

S45-3 The history of the Nippon Shinyaku Institute for Botanical Research

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Soon after the company foundation in 1919, Nippon Shinyaku Co., Ltd started the project for domestic production of Santonin, an anti-parasite agent for roundworms, whose production was severely restricted in Russia in those days. In 1927, we discovered a new santonin containing plant (*Artemisia maritima*) in Europe and named this plant "Mibu-yomogi" after the place of our Headquarters in Kyoto. In 1934, Yamashina Experimental Farm was established in Yamashina, a southern part of Kyoto, for the pupose of breeding of Mibu-yomogi for santonin production. In 1953 this Experimental Farm was re-organized to the Nippon Shinyaku Institute for Botanical Research in order to continue the breeding of Mibu-yomogi and to develop new midicines from medicinal plants. In 1994 this institute was re-named into "Botanical Museum" in Japanese and opened to the public under the reservation-system.

By the breeding investigation of santonin containing plants, we developed an great breed "Yamashina No.2" for santonin production and two suplendid crossbreeds by artificial breeding. As a result of R & D of medicinal plants, we have still 4 kinds of ethical drugs. Through this background, we will show an example of a botanical garden owned by a pharmaceutical company.