



CONTACT DERMATITIS AND OCCUPATIONAL DERMATOSES

## **BULLOUS PHOTOTOXIC CONTACT DERMATITIS CAUSED BY DICTAMNUS ALBUS**

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A bullous phototoxic reaction occurred on the arms of a 62-year-old woman after working in the garden with the plant *Dictamnus albus*. Lesions on the skin were looked like flowers with five petals.

*Dictamnus* is a genus of flowering plant in the family Rutaceae, with a single species, *Dictamnus albus*, which has several geographical variants. It is also known as burning bush, gas plant, and fraxinella. The name "burning bush" derives from the volatile oils produced by the plant, which can catch fire readily in hot weather, leading to comparisons with the burning bush of the Bible. Possible causes of the phototoxic reaction are 5- and 8-methoxypsoralen, perhaps also photodynamically active alkaloid of the plant as well as sun-ray exposure.

The most interesting is that *Dictamnus albus* causes bullous phototoxic reaction which appears on the skin by the imitation of the shape of itself (the flower).

A few photos document skin lesions and dimensionally identical parts of the dried plant.

