

3.2.2.4.4 Tongkat ali

3.2.2.4.4.1 Legitimate tongkat ali

Many people are worried whether a website they consider sells genuine tongkat ali or fakes.

While I do not make recommendations for specific sellers, I do reply if people ask me whether a certain site is legitimate or selling shit.

On the other hand, everybody can make a quick check on his or her own.

By far the best indication for a genuine source is proper photographic evidence.

A genuine company, with a genuine product, will usually have proper photographic documentation on their website. This should include some photos of their premises and building structures, some photos on their raw products, photos of the production process, and photographic evidence for their stock and distribution claims.

On the other hand, some sites simply integrate stolen photos of huge lab facilities that are not theirs at all. A genuine company that publishes photos will make sure that its name is visible in the photos.

The following are NOT proof of a legitimate operation:

1.) Licenses – The only relevant license for an Indonesian source is a “Nomor Depkes”. All other licenses only serve the purpose of bullshitting potential fraud victims.

2.) Fabricated certificates of analysis – a certificate of analysis is only credible if it comes from an independent lab. If it is written by the manufacturer itself, it’s plain window-dressing.

Sometimes I am really surprised how easily buyers on the Internet fall victim to frauds. What would stop those who set up a website with fake documentation to sell a fake product, cooked up of some leaves and tree debris from the nearest park? You guessed it. Nothing.

3.2.2.4.4.2 Tongkat ali, the world's new most valuable plant

There have been times in the human history of the past 500 years when countries that now are considered Third World basket cases where actually baskets of wealth.

Sometimes, these baskets of wealth were self-administrated, and sometimes, the beneficiaries were colonial powers.

But always, the wealth was generated by highly valuable plants.

Example, the Caribbeans.

In the second half of the 18th century, Haiti was one of the richest places on earth, entirely due to the production of sugar.

"Haiti ... was the richest colony in the entire world. Economists estimate that in the 1750s Haiti provided as much as 50% of the Gross National Product of France."

Bob Corbett, webster.edu, Why is Haiti so poor?

A Google search for the keywords "Haiti richest colony" will bring up numerous references to attest to this fact. And if you have the time for well-researched historical novels, you may enjoy the topic in Michener's "Caribbean".

It was a similar story with rubber for the Brazilian Amazon basin before the English bio-pirate Henry Wickam smuggled 70,000 tree seeds out of Brazil in 1876 to establish rubber plantations in British-owned Malaysia.

End of the 19th century, Manaus, the biggest urbanity in the Amazon basin, was one of the richest cities of the world, entirely owed to the Example, the Caribbeans. rubber sap.

Some 200 hundred years earlier, in the second half of the 17th century, it were the Indonesian spice islands that financed much of the Dutch political power of that era. By 1669, the Dutch East India Company, VOC, was the richest company the world had ever seen, with an own private army of 10,000 soldiers and its own fleet of warships.

Well, if there ever will again be a wealth record based on plants from Third World countries, then Indonesia and Malaysia will probably again have a role in it.

But this time it won't be rubber or spices.

For the most likely candidate is tongkat ali, the tree with the scientific name *Eurycoma longifolia*, which apparently possesses the magic power to turn every man into a hybrid of Arnold Schwarzenegger (see youtube video here), musclewise, and Casanova, libidowise ... and to prevent and cure all kinds of cancers, even cervical ones (not Arnold's).

I recommend the Indonesian government guards its borders well, so that this time, tongkat ali seeds won't be smuggled to Brazil... or even Haiti.

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3.2.2.4.4.3 Tongkat ali inhibits aromatase and phosphodiesterase

Recent research has now explained how tongkat ali (scientific name: *Eurycoma longifolia*) has the double benefit of making sex better and increasing muscle mass. The trick is achieved by tongkat ali inhibiting the action of two enzymes, aromatase and phosphodiesterase.

A proper scientific study can be read here:

Eurycomanone, the major quassinoid in *Eurycoma longifolia* root extract increases spermatogenesis by inhibiting the activity of phosphodiesterase and aromatase in steroidogenesis

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0378874113004431>

Steroidogenesis is the body's own production of testosterone.

Scientific studies are often no easy texts, even for intelligent people, if they are not specifically educated in the field of the particular research. But there is no way around scientific studies. Any claims towards pharmaceutical action that are not supported by scientific studies are likely just bullshit.

Any I view it as one of my tasks to refer to scientific research and elaborate on its impacts.

