Plants and animals have been the principal source of drugs since the beginning. The enumeration of the ethnobotanical data is to highlight the plants which play an important role in the life of the Irulars. Ethnobotanical data gathered from Siruvani hills are enumerated following the alphabetical sequence of botanical name. An attempt has been made to give the correct botanical name. The rule of International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (ICBN) has been adhered to in establishing the correct name. Available synonyms are provided below the botanical name. Each plant is described with its family, vernacular name, botanical features with identifying characters and the time of flowering and fruiting. Voucher herbarium specimen numbers (EPU) are noted against each plant species. The folk medicinal uses are described with available details along with the plant parts used, mode of preparation and administration, dosage and mixture of other herbs, if any.

The data gathered are also categorized according to their usage and are given in Table 5. Plants used in medicine are further classified according to various diseases/ailments. The description of each disease/ailment is given followed by the plants with curative medicinal property. Also the distribution of plants in different altitudes are enumerated and presented in Table 6 (Refer Fig. 6).
I. Alphabetical list of ethnobotanical plants

1. *Abrus precatorius* L.

**Family:** Fabaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Kunri mani

**Phytography:** A woody stemmed, dextrose twining herb, leaves paripinnate, stipules minute, scarios, flowers bluish pink in axillary clustered racemes, calyx-tube campanulate, corolla exerted, stamens monadelphous, vexillary stamen present, pod more or less compressed, thinly pubescent, seeds globose, hard, scarlet with a black spot at the hilum (EPU K150).

**Flowering and fruiting:** August – January

**Therapeutic uses:** Scabies and abortion  
**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

i) **Scabies:** The leaves are crushed and applied on the affected part(s).

ii) **Abortion:** 2-3 leaves are made as juice with milk and are administered orally before food.

2. *Abution indicum* (L.) Sweet  

(=* Sida indica* L.)

**Family:** Malvaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Perunthuthi

**Phytography:** A tomentose perennial, much branched erect shrub, leaves cordate, acuminate, toothed, pedicilate, flowers yellow, solitary. axillary, calyx-lobes divided to the middle, corolla often opens in the evening times, staminal filament hairy at base, fruit schizocarp. carpels longer than the calyx, seed black (EPU K62).

**Flowering and fruiting:** July - December

**Therapeutic use:** Normal delivery  
**Part Used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Normal delivery:** The leaves are crushed and made as a juice. 1.5ml of the juice is given once daily to ease child birth.

(= *Mimosa farnesiana* L.)

**Family:** Mimosaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Veddavala chedi

**Phytography:** Erect shrub with zigzag branches marked with minute raised gray dots; leaves alternate, bipinnate with minute leaflets, stipulate, stipules spiny, leaf rachis downy with minute petiolar gland, leaflets small, green, opposite, subglabrous, rigidly coriaceous, flowers born on axillary cymose heads, small, fragrant, bright yellow, bracteate, sessile, pods dull brown, marked with horizontal constrictions, seeds exalbuminous (EPU K185).

**Flowering and fruiting:** September - February

**Therapeutic use:** Dental caries  
**Part used:** Bark

**Mode of administration:**

**Dental caries:** A piece of bark is kept for an hour in the affected tooth.

4. *Acacia leucophloea* (Roxb.) Willd.

(= *A. alba* Willd.)  
(= *Mimosa leucophlaea* Roxb.)

**Family:** Mimosaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Velvelam

**Phytography:** Deciduous tree, leaves alternate, compound, stipules spiny, leaf rachises downy, with several glands, leaflets crowded, rigidly coriaceous, panicles with long compound densely tomentose ascending branches, heads yellow, small, flowers very small, pods sessile, sub-indehiscent, clothed with pale brown or grey, persistent tomentum (EPU K186).

**Flowering and fruiting:** August - December

**Therapeutic use:** Insect bite  
**Part used:** Leaf, bark and whole plant

**Mode of administration:**

**Insect bite:** The leaf and bark is ground with lime and applied on the insect bitten part(s).

**Non - Therapeutic use:** Fish poison

**Fish poison:** The whole plant is used to stupefy the fish.
5. *Acacia nilotica* (L.) Willd ex Del. sub sp. *indica* (Benth.) Brenan

(= *A. arabica* (Lamk.) Willd var. *indica* Benth.)

(= *Mimosa arabica* Lamk)

**Family:** Mimosaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Karuvelam

**Phytography:** Medium-sized tree, branchlets straight, finely grey downy, prickles long, white, ascending, pungent when old; leaves bipinnate, leaf-rachises downy with several glands, leaflets membranous, green, glabrous; peduncles short, densely grey downy, profusely bracteate; heads yellow, pods rigidly coriaceous, sub-indehiscent, densely persistently grey-downy, distinctively stalked, 8 to 12 seeded (EPU K188).

**Flowering and fruiting:** August - April

**Therapeutic use:** Dental ache  
**Part used:** Bark

**Mode of administration:**

**Dental ache:** The dried bark is powdered and applied over the affected teeth.

6. *Acacia sinuata* (Lour.) Merr.

(= *A. concinna* (Willd.) DC.)

(= *Mimosa sinuata* Lour.)

**Family:** Mimosaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Mandai seengai

**Phytography:** A stout straggling shrub with numerous small hooked pricklets, branches brown with white dots, leaves bipinnate, leaflets more than 20 pairs, main rachis armed with sharp hooked prickles, with a large gland at or below the middle of the petiole and one between the uppermost or the 2 uppermost pairs of pinnae. Flowers white, in axillary or terminal globose heads, calyx funnel shaped, corolla lobes lanceolate, stamens basally connate, pod linear-oblong, fleshy when young, wrinkled when dry, depressed between the seeds (EPU K190).

**Flowering and fruiting:** February - May

**Therapeutic uses:** Sinusitis and health tonic  
**Part used:** Leaf and whole plant
Mode of administration:

i) Sinusitis: The fresh leaves are crushed, ground and kept aside for 10 minutes. Then applied on the head to reduce headache.

ii) Health tonic: The tender leaves are cooked as rasam and given for the ladies after delivery to recoup stamina.

Non - Therapeutic uses: Edible, hair nourisher and fibre

i) Edible: The leaves are used as greens.

ii) Hair nourisher: The leaves are used as a conditioner for hairs.

iii) Fibre: The whole plant is used as a fibre.

7. Acacia torta (Roxb.) Craib.

(= A. caesia W. & A. (non Willd.)

(= A. insia W. & A.)

Family: Mimosaceae

Vernacular name: Seengi keerai

Phytography: Prickly shrubs or small trees. Leaf rachis with a conical petiole gland near base, smaller glands between upper 2-3 pairs of pinna; pinnae 8-12 pairs, leaflets 25-30 pairs, closely set but not overlapping, truncate at base, pubescent beneath, corolla white, hardly twice as long as calyx, ovary pubescent. Pod slightly wavy, glabrescent, 5-7-seeded (EPU K191).

Therapeutic use: Normal delivery

Part used: Leaf

Mode of administration:

Normal delivery: The leaves are crushed and 1ml of the juice is taken twice daily as a tonic to ease child birth by lessening the labour pain during delivery.

8. Achyranthes aspera L.

(= Aerva aspera Spreng.)

Family: Amaranthaceae

Vernacular name: Nayuroovi

Phytography: An erect branched herb. Leaves variable, orbicular or obovate, rounded at the apex, pubescent on both sides. Flowers greenish white, in slender terminal spikes.
bracts ovate; bracteoles spinous, wings hyaline, broad. Stamens 5, alternating with
appendaged staminodes. Urticle oblong, enclosed in the hardened perianth. Fruit easily
adhering to animals and clothing (EPU K281).

Flowering and fruiting: Through-out the year

Therapeutic uses: Rabies and normal delivery

Part used: Leaf

Mode of administration:

i) Rabies: The leaves are crushed and applied over the bitten part(s) to remove poison.

ii) Normal delivery: The leaves are crushed and made as a juice. 2ml of the juice is
given orally daily to ease child birth.


(= A.griffithii Schott.)

(= A.gramineous Soland.)

Family: Araceae

Vernacular name: Vasambu

Phytography: Perennial, erect, aromatic herb, rhizome cylindrical or slightly
compressed, much-branched, externally light brown or pinkish but white and spongy
within, leaves distichous large, base equitant, margin waved; spadix sessile, cylindric,
densely flowered, not completely enclosed, spathe narrow, leaf-like, flowers small,
bisexual, berries few-seeded, seeds oblong, albuminous (EPU K323).

Flowering and fruiting: June - August

Therapeutic uses: Gastritis, dyspepsia and scorpion sting

Part used: Rhizome and whole plant

Mode of administration:

i) Gastritis and dyspepsia: Rhizome is ground with milk and 2 ml of this juice is
given to children for indigestion and stomach pain.

ii) Scorpion sting: Whole plant is made as a decoction and 3 ml of this is administered
orally.
Plate 5.

*Abutilon indicum* (L.) Sweet.

*Abrus precatorius* L.

*Acacia sinuata* (Lour.) Merr.

*Achyranthes aspera* L.

*Adiantum malabaricum* Link.
10. Adiantum capillus-veneris C. Presl.

**Family:** Adiantaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Menali

**Phytography:** Delicate fern, stipes suberect, blackish, glabrous, shining, fronds bipinnate having short terminal pinnae and many laterals on each side, segments cuneate, sori borne at the rounded sinuses of crenations (EPU K349).

**Therapeutic use:** Cuts and wounds  
**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Cuts and wounds:** Crushed leaf juice is applied on the affected part(s).

11. Adiantum malabaricum Link.

**Family:** Adiantaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Karunthotty

**Phytography:** Axis an almost erect, short, thick, solenostelic and copiously scaly. Scales concolorous, dark brown with paler cells at the edges, lanceolate, narrow and not peltate at the base, paler cells dentate and hairy (EPU K350).

**Therapeutic use:** Psoriasis  
**Part used:** Whole plant

**Mode of administration:**

**Psoriasis:** The whole plant is crushed and the paste is applied over the affected part(s) for three days.

12. Adiantum philipense L.  
(= A. lunulatum Burm.)  
(= Pteris lunulata Retz.)

**Family:** Adiantaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Chinnathavalai

**Phytography:** Leafy fern; stipes dark chestnut-brown, wiry, glabrous, shining, tufted: fronds often elongated, rooting at apex, pinnate, pinnae subdimidate; sori borne in a continuous line along the edge (EPU K351).

**Therapeutic use:** Abdominal pain  
**Part used:** Leaf
Mode of administration:

Abdominal pain: The dried leaves are powdered and mixed with leaves of *Hemonites cordata* in equal proportion. This mixture is given to 2-3 month-old children to cure pain in the abdomen.


(= *Feronia pellucida* Roth.)

