

– News Update –

American Herbal Pharmacopoeia®
and Therapeutic Compendium
Standards of Analysis, Quality Control, and Therapeutics

April 23, 2010

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AHP Releases Monograph Standards on *Echinacea angustifolia* Root (*Echinacea angustifolia* DC.)

"...the most comprehensive piece of literature on this species. Congratulations on a fabulous job."—Steven Foster, Author, Botanist, Botanical Photographer

The American Herbal Pharmacopoeia® (AHP), a California-based non-profit research organization, has released its quality control standards and therapeutic compendium for the popular botanical dietary supplement *Echinacea angustifolia* Root (*Echinacea angustifolia* DC.) Each monograph establishes national standards for assuring authenticity, purity, and quality control of the monographed botanical. Accompanying the standards is the AHP Therapeutic Compendium which provides a complete and critical review of the pharmacological and safety data currently available, including information on pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, actions, medical indications, historical and modern and traditional use, structure and function claims, dosages, interactions, side effects, contraindications, toxicology, and more.

Adulterations in the Echinacea market have been commonplace historically, occurring as early as the early 1900s. Some of the adulterants have included other plant species like *Parthenium integrifolium*, while most common is a mixing up of several species. For example, *E. angustifolia* may be mixed or completely substituted with *E. pallida* or *E. atrorubens*, or aerial parts may be mixed with roots. The *Echinacea angustifolia* monograph, along with AHP's other monographs on *E. purpurea aerial* and *E. purpurea root*, provides methods for differentiating between the primary adulterating species both physically and chemically. According to noted botanical photographer, botanist, and renowned expert on *Echinacea*, Steven Foster; "I just

received your *Echinacea angustifolia* monograph and consider it the most comprehensive piece of literature on this species. Congratulations on a fabulous job."

A monograph for *E. pallida* is currently out for peer review with a projected release in Summer 2010. *Echinacea angustifolia* and the other *Echinacea* monographs can be ordered http://www.herbal-ahp.org/order_online.htm Accompanying AHP-Verified Botanical Reference Materials and prices are listed at http://www.herbal-ahp.org/bot_ref.htm