

# Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP)

Have you ever smelled mint, applied aloe vera gel, or heard your grandparents talk about herbal medicines? What if we told you that there is a place in India where scientists work every day to unlock the secrets of such plants? That place is the **Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP)**.



## CIMFR - Building and Products

CIMAP was established in **1959** and is located in **Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh**. It works under the **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)**, one of India's top scientific bodies. The main goal of CIMAP is to research **medicinal plants** (plants that help cure diseases) and **aromatic plants** (plants that give pleasant fragrances and essential oils).

At CIMAP, scientists are like nature explorers. They study how plants grow, what useful chemicals they contain, and how these chemicals can be used in medicines, cosmetics, perfumes, and health products. By using modern sciences such as biology, chemistry, and biotechnology, CIMAP develops improved plant varieties that grow faster, yield higher yields, and are more resistant to pests and diseases.

Some famous plants improved by CIMAP include **mint (mentha), tulsi, ashwagandha, aloe vera, lemongrass, and vetiver**. Today, farmers across India grow these plants using CIMAP's methods. This helps farmers earn more money and provides raw materials for herbal medicines and wellness products used in India and abroad. In this way, CIMAP connects science directly to people's lives.

CIMAP also plays an important role in protecting **traditional knowledge**, such as Ayurveda, while testing it scientifically to make it safer and more reliable. The institute works closely with industries to turn laboratory research into real products we use every day.

For students, CIMAP is inspiring because it shows that science is not just about textbooks and exams; it is about solving real world problems. It teaches us that plants are powerful, science is creative, and research can help both people and the planet.