**Family:** Rutaceae

**Vernacular name:** Kurvala maram

**Phytography:** A small medium-sized armed deciduous tree, leaves alternate with straight sharp axillary thorns, 3-foliolate, glabrous. Flowers white, polygamous, in axillary panicles. Calyx flat, 4-5 lobed. Petals 4-5. Stamens many. Ovary many celled. Berry globose, the rind smooth, woody; seeds oblong, compressed, testa mucous, embedded in fleshy pulp which is aromatic, cotyledons fleshly, wood hard, yellowish – white (EPU K96).

**Flowering and fruiting:** January- May

**Therapeutic uses:** Rheumatism and scabies

**Part used:** Root, leaf and fruit

**Mode of administration:**

i) **Rheumatism:** 2.5 ml of root decoction is administered daily.

ii) **Scabies:** The leaf paste is applied over the affected part(s).

**Non – Therapeutic use:** Edible

**Edible:** The fruits are edible.

14. *Aeschynomene indica* L.

**Family:** Fabaceae

**Vernacular name:** Netti

**Phytography:** Glabrescent herbs. Leaves long, stipules not setaceous, leaflets linear-oblong, obtuse, raceme viscid. Corolla yellowish-pink, standard and wings glabrous, keel petals nearly equaling other petals. Pod entire on one margin, joints 8-12, papillose or smooth (EPU K152).

**Flowering and fruiting:** August-December.

**Therapeutic use:** Dysentery

**Part uses:** Leaf
Mode of administration:

**Dysentery:** The leaf decoction (2 ml) is administered orally twice daily until cured.

**15. Alangium salvifolium (L.f.) Wang.**

(= A.lamarckii Thw.)

(= Grewia salvifolia Linn.)

**Family:** Alangiaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Alangi


**Flowering and fruiting:** March-August

**Therapeutic use:** Antidote for snake bite

**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Snake bite:** The leaves are crushed and made into a paste. The paste is applied over the snake bitten site(s).

**16. Albizia procera (Roxb.) Benth.**

(= Acacia procera Willd.)

(= Mimosa procera Roxb.)

**Family:** Mimosaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Konda vagei

**Phytography:** Large deciduous tree, leaf bipinnate, rachis glabrescent, large gland at the base of petiole, leaflets short-stalked, subconaceous, grey beneath, glabrous, obtuse; heads copiously paniced; flowers small, white, scented; pods brown, glabrous, 8 to 12 seeded (EPU K193).

**Flowering and fruiting:** August - May

**Therapeutic use:** Antidote for snake bite

**Part used:** Leaf and whole plant
Mode of administration:

**Snake bite:** The leaves are crushed and applied on the snake bitten site(s) and tied with a cloth for 2-3 days.

**Non-Therapeutic uses: Edible, fish poison, cosmetic and fibre**

i) **Edible:** The leaves are used as greens.

ii) **Fish poison:** The twig is used to stupefy the fish.

iii) **Cosmetic:** The leaves are crushed and applied over the face. This protects the skin, makes the face soft and fair.

iv) **Fibre:** The twig is used as a fibre.

17. *Allium cepa* L.

(= *A. cumaria* Herb.)

**Family:** Liliaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Vengayam

**Phytography:** Biennial bulbous herb, bulb very thick, leaves radicle, shorter than the scape, subdistichous, green, linear, fleshy, hollow cylindrical, scape inflated, tall and hollow, flowers many, in umbels, pedicellate, white, trimerous, bracts reflexed, tepals 6, stamens 6, longer than the perianth, ovary hypogynous, ovules 2 per cell, fruit a capsule, 3-chambered containing small black seeds (EPU K318).

**Flowering and fruiting:** December-January.

**Therapeutic use:** Antidote for insect bite  
**Part used:** Bulb and leaf

Mode of administration:

**Insect bite:** The bulb is crushed and applied over the insect bitten part(s).

**Non-Therapeutic use:** Edible

**Edible:** The leaves are used in cooking.

18. *Aloe vera* (L) Burm.f.

(= *A.barbedensis* Mill.)

(= *A.indica* Royle)

**Family:** Liliaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Sothu kathalai

**Therapeutic use:** Hydrocele  
**Part used:** Leaf and whole plant

**Mode of administration:**

**Hydrocele:** The pulp inside the leaf is taken with sugar for a month.

**Non-Therapeutic use:** Insect and mosquito repellent

**Insect and mosquito repellent:** The whole plant is used as insect and mosquito repellent.


**Family:** Cyatheaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Yaanai vanangi

**Therapeutic use:** General weakness  
**Part used:** Whole plant

**Mode of administration:**

**General weakness:** The plant juice (2 ml) is taken orally to improve immunity and develop resistance. The plant is worshipped before starting treatment.

**Non-Therapeutic use:** Religious practices

**Religious practices:** The plant is worshipped.

20. *Alysicarpus vaginalis* (L.) DC.

**Family:** Fabaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Namapoodu chedi

**Phytography:** Herb, stem robust ascending up to 1 m; trifoliate, glabrous, oblong, obtuse, flowers small, papilionaceous, pods indistinctly moniliform, a little thickened at the end, faintly pubescent, rugose (EPU K155).

**Flowering and fruiting:** Through-out the year

**Therapeutic uses:** Fracture and cough  
**Part used:** Whole plant
Mode of administration:

i) Fracture: The whole plant is crushed and applied on the affected parts. Then it is tied with a cloth and left undisturbed for 2 days.

ii) Cough: The whole plant is made as a decoction and 2.5ml of decoction is administered orally until cured.

21. Amaranthus spinosus L.

Family: Amaranthaceae

Vernacular name: Mullukeerai

Phytography: An erect spinescent herb, stem red with sharp spines, leaves alternate, oblong-ovate, elliptic, entire, flowers minute, in axillary clusters, perianth lobes and stamens 5 each, styles 2, pubescent (EPU K282).

Flowering and fruiting: Through-out the year

Location: Common weed found in waste places

Therapeutic use: Leucorrhoea

Part used: Leaf

Mode of administration:

Leucorrhoea: Leaves are made into a paste and given as small balls (orally) for 30 days to get relief from white discharge.

Non – Therapeutic use: Edible

Edible: The leaves are used as greens.

22. Amaranthus viridis L.

(= A.gracilis. Desf)

(= Euxolus caudatus (Jacq.) Moq.)

Family: Amaranthaceae

Vernacular name: Kuppai keerai

Phytography: Herb, erect. rarely decumbent below, leaf simple, petiolate, green, tip rounded or notched, base truncate or cuneate; flowers in slender axillary or terminal panicked spike-like racemes, small, unisexual, monoeocious, bracteate and bracteolate, greenish, seeds minute, pitch-black. shining (EPU K283).
Flowering and fruiting: April-June and November - April

Therapeutic use: Leucorrhoea

Part used: Leaf

Mode of administration:

Leucorrhoea: The leaves are crushed and the juice (3 ml) is administered orally for 30/31 days to get relief from white discharge.


(= *A. virosus* N.E.Br.)

(= *Arum campanulatum* Roxb.)

Family: Araceae

Vernacular name: Senai kilangu

Phytography: Robust herbaceous plant with a dull brown hemispherical and depressed corm, stem erect, solitary, large mottled leaf at the top, a large terminal spadix with foul odour, each corm produces 5-10 cormels at the end of each growing season (EPU K324).

Flowering and fruiting: April-June and November

Therapeutic use: Antidote for scorpion bite.

Part used: Corm

Mode of administration:

Scorpion bite: The corm is crushed and applied over the scorpion bitten site(s).

Non - Therapeutic use: Edible

Edible: The corm is cooked and eaten.


(= *Justicia paniculata* Burm.f.)

Family: Acanthaceae

Vernacular name: Siriyanagai

Phytography: An erect herb with square stem, glabrous below, glandular hairy above, leaves opposite, simple, lanceolate, glabrous and distinctly pedicelled, flowers in axillary and terminal racemes, bi-lobed, white or pale purple, fruits capsule, linear - oblong, compressed transversely, seeds rugose, pitted, brown (EPU K256).

Flowering and fruiting: September-May.
Therapeutic uses: Antidote for snake bite and diabetes

Mode of administration:

i) Snake bite: The leaves are crushed and made into a paste. The paste is applied over the snake bitten site(s).

ii) Diabetes: The leaf juice (3.5 ml) is given daily after food.

25. Angiopteris evecta (Forst.) Hoffm.

(= Polypodium evectum Forst.)

Family: Angiopteridaceae

Vernacular name: Poonai vanangi

Phytography: Axis a somewhat erect stock, succulent, globose, long, with a complex vascular system and covered with persistent stipule like outgrowths of older fronds (EPU K353).

Therapeutic uses: Antidote for snake bite and scorpion sting

Part used: Leaf and whole plant

Mode of administration:

Snake and scorpion bite: The crushed leaf is mixed with milk and given orally (one tumbler) for the affected persons and the plant is worshipped before starting treatment.

Non-Therapeutic use: Religious practices

Religious practices: The whole plant is worshipped.


(= A. ovata R.Br.)

(= Nepata indica L.)

Family: Lamiaceae

Vernacular name: Konda thumbai

Phytography: A small scent herb, softly pubescent, ovate, cosarely crenate acuminate leaves, purplish flower on axillary dense-flowered whorls (EPU K273).

Flowering and fruiting: September-November; December-January

Therapeutic uses: Insect bite (in cattle)
Mode of administration:

**Insect bite:** The dried leaves are powdered and mixed with any vegetable oil and applied on the insect bitten part(s) in cattle.

**Non – Therapeutic use:** Mosquito repellent

**Mosquito repellent:** The dried leaves are powdered and sprayed as sambrani (emits fragrant fumes when burnt). This controls mosquito.

27. *Argemone mexicana* L.

*Family:* Papaveraceae  
*Vernacular name:* Kudiyoetti


*Flowering and fruiting:* April- November

*Therapeutic uses:* Antidote for insect bite and wound healing (in cattle)

*Part used:* Seed and flower

Mode of administration:

i) **Insect bite:** The seed juice is applied over the insect bitten site(s).

ii) **Wound healing:** The flowers are crushed and made into a paste. This paste is applied over the cuts and wounds with coconut oil until cure in cattle.

(*= Lettsomia cymosa* F.)

*Family:* Convolvulaceae  
*Vernacular name:* Peruna

*Phytography:* Scandent, stems terete, pubescent. Leaves broadly ovate, shortly acuminate, pubescent on both sides, base cordate with rounded lobes, petioles hairy. Flowers in branched corymbose cymes peduncles hairy, bracts suborbicular, persistent, softly pubescent. Calyx large, 3 outer sepals very broad, broadly obovate, oblong or
Plate 6.

Andrographis paniculata (Burm. f.) Wall. ex. Nees

Argemone mexicana L.

Aloe vera (L.) Burm. f.

Argyreia nervosa (Burm. f.) Boj.