Scientifically minded bodybuilders know very well that aromatase is an enzyme that converts testosterone into estrogen. Testosterone builds muscle, and estrogen builds breasts while inhibiting muscle growth.

Because aromatase converts testosterone into estrogen, a potential side effect of anabolic steroids is gynecomastia, the development of female breast tissue in men. Among bodybuilders, this is simply called gyno.

Some bodybuilders take anabolic steroids, others don't. There is no doubt that anabolic steroids have a dramatic effect on muscle mass. They also have side effects, which is why they are prescription drugs. And gyno is one of these side effects.

To combat the side effects of anabolic steroids, scientifically minded bodybuilders have been taking tongkat ali extract alongside anabolic steroids for many years. The scientific study referred to above indicates that they got it right.

And it's not just that tongkat ali inhibits aromatase. It also stops another enzyme unwanted by modern men: phosphodiesterase

Phosphodiesterase is what reduces the manliness of men of advancing age. It makes them infertile and impotent. Pfizer's Blue and Lilly's Beige are common phosphodiesterase inhibitors, and by inhibiting phosphodiesterase, these drugs allow even old men to continue to have erections. Not only erections, but also children. Because phosphodiesterase not only interferes with erections but also shuts down sperm production and shrinks testicles. And tongkat ali, by inhibiting phosphodiesterase and aromatase, does it all: build muscle, increase sexual desire, improve erectile function, heighten sexual joy, and amend fertility. And for all these benefits, tongkat ali itself is largely free of side effects. If the tongkat ali is genuine, that is.

90 percent of what is sold as tongkat ali is actually tribulus terrestris, or Chinese white powders blended with tribulus terrestris, usually in Singapore.

I find it just amazing how willing people are to send money to some eBay or Amazon sellers who sell shit and claim it's tongkat ali, without any reference to the source of their product, and even without a single tongkat ali photo.

My advice is: buy a genuine, government-approved tongkat ali extract, or just go without tongkat ali.

Genuine tongkat ali extract, sure, is not cheap, but it's worth its costs for those who can afford it.

3.2.2.4.4.4 Tongkat ali and kacip fatimah

Better sex, more muscle... this is what tongkat ali can do for you. Provided you buy it from a legitimate source that doesn't sell you an outright fake or grossly under-dosed product.

To avoid being cheated by an online con artist selling fake tongkat ali extract, just do a Google search for: tongkat ali scam. You may also want to avoid a product that uses stearic acid or stearates. To be sure, just do a Google search: tongkat ali stearic.

And then, better take an Indonesian product, as a large number of Malaysian ones have been shown to be contaminated with mercury and other heavy metals. Again, just google: tongkat ali heavy metals

If you buy a Indonesian product, just make sure it is not connected to the indonesiaherbals scam that has been widely reported in Indonesian newspapers.

While men in Southeast Asia have traditionally been using tongkat ali to increase their virility, women in Southeast Asia have always relied on kacip fatima to keep pace with their men. On the other hand, women who want a stronger effect can also use tongkat ali, typically at half the male dosage.

Without doubt, in Southeast Asia love and sex are regarded as natural pleasure (for men and women) much more clearly, and more directly, than in Europe or North America. Here you still have matrilinear societies (such as the Minang on Sumatra), a kind of Islam (on Java) that encourages pre-marital love (though "officially" not pre-marital sex), societies where sexual relationships of older men and older women with much younger partners are socially accepted, and where sexual details until now are openly discussed in villages.

While both tongkat ali and kacip fatima both raise free testosterone, tongkat ali is the stronger of the two.

Men and women in Southeast Asia have long regarded it as an art and a science to improve their sexual function, or to bring it back to youthful levels when there has been an age-related decline.

Asians use many herbs for their sexual effects, and even herbs with rather distinct efficacies are traded openly. In Indonesia, for example, herbal mixtures such as “Galian Rapat” are sold at many cigarette booths. The name means “narrow cavity”, or, more specifically, “narrow vagina”, a condition considered conducive to sexual pleasure. A common ingredient is kacip fatima. Other are sirih leaves.

Whether the female primary sexual organ is in an optimal condition after the consumption of kacip fatima, and whether women experience heightened sexual pleasure by using the herbal (as they have done for hundreds of years) is a matter sufficiently important to the Malaysian government to finance interdisciplinary scientific research into kacip fatima. And the Malaysian government has a stake in the medical, pro-sexual use of tongkat ali for men as well.

