

## Veratrum Album

(Also known as False Hellebore, White Hellebore, European White Hellebore, White Veratrum). Liliaceae.

Hear No Evil (*Feigned Deafness*), See No Evil (*Feigned blindness*), Speak No Evil (*Feigned dumbness*)



Understanding a bit about the plant helps to grasp the pathology of its poison and also lends itself to getting a bit of a glimpse at this remedy's overall signature and essence. The root and the seeds are the most poisonous parts of the plant, containing strong steroidal alkaloids, chief among them veratridine and cevadine (veratrine), strong neurotoxins that act upon the sodium ion channels in cellular membranes, causing an increase in intracellular calcium concentrations. Both of these toxins are found in *Sabadilla*. Similar in its action to aconitine on peripheral nerve endings, it gives rise to numbness, tingling, and coldness (*icy cold skin, cyanosis*). It has direct action on muscular tissue, causing spasms of the intestines (*bloody, bilious, copious, watery stools*) and exaggerated contractions of the bladder (*constriction of the bladder and urethra*), uterus (*spasmodic labor-like pains, coldness, prolapsed, swollen, placenta previa*), and bronchioles (*asthma, constriction, spasms, bronchial inflammation, hemorrhage of the lungs, paralysis of the lungs*). These poisons also have a significant vasoconstrictive action, affecting pulmonary, coronary, and cerebral vessels. Its immediate effect on the heart is to slow it slightly, then quicken the pulse and increase systolic pressure and can cause rapid cardiac failure if ingested or taken into the bloodstream (*complaints of the heart after collapsed state, chest constriction, heart palpitations, angina pectoris, paralysis of the heart, heart failure, complaints of blood circulation, anemia, congestion of blood*). In skeletal muscles, veratrine acts to increase irritability of the muscles and increase their capacity for exertion (*Runs about, wandering, senseless roving*). It doesn't take very much at all for poisoning to be fatal. Strong coffee or other stimulants are used to antidote its effects.

Native Americans used the juice from the roots of this plant for poison arrows (*Hears drums which announce his execution*), and also were well aware of its birth-defect causing properties (*aborted pregnancy*). The dried powdered root of this plant was also used as an insecticide. *Veratrum* species are an important source of life-saving medications used in modern medical preparations which lower blood pressure and slow the heartbeat. Cycloamine (an alkaloid that is believed to cause one-eyed (cyclops) birth defects in lambs) derived from *Veratrum* species is reported to be a strong teratogen (anti-deformative) used as an allopathic treatment for several kinds of cancer.



The plant is least toxic in the winter months and is generally gathered during this time. It is most highly toxic during active growth stages. It prefers sunlight (*all is dark*) and deep, moist soils and is commonly found in swamps and along rivers and streams (*fear of water, suicidal disposition by drowning*).

The name of this species of plant

thought to be derived from the Latin Vere (truly) ater (black) (owing to the color of the root) or from the Latin verare, speaking the truth (interesting there is even rubrics that suggests this might be so: *blackened tongue root, Lies, - never speaks the truth, does not know what she is saying; untruthful.*

As might be expected with the name “False Hellebore”, Veratrum Album does not share much in common with Helleborus (approx. 700 very large, general rubrics, slightly over 10 percent of the remedy’s rubrics). Causative factors in the remedy are numerous, with many “ailments from” rubrics that are oddly not present in Sabadilla, a remedy it is often compared to and with which it shares several toxic substances. In fact, the remedy shares approximately 1500 rubrics with Sabadilla, among them being cruelty, feigning illness, religious affections, haughtiness, mania, and delusions of pregnancy – but none of the extremely religious symptoms of thinking oneself Christ or the Virgin Mary, talking to God, feigning deafness, blindness, or dumbness, etc. These symptoms are unique and belong to Veratrum Album.

Veratrum Album is in super-bold type for *Insolence* and *Desire for Salt*. Its religious affections, preaching, praying, and so forth are offset by despair of salvation, moroseness, wailing and moaning, and thinking oneself a criminal. There is a sexual, erotic and/or lewd element here as well and propensities for alcoholism which may well serve to deepen the fear of punishment from God. Nash sums up the remedy in a single word: collapse. He gives a grand keynote of cold sweats, regardless of illness, stating the whole body will be icy cold, and there will be cold sweat on the forehead. The skin will be wrinkled and blue, remaining tented when pinched up (dehydration, *fear of water*). Morrison describes the state as ‘hardened’ and states that the patient becomes more haughty and self-righteous as the pathology deepens, eventually ending the feverish manic, religiously delusional state for which the remedy is so well known.