Arisaema tortuosum Schott.
suborbicular, obtuse or subacute, pubescent on the both sides, veined, the 2 inner sepals almost as long as outer but much narrower, oblong-lanceolate, subacute, softly pubescent on both sides. Corolla tubular-infundibuliform, densely hairy on the bands outside. Stamens not exserted (EPU K237).

**Therapeutic use:** Cuts and wounds (in cattle)  
**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Cuts and wounds:** The leaves are crushed and applied over the affected part(s).

(= *A. bracteata* Choisy.)  
(= *Ipomoea kleiniana* R. & S.)

**Family:** Convolvulaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Mushtai chedi

**Phytography:** Branchlets sericeous, leaves broadly ovate to cordiform, chartaceous, glabrous above, sericeous below, base truncate to subcordate. Cymes corymbose, bracts oblong, scarious, strigose at the apex. Corolla red with purple throat. Stamens 5, o vary 4 locular, ovule 1 per cell (EPU K238).

**Flowering and fruiting:** August - January

**Therapeutic use:** Head ache  
**Part used:** Whole plant

**Mode of administration:**

**Head ache:** The whole plant is made as a paste and applied on the head for 2 hours.

30. *Argyreia nervosa* (Burm.f.) Boj.  
(= *A. speciosa* Sweet.)  
(= *Convolvulus nervosus* Burm.f.)

**Family:** Convolvulaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Samutrappachai

**Phytography:** Large climbing shrub, branchlets dawny-tomentose, woody. leaves simple, large, elliptic to broadly ovate, acute. base cordate, glabrous above, white tomentose beneath, subcoriaceous. upper surface drying black and thinly pubescent.
Flowers large, purple, subsessile in dense cymes, silky pubescent. Corolla pink, tubular, infundibuliform, corolla tube sericeous. Stamens exserted, ovary 2 locular ovules 2 per cell. Fruits dry, globose and apiculate (EPU K240).

**Flowering and fruiting:** January- April.

**Therapeutic use:** Abortion

**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Abortion:** The leaves are crushed and given (1 ml) as abortifacient.

31. *Arisaema tortuosum* Schott.

(*= Arum tortuosum Wall.*)

**Family:** Araceae  
**Vernacular name:** Kattu senai

**Phytography:** A tall plant, tubers spheroidal, leaves 2-3, pedatipartite, sheaths often mottled with purple, leaflets sessile or petiolate, ovate-lanceolate or linear-lanceolate, subcaudately acuminate, distant or crowded or almost radiately arranged, spathe long, green outside, tube subcylindric, gaping, gradually dilating into the limb, limb ovate or ovate-oblong acuminate, broadly cymbiform, incurved. Spadix 1or 2 sexual, male flowers stalked, appendage very long, much exserted, quite smooth, ovaries ovoid, attenuated into a short style. Berry 4 - 5 seeded (EPU K325).

**Therapeutic use:** Snake bite

**Part used:** Corm

**Mode of administration:**

**Snake bite:** The corm is rubbed well on the snake bitten part(s).

32. *Aristolochia indica* L.

**Family:** Aristolochiaceae

**Phytography:** A perennial shrubby twiner with weak stems. Leaves variable, oblong, oblong-lanceolate, linear-oblong, obtusely acuminate, entire. Flowers dark purple tubes, in axillary racemes. Fruit globose-oblong, opening from below upwards, pedicels often splitting into six filaments. Seeds flat, laterally winged (EPU K289).
Flowering and fruiting: September - November

Therapeutic uses: Abortion and antidote for snake bite  
Part used: Whole plant

Mode of administration:

i) Abortion: The whole plant is made as a juice with water. Half-a-tumbler of the juice is administered orally to abort the foetus.

ii) Snake bite: The whole plant is made into a paste and applied over snake bitten site(s).

33. Asparagus racemosus Willd.  
(= A. javanica Kunth.)  
(= A. sarmentosus Graham.)

Family: Liliaceae 
Vernacular name: Sadavalli kilangu

Phytography: A tall climbing undershrub; stems woody, terete, branchlets triquetrous. Spines recurved. Cladodes in tufts. Flowers white, fragrant, in solitary or fascilled. Stamens as long as the perianth. Fruit berry, red (EPU K320).

Flowering and fruiting: Through-out the year

Therapeutic use: Dental ache  
Part used: Tuber

Mode of administration:

Dental ache: The tuber is burnt and taken in the morning in empty stomach.

34. Asplenium indicum Sledge.

Family: Aspleniaceae 
Vernacular name: Sulli thala

Non-Therapeutic use: Superstitious belief  
Part used: Leaf

Superstitious belief: The powdered leaves are used as ‘sambrani’ (emits fragrant fumes when burnt) powder to get rid of ghosts.

35. Asystasia dalzellicina Sant.

Family: Acanthaceae 
Vernacular name: Paasatti keerai
**Phytography:** Leaves ovate to elliptic, thinly pubescent above and below, base truncate to broadly acute, apex subacute to acute, racemes usually solitary, terminal or subterminal, lower flowers subsessile, terminal above, calyx-lobes 5, linear-lanceolate, puberulous without, acuminate, corolla white, tube puberous without, lobes 5, stamens 2, filament pairs 5, anthers 3, style puberulous below. capsule pubescent, seeds orbicular to angular (EPU K257).

**Flowering and fruiting:** November - February

**Therapeutic use:** Labour pain

**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Labour pain:** The leaf paste is boiled with water for 10 minutes. Half-a-tumbler of this juice is given orally to get relief from labour pain.

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36. *Artocarpus heterophyllus* Bedd.

(= *A. integrifolia* L.f.)

(= *A.integra* (Thunb.) Merrill.)

**Family:** Moraceae  
**Vernacular name:** Palamaram

**Phytography:** Large tropical fruit tree with a dense crown, stem straight, cylindrical, covered with rough bark, exudes milky latex (EPU K306).

**Flowering and fruiting:** In summer and rainy seasons.

**Therapeutic use:** Rashes  

**Part used:** Leaf and fruit

**Mode of administration:**

**Rashes:** Leaves are crushed and the decoction (1.5 ml) is given orally for skin eruptions.

**Non – Therapeutic use:** Edible

**Edible:** The fruit is edible.

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37. *Azadirachta indica* A.Juss.

**Family:** Meliaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Veppam

**Phytography:** A semi- evergreen tree. Leaves alternate; imparipinnate; leaflets oblique, oblong-lanceolate, serrate, acuminate. Flowers white, in axillary paricles. Calyx 5- lobed.

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**Flowering and fruiting:** March - September

**Therapeutic uses:** Parotitis, gastritis, asthma and maggot infected wound healing (in cattle).

**Part used:** Buds, leaf and whole plant

**Mode of administration:**

i) **Parotitis** and **gastritis:** Young buds are taken orally for 2 days to cure mumps and stomach ache.

ii) **Asthma:** Resting and breathing under the tree for 2-3 hours daily to get relief from asthma.

iii) **Wound healing:** The leaves are made into a paste with equal proportion of bark of *Acacia arabica* and applied over the wounds.

**Non - Therapeutic use:** Insect and mosquito repellent

**Insect and mosquito repellent:** The leaves are burnt and the fumes act as a repellent against insects and mosquito.

38. *Bambusa arundinacea* (Retz.) Willd.

(= *Bambos arundinacea* Retz.)

**Family:** Poaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Moongil

**Phytography:** A large shrub, culms very tall, culm-sheaths broad, hairy, internodes hollow, leaves small- moderately long, leafblades imperfect, entire, flowers large, in compound panicles with the spikelets in heads, glumes ovate, lemmas ovate-lanceolate, mucronate, paleas 2-keeled, stamens 6, style 1, stigma 3. grain linear-oblong, pericarp adhering (EPU K352).

**Flowering and fruiting:** Rare, it is said that if there is excessive drought, the bamboo flowers.

**Non - Therapeutic use:** Sacred groove  
**Part used:** Whole plant

**Sacred groove:** The plant is protected and worshipped.

**Family:** Acanthaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Thullanthuruthi  

**Phytography:** Erect, branches glabrous, leaves elliptic, acuminate, glabrous, main nerves 5-6 pairs, flowers axillary, solitary and running into terminal spikes or racemes, pedicels very short or 0, Calyx glabrous, outer sepals subequal, ovate, acute, with rounded base, strongly nerved and reticulately veined, inner sepals linear-lanceolate, very acute, thick, membranous, glabrous, with a strong midnerve. Corolla blue, long lobes obovate-oblong. Staminodes without anthers. Capsules long, oblong, acuminate, normally 4-seeded. Glabrous. Seeds long, densely clothed with silky hairs (EPU K258).

**Therapeutic use:** Cuts and wounds  
**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Cuts and wounds:** The leaves are crushed and applied over the affected part(s).

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40. *Basella alba* L. var. *rubra* (L.) Stewart

(= *B. rubra* L.)

**Family:** Chenopodiaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Vasalai kodi

**Phytography:** Perennial, much-branched, twining herb, stem fleshy but hard, contains mucilage; leaves alternate, petiole, simple, fleshy, glabrous; spikes axillary, peduncled, simple or branched; flowers white or red or violet, bracteate, bracteolate; fruits pea-sized, red or white or black; seed subglobose, erect (EPU K285).

**Flowering and fruiting:** Winter

**Therapeutic uses:** Haemorrhhoae and detoxicant  
**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

i) **Haemorrhhoae:** The leaves are boiled with water and half-a-tumbler of this juice is given to the ladies to get relief from blood clot during menstrual cycle.

ii) **Detoxication:** The aforesaid juice given orally also cleans the uterus after delivery.

**Non - Therapeutic use:** Edible

**Edible:** The leaves are cooked and eaten.
41. *Bauhinia racemosa* Lam.

(= *B.parviflora* Vahl.)

(= *B.spicata* Koenig)

**Family:** Caesalpiniaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Aathi chedi or kaattathi

**Phytography:** A deciduous, crooked tree; branchlets densely tomentose. Leaves small, ovate-orbicular; leaflets shortly pubescent beneath, bilobed. Flowers white pale yellow, in terminal or leaf-opposed racemes, rachis pubescent. Calyx-tube campanulate, deeply 5-lobed. Petals 5, oblong. Stamens 10, all fertile, filaments hairy at the base. Ovary pubescent, compressed; ovules many. Pod oblong, twisted, stalked with a narrow base and blunt apex, bark black, rough, wood brown, hard (EPU K177).

**Flowering and fruiting:** March- November

**Therapeutic uses:** Cataract and hypothermia (in cattle also)

**Part used:** Leaf, stem and whole plant

**Mode of administration:**

i) **Cataract:** The leaves are chewed in the mouth and the saliva is spit out. The air is blown into the defective eyes 3-4 times daily to get relief from cataract.

ii) **Hypothermia:** The leaf is crushed and applied over the head and body. This reduces heat and also activates the nervous system. (also in cattle).

