its kind with photographs taken in the field, in the actual, wild state of the herbs, with full Chinese and English texts, and with all color illustrations. Its completion spanned 25 years, from 1976 to 2000. I had known the editor-in-chief of this series of books for a long time. As early as the beginning of 1978, at the introduction of Dr. Eric Yin-tse Lee, I read the first draft of the first volume of the series. In the presence of our late friend Dr. Cheung Siu-cheong, I offered encouragement to the editors with these words: Vanguard of the Hong Kong herbal team, march on! From the photographic slides which they showed me, I recognized a herb which belonged to the *Asarum* genus, which subsequently was determined by Professor Hwang Su-mi of the South China Botanical Institute to be a new species and named *Asarum hongkongense* S. M. Hwang et T. P. Siu. This herb was recorded in Vol. 7 (p. 16) of *The Chinese Medicinal Herbs of Hong Kong*.

In the subsequent years, the editors have accomplished much. On April 16, 1986, while I was still in the U.S., on learning of the completion of Volumes 1-5 of *The Chinese Medicinal Herbs of Hong Kong*, I wrote a letter of congratulations to Mr. Li Ning-hon:

Hearty congratulations for the successful completion of the five-volume series of *The Chinese Medicinal Herbs of Hong Kong*. You and all the participants of the Project command my perfect admiration in the way that you carried the work through. None but those who loved the work madly could do as you all have done, particularly the ones who took the colored photographs, for they have to hunt for the plants first. After working on the vegetation of Hong Kong for eight years, I know that it is not easy to reach some of them. To reach these plants one has to climb to the top of the high mountains and descend to deep and dangerous gorges or to go to the isolated areas of the seashore. Due to the climate of Hong Kong, one always returns home dirty and wet, either through rains or by perspiration! The photographs are beautiful and they show very unique characters of the species.

In 1992 I returned once again to Hong Kong, staying for a longer time to continue my study of Hong Kong flora. In July 15 of that year, in the company of Chinese botanical artist Zeng Xiao-lian, who was visiting Hong Kong at that time, I went to the Ping-Nam Rocky Gorge to collect specimens for my research. The trip was memorialized by Mr. Li Ning-hon in his poem:

Mid-summer Climb in Ping-Nam in good Company

Torrents Flashing Against Rocks Rumble in the Ear

Boeica in Full Bloom Greeting Visitors From Afar

Visage of Youth in Silvery Hair Embarking on a New Voyage

Later on in the year, on the 10th of December, in the company of Mr. Li Ning-hon, we went to Castle Peak in the New Territories of Hong Kong for a closer study of a *Balanophora* plant which was flowering at that time. I made some collections and returned to the Chinese University of Hong Kong. On checking the relevant materials, I found no record of this plant either in Vol. 24 of the *Flora Reipublicae Popularis Sinicae* or other publications. We asked Mr. Zeng Xiao-lian, who was at that time still in Hong Kong, to make line drawings of different parts of the plant. His detailed and in depth observations led to a drawing which is the combination of science and art. As the culmination of 10 years of repeated examinations, we concluded that the plant was new to science. We named it *Balanophora hongkongensis* K. M. Lau, N. H. Li et S. Y. Hu and published it in the *Harvard papers in Botany*, Vol. 7, No. 2 (2003). Our drawing was selected as the cover art of that issue of the journal, showing how highly it was esteemed and valued.

In the beginning of 1993, photographer-editors of this series, in reviewing the hundreds of photos taken over the years, decided to continue the series with Volumes 6 to 8. I was invited to be their Advisor. I accepted with pleasure and carried out the English translation of the botanical descriptions. Later on, I had to return to the U.S., and the translation work of the botanical descriptions was done by Mr. Mai Han-yun. The whole work, from Volumes 1 to 8, was completed in 2000.

Last year, in the celebrations of my honorific centenary year, Mr. Li Ning-hon wrote a poem for me:

Rare Celebrity from Harvard Reaching Her Centennial

Thorough Research into Ilex, Orchids & Mums All

With Loving and Noble Heart, Mountains Climbed with Ease

Attaining Pinnacle of Distinction, Fame Spread Far & Wide

Concerning the 800 herbs recorded in *The Chinese Medicinal Herbs of Hong Kong*, in light of developments in the past 20 years, some supplementary materials may be added. This is especially true of the first five volumes. If an English translation can be added to the botanical descriptions, this will facilitate reference by foreign readers and allow the series to reach a wider audience. I heard with interest that a revision is being planned for this series, and am happy to contribute this prologue.