Please see accompanying Veratrum Album illustration.

### Matthew 1:23

Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, “God with us.”

MIND - DELUSIONS - Mary; Virgin - she is  
MIND - DELUSIONS - labor or thinks she has pain; she pretends to be in

MIND - DELUSIONS - pregnant, she is  
MIND - FEIGNING - pregnancy

### Matthew 13:13

Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.

MIND - BLINDNESS pretended  
MIND - DEAFNESS, pretended  
MIND - DELUSIONS, - dumb, thinks he is  
MIND - DELUSIONS, - blind, that he is  
MIND - DELUSIONS, - deaf and dumb  
MIND - DELUSIONS, - hear, he thinks he cannot  
MIND - DELIRIUM - loquacious  
MIND - DELIRIUM - maniacal  
MIND - DELIRIUM - muttering

MIND - DELIRIUM - raging, raving  
MIND - DELUSIONS, - God, - that he is in communication with  
MIND - SPEECH, babbling - hasty  
MIND - LOQUACITY, religion, about  
MIND - MUTTERING absurd things  
MIND - MANIA, religious  
MIND - PREACHING, psychotic  
MIND - SMILING, foolish

### Ezekial 16:39

Then I will deliver you into the hands of your lovers, and they will tear down your mounds and destroy your lofty shrines. They will strip you of your clothes and take your fine jewelry and leave you naked and bare.

MIND - AILMENTS FROM - honor; wounded  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - love; disappointed  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - money; from losing  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - scorned; being  
MIND - DELUSIONS - criminals, about  
MIND - DELUSIONS - enemy - surrounded by enemies  
MIND - DELUSIONS - home, - thinks is away from  
MIND - DELUSIONS - misfortune - approaching; as if some misfortune were  
MIND - DELUSIONS - misfortune - inconsolable over imagined misfortune  
MIND - DELUSIONS - ruined - is ruined; he

MIND - DELUSIONS - thieves - frightened on waking and thinks dream is true; dreams of robbers  
MIND - DELUSIONS - thieves - seeing  
MIND - DELUSIONS - unfortunate, he is  
MIND - DESTRUCTIVENESS - of clothes - cuts them up  
MIND - DESTRUCTIVENESS - of clothes  
MIND - FEAR - robbers, of  
MIND - FEAR - misfortune, of  
MIND - FEAR - job, to lose his lucrative  
MIND - TEARS things  
VIOLENT - CHASES FAMILY OUT

### Malachi 4:1

For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.

MIND - SUICIDAL disposition - throwing himself - windows, from  
MIND - SUICIDAL disposition - drowning, by  
MIND - SUICIDAL disposition  
MIND - REMORSE  
MIND - LAMENTING, bemoaning, wailing, etc. (Compare Weeping)  
MIND - FORSAKEN feeling  
MIND - FEAR - evil of  
MIND - FEAR - death, of  
MIND - ESCAPE, attempts to - to run away  
MIND - ESCAPE, attempts to

MIND - DOUBTFUL, recovery, of - soul's welfare, of  
MIND - DESPAIR - religious (of salvation, etc.) - suppressed menses, during  
MIND - DESPAIR - religious (of salvation, etc.)  
MIND - DELUSIONS, - murdered, - that he would be  
MIND - DEATH, - presentiment of  
MIND - DEATH, - thoughts of  
MIND - COWARDICE  
MIND - ANXIETY - salvation, about  
MIND - ANXIETY - future, about  
MIND - ANXIETY - conscience, of (as if guilty of a crime)

### Malachi 4:2,3

But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the LORD of hosts.

MIND - DELUSIONS - vow - keep it, must  
MIND - DELUSIONS - Christ, himself to be  
MIND - DELUSIONS - heaven, is in  
MIND - DELUSIONS - heaven, is in - talking with God  
MIND - DELUSIONS, - rank, thinks himself a person of  
MIND - DELUSIONS, - distinguished

MIND - DELUSIONS, - proud  
MIND - DELUSIONS, - prince, is a  
MIND - SPITS in faces of people  
MIND - RECOGNIZE, - does not, - his relatives  
MIND - REPROACHES, - others  
MIND - HAUGHTY

## Bibliography

<http://www.henriettesherbal.com/eclectic/bpc1911/schoenocaulon.html>, White Hellebore Rhizome.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Three\\_Wise\\_Monkeys](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Three_Wise_Monkeys), Three Wise Monkeys.