**Non – Therapeutic use:** Edible, broom stick, roof thatching and house construction.

i) **Edible:** The leaves are cooked and taken with food.

ii) **Broom stick:** The stem and leaves are used as brooms for cleaning the floor and walls.

iii) **Roof thatching:** The stem and leaves are used to thatch the roof.

iv) **House construction:** The woody stems are used in construction.

42. *Bentinckia coddapanna* Berry ex Roxb. (Endangered)

**Family:** Arecaceae

**Phytography:** Stem slender, annulate, leaves long, leaflets opposite, ribbed, the ribs sometimes with a few paleae, spadix long, much branched, purple, flowers minute.
glumaceous, sepals imbricate, connate below, petals longer, valvate, connate into stipes, stamens 6, pistillode conical, ovary 3-celled, fruit ovate, globose, seed solitary, sinuately grooved or ridged (EPU K326).

**Non - Therapeutic use:** Aphrodisiac

**Part used:** Bark

**Aphrodisiac:** The bark is used as an aphrodisiac.

43. *Berberis tinctoria* Lesch.

(= *B. aristata* DC.)

(= *B. angustifolia* Roxb.)

**Family:** Berberidaceae

**Phytography:** Shrub, stem yellow, glabrous, very sulcate; leaves alternate, short-petioled, spines at base, simple, ovate, entire, dull above and white or greyish beneath, papillose; racemose, sometimes branched, drooping, flowers yellow, glands present; berries blue or red, oblong (EPU K41).

**Flowering and fruiting:** February-June

**Therapeutic uses:** Snake bite and astringent

**Part used:** Fruit, leaf and root bark

**Mode of administration:**

i) **Snake bite:** The leaves are crushed and applied on the snake bitten part(s).

ii) **Astringent:** The root bark is powdered and applied on the affected part with coconut oil. It acts as an astringent.

**Non - Therapeutic use:** Edible

**Edible:** Fruits are edible.

44. *Beta vulgaris* L.

(= *B. orientalis* Roth.)

**Family:** Chenopodiaceae

**Vernacular name:** Chakunda chedi

**Phytography:** Succulent herb, annual or perennial; root red, swollen, napiform; stem red, usually shortened, erect stem furrowed leaves alternate, simple, base decurrent on
petiole, yellowish green, margin wavy; spikes slender; flowers minute, bisexual; seeds minute, horizontal, albuminous (EPU K286).

**Non - Therapeutic use : Edible**

**Edible:** The leaves are cooked and taken with food.

45. *Bidens pinnata* L.

**Family:** Asteraceae

**Phytography:** Erect herb, stem glabrous or pubescent, leaves opposite, bipinnate, segments ovate or lanceolate or linear, entire or lobed or toothed, stout peduncles, variable in length, involucre of bracts with broad scarious margins, florets female and bisexual, yellow or white, achenes black, long, slender, narrowed from middle to top, awned and hooked (EPU K217).

**Therapeutic use:** Edema

**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Edema:** The leaves are crushed and applied over the swollen part(s).

46. *Blecnum otientale* L.

(= *Blecnum moluccanum* F.)

**Family:** Blechnaceae

**Vernacular name:** Poonavanangi

**Phytography:** A large fern, with a stout, scaly caudex, pinnate fronds, rarely dimorphic, veins free, sori linear, contiguous to the midrib, indusium membranous, distinct from the margin of the frond and opening towards the midrib (EPU K279).

**Non - Therapeutic use:** Aphrodisiac

**Part used:** Whole plant

**Aphrodisiac:** The whole plant is used as an aphrodisiac.

47. *Boerhaavia diffusa* L.

(= *B. repens* L.)

(= *B. procumbens* Roxb.)

**Family:** Nyctaginaceae

**Vernacular name:** Arungeerai
**Phytography:** A diffuse herbaceous plant with procumbent or erect branches, stock stout. Leaves thick, opposite, in unequal pairs, broadly ovate, entire, rounded at the apex, glabrous above, white beneath. Flowers minute, pinkish red, sub sessile, in terminal and axillary, umbellate panicles. Perianth lobes 5, tubular. Fruit club shaped, bluntly 5 ribbed, glandular, early detached (EPU K279).

**Flowering and fruiting:** Throughout the year

**Therapeutic use**: Labour pain  
**Part used**: Whole plant

**Mode of administration**:

**Labour pain**: Whole plant is powdered. 2g of the powder is mixed with water and this is given with food daily to get relief from pain during pregnancy.


(= *B. glabra* Roxb.)

**Family**: Burseraceae  
**Vernacular name**: Sala mara

**Phytography**: Balsamiferous tree, bark reddish or grey, peeling off in flakes; leaves alternate or nearly opposite, petiolate, imparipinnate with opposite sessile leaflets, very variable in size, shape and degree of pubescence, deciduous; racemes axillary or terminal, shorter than leaves; flowers small, white; drupes trigonous, containing three 1-seeded pyrenes; seeds pendulous, compressed (EPU K111).

**Flowering and fruiting**: January - June

**Therapeutic use**: Antidote for insect bite  
**Part used**: Bark and whole plant

**Mode of administration**:

**Insect bite**: The bark is crushed and the juice is applied over the insect bitten site(s).

**Non-Therapeutic use**: Musical instrument

**Musical instrument**: The plant is used in making musical instrument.


**Family**: Brassicaceae
**Phytography:** Tall, erect, annual herb; stem slender, branched, usually glabrous; leaves alternate, petiolate, sometimes pinnatifid, upper ones lanceolate; racemes long; flowers bright yellow, tetramerous, bisexual, petals clawed; siliqua linear-lanceolate, beak straight, flattened; seeds small, dark, rugose (EPU K50).

**Flowering and fruiting:** Winter

**Therapeutic use:** Antidote for scorpion sting

**Part used:** Whole plant, seed and fruit

**Mode of administration:**

**Scorpion sting:** The whole plant is crushed and tied with a cloth on the scorpion bitten site(s).

**Non – Therapeutic use:** Edible

**Edible:** The seeds and fruits are used in cooking.

*50. Bridelia crenulata* Roxb.

 (= *B. retusa* Spreng. var. roxburghiana)

**Family:** Euphorbiaceae

**Vernacular name:** Mulluvengai

**Phytography:** Deciduous tree, may be shrubby; branchlets densely tomentose; leaves alternate, stipules minute, petioles small, lamina small, membranous, oblong, tip rounded, lower surface densely tomentose, pale when dry, flowers axillary or in spikes, small, greenish, dioecious; fruits purple-black, globose, cocci dehiscing (EPU K294).

**Flowering and fruiting:** August-January

**Therapeutic use:** Gastritis

**Part used:** Bark and fruit

**Mode of administration:**

**Gastritis:** The dried bark is powdered and mixed with ragi flour and boiled with water.

One tumbler of this mixture is administered orally to relieve pain in the stomach.

**Non – Therapeutic use:** Edible

**Edible:** The fruits are edible.
51. Butea monosperma (Lam.) Taub.

(= B. frondosa Koen. ex. Roxb.)

(= Erythrina monosperma Lam.)

Family: Fabaceae

Vernacular name: Parasa

Phytography: A deciduous tree; young parts tomentose. Leaves 3-foliolate; leaflets coriaceous, entire, obtuse. Flowers large, orange-scarlet, in racemes. Calyx long, dark olive-green. Corolla clothed outside with silky silvery hairs; standard lanceolate; wings falcate, keels beaked, semicircular. Pods stalked, thickened at the sutures (EPU K157).

Flowering and fruiting: February - July

Therapeutic use: Menstrual disorders

Part used: Leaf, flower and bark

Mode of administration:

Menstrual disorders: The dried bark is powdered and given orally (1 gm) with food.

Non-Therapeutic uses: Spiritual and as meal plate

i) Spiritual: The leaves and flowers are used in pooja during celebrations.

ii) Meal plate: The leaves are used as meal plates.

52. Calamus rotang L.

Family: Areceae

Vernacular name: Pirambu

Phytography: Scandent, slender shrub with cylindrical, uniformly thick yellowish white stem armed with short flat, spines on the leaf-sheaths, glabrous, hollowed below, ochreate, short truncate, margin with small straight or recurved spines, laterally compressed, rachis flat near the base and smooth above; leaflets trigonous upwards, many, equidistant, one-ribbed, ribs bearing scattered bristles; flowers unisexual, male spadix very long, flagelliferous, spathe elongate, tubular, female flowers scattered along the slender branches of the spadix, fruits on minute perianths subglobose, mucronate, scales many, pale yellow in vertical series (EPU K327).

Flowering and fruiting: Through-out the year
Therapeutic use: Abortion

Mode of administration:

Abortion: The stem is cut and soaked in water overnight. One tumbler of the juice is given orally for abortion.

53. *Callicarpa tomentosa* (L.) Murr.

(= *C. Wallichiana* Walp.)

(= *Tomex tomentosa* L.)

Family: Verbenaceae

Vernacular name: Virimara

Phytography: A shrub or a small tree, leaves broadly elliptic, ovate, coriaceous, lateral nerves pubescent above, tomentose below, inflorescence axillary and terminal, umbellate cyme, bracts linear, deciduous, bractlets fulvous, tomentose, flowers tetramericous, subsessile, drupes globose, pyrenes, red on ripening, seeds oblong (EPU K264).

Flowering and fruiting: March - April

Therapeutic use: Detoxication

Part used: Leaf and bark

Mode of administration:

Detoxication: Equal proportion of leaf and bark are crushed and made into juice. Half-a-tumbler of the juice is given orally daily to detoxicate the uterus after delivery.

54. *Calotropis gigantea* (L.) R.Br.ex Ait.

(= *Asclepias gigantea* willd.)

Family: Asclepiadaceae

Vernacular name: Erukku

Phytography: A tall milky latex shrub; plant parts covered with soft white wool. Leaves subsessile, obovate, cordate at the base. Flowers white, in axillary, umbellate cymes. Corolla-lobes spreading, corona lobes shorter than staminal column. Follicles broad, fleshy green; seeds many, coma with white milky hairs (EPU K231).

Flowering and fruiting: December - July

Therapeutic use: Scabies

Part used: Root
Mode of administration:

Scabies: The decoction of root is applied on the affected part(s) of the skin.

55. *Canthium parviflorum* Lam.

(= *Plectronia pa* (Lam.) Bedd.)

Family: Rubiaceae       Vernacular name: Karai maram
Phytography: Armed shrub, spines supra-axillary, leaves elliptic, ovate to obovate, chartaceous, lateral nerves glabrous, base alternate, apex sub acute, stipules linear, flowers in decussate lax, cymes greenish, drupes globose, orange on ripening, pyrenes furrowed (EPU K213).

Flowering and fruiting: May- August and July

Therapeutic use: Impetigo (in cattle)       Part used: Leaf, fruit, bark and whole plant

Mode of administration:

Impetigo: The crushed leaf and bark in equal proportion are soaked overnight in hot water. Three-fourth of this mixture is administered during day and night with vegetable oil.