As a long-term user of tongkat ali, I have considerable trust in Southeast Asian herbal medications. Even though kacip fatima is considered primarily a herb for women, and even though I am a man, I have tried it a few times and can attest to the herb’s pro-libido effects. The effect of a few leaves, boiled as a tea, is a mixture of sympathetic and parasympathetic stimuli, with the parasympathetic effects being dominant. Among the parasympathetic effects are nasal sinus stimulation resulting in a stuffed nose, as I also feel it from dopaminergic medications, and yes, increased blood flow to the groin. The primary sympathetic effect is a slightly increased heart rate.

3.2.2.4.4.5 Con artist tricks in the tongkat ali retail trade

Con artists (an abbreviation of confidence artists) cheat their victims by first building up confidence. They don't have to poke a gun at their victims' chests to make them hand over the cash. Victims do that willingly because they believe the predator.

One nowadays can easily avoid being cheated with tongkat ali, just by being better informed. Search Google for tongkat ali cheats or tongkat ali scams, and you will find relevant leads.

One trick in the arsenal of con artists is to tell their prospective victims that any financial transaction can be reverted. They give a "money back guarantee". They may even ride on Ebay's buyer protection scheme.

So, why do con artists in the tongkat ali retail trade typically issue a "money back guarantee"?

Because it's low risk. Because it comes with conditions that are a real turn off, so that this "money back guarantee" is never used by people with some money sense, even if they are not happy with their purchase?

Let's say, the purchase was for tongkat ali in the amount of 100 US dollar from a source in Southeast Asia.

Let's say the buyer has serious doubt as to whether he received a genuine product.

Let's say he demands a refund as promised in the ad lines of the con artist.

So what will the con artist reply: yes, if you are unhappy with the product, please send back any unopened bottle, and upon return, we will issue a refund?

Oops, send back the product first? And only unopened bottles, if there are any. Sending the product, or, rather, unopened portions, will be work.

It means, going to a post office or a courier counter. It means, transportation time and costs, time spent on packaging and addressing, and then the postal or courier charges.

And all of that for a promised promised partial refund that may or may not arrive?

Even if no handling fee is applied by the con artist, he may still let the refunded buyer pay the charges of the transfer. In the end it won't be worthwhile.

Because, when you count all in, the costs of getting a refund are higher than the money you finally get back (if you get any at all).

Requesting that a product is sent back is just harassing customers in order to make them forego on the refund.

For what do they want an opened bottle of tongkat ali capsules returned anyway? Sell it to somebody else?

Does your local pharmacy buy back opened packages of heart medications or antibiotics?

Come on! People take medicines and herbal supplements to improve their health. These are potentially potent chemical substances. One does not want to mess with returned products which may have degraded or, even worse, willfully contaminated.

Apart from that, it's probably anyway illegal in most constituencies to resell returned medicines. They would have to be destroyed.

So, it's obvious: all this talk of "money back guarantee" is just a tool to capture the confidence of prospective buyers. Genuine enterprises do not play such games.

3.2.2.4.4.6 Tongkat ali scam with forged and irrelevant government licenses

One tongkat ali scam currently making its rounds is to trick people out of their money by presenting forged or irrelevant licenses of the Indonesian government, as well as forged lab tests.

Irrelevant licenses are, for example, licenses pertaining to a business registration.

Indonesia is a Western democracy, with many rules equivalent to those of Western countries.

This means everybody of legal age can walk into the concerned municipal office and register a business. In Germany, such a document is called Gewerbeschein, and it is issued in 20 minutes.

Even street vendors of newspapers need to have such a Gewerbeschein, and so do drug-addicted youth selling their hand-made jewelery.

It's the same in Indonesia which still follows the old Dutch codes in many matters of trade.

The following licenses are issued to any Indonesian who applies for them:

SIUP - Surat Izin Usaha Perdagangan - general business permit; every Indonesian business obtains this simply by request

TDP - Tanda Daftar Perusahaan - business registration; just a fancy registration receipt

HO - Surat Izin Gangguan - a permit to cause disturbance; every Indonesian business has this

Akte Pendirian Usaha - a simple notarized form of business registration

It may not be as quick as in Germany, but all of the above are a mere formality, and cost only nominal fees.

Any Indonesian website selling tongkat ali that tries to project an image of legality and credibility by publishing such irrelevant documents on their website is taking consumers for a ride... and it's likely to be an expensive ride for the mislead buyer, both financially and in terms of the damage done to his or her health.