Bible, King James Version

Morrison, Roger. Desktop Guide to Keynotes and Confirmatory Symptoms. Grass Valley: Hahnemann Clinic Publishing, 1993, pp 396 – 398.

Nash, E. B. Leaders in Homeopathic Therapeutics. New Delhi: B. Jain Publishers, 2002, pp 262 – 264.

RADAR Version 10, Using Schroyens Synthesis Treasure Edition and Kent's Repertory of the Materia Medica.

Vermeulen, Frans. Prisma. Second Edition. Haarlem: Emryss bv Publishers, 2002, pp 1399 – 1404.

## Appendix A

### VERATRUM ALBUM RUBRICS: Ultra BOLD (Rated 4) SX (Synthesis Treasure Edition)

MIND - INSOLENT  
GENERALS - FOOD and DRINKS - salt – desire

### VERATRUM ALBUM RUBRICS: AILMENTS-FROM, DELUSIONS, FEARS (Synthesis)

MIND - AILMENTS FROM - ambition - deceived  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - anger  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - anger - anxiety; with  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - anger - silent grief; with  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - anger - vehemence; with  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - anticipation  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - death of loved ones  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - death of loved ones - children; in  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - deceived; from being  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - disappointment  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - emotions  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - excitement - emotional  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - excitement - emotional - children are ill at certain moments  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - excitement - religious  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - fear  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - fright  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - fright - menses; during  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - grief  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - honor; wounded  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - love; disappointed  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - mental shock; from  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - money; from losing  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - mortification  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - neglected; being - father; by one's  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - quarrelling - father; with one's  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - scorned; being  
MIND - AILMENTS FROM - unhappiness  
MIND - DELUSIONS  
MIND - DELUSIONS - abroad, being  
MIND - DELUSIONS - animals  
MIND - DELUSIONS - anxious  
MIND - DELUSIONS - bells; hears ringing of  
MIND - DELUSIONS - blind; he is  
MIND - DELUSIONS - calls - someone calls  
MIND - DELUSIONS - cancer, has a  
MIND - DELUSIONS - Christ, himself to be  
MIND - DELUSIONS - crime - committed a crime; he had  
MIND - DELUSIONS - criminal, he is a  
MIND - DELUSIONS - criminals, about  
MIND - DELUSIONS - cursing, with  
MIND - DELUSIONS - deaf and dumb  
MIND - DELUSIONS - die - about to die; one was  
MIND - DELUSIONS - dirt, eating  
MIND - DELUSIONS - disease - deaf, dumb and has cancer; he is  
MIND - DELUSIONS - distinguished; he is  
MIND - DELUSIONS - dogs - sees  
MIND - DELUSIONS - doomed, being  
MIND - DELUSIONS - dumb, he is  
MIND - DELUSIONS - enemy - surrounded by enemies  
MIND - DELUSIONS - engaged - occupation; he is engaged in some  
MIND - DELUSIONS - fancy, illusions of  
MIND - DELUSIONS - figures - seeing figures - strange  
MIND - DELUSIONS - fire - world is on  
MIND - DELUSIONS - flying - must fly; as if he  
MIND - DELUSIONS - God - communication with God; he is in  
MIND - DELUSIONS - God - messenger from God; he is a  
MIND - DELUSIONS - great person, is a  
MIND - DELUSIONS - head - motion - within head were in motion; all  
MIND - DELUSIONS - hear, he cannot  
MIND - DELUSIONS - heaven, is in  
MIND - DELUSIONS - heaven, is in - talking with God  
MIND - DELUSIONS - home - away from home; he is  
MIND - DELUSIONS - house - own house; not being in one's  
MIND - DELUSIONS - hunter, he is a  
MIND - DELUSIONS - identity - errors of personal identity  
MIND - DELUSIONS - images, phantoms; sees  
MIND - DELUSIONS - influence; one is under a powerful  
MIND - DELUSIONS - intoxicated - is; he  
MIND - DELUSIONS - labor or thinks she has pain; she pretends to be in  
MIND - DELUSIONS - laughter, with  
MIND - DELUSIONS - loquacity, with  
MIND - DELUSIONS - Mary; Virgin - she is  
MIND - DELUSIONS - misfortune - approaching; as if some misfortune were  
MIND - DELUSIONS - misfortune - inconsolable over imagined misfortune  
MIND - DELUSIONS - murdered - will be murdered; he  
MIND - DELUSIONS - noise - hearing noise  
MIND - DELUSIONS - noise - making noise; delusions with  
MIND - DELUSIONS - people - conversing with absent people