Non – Therapeutic use: Edible and sacred groove

i) Edible: Fruits are edible.

ii) Sacred groove: The plant is considered sacred and worshipped.

56. *Carica papaya* L.

Family: Caricaceae       Vernacular name: Pappali

Flowering and fruiting: Through-out the year

Therapeutic use: Worm infestation       Part used: Latex and fruit
Mode of administration:

Worm infestation: The milky latex is taken as a juice which kills worms in the abdomen.

Non-Therapeutic use: Edible

Edible: The ripe fruits are edible and the unripe fruits are cooked eaten as vegetables.

57. *Caryota urens* L.

Family: Arecaceae

Vernacular name: Savuri, Koonthal panai

Phytography: A lofty palm with a smooth, cylindrical, shiny, annulate trunk, bearing a crown of large leaves, leaves drooping, bipinnate with leaflets shaped like the tail of a fish, monoecious, flowers on pendulous spadix, inflorescence resembling a huge docked horse tail, flowers in groups of three, female in the center and male on sides, fruits globose, reddish when ripe, seeds 2, testa adherent (EPU K328).

Flowering and fruiting: June - August

Non-Therapeutic use: Religious practices

Religious practices: The leaves are used to decorate the temples and houses during felicitations.

58. *Cassia auriculata* L.

(= *Senna auriculata* Roxb.)

Family: Caesalpiniaceae

Vernacular name: Aavarai

Phytography: A tall much-branched shrub; branchlets pubescent. Leaves compound, stipules large, foliaceous; leaflets 8-12 pairs, slightly overlapping, glands present between all the pairs, oblong-ovate, glabrous above, puberulous below. Flowers golden yellow in terminal and axillary corymbose racemes. Calyx-lobes 5, ovate. Petals 5, ovate-orbicular. Stamens 10, Pods flat, deeply depressed between the seeds, thin mucronate; seeds ovoid (EPU K179).

Flowering and fruiting: November - April

Therapeutic use: Sprain (in cattle).

Part used: Leaf
Plate 7.

*Bella alba* L. var. *rubra* (L.) Stewart

*Bridelia crenulata* Roxb.

*Caltrops gigantea* (L.) R. Br. ex Ait.

*Cassia auriculata* L.

*Cassia occidentalis* L.
Mode of administration:

Sprain: The leaves are crushed and mixed with coconut oil. This mixture is administered over the affected part(s).

59. *Cassia fistula* L.

(= *C. rhombifolia* Roxb.)

(= *C. excelsa* H.B & K.)

Family: Caesalpiniaceae  Vernacular name: Konnei

Phytography: A moderate sized deciduous tree; young shoots pubescent. Leaves paripinnate; leaflets ovate. Flowers bright yellow, in racemes. Calyx broad, oblong. Petals obovate, prominent nerved. Stamens 10, all antheriferous. Fruit oblong, black, cylindrical with transverse partition walls; seeds many, seed pulp orange brown, ovoid. Bark smooth and pale when young, rough and cracking off in flakes when old. Wood very hard, durable, bright reddish-brown (EPU K 180).

Flowering and fruiting: March - December

Therapeutic uses: Pruritus and constipation  Part used: Whole plant, flower and fruit

Mode of administration:

i) **Constipation:** Fruits are given orally for relieving constipation.

ii) **Pruritus:** Whole plant is crushed and applied on the affected skin for itching.

Non - Therapeutic use: Spiritual

Spiritual: Flowers are used in pooja.

60. *Cassia occidentalis* L.

(= *Senna occidentalis* L.)

Family: Caesalpiniaceae  Vernacular name: Kolthagarai

Phytography: A diffuse undershrub, branchlets glabrescent. Leaflets 3-5 pairs, glabrous, apex obtuse-acute, petiole with a globose gland above the base. Flowers yellow, in axillary and terminal corymbose racemes. Pod flat, compressed, margins thickened, horned; seeds ovoid (EPU K182).
Flowering and fruiting: Through-out the year

Therapeutic uses: Abdominal pain and neuritis      Part used: Root, leaf and seed

Mode of administration:

i) Abdominal pain: The roots are crushed and the juice (4 ml) is given orally twice daily to get relief from pain during pregnancy.

ii) Neuritis: The leaf and seed in equal proportion are ground and applied over the affected part.

61. Catharanthus roseus (L.) G.Don

(= Lochnera rosea (L.) Reich.)
(= Vinca rosea L.)

Family: Apocynaceae

Vernacular name: Sudukattu malli


Flowering and fruiting: Through-out the year

Therapeutic use: Abortion      Part used: Root

Mode of administration:

Abortion: The root decoction (2.5 ml) is given orally as an abortifacient.

62. Cayratia pedata (Wall.) Gagnep.

(= Vitis pedata Vahl. ex. Wall.)
(= Cissus pedata Lam.)

Family: Vitaceae

Vernacular name: Kalalaikodi

Phytography: A large, week climber with young branches and pedately 7-foliate leaves, softly hairy, leaves alternate palmately compound, leaflets strongly veined, flowers tetramerous, small, grey or white in large sub corymbose cymes as long as the petiole, fruite subglobose, 2-4 seeded, rather dry (EPU K120).
Flowering and fruiting: August – September and in winter

Therapeutic uses: Abscess, impetigo, hypothermia, leucorrhoea (in cattle), scorpion and insect bite.

Part used: Bulb and Leaf

Mode of administration:

i) Abscess and impetigo: The bulb is cut and ground with water and made as a paste. The plant ash is mixed to the aforesaid paste and applied on the affected part(s).

ii) Hypothermia and leucorrhoea: The leaves are crushed and the juice (1ml) is administered twice a day until cure to get relief from body heat with white discharge during pregnancy.

iii) Leucorrhoea in cattle: The leaves are crushed and the juice is administered twice daily until cured from heat with white discharge in cattle.

iv) Scorpion and insect bite: The bulb is cut and ground with water to which plant ash is added and applied on the affected part(s).

63 Celastrus paniculatus Willd.

(= C.montana Roth.)

(= C.multiflora Roxb.)

Family: Celastraceae Vernacular name: Valuvukayee

Phytography: A climbing deciduous shrub. Leaves alternate, ovate-obovate; crenulate or serrate. Flowers polygamous, in terminal pendent panicles. Sepals, corolla and stamens 5 each. Fruit capsule, globose, yellow; seeds brown, enclosed in the scarlet aril. Bark yellow-pale brown, corky (EPU K132).

Flowering and fruiting: February - August

Part used: Bark Therapeutic use: Abortion

Mode of administration:

Abortion: The bark is powdered and given with honey as an abortifacient.
64. *Celosia argentea* L.  
(= *C. cristata* L.)  
**Family:** Amaranthaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Alarapoo  
**Phytography:** Common weed, herb, leaves elliptic, ovate below, linear to lanceolate above, base cuneate to attenuate, apex acute. Spike dense, cylindric, very showy, flowers across pink, gradually turning white, bract lanceolate, scarious, capsule globose, reticulate (EPU K284).  
**Flowering and fruiting:** Winter  
**Therapeutic use:** Normal delivery  
**Part used:** Leaf  
**Mode of administration:**  
Normal delivery: The leaves are crushed and the juice is taken orally twice daily to ease child birth.  

65. *Centella asiatica* (L) Urb.  
(= *Hydrocotyle asiatica* L.)  
**Family:** Apiaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Vallarai  
**Phytography:** A herbaceous prostrate weed; rooting at the nodes. Leaves many from the root stock, long petioled, reniform, entire, many nerves from the base. Stipules scarious. Flowers pink. Fruit with thick pericarp, laterally compressed (EPU K207).  
**Flowering and fruiting:** May - June  
**Therapeutic use:** Menstrual disorders  
**Part used:** Whole plant  
**Mode of administration:**  
Menstrual disorders: Whole plant is crushed and 2 ml of the juice is given thrice a day for a week.  

(= *C. heyneanum* Wall. ex Hook. f.)  
**Family:** Liliaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Verpanai  
**Phytography:** An erect herb, leaves lanceolate, acuminate, petiole narrowed, scape short, stout, flowers simple, shortly branched, densely in racemes, pedicel short, jointed near the tip, capsules elliptic, oblong, seed discoid (EPU K321).
Therapeutic use: Health tonic

Mode of administration:

Health tonic: The whole plant is crushed and administered (1.5 ml) to the children daily.

67. *Cissus quadrangularis* L. Mant.

(= *Vitis quadrangulasis* (L.) Wall.ex.Wt.)

(= *Cissus edulis* Delz.)

Family: Vitaceae

Vernacular name: Perandai


Flowering and fruiting: Through-out the year

Therapeutic uses: Dysentery (in cattle) and anorexia

Part used: Stem

Mode of administration:

i) Dysentery: The tender stem is crushed and the juice is administered to the cattle twice daily until cured.

ii) Anorexia: The tender part of the stem is prepared as chutney with tamarind and given to persons to induce hunger.

Non - Therapeutic use: Edible

Edible: The internode is cooked as curry.

68. *Cissus repens* Lam.

(= *Vitis repens* (Lam.) W. & A.)

Family: Vitaceae

Vernacular name: Kenda kodi

Phytography: A trailing plant, branchlets glabrescent, leaves simple, ovate, oblong, membranous, nerves puberulous, base cordate, margin crenate, serrate, apex acuminate, tendrils slender, cymes in compound umbels, berry globose (EPU K124).
Flowering and fruiting: August - November

**Therapeutic use:** Sprain

**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Sprain:** The leaf is powdered and mixed with 50ml of castor oil and massaged well. This gives relief from sprain.

69. Clematis gouriana Roxb. ex. DC.

**Family:** Ranunculaceae

**Vernacular name:** Attumesai kodi

**Phytography:** Climber, glabrous, stems grooved, brown. Leaves pinnate, bipinnate or tripinnate; ovate or oblong, acuminate, entire or coarsely toothed, rounded or cordate at the base, strongly nerved and reticulately veined, upper surface shining; petioles long, slender, flowers small, much-branched, decompound panicles, yellowish or greenish white; peduncles and pedicels more or less pubescent. Sepals 4, obovate or oblong, puberulous on both surfaces. Filaments narrow-linear, glabrous; connective not produced. Acenes ovoid, hairy with long feathery tails (EPU K25).

Flowering and fruiting: December - February

**Therapeutic uses:** Cuts and wounds and scabies

**Part used:** Whole plant

**Mode of administration:**

**Cuts and wounds and scabies:** The whole plant is crushed and the plant paste is applied on the affected part(s).

70. Clerodendrum philippinum Schauer.

**Family:** Verbenaceae

**Vernacular name:** Siruvatta kanni

**Therapeutic uses:** Cracks and pimples

**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Cracks and pimples:** The leaf powder mixed with gingelly oil is applied on face and legs to get relieved of pimples and cracks, respectively.
Plate 8.