The single relevant license that an Indonesian business selling tongkat ali must possess is a Nomor Depkes.

The Nomor Depkes is a product-specific registration code that permits a product to be sold as medicine or traditional medicine.

Any buyer of any tongkat ali product originating from Indonesia, or claiming to originate from Indonesia, should demand from the vendor the Nomor Depkes. If the vendor cannot provide this, it is obvious that the product is a fake, and most likely a dangerous one on top of that.

Now, if a supplier comes up with a Nomor Depkes, feel free to write to me. You may want to do this because some illegitimate distributors just usurp a Nomor Depkes from a legitimate sources, and I can show you how to find out.

Furthermore, I have seen documents in the name of a woman who has been named after the city of Medan. These documents misrepresented a large production facility belonging to "Sumatra Pasak Bumi" as belonging to her and her outfit, established just a few month ago.

Buyer beware. It doesn't take much computer knowledge to forge scans of documents, or jpgs stolen from other websites.

If ever you want graphic proof of how authentic a company is, look for photos. Photos are not as easy to manipulate as are scans of "licenses". Any genuine company will include on their website photos of their buildings, their staff, their raw materials, and their production processes.

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3.2.2.4.4.7 Tongkat ali Wikipedia spam

Wikipedia is an excellent source of information. We often use it to research on countries, history, scientific problems, and languages.

Yes, it is an excellent source of information. But not on tongkat ali. The entry is just full of spam. Better search Google scholar for more than 10,000 scientific articles on tongkat ali. The scientific name of the plant is *Eurycoma longifolia*. To discover tongkat ali scams or cheats, search these terms in normal Google.

If the topic is not tainted by commercial interests.

Once there are commercial interests, you can't trust Wikipedia.

Take the search terms "tongkat ali" and "eurycoma longifolia" as example.

Malaysian tongkat ali traders are notorious for spamming Wikipedia. Their practices include:

- * Renaming references to tongkat ali into references to their own products.
- * Claims that there is a difference between Malaysian tongkat ali species and the tongkat ali species of other countries, suggesting some undefined benefits towards using Malaysian tongkat ali, rather than Indonesian or Chinese tongkat ali.
- * Claims that all the relevant tongkat ali research was done by Malay scientists, when in fact most were Chinese.
- * The removal of references critical of Malaysian tongkat ali products, for example because of the heavy metal contamination of Malaysian tongkat ali (which, indeed, has been pointed out by Malaysian scientists).

For all the above reasons, readers should consume Wikipedia information on tongkat ali with caution.

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Volume 44, Issue 8, August 2006, Pages 1245-1250

3.2.2.4.4.8 Tongkat ali purchase rules

The active ingredients are present in tongkat ali root in miniscule amounts. Used in the traditional manner (in Malaysia and Indonesia), for a typical single standard dose, one needs a full 50 gram of chipped root, boiled for about 5 minutes. That means: more than 10 kg of raw root per month, or even double that much for body builders. But what is sold in health food stores and as tongkat ali health supplement often only provides less than a half gram of tongkat ali root powder per capsule. Of such a product, one would have to swallow more than 100 capsules to get a single effective dose.

Because tongkat ali root is mostly cellulose, purchase rule 1 is: if you buy capsules, only buy tongkat ali extract, not just tongkat ali.

When an extract is made, the active ingredients are extracted from the root, and the remaining cellulose is discarded. Extracts can have various proportions (the amount of active ingredients that is extracted). For example, an extract that is 1:50 gets 1 gram of active ingredients from 50 gram of tongkat ali root. An extract that is 1:100 uses 100 gram of root to produce 1 gram of extract, and a 1:200 extract is even more concentrated. It needs 200 gram of tongkat ali root to prepare just 1 gram of extract. Thus, among the various tongkat ali extracts cited above, 1:200 is the most concentrated and strongest form.

However, if a bottle of capsules just says “Tongkat Ali Extract”, without specifying a proportion, then the extract is likely only 1:5, or maybe even only 1:2. This means that only 5, or just 2, gram of tongkat ali root were used to obtain 1 gram of extract. Thus, assuming an equal capsule size, you would need 40 capsules (or, at worst 100 capsules) of such a tongkat ali extract of unspecified strength to obtain as much active ingredient as you can get from just one capsule of 1:200 extract.