I hope the editors of these volumes will keep up with their outings, taking photographs, and studying the herbs, thereby also strengthening their bodies and prolonging their lives. I also hope that the new edition of the volumes will add lustre to the study of medicinal plants in Hong Kong and contribute to the medical store of the world.

Hu Shiu-ying

at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, aged
98 at the time of writing
February 12, 2006

序一

劉啟文博士與李甯漢中醫師編著的《香港中草藥大全》，具備兩大特色：其一乃由中醫師和植物學家編著；其二在內容包括香港本土的草藥。

有關中草藥的巨著，不是由藥物學家主編，便是由中醫藥理專家負責。即是說：中醫師，看病開方的在職中醫師，關心藥材、飲片的多，認識藥用植物的極少。可以理解，除非是對中藥的基本知識殷切、懸壺濟世的中醫師，哪有時間去找尋炮製之前的草藥真貌呢？李甯漢醫師終身投入考察草藥的興趣，所花時間之多，實在教人欽佩。當然，劉啟文博士給李醫師的合作和支援，也是完美成果的關鍵。

談到中藥，港人心中浮現的藥材代表，少不了當歸、黃芪。於是，港人都錯認，南方炎熱之地如香港，哪裏能生長藥用植物？哪裏看得見中草藥呢？李甯漢中醫和劉博士的野外採藥組，每逢週日，跑遍港、九山村野嶺，哪裏長着麥冬，哪裏到處見香茅，他們都可以如數家珍，娓娓道出。這本中草藥新編，便收集了 800 多種的藥用植物。

《香港中草藥大全》，是補充 2000 年出版的《香港中草藥》之作，該輯只記載了 800 種港產中草藥，是他們經過 25 年的搜索，對照和研究的成果。之後再經過 10 多年，多跑了多少里路，帶領着一眾熱愛藥用植物的認識小組，上下過多少個山坡，李師父和劉博士又認真地加添了數十個品種。

我曾多次跟隨李醫師、劉博士的搜查隊做野外活動，深深感受過他們對草藥的熱誠。要靠他們的豐富經驗，才能分辨出貌似一樣的葉和莖。也只有他們倆，能給你指示：你要掘多深，才能把根莖無損地取得植物標本；你要移動上邊或者下邊的石塊，才能保護橫臥的土中枝。只要聽到年青的學生一聲尖叫：「李師父！」，李醫師立刻回應「先等我來！」。那家庭式的野外學術調研，真有意思。際此新書出版日，我回想往日愉快情境，仍回味無窮。他倆的默默耕耘，帶動了多少青年對草藥的嚮往。

執筆至此，我深信，李醫師和劉博士，不久又將加添藥用植物一百種，準備另一新編了。

正是「百草延命賴賢醫，千苞調性隨良師」。

梁秉中

香港中文大學
中醫中藥研究所所長
2012 年 5 月 17 日

Preface I

The Chinese Medicinal Herbs of Hong Kong (New Edition) edited by Dr. Lau Kai-man and Mr. Li Ning-hon has two major features. First, it is co-edited by a botanist and a Chinese medicine practitioner. Second, it is about Hong Kong medicinal herbs.

Literature on Chinese medicinal herbs is either compiled by pharmacologists or Chinese medicine pharmacologists. This shows that those practising Chinese medicine care more about the herbal medicine or the prepared medicinal herbs but less about medicinal plants. They seldom spare time learning about these plants in their original form unless they are eager to know the basics of Chinese medicine. Mr. Li has devoted his life to the study of medicinal herbs and his dedication has won him great respect. He works with Dr. Lau whose support is indispensable to the perfect result.

When it comes to Chinese medicine, many of us in Hong Kong will have Chinese Angelica and Astragalus in mind. We think that no medicinal plants will grow in Hong Kong; no Chinese medicinal herbs will grow in the Southeast under this hot weather. But Mr. Li, Dr. Lau and their team visit remote villages and tread on mountain ranges in Hong Kong every Sunday. They know exactly where Blue Grass (*Ophiopogon*) or Lemon Grass can be found. They can tell all the details. In this new publication, about 800 types of medicinal herbs are listed.

