

Experts believe the “potent herb” Hermes gave Odysseus as a cure to Circe’s potion, was the snowdrop plant.

In 1951, pharmacologist Mikhail Mashkovsky discovered that villagers in the Ural Mountains used what could be the protective plant Hermes gave Odysseus. The villagers were rubbing ground-up snowdrop flowers into their skin as a pain reliever and to improve cognitive function, similar to the ‘mal-a-tete’ cure used by Norman monks.

Subsequent studies found that snowdrops contained properties that protect brain cells from damaging toxins. In Particular, an alkaloid called Galantamine which relieves the symptoms of Alzheimer’s disease and improves memory.

Today galantamine is the primary ingredient in the Alzheimer’s drug Razadyne.

#### Sources:

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