Therefore, purchase rule 2 is: only buy an extract that specifies the concentration, 1:50, 1:100, or 1:200. Otherwise, your extract is likely to be so diluted that you are still mostly swallowing cellulose, not active ingredients. Legally, even an extract of 1:2 can be called an extract. But it's almost as bad as root powder. When extract strength is not specified, the whole extraction process was undertaken only so that "extract" could be written on the label of the product.

Even worse are products that mix tongkat ali with other ingredients, such as arginine, damiana, muira puama, or minerals such as zinc. Arginine, you can buy at 20 dollars a kilo, and that's enough for something like 4000 capsules, and damiana is a grass that typically isn't extracted. Most minerals in capsule form are just pharmaceutical junk.

Thus, purchase rule 3 is: if you want to use tongkat ali, buy a product that is not mixed with anything else.

When consumed in proper therapeutic amounts, tongkat ali extract not only works to enhance libido (sexual desire), but also causes increased muscle growth in bodybuilding athletes. Both efficacies have been established in scientific research.

For example, the British Journal of Sports Medicine reported that the use of tongkat ali extract caused a 5 % increase in lean body mass in 5 weeks. The result was obtained in a double-blind placebo controlled scientific trial for a treatment group, while in a control group, no significant changes were observed. 5 % in 5 weeks is a large improvement, as becomes obvious if one calculates it over a course of a year (5 weeks ' 5 %; 52 weeks 50 %). The authors conclude: "The results suggest that water soluble extract of *Eurycoma longifolia* Jack increased fat free mass, reduced body fat, and increased muscle strength and size, and thus may have an ergogenic effect."

The abstract of the clinical trial with healthy men can be read at the website of the British Journal of Sports Medicine:

<http://bjsm.bmjournals.com/cgi/content/full/37/5/464>

To check for the abstract, you will have to scroll down on the page with the above URL. The abstract that covers tongkat ali's effect on bodybuilding has the number 007.

Purchase rule 4 is: if ever possible, buy Thai or Indonesian, not Malaysian tongkat ali.

Of course, genuine tongkat ali root is expensive. In Malaysia where tongkat ali meanwhile is a protected plant, they sell a kg of root (2.2 lbs) for up to 50 US dollars. Prices in Indonesia are much lower.

A considerable number of Malaysian tongkat ali products have been intercepted and taken off the shelves by the authorities of several countries for containing bootleg Pfizer's Blue or Lilly's Beige. Instead of purchasing a healthier alternative to prescription drugs, many of those who have used Malaysian tongkat ali not only were fed synthetic chemicals. The synthetic chemicals weren't even produced in a licensed manufacturing unit but cooked up in kitchen labs.

As if stretching with synthetic chemicals weren't enough, Malaysian tongkat ali root also often is contaminated with lead. This is a result of the rapid industrialization the country has experienced over the past decade or two, when it was one of the world's fastest growing economies. Until very recently, the Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur were the highest buildings in the world (an expression of Malaysian industrial pride), and even though it has a population of just 20 million inhabitants, Malaysia has a lot of heavy industry. It even produces its own brands of cars, trucks, motorcycles ' an achievement that countries of comparative size even in Europe can't match.

The downside of rapid industrialization: the lead content of a good number Malaysian tongkat ali products has been found to range from 10.64 to 20.72 ppm (parts per million). For comparison, the Indonesian company Sumatra Pasak Bumi has published laboratory test results showing that their own tongkat ali has a lead content of just 0.08 ppm . This means that every gram of the Malaysian tongkat ali named in the abstract of a scientific study (see link below) contained up to 250 times the amount of lead found in Indonesian tongkat ali.

The scientific study, which established these data, was published in the scientific journal Human & Experimental Toxicology, issue of August 2003. An abstract of the study can be read at the following URL:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/02772240500382589>

3.2.2.9.4.9 Tongkat ali reliably cures migraines

I have always been amazed by the versatility of tongkat ali.

No other herb has such a wide array of applications.

Sure, tongkat ali enhances male sexuality. That is what tongkat ali is most famous for.

And this is not a small matter. If we have solved all problems of daily life, and are of perfect health, then life still isn't worthwhile if we can't have great sex.

So, tongkat ali is for perfectly healthy people. For those who just do not get enough kick out of sex, and for those with vanity concerns such as bodybuilders and penis enlargers. Genuine tongkat ali surely helps them.

But tongkat ali is effective, too, in people who are ill. Tongkat ali has been studied, with positive results, in many conditions as different as high blood pressure and cervical cancer.

But it is not these diseases for which tongkat ali is the most impressive cure.

Most astonishing is that tongkat ali cures migraines and other persistent headaches.

I myself have suffered from migraines for decades. Until I mentioned this to the manager of the company where I regularly purchase my high-potency extract.

"Migraines?" he asked. "Nothing is easier cured by tongkat ali than migraines," he said.

On the other hand, I had been taking tongkat ali for sexual enhancement, with great success of course, but my migraines had not disappeared.

"Wrong regimen," he explained. And that is how I learned the importance of following dietary guidelines with tongkat ali.

These dietary guidelines are exhaustive, about 10 printed pages, and they incorporate a lot of traditional knowledge from hundreds of years of human usage.

After the conversation with the manager of the site where I order my tongkat ali, I observed the guidelines to the letter... not just any tongkat ali dietary guidelines but the set specific to migraine sufferers.

And during on-cycles, I haven't had a single migraine attack since. They do still occur during off-cycles, but are never severe.

Certainly, tongkat ali washes out dirty chemicals like tyramine from my bloodstream so these chemicals do not exert their disturbing effect on my cranial blood vessels.

To migraine sufferers, that is for sure, tongkat ali, combined with the time-tested knowledge how to properly use it for this condition, is a God-sent.

3.2.2.4.4.10 Miserable taste, but not tongkat ali (because it's kratom)

Finally, after the drug fakers, the narcotics traffickers have also entered the tongkat ali market, and they try to go mainstream.

eBay is of help.

You can check for yourself (as long as it hasn't been taken off). I also keep a large collection of printscreens... for documentation purposes, and as proof for what I write.

The link between the narcotics traffickers and tongkat ali is an opiate analogue named kratom. ^[1]

This drug is native to Southeast Asia. In Thailand and China, it is legally treated the same as heroin, and the possession of quantities beyond certain small limits is considered trafficking and punished with the death penalty.

It is also scheduled as a narcotic drug in Australia and an increasing number of other countries.

However, in many other constituencies, the law is still silent on kratom, simply because the drug is not (yet) known and not (yet) circulated to teenage target groups.

But kratom displays all the characteristics of opiate drugs, including causing addiction and severe withdrawal symptoms.

On the other hand, some characteristics of kratom are even more vicious than those of poppy opiates. Among these is the fact that it is both a stimulant and a sedative. This means that it affords narcotics traders the opportunity to build up addictions in people who initially consume it as a coffee-like substance, or in the belief that they are ingesting tongkat ali.

Tongkat ali is neither a sedative nor a stimulant. If some users complain that they can't sleep after taking tongkat ali, and if the tongkat ali is from a dubious source (such as a Ebay trader rather than an established company), these users have good reason to suspect that their "tongkat ali" is something containing kratom.

Tongkat ali extract, especially 1:200 extract, has a long history of being forged and laced with chemicals and substances like kratom.

The reason is: tongkat ali is rare and expensive. Furthermore, to make a high-potency extract is a strenuous task, taking (from root to extract) at least 2 weeks in cycles of soaking, simmering, sharp reheating (to sterilized) than more soaking and evaporating, until a dry result is obtained. All of this is economically viable only if production is on a large scale.

On the other hand, an "extract" based on crushed foliage (as it may be collected from the ground of any city park) can be prepared in a home kitchen on a gas stove within a few hours.

Of course, if it's just that, people will complain that it has no effect.

Now, pharmaceutical fakers who target elderly men with their "tongkat ali" get around this problem by lacing their concoctions with Pfizer's Blue or Pfizer's Blue analogues (chemicals similar to Pfizer's Blue, but entirely untested in humans).^[2]

This kind of "tongkat ali" facilitates erections, so traders can claim that it works.

Numerous such fake tongkat ali products have been pulled off the shelves by the FDA and comparative government agencies in other countries (see the Wikipedia entry on *Eurycoma longifolia* for references).^[3]

But now, with narcotics traders entering the market, it's going to be a case for the DEA,^[4] not the FDA.

As mentioned above, it's the branch of narcotics traders dealing in kratom who have discovered tongkat ali.

Why? Possibly because of some unique features, kratom and tongkat ali have in common. The extremely miserable taste, for example.

Furthermore, largely erroneous reports have been circulating on the Internet for some time as to tongkat ali causing sleeplessness and over-agitation.

Low-dose kratom has these characteristics, but not tongkat ali.

Tongkat ali has the power to boost testosterone levels back to youthful (useful) levels.

Aging men can remember how they felt when their testosterone levels were higher. They had more energy, were easier to excite, especially sexually.

But constantly agitated? That's not even pleasant.

Anyway, testosterone is released, and exerts it's effect, in pulses, not as a continuous state. We feel testosterone as a rage of anger, or as a wave of sexual excitement, not as a persistent high.

However, narcotics traffickers are used to a client that wants to feel doped. A client that wants an immediate mental response. Who want to feel certain that they have taken something.

And that is much easier to achieve with kratom than with genuine tongkat ali. That is why they claim that their tongkat ali is more powerful. Of course it is more powerful. After all, it's a narcotic drug, not an adaptogen.

The reaction, of course, depends on the concoction and the amount of kratom leaves mixed into it.

A low amount will just feel like a few cups of tea, a degree of agitation that may even be comfortable.

A larger quantity will be more yohimbine-like.

But one feature that sets kratom apart from theobromine and yohimbine is the addicting character. And, of course, the opiate-style dreamworld of higher dosages (but these will seldom be reached by users who are in the belief that they are consuming tongkat ali).

So, with kratom, the narcotics traffickers have an item that is easy to sell as tongkat ali because of the miserable taste, an item that people feel as agitation (which uneducated users may interpret as testosterone-modulated), plus something that causes people to come back for more (because it's addicting).

It's also something to make money with, because of the high price of the genuine product.

Quite ideal for narcotics traffickers who want to expand their markets beyond that of youngsters looking for a kick. Libido-deprived seniors, and physique-concerned bodybuilders addicted to what they falsely believe to be tongkat ali.

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4 DEA Drug Enforcement Administration, agency responsible for enforcing the controlled substances laws and regulations of the United States.

3.2.2.4.4.11 Major US supplement brands just selling fillers

It's hard for people in the US to buy genuine, effective tongkat ali.

Sure, herbal supplements are everywhere. But it's not that you could walk into a shop of a chain supplement supporter, pick a bottle that has tongkat ali printed on it, and then be somebody who enhances the quality of his or her life by balancing hormonal factors.

Because the bottle which says tongkat ali is likely to either contain none of it, or just absolutely minimal, disregardable, therapeutically useless trace amounts of tongkat ali. A sand corn of tongkat ali in a truckload of rubbish. And that sand corn isn't even extract, but root powder.

I have been saying this about major supplement brands present in US chain stores for two decades, and now it's official.

As reported in the *New York Times* and subsequently in all kinds of other media, the New York attorney general has sent a warning letter to Walmart, Walgreens, Target, and GNC to remove that junk from their shelves, or face judicial proceedings.

If you want genuine tongkat ali extract, or even just genuine root, buy it from a source in Indonesia. Or buy from somebody who can prove, not just claim, that his or her tongkat ali is from a trustworthy source in Indonesia. If ever possible, avoid Singapore for tongkat ali or health supplements in general. You don't want to mess up your health with bootleg white powders from a kitchen lab or garage lab in China. They don't have scruples to poison infants, and they won't stop before doing so with bodybuilders or sexual-thrill seekers. There is anyway no public sympathy for dirty old men who suffer a sudden exitus while being at it on top of a prostitute in a backlane absteige.

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3.2.2.4.4.12 Dangerous tongkat ali

Tongkat ali is in high demand. It is therefore no surprise that there always are new players who want to get into the game.

However, tongkat ali is also rare, and one of the most expensive herbal medicines. So, it is also no surprise that new players try to cut corners. For example by enhancing the strength that is lacking because their tongkat ali is low quality by putting in some Pfizer's Blue, Lilly's Beige, or steroids.

An increasing number of products has been removed from the market because they cheat the consumer. For some examples, see the links below.

Potent drug Lilly's Beige found in shells of Tongkat Ali capsules

The cached version can be read here:

Potent drug Lilly's Beige
found in shells of Tongkat
Ali capsules

<http://www.tongkat-ali.org/Potent-drug-tadalafil-found-shells-TongkatAli-capsules.htm>

Sex 'Boosters' For Men: More products expected to be banned

The cached version can be read here:

Sex 'Boosters' For Men:
More products expected
to be banned

<http://www.tongkat-ali.org/Sex-Boosters-Men-products-expected-banned.htm>

Sibutramine and Pfizer's Blue Banned From Traditional Medicine

The cached version can be read here:

<http://www.tongkat-ali.org/Sibutramine-Sildenafil-Banned-Traditional-Medicine.htm>

Etumax products banned by ministry

The cached version can be read here:

<http://www.tongkat-ali.org/TongkatAli-Herb-PulledOff-Shelves.htm>

Tongkat Ali' Herb Pulled Off Shelves

The cached version can be read here:

<http://www.tongkat-ali.org/TongkatAli-Herb-PulledOff-Shelves.htm>

MHRA Concerned About Dangerous XP Tongkat Ali Supreme

The cached version can be read here:

http://www.tongkat-ali.org/MHRA_Concerned.htm

The best advice that I can give is to buy established brands of tongkat ali and tongkat ali extract, at best products that are properly licensed by health authorities. Such products may be more expensive, but that's still the better deal than gambling with one's health.

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3.2.2.4.4.13 Tongkat ali cancer therapy

There are a good number of scientific studies that have looked into the potential of tongkat ali in the battle against various forms of cancer. Most of these studies found that some chemical constituents of tongkat ali, such as eurycomanone, hold great promise as cancer medications.

Fine.

But my humble opinion is that all of these studies are based on a wrong approach.

Because genuine tongkat ali (and not the fake shit from China sold in North America, Europe, and Australia with a tongkat ali label) is a much more powerful anti-cancer agent than these studies suggest.

And here is why:

A very important factor in not falling ill to cancers is every person's own immune system. And the immune system is the most important link between psychology and physiology.

To experience great sex, even outrageously good sex, especially at an advancing or advanced age, is a psychological boost that directly elevates an individual's immune function. Wilhelm Reich tried to capture and measure this energy, but he was too far ahead of his time, and even by now, applicable measuring equipment has not yet been developed.

On the other hand, the universal healing power of great sex is well documented in non-Christian religions, especially Taoism.

While Taoist explanations of human health may be nonsensical in detail, Taoism is valuable for its holistic approach to our well-being.

Great sex on a regular basis, or, even better, on a daily basis, goes a long way fueling a man's immune system. And a powerful immune system goes a long way towards being cancer-free.

Tongkat ali is not the only aspect in improving sex. But unlike adopting a comprehensive sexual philosophy, or smartly managing sexual opportunities, tongkat ali is an aspect of improving sex that one can just buy and swallow.

The relevance of this can hardly be over-estimated. Because, if your sexual quality is gone, you'll soon be a goner anyway. And cancer might well have been the avenue of your exitus.

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3.2.2.4.4.14 Worldwide tongkat ali shortage

Apart from being a testosterone booster, and a proven malaria defense, highly concentrated tongkat ali extract is the world's only drug that effectively treats recurring migraines and persistent headaches. However, only high-concentration extract will work to wash out migraine-causing chemicals, and a particular dietary regimen must be part of the treatment.

Tongkat ali is already rare and expensive. Which is why it is hardly ever used for malaria. Anyway, malaria prevails only among the poor in the poorest countries of the world, so no competing buyers there for already expensive tongkat ali. There are also cheap chemical malaria drugs, so the issue of tongkat ali and malaria is not urgent.

The market for sexual enhancement substances contributes much more seriously to the depletion of the tongkat ali tree in the forests of Southeast Asia, the only part in the world where it grows.

Just look at Pfizer's Blue sales to get an idea:

Pfizer's Blue: The profitable pill

But what really pushes the tongkat ali tree to the brink of extinction is the root's effectiveness against migraines and other headaches.

There are more than 100 million migraine sufferers in the developed world.

Risk Factor Management Helps Prevent Migraine Attacks

Who has Migraines?

And only a high-concentration tongkat ali extract, and even that in comparatively high dosages, will reliably work against migraine attacks.

A serious tongkat ali shortage, accompanied by rising prices, is pre-programmed by nature. Tongkat ali roots take 15 years to grow to reach their pharmacological usefulness. And tongkat ali is very selective as to where it grows: it prefers only sandy slopes in tropical rain forests.

Tongkat ali is already a protected plant in Malaysia and Thailand. And Indonesia, while not withdrawing old permits, is no longer issuing government licenses for new tongkat ali products. Indonesia has also started to intercept illegal tongkat ali products, and illegal items declared as tongkat ali, at all the country's post offices.

All of these aspects combined do not look like a scenario for falling prices.

But what you will see, sure as hell, are ever more fakes. Even now, ingredients dealers in the USA just sell root powder and say it's extract. And traders on Alibaba, eBay, and Amazon just sell cheap tribulus, or chemical mixtures from China, and claim: hey, man, this is genuine tongkat ali from Indonesia. Bullshit!

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