The Chinese Medicinal Herbs of Hong Kong (New Edition) is an addition to *The Chinese Medicinal Herbs of Hong Kong* published in 2000. The former version has 800 Hong Kong medicinal herbs, which are the fruits of their study and comparison work for a quarter of a century. It has been more than 10 years from then. They have walked many more miles, climbed many more hills, and, together with a group of medicinal plant lovers, Mr. Li and Dr. Lau have continued their serious work and added many types of herbs to their new book.

I went with them on a number of field trips and have felt their passion for medicinal herbs. Only by their rich experience can similar leaves or stems be differentiated. Mr. Li and Dr. Lau are the only two who can tell you how deep you have to dig if you want a specimen with roots intact, and which rock on the top or below should be moved to leave the part lying in the soil unharmed. Hardly hearing the call of any students, Mr. Li would say, "Hold on, I'll be there right away." This type of family-like academic research activity in the wild is very interesting. The birth of this new book has brought back many of the happy recollections, in which I still find great pleasure. The diligence of Mr. Li and Dr. Lau has inspired many young people to be fond of medicinal herbs.

As I am writing this, I believe that Mr. Li and Dr. Lau will soon add another 100 items to the list and compile yet another new book.

With hundreds of herbs, skilled physicians restore health.

On thousands of herbs, good teachers pass on knowledge.

Professor Leung Ping-chung
Director of the Institute of Chinese Medicine
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
May 17, 2012

序二

中華本草大家族，有着綿延兩千多年的歷史，成員多達 860 餘家，所載藥累計萬餘種，其主體代代修定，不斷繁榮，科學價值步步提高，內容日益豐富多采。

遠在公元前，先賢積千百年用藥經驗，撰《神農本草經》，奠定了中藥發展的基石，收藥 365 種，其書名寓意着對神農氏教民「農耕」、「嚐藥」之崇拜。

公元五世紀，陶弘景在南北朝梁政權支持下，增修《神農本草經》而成《本草經集注》，收藥倍增。唐高宗李治准蘇敬奏，詔令「天下圖上所產藥」，集 20 多位學者修定，增補撰成《新修本草》(659)，載藥 844 種，由政府頒行全國以為用藥之標準，被譽為中國第一部藥典。宋代諸帝多重本草之修定，多次詔令劉翰、蘇頌、艾晟、王繼先等名家，參考前代諸家本草，關注唐慎微《經史證類本草》，先後修定《開寶本草》(973)、《圖經本草》(1058)、《嘉祐本草》(1061)、《大觀本草》(1108)、《政和本草》(1116)、《紹興本草》(1159)，由皇帝詔令：「廣頒天下，傳而行焉」。明代皇帝詔令修定編撰《本草品彙精要》，彩繪藥圖 1358 幅；《補遺雷公炮炙便覽》，彩繪藥圖 1128 幅，其中炮炙 224 幅，特別卓著，惜未能於明代頒行。李時珍以個人之力，撰《本草綱目》，載藥 1892 種，繪圖 1109 幅，並附 11096 醫方，為學者所敬重。英國著名科學家李約瑟博士認為：「李時珍作為科學家，達到了同伽利略、維薩里的科學活動隔絕的任何人所能達到的最高水平」，並讚揚李時珍《本草綱目》是「中國博物學家中無冕之王」。

中華本草大家族中的地方本草也十分艷麗，其代表當首推宋王介彩繪杭州地方藥之《履巉岩本草》。生藥學家趙燏黃讚稱：「可謂丹青家之本草寫生鼻祖矣」。明代醫藥學家蘭茂，遍訪滇南各族，撰《滇南本草》，乃地方本草之又一盛舉。現代香港醫藥名家李甯漢等，三十年磨一劍，撰《香港中草藥大全》，載藥 800 多種，設計新穎，每藥首書正名、別名、拉丁名、漢語拼音、生境、性能、應用、彩攝藥圖，文皆中、英對照，內容豐富多采，實創地方本草之佼佼者。

有趣的是《香港中草藥》誕生之年，正是我 47 歲生日之時，巧合之緣分還有：多年後我有幸於中國中醫科學院中國醫史博物館接待李甯漢先生，並相繼拜讀《香港中草藥》各卷，獲益良多。更巧者，1984 年我應邀隨同中國科學家代表團，參加美國科學促進會 150 周年年會，會後拜訪哈佛大學胡秀英教授，她對我們編撰的《中醫大辭典》中藥等分冊，吳貽谷等編纂的《中藥大辭典》給予很高評價。胡教授 1986 年返港，鼎力支持《香港中草藥》編譯，《香港中草藥》等已成為我們心心相印的友誼媒介，三地間時時相互鼓舞。

李甯漢所長 2012 年 5 月 8 日，函告《香港中草藥》1-8 輯，全新增訂完稿，更名《香港中草藥大全》，按科屬重新排序，全彩色大開本出版，約我撰序，一時十分興奮，竟不顧自己思鈍筆拙之實際，欣然命筆，熱誠祝賀《香港中草藥大全》成為中華本草大家族又一顆熠熠明星。

李經緯

於中國中醫科學院
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Preface II

With more than two thousand years of long history, the big family of Chinese herbal medicine comprises as many as 860 schools of learning and embraces over 10,000 kinds of herbal medicine. The mainstream of the family was being renewed and amended generation after generation. Its contents continue to be enriched as the level of its scientific value is raised.

Long before the Christian era, sages compiled *Shen Nong's Herbal* after accumulating hundreds and thousands of years of medication experience. The book laid the cornerstone of the development of Chinese medicine. It incorporates 365 kinds of medicine and its name implies people's worship towards Shen Nong's teachings on "farming" and "herb tasting".

In the fifth century, during China's Northern and Southern Dynasties period, under the champion of Liang's Regime, Tao Hongjing amended *Shen Nong's Herbal* by doubling the number of herbs and formed *Variorum of Shen Nong's Classic of Materia Medica*. Li Zhi, the Emperor Tang Gaozong, approved the presentation by Su Jing and ordered over 20 scholars to gather "all information of herbal medicine from books throughout the country", to make amendments and to compile the *Newly Revised Materia Medica* (659 AD) which included 844 herbs. The book was issued to the whole country by the government as a medication standard and was acclaimed as China's first pharmacopoeia. In the Song Dynasty, many emperors placed heavy emphasis on the compilation of herbal materia medica. Edicts were issued to scholars, including Liu Han, Su Song, Ai Sheng, Wang Jixian, etc., to consult books from previous generations, such as the *Materia Medica from Historical Classics for Emergency* by Tang Shenwei and revised *Kai Bao Materia Medica* (973 AD), *Illustrated Canon of Materia Medica* (1058 AD), *Jia You Materia Medica* (1061 AD), *Classified Materia Medica* (1108 AD), *Zheng He Materia Medica* (1116 AD), *Shao Xing Materia Medica* (1159 AD). The Emperor ordered to "propagate the compiled works to the whole country and put them to use". The Ming emperors gave decrees to revise and compile the *Collected Essentials of Species of Materia Medica*, with 1,358 colour herbal paintings, *Supplement to Leigong's Method of Preparing Medicine*, with 1,128 colour herbal paintings, of which, the 224 paintings of Chinese Medicine Processing are especially outstanding. Unfortunately, it was unable to be issued in the Ming Dynasty.

Li Shizhen compiled the *Compendium of Materia Medica* all by himself and was respected by the scholars. The book contains 1,892 herbs, 1,109 paintings, together with 11,096 medical prescriptions. Dr. Joseph Needham, the renowned British scientist, considered that "as a scientist, Li Shizhen had reached the highest level among those who were isolated from the scientific activities of Galileo and Vesalius" and commended Li Shizhen's *Compendium of Materia Medica* as the "uncrowned king of Chinese naturalist".

Local herbal compilations also dazzle in the big family of Chinese herbal medicine. The best representative is undoubtedly the colour paintings of Hangzhou's local medicine in the book of *Luchanyan Materia Medica* made by Wang Jie of the Song Dynasty. "It could be described as the founder of Materia Medica sketch done by a calligrapher and painter", extolled pharmacognosist Zhao Yuhuang.