*Catharanthus roseus* (L.) G. Don.

*Celosia argentea* L.

*Centella asiatica* (L.) Urb.

*Cissus quadrangularis* L. Mant.

*Clematis gouriana* Roxb. ex. DC.
71. *Clerodendrum viscosum* Vent.

(= *C. infortunatum* L.)

**Family:** Verbenaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Perugilai

**Phytography:** Large, gregarious, villous, shrub, bluntly quadrangular branchlets, leaves large, ovate, acuminate, entire or denticulate, base cordate, hairy on both sides, flowers white, tinged with pink in terminal panicles, fruits more or less globose, drupes seated on the enlarged pink calyx containing 1-4 pyrenes (EPU K266).

**Flowering and fruiting:** Throughout the year

**Therapeutic uses:** Rheumatism and scabies  
**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

i) **Rheumatism:** The leaves are boiled with water and 5ml of the decoction is taken twice a day.

ii) **Scabies:** The crushed leaf mixed with castor oil is applied on the affected part.

72. *Clitoria ternatea* L.

**Family:** Fabaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Sangu chedi

**Phytography:** A large twiner. Leaves odd-pinnate; leaflets ovate-obong, glabrous above, sparsely puberulous below, entire, acuminate. Flowers large, bright blue, in axillary solitary clusters; bracts prominent. Standard obovate, wings oblong. Stamens diadelphous; anthers uniform. Ovary stipitate; ovules many, style bearded along the inner side. Pod linear, oblong, compressed; seeds many, subglobose (EPU K159).

**Flowering and fruiting:** Throughout the year

**Non - Therapeutic use:** Aphrodisiac  
**Part used:** Whole plant

**Aphrodisiac:** The whole plant is used as aphrodisiac.

73. *Coelogyne uniflora* Lindl.

**Family:** Orchidaceae

**Phytography:** An epiphyte, pseudobulbs in clusters, flowers 1-2 in small lateral spikes (EPU K310).
Therapeutic use: Fever

Part used: Leaf

Mode of administration:

Fever: The leaves are crushed, applied over the head and tied with a cloth.

74. *Cordia gharaf* (Forsk.) Ehrenb.ex. Aschers.

(= *C. rothi* R. & S.)

Family: Boraginaceae

Vernacular name: Kallemaram

Phytography: Tree, leaves oblanceolate – oblong, glabrescent on either side, base rounded to acute, apex subacute, petiolate, calyx puberulous within, lobes 5, recurved, corolla lobes 5, stamens 5, filaments hairy at the base, ovary ovoid (EPU K236).

Flowering and fruiting: October - November

Therapeutic Uses: Diarrhoea and leucorrhoea

Part used: Leaf

Mode of administration:

Loose motion and leucorrhoea: The leaf is powdered and mixed with 1 drop each of castor oil and gingelly oil and mixed in hot water. One tumbler of this mixture is taken daily until cured.

75. *Crotalaria candicans* W. & A.

(= *C. madurensis* Wt.)

Family Name: Fabaceae

Vernacular name: Elikathu chedi

Therapeutic use: Insect bite

Part used: Whole plant

Mode of administration:

Insect bite: The whole plant is made as a paste and applied over the insect-bitten site(s).

76. *Crotalaria verrucosa* L.

Family: Fabaceae

Vernacular name: Kilukiluppai

Phytography: Herb, branches acutely angled, at first puberulous, afterwards glabrescent. Leaves ovate-rhomboid or ovate-deltoid, obtuse or occasionally acute at the apex,
tapering to the base, subglabrous above, nerves prominent, petiolate, stipules large, foliaceous, semilunate, persistent. Flowers in terminal or lateral racemes. pedicel long, bracts at the base of the pedicels linear-lanceolate, subulate. Calyx membranous, faintly pubescent, tube short, campanulate, teeth subequal, triangular, acute. Corolla long, exserted, bluish purple and white, Pods densely villous when young, softly pubescent when ripe, oblong-cylindric, stalked. Seeds 10-15, yellow, polished (EPU K152).

**Therapeutic uses:** Dyspepsia and scabies

**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

i) **Dyspepsia:** The leaf decoction (2.5 ml) is given orally daily.

ii) **Scabies:** The leaf is made as a paste with lime and applied on the affected parts.

77. *Croton bonplandianum* Baill.

(= *C. sparsiflorus* Morong.)

**Family:** Euphorbiaceae

**Phytography:** Perennial herb, green, laticiferous, leaves simple, alternate, petiolate, racemes usually terminal, may be lateral, monoecious, flowers small, white, unisexual. fruits deciduous, seeds small, smooth albuminous (EPU K295).

**Flowering and fruiting:** April - September

**Therapeutic Use:** Dental ache

**Part Used:** Latex

**Mode of administration:**

**Dental ache:** The latex is kept in the affected teeth for 15 minutes to get relief from tooth ache.

78. *Curculigo orchioides* Gaertn.

(= *C. malabarica* Wight.)

(= *Hypoxis orchioides* Kurz.)

**Family:** Hypoxidaceae

**Vernacular name:** Nila panai

**Phytography:** A small herb without stem; root stock elongate. Leaves lanceolate narrow, nerves prominent, entire acuminated. Flowers yellow, solitary, often subterranean.
Perianth lobes 6, stamens 6. anthers lanceolate, basifixed. Ovary hidden among the leaves, 3 celled; stigmas 3. Fruit somewhat succulent; seeds globose (EPU K315).

**Flowering and fruiting:** May - October

**Therapeutic Uses:** Pruritus, abscess and insect bite

**Part used:** Rhizome and leaf

**Mode of administration:**

Pruritus, abscess and insect bite: The rhizome and leaf in equal parts are made into a paste to which camphor is added. This paste is applied on the affected part(s) in the morning and bath taken in the evening with warm water.

**79. Cyclea peltata** (Lam.) Hook. f. & Thoms.

(= *C. burmanni* Hook. f. & Thoms.)

**Family:** Menispermaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Kattu vaithiya kodi

**Phytography:** A slender twinning shrub with sparingly pilose stems and branches, leaves simple, alternate, petioles long, lamina peltate, glabrous above, pale or glaucous below with nerves, puberulous, flowers small, greenish in axillary panicles, calyx globose or broadly campanulate, petals connate, anthers 6-8 celled, fruits ovoid drupes, endocarp horse-shoe shaped, seed curved (EPU K37).

**Non-Therapeutic use:** Superstitious belief

**Part used:** Tuber and leaf

Superstitions belief: The tubers and leaves are crushed and applied over head and thoroughly massaged and given bath to get rid off from ghosts.

**80. Dalbergia lanceolaria** L.f.

(= *D. robusta* Wall.)  

(= *D. zeylanica* Roxb.)

**Family:** Fabaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Kattu pachchanam

**Phytography:** Erect tree, branches glabrous, leaves alternate, pinnately compound, leaflets obovate, rigidly subcoriaceous, flowers in terminal panicles, papilionaceous, pink
or purple, calyx silky, standard broad, keel shorter than wings, fruits pods, glabrous, flexible, stalked, strap shaped, one seeded. seeds reniform (EPU K158).

**Flowering and fruiting:** May-February.

**Therapeutic use:** Diarrhoea  
**Part used:** Bark and leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Loose motion:** Bark and leaf in equal proportion are powdered and prepared as juice with water. One teaspoon of the juice is given daily to children suffering from loose motion until cured.

81. Decalepis hamiltonii Wt. & Arn.  
(= Apocynum reticulatum Wall.)  
(= Stroptocaulon hamiltonii Wight.)

**Family:** Periplocaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Kodipalai

**Phytography:** A twining, deciduous straggler, branchlets jointed, leaves opposite, ovate, entire, obtuse, flowers in axillary peduncled cymes, calyx-lobes 5, corolla-lobes 5, valvate, gland at the base of corolla, alternating with stamens, style apex convex, 5-grooved, follicles oblong-lanceolate, cylindric, seeds ovate (EPU K234).

**Flowering and fruiting:** June - November

**Therapeutic use:** Cracks  
**Part used:** Stem and leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Cracks:** The stem and leaf in equal portion are made into a paste. This paste is applied on the legs.

82. Delonix regia (Boj. ex. Hook.) Raf.  
(= Poinciana regia Bojer ex.Hook.)

**Family:** Caesalpiniaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Mayuram

**Phytography:** A deciduous tree. Leaves 2-pinnate, leaflets oblong-elliptic. Flowers orange-red or crimson-red, in terminal racemes. Calyx-tube short. Lobes 5. corolla clawed, claws yellow, the upper petal white streaked with red and yellow elongate stamens equal or shorter than petals. Pod flat. Seeds many. Wood soft and white (EPU K183).
Flowering and fruiting: April-June.

Therapeutic use: Dysmenorrhoea Part used: Flower

Mode of administration:

Dysmenorrhoea: Flowers are made into a paste with lime juice to which a pinch of salt is added. This paste is given twice a day after food from the day of menstrual cycle till the last day to alleviate pain.

83. Dendrobium microbulbon A.Rich.

Family: Orchidaceae Vernacular name: Silanthipattai

Phytography: An epiphyte, pseudobulbs small, crowded, among mosses (EPU K311).

Therapeutic use: Antidote for spider bite Part used: Root and bark

Mode of administration:

Spider bite: Equal proportions of root and bark are crushed and the mixture is applied over the spider-bitten site(s).

84. Derris scandens (Roxb.) Benth.

(= Dalbergia scandens Roxb.)

Family: Fabaceae Vernacular name: Kalichi kai

Phytography: Large climber with drooping leaves, stems smooth, leaves long, pinnately compound, Leaflets opposite, subcoriaceous, flowers in short-peduncled axillary racemes, pedicels filiform, calyx orbicular, thin grey-silky, teeth obscure. Corolla white or pale pink, standard broad, the claw long, stamens monadelphous. Ovary pubescent, fruits pod, tapering to both ends, pointed straight. Narrowly winged on the upper suture. Finely appressedly pubescent, seeds solitary, reniform (EPU K160).

Flowering and fruiting: July-February.

Non - Therapeutic use: Aphrodisiac Part used: Seed

Aphrodisiac: The castor oil is boiled and mixed with seed powder. This is administered orally with food.
85. *Desmodium motorium* (Houtt.) Merr.

(= *D. gyrans* DC.)

**Family:** Fabaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Tholugani

**Phytography:** Erect undershrub, leaves tri-foliate, pinnately compound, leaflets linear to lanceolate, flowers in racemes, solitary, calyx teeth short, corolla pink, fruits pod, oblong, pubescent, indented along lower suture, with infistinct septa (EPU K161).

**Flowering and fruiting:** August-November.

**Non - Therapeutic use:** Aphrodisiac  
**Part used:** Whole plant

**Aphrodisiac:** The whole plant is used as aphrodisiac.

86. *Dichrostahys cinerea* (L.) W.& A.