MIND - DELUSIONS - people - seeing people  
MIND - DELUSIONS - possessed; being  
MIND - DELUSIONS - power - all-powerful; she is  
MIND - DELUSIONS - pregnant, she is  
MIND - DELUSIONS - prince; he is a  
MIND - DELUSIONS - proud  
MIND - DELUSIONS - pursued; he was  
MIND - DELUSIONS - rank; he is a person of  
MIND - DELUSIONS - religious  
MIND - DELUSIONS - ruined - is ruined; he  
MIND - DELUSIONS - scream - with screaming  
MIND - DELUSIONS - sick - being  
MIND - DELUSIONS - specters, ghosts, spirits  
MIND - DELUSIONS - squanders money  
MIND - DELUSIONS - strange - familiar things seem strange  
MIND - DELUSIONS - strange - land; as if in a strange  
MIND - DELUSIONS - suicide; impelled to commit  
MIND - DELUSIONS - thieves - frightened on waking and thinks dream is true; dreams of robbers  
MIND - DELUSIONS - thieves - seeing  
MIND - DELUSIONS - turn - everything turned - circle; in a  
MIND - DELUSIONS - unfortunate, he is  
MIND - DELUSIONS - visions, has  
MIND - DELUSIONS - visions, has - fantastic  
MIND - DELUSIONS - vivid  
MIND - DELUSIONS - voices - hearing  
MIND - DELUSIONS - vow - keep it, must  
MIND - DELUSIONS - walked - had walked; she - too far  
MIND - DELUSIONS - wealth, of  
MIND - DELUSIONS - whirled around - things - circle; in a  
MIND - DELUSIONS - words - think of words; she cannot  
MIND - DELUSIONS - work - hard; is working  
MIND - DELUSIONS - wrong - done wrong; he has  
MIND - DELUSIONS - Nose - longer; nose seems  
MIND - FEAR  
MIND - FEAR - morning  
MIND - FEAR - evening  
MIND - FEAR - night  
MIND - FEAR - alone, of being  
MIND - FEAR - apoplexy, of  
MIND - FEAR - apoplexy, of - stool, during  
MIND - FEAR - bad news; of hearing  
MIND - FEAR - black - everything  
MIND - FEAR - breath away; takes  
MIND - FEAR - cancer; of  
MIND - FEAR - chill, during  
MIND - FEAR - damned, of being  
MIND - FEAR - death, of  
MIND - FEAR - death, of - cholera asiatica; during  
MIND - FEAR - death, of - heat, during  
MIND - FEAR - death, of - menses - during  
MIND - FEAR - death, of - perspiration, during  
MIND - FEAR - diarrhea - fear; with  
MIND - FEAR - diarrhea - from  
MIND - FEAR - disease, of impending  
MIND - FEAR - doctors  
MIND - FEAR - dogs, of  
MIND - FEAR - driving him from place to place  
MIND - FEAR - escape; with desire to  
MIND - FEAR - evil; fear of  
MIND - FEAR - fright - previous fright; because of a  
MIND - FEAR - full of fear  
MIND - FEAR - imaginary - things; of imaginary  
MIND - FEAR - insanity  
MIND - FEAR - job, to lose his lucrative  
MIND - FEAR - menses - during  
MIND - FEAR - misfortune, of  
MIND - FEAR - poisoned - being poisoned; fear of  
MIND - FEAR - robbers, of  
MIND - FEAR - social position; about his  
MIND - FEAR - starting, with  
MIND - FEAR - stool - involuntary stool; of - flatus or urinating; when passing  
MIND - FEAR - stool - involuntary stool; of - green, gushing, exhausting  
MIND - FEAR - terror  
MIND - FEAR - tremulous  
MIND - FEAR - vexation; after  
MIND - FEAR - water, of