(= *Acacia cinerea* Spreng.)

**Family:** Mimosaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Vedhathalai

**Phytography:** A much branched thorny shrub-small tree; branchlets pubescent, ending in spines. Leaves bi-pinnate; leaflets pubescent, elliptic, entire. Flowers in axillary spikes, the upper half of the spike yellow, bisexual & fertile; the lower pink, male and sterile. Calyx-lobes 5, membranous. Petals-5 lanceolate. Stamens 10, free; anthers gland-crested; fruits pod, elongate, flat, woody (EPU K161).

**Flowering and fruiting:** Through-out the year

**Therapeutic use:** Antidote for snake bite  
**Part used:** Whole plant

**Mode of Administration:**

**Snake bite:** Whole plant is crushed and applied over the snake bitten site(s).

87. *Dioscorea oppositifolia* L.

(= *D. glabra* Wall.)

**Family:** Dioscoreaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Vethalai kodi

**Phytography:** A large climber, leaves coriaceous, opposite or subopposite, simple, orbicular, acuminate or rounded, margins usually glabrous, base rounded. Male flowers
Clitoria ternatea L.
Clerodendrum viscosum Vent.
Crotalaria verrucosa L.
Curculigo orchioides Gaertn.
Dioscorea oppositifolia L.
in dense shortly pedunculate spikes which are fascicled in the leaf-axils or along a slender axillary rachis bracts below the spikes. Lanceolate-subulate, bracts below the flowers ovate, acuminate, membranous. Perianth sessile with a broad base, outer lobes broadly ovate or suborbicular, concave, obtuse, inner lobes smaller. Stamens 6, perfect, anthers didynamous, pistillode obscure. Female flowers in solitary or fasciculate axillary spikes, bracts suborbicular, acuminate. Fruits capsule, suborbicular truncate, retuse, coriaceous, glabrous, base cuneate. Seeds orbicular (EPU K194).

**Therapeutic use:** Spider bite, psoriasis (in cattle), leucorrhoea, menorrhagia and dysurea

**Part used:** Leaf and tuber

**Mode of administration:**

i) **Spider bite** and **psoriasis** (in cattle): The leaves are crushed and applied on the affected part(s) and left for two days.

ii) **Leucorrhoea** and **menorrhagia**: The tubers are burnt and taken without brushing in the morning. This stops white discharge and overbleeding after delivery. Diet:- Fruits, tea and tamrind are to be avoided in the diet.

iii) **Dysurea**: The raw tubers are taken which helps in the discharge of urine.

**Non-Therapeutic use:** Edible

**Edible:** The tuber is cooked and eaten.

*88. Dioscorea pentaphylla L.*

(= *D. jacquemontii* Hook.f.)

**Family:** Dioscoreaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Mulvalli

**Phytography:** Large climbers, Leaves palmately compound, alternate, glabrous or sparsely pubescent beneath, leaflets elliptic-lanceolate, ovate or obovate, acuminate, cuspidate or subcaudate, base usually acute, lateral leaflets oblique at the base, petioles very short. Male flowers pale greenish, fragrant, in very slender shortly pedunculate racemes, which are solitary, or in fascicles along the hairy branches of a panicle bract,
membranous, broadly ovate or almost semicircular, with a long slender acumen, glabrous. Perianth segments ovate, subacute, sparsely pubescent, subequal, pedicels very short. Stamens 3 perfect, anthers subsessile, staminodes 3, minute. Pistilode 3-lobed. Female flowers in axillary pendulous pubescent spikes, fruits capsule, quadrately oblong, usually retuse at both ends nearly glabrous or more or less pubescent, often apiculate. Seeds wing longer, thinly membranous (EPU K316).

**Flowering and fruiting:** May - November.

**Therapeutic use:** Normal delivery

**Mode of administration:**

**Normal delivery:** The tuber is cooked and eaten daily to ease child birth.

**Non - Therapeutic use:** Edible

**Edible:** The tuber is edible and used in cooking.

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89.*Diospyrus malabarica* (Desr.) Kostel.

(= *D. nigrescens* (Dalz.) Saldana)

**Family:** Ebenaceae

**Vernacular name:** Aadal kayee

**Phytography:** Tree, branchlets fulvous-pubescent. Leaf blade elliptic-lanceolate, acute at apex, cuneate at base, with reticulation slightly raised beneath, fulvous-hairy on midrib beneath. Flowers 3- merous, in clusters, solitary, subsessile, calyx lobes ovate, acute, hairy. Corolla white, hairy. Stamens 6-9, pistilode rudimentary, staminodes 0. Ovary 3-celled, hairy, stigmas 3. Fruits Berry, globose, seed ellipsoid, embedded in glutinous pulp (EPU K218).

**Flowering and fruiting:** February-September

**Therapeutic use:** Dental caries

**Mode of administration:**

**Dental caries:** The fruit is crushed and mixed with 2ml of gingelly oil. After keeping the mixture aside for 2 hours, it is applied on the affected part(s).
Non-Therapeutic use: Edible

Edible: The fruits are edible.

90. *Diospyrus toposia* Buch.-Ham.

(= *D. racemosa* Roxb.)

Family: Ebenaceae  Vernacular name: Mullanchakkai

Phytography: A large tree, leaves elliptic-ovate to oblong, thick-coriaceous, glabrescent above, thinly tomentose below, mature ones glabrous, base truncate, apex acute to obtuse. Flowers in axillary racemes. Calyx lobe 4, ovate imbricate, thick, ciliate, obtuse, basally connate. Corolla greenish, tubular or campanulate. Pistil conical, globose, 8-9 locular, berry ovoid to obconical, glaucous, calyx persistent (EPU K219).

Therapeutic use: Fertility  Part used: Fruit and seed

Mode of administration:

Fertility: The raw fruit is eaten daily for 15 days to increase fertility in man.

Non-Therapeutic use:

Edible: The seeds are cooked and taken with food.

91. *Dodonaea viscosa* (L.) Jacq.

(= *Ptelea viscosa* L.)

Family: Sapindaceae  Vernacular name: Kopandi


Flowering and fruiting: October-May

Therapeutic uses: Small pox, scabies, gastro-enteritis and pertussis

Part used: Bark, leaf and fruit

Mode of administration:

i) Small pox and scabies: Crushed bark and leaf are applied on the affected body/ body parts.
ii) Gastro-enteritis and pertussis: Bark is crushed and applied throughout the body of the patient to get relief from gastro-enteritis and whooping cough.

Non - Therapeutic use: Edible

Edible: Fruits are edible.

92. *Drosera peltata* J.E.Sm. 
 (= *D. lunata* Buch.-Ham.)

**Family:** Droseraceae  
**Vernacular name:** Alzhugani

**Phytography:** Perennial herb with an underground tuber, stem erect, simple or branched above, basal leaves in a rosette, cauline leaves alternate, petiole long, blade usually peltate, glandular, inflorescence 2 - many flowered, flowers white, sepals ovate, acute, serrate, petals obovate, rounded, styles 3, branching and brush like, seeds many, obovate (EPU K196).

**Flowering and fruiting:** July - November

Non - Therapeutic use: Aphrodisiac  
**Part used:** Leaf

**Aphrodisiac:** The leaves are used as aphrodisiac.

93. *Drymaria quercifolia* (L.) J. Smith  
(= *Polypodium quercifolium* L.)

**Family:** Polypodiaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Kattumanjal

**Phytography:** Epiphytic fern, rhizomes short, thick, fleshy, creeping, densely clothed with reddish brown soft scales; frond of two types, sterile fronds long and wide, green when young, brown on aging, somewhat concave, fertile fronds long, pinnately lobed, leathery or membranous, sori small, numerous (EPU K360).

**Therapeutic use:** Jaundice  
**Part used:** Root

**Mode of administration:**

**Jaundice:** The root with soil is mixed well with gingelly oil. This paste is applied all over body in the morning well before bath.
94. *Elaeocarpus tectorius* (Lour.) Poir.

**Family:** Eleocarpaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Bikkamara

**Phytography:** Trees, leaves elliptic, acute at the both ends, serrate, petiole pubescent, glandular, racemes axillary, generally shorter than leaves, sepals 4-5 glandular, glabrous, petals glabrous, anthers with tufts stiff hairs at tips, drupes oblong, obovate, pyrenes tuberculate, 1-2 seeded (EPU K84).

**Therapeutic use:** Ulcer  
**Part used:** Fruit and leaf

**Mode of administration:**

*Ulcer:* The leaf decoction is administered orally to cure abdominal ulcer.

**Non – Therapeutic use:** Edible

*Edible:* Fruits are edible

95. *Eleagnus kolaga* Schlecht.

**Family:** Eleagnaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Kolanga mara

**Phytography:** Straggler, climbing up and over tall trees, often with spiny branchlets at right angles to the main branches. Leaves often directed backwards along the branch, ovate-oblong, elliptic or roundish, firm, conspicuously white and shiny on the lower side. Flowers subsessile in clusters of four or five at the leaf-axils. Perianth tube hairy inside. Anthers sessile at the throat. Style half the tube. Fruit linear oblong, ribs present, fleshy with a pleasantly acid taste (EPU K293).

**Flowering and fruiting:** Winter months.

**Therapeutic use:** Psoriasis  
**Part used:** Fruit and leaf

**Mode of administration:**

*Psoriasis:* The crushed leaves are rubbed on the affected part.

**Non – Therapeutic use:**

*Edible:* Fruits are edible.
96. *Eleiotis monophylla* (N. Bur.) DC.

(= *Eleiotis sororia* (L.) DC.)

(= *Glycine monophylla* N. Bur.)

**Family:** Fabaceae

**Phytography:** Branches triquetrous, leaflets 1-3, broadly obovate, retuse or emarginated, glabrous above, appressed-pubescent beneath, laterals smaller than terminal. Racemes 18-24-flowered. Calyx teeth very short,, Corolla pink, Pod long, glabrous, finely reticulate (EPU K163).

**Flowering and fruiting:** May - November

**Therapeutic use:** Scorpion sting  
**Part used:** Whole plant

**Mode of administration:**

Scorpion sting: The whole plant is crushed and the juice is applied on the scorpion-bitten part(s).


(= *Poa tenuifolia* A.Rich.)

**Family:** Poaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Karutham pul

**Phytography:** Perennial, stem erect, slender, branched. Leaves long, very narrow, mouth of sheath naked. Panicle long, oblong to ovate, very open, rachis glabrous, branches solitary, Spikelets long, linear, 5-15-flowered. Glumes very unequal, lower minute, hyaline, ovate, subacute, usually nerveless, floral glumes ovate, sub acute or apiculate, palea shorter than its glume, strongly curved, persistent, with scabrid keels. Stamens 3, grain obovoid-oblong, slightly compressed, dorsally grooved (EPU K345).

**Therapeutic uses:** Leucoderma and pruritus  
**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

Leucoderma and pruritus: The leaves are dried and powdered. A paste is made with castor oil with the powder. This paste is applied on the white patches and affected part(s).


**Family:** Orchidaceae
Phytography: A small herb, pseudobulbs discoid, appressed on horizontal branches of trees (EPUK312).

**Therapeutic use:** Cardiac problems  
**Part used:** Bulb

**Mode of administration:**

**Cardiac problems:** The bulb is cooked and taken with food for the ailments related to heart.

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(*= E. indicum* Bedd.)

**Family:** Erythroxylaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Devadara maram

**Phytography:** A shrub or small tree with dark, rough, brown bark, leaves cuneate, obovate, or elliptic with the tip rounded, dull, glaucous brown beneath when dry, nerves oblique, much reticulated, stipules triangular, long acuminate, peduncles long, flowers axillary, generally in fascicles, style trifid at top, drupe oblong, apiculate, bright scarlet supported by the persistent sepals and stamens, one celled, one seeded (EPU K89).

**Therapeutic uses:** Worm infestation and wound healing  
**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

i) **Worm infestation:** Leaf decoction (3 ml) is taken twice a day for deworming mostly in infants.

ii) **Wound healing:** Leaf paste is applied on the affected part(s).

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100. *Euonymus crenulatus* Wall. ex. W. & A.

**Family:** Celastraceae  
**Vernacular name:** Paalsurutti

**Phytography:** A small tree or shrub with rather loosely spreading branched and yellowish green leaves more or less horizontal. Leaves shortly petioled, elliptic, or occasionally ovate, entire or obscurely serrate towards the top, quite glabrous, margins revolute, midrib strong but nerves obscure. Flowers in small cymes or cymose panicles of three or seven, on slender peduncles, Bracts and bracteoles minute, buds globular, Sepals rounded. Petals purplish brown, rounded, surrounding the thick fleshly disc on
which stand the four or five stamens with broad anthers. Ovary sunk in the disc with short thick style, of five cells each with two ovules hanging from the upper corner. Fruit a brilliantly crimson pear-shaped capsule, opening so as to allow the five or more orange-coloured seeds, each capped by a large orange red aril, to hang down on slender but firm stalks, where they remain some time attached to the valves, against whose silvery white inner surface they are very conspicuous (EPU K135).

**Therapeutic use:** Impetigo

**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Impetigo:** The leaf is crushed and rubbed on the affected part. This cures boils.


**Family:** Euphorbiaceae

**Phytography:** Annual bushy herb, erect stems, leaves alternate, ovate-oblong, sinuate-repand, leaves green towards apex, scarlet or crimson near the base (EPU K296).

**Therapeutic uses:** Dysentery and abdominal ulcers

**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Dysentery and abdominal ulcers:** The crushed leaf juice (2 ml) is taken twice a day until cured.

102. *Euphorbia hirta* L.

(= *E. pilulifera* Hook.f.)

(= *Chamaesyce hirta* (L.) Millsp.)

**Family:** Euphorbiaceae

**Vernacular name:** Ammanpacharisi

**Phytography:** An annual, ascending, hispid herb. Leaves opposite, decussate, obliquely obovate- lanceolate, dark green above, pale beneath. Cyathia in terminal and axillary cymose heads. Involucral glands 5; red; male florets 4-6; female florets pendulous. Style 3 fid, stigma obtuse. Capsules hairy; seeds ovoid, angled, light reddish, furrowed (EPU K297).

**Flowering and fruiting:** Through-out the year

**Therapeutic uses:** Vomiting and leucoderma

**Part used:** Leaf and stem -latex
Plate 10.

*Dioscorea pentaphylla* L.

*Diospyrus toposia* Buch. - Ham.

*Dodonaea viscosa* (L.) Jacq.

*Erythroxylon monogynum* Roxb.

*Evolvulus alsinoides* (L.) L.
Mode of administration:

i) **Vomiting:** The crushed leaf is applied on the head to stop vomiting.

ii) **Leucoderma:** The latex from the stem is collected and applied over the white patches.

103. *Evolvulus alsinoides* (L.) L.

(= *E. hirsutus* Lamk.)

(= *Convolvulus alsinoides* L.)

**Family:** Convolvulaceae

**Vernacular name:** Karanda chedi


**Flowering and fruiting:** July - January

**Therapeutic uses:** Cuts and wounds  

**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

Cuts and wounds: Leaves are crushed and applied on the affected part.

104. *Ficus amottiana* (Miq.) Miq.

(= *Ficus populifolia* Wall.)

(= *Urostigma arottianum* Miq.)

**Family:** Moraceae

**Vernacular name:** Kodiyaal

**Phytography:** A glabrous tree without aerial roots, bark pale, smooth, leaves simple, alternate, subcoriaceous, broadly ovate, base cordate, apex shortly caudate-acuminate, margin entire. Lateral main nerves 5-7 pairs, stipules ovate-lanceolate, receptacles globose, originates from tubercles in the axils of fallen leaves in pairs or clusters. Male flowers few, sessile near the mouth of the receptacles, gall and fertile flowers indistinguishable, fruits achenes (EPU K307).
Flowering and fruiting: March – August and December - January

Therapeutic uses: Mastitis and lactogogue  
Part used: Bark and leaf

Mode of administration:

i) Mastitis: The bark and leaves are crushed and given to the ladies to get relief from mastitis.

ii) Lactogogue: The bark is kept on the left and right sides of the breast while sleeping, to induce lactation.

105. Ficus benjamina L.  
(= Ficus nuda Miq.)  
(= Urostigma benjamina Miq.)

Family: Moraceae  
Vernacular name: Eththi

Phytography: An evergreen tree, leaves alternate, stipules small, lanceolate, glabrous, leafblade simple, ovate to elliptic, petiole obtuse at the base, rather long and bluntish acuminate, rigidly chartaceous, entire, glabrous, the nerves thin, much crowded and uniting near the margin, Receptacles of fruits axillary, sessile, in pairs, globular or almost obovate and narrowed at the base, Blood-red when fully ripe, glabrous (EPU K308).

Flowering and fruiting: March - July

Therapeutic uses: Psycogenic treatment and impetigo  
Part used: Leaf

Mode of administration:

i) Psycogenic treatment: The leaf powder is applied over head and taken bath.

ii) Impetigo: The leaf is crushed and rubbed on the affected part(s).

106. Ficus callosa Willd.

Family: Moraceae

Phytography: Large tree with root buttresses, petiole long, leaf blade broadly elliptic, abruptly acuminate at apex, acute or rounded at base, glabrous above, scaberulus, slightly pubescent beneath with 3 basal nerves, lateral nerves 6-11 pairs, figs axillary, solitary, globose, scabrous, pubescent, peduncle long, basal bracts 3, small (EPU K309).
Flowering and fruiting: April – July

Therapeutic use: Lactogogue

Part used: Bark and fruit

Mode of administration:

Lactogogue: The bark is kept on the left and right sides of the breast while sleeping to induce lactation.

Non – Therapeutic use: Edible

Edible: The fruit is edible.

107. Gloriosa superba L.

(= G. simplex Don.)

Family: Liliaceae

Vernacular name: Kaanthal chedi

Phytography: A herbaceous, annual, climber; root stock tuberous, fleshy-white bifurcately branched. Leaves opposite, then alternate, subsessile, linear-lanceolate, leaf tip modified into tendril, nerves paralled, flowers in lax racemes, orange red-crimpson, greenish at first, solitary. Stamens long, spreading. Fruit capsule, seeds round, black (EPU K322).

Flowering and fruiting: July- October

Therapeutic use: Abortion

Part used: Whole plant

Mode of administration:

Abortion: The whole plant is crushed and the juice (2 ml) is given for inducing abortion.

108. Glycosmis mauritiana (Lam.) Tanaka.

(= G. cochinchinensis auct. Non Pierre)

(= Limonia mauritiana Lam.)

Family: Rutaceae

Vernacular name: Malai ulukki

Phytography: Shrub, leaves 3-5 foliate, petiolate, leaflets long, lateral nerves 5-8 pairs, inflorescence axillary, long, puberulent, pedicilate, flowers long, sepals puberulent, scarious marginate, ciliate, petals elliptic to subovate, glabrous except tiny hair patch at apex, filaments subulate, anthers ovate, elliptic, apicicular gland distinct, ovary clavoid
with a few hairs pitted to pustular, constricted at base, slightly lobed, fruits subglobose, one seeded pericarp (EPU K99).

**Flowering and fruiting:** March - April

**Therapeutic use:** Migraine  
**Part used:** Root

**Mode of administration:**

Migraine: One inch of the root is taken, crushed with stone, mixed with 5ml of water and administered orally.

**Note:** Ladies should not take this treatment during menstrual cycle.

109. *Glycosmis pentaphylla* (Retz.) DC.  

(= *G. arborea* (Roxb.) DC.)  

(= *Limonia pentaphylla* Retz.)

**Family:** Rutaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Konchi chedi

**Phytography:** Shrub, leaves with 3-5 leaflets, petiolate. leaflets long, entire, inflorescence axillary, elongate, flowers pentamerous, sepals ovate-rotund, margin scarious, ciliate, petals obovate, elliptic, glandular. stamens glabrous, filaments broad at middle, anther ovate to elliptic-cordate, ovary 5 celled, subglobose, apiculate, coarsely pistulate, style indistinct, stigma flat, obscurely angled, one seeded, seeds green (EPU K103).

**Flowering and fruiting:** February - April

**Therapeutic use:** Dental caries  
**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Dental caries:** 2-3 leaves are chewed and the saliva is spit out. The chewed leaves are kept on the affected teeth for an hour.

110. *Gmelina arborea* Roxb.

(= *G. rheedii* Hook.)

(= *Premna arborea* Roth.)

**Family:** Verbenaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Gumadi
**Phytography:** A moderate, fulvous branched, deciduous tree; branchlets covered with white pubescent. Leaves alternate, broadly ovate, beneath fulvous-tomentose. Flowers in racemes, brownish-yellow, Calyx fulvous-hairy. Corolla hairy outside fruits drupe, pyriform, orange-yellow when ripe, fleshy, seeds oblong (EPU K268).

**Flowering and fruiting:** March - December

**Therapeutic uses:** Urinary disorders and ulcers  
**Part used:** Root, stem and leaf

**Mode of administration:**

i) **Urinary disorders:** The root decoction is taken twice a day.

ii) **Ulcer:** The leaf decoction is given orally before food daily.

**Non - Therapeutic use:** Musical instrument

**Musical instrument:** The wood is used in making musical instrument.

**111. Gnetum ula** Brongn.

(= G. scandens Hook. f. non Roxb.)

(= G. funiculare B.Sm.)

**Family:** Gnetaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Vanna avarai kodi

**Phytography:** A large robust climber, leaves ovate-oblong, branchlets slender with thickened nodes, ripe fruit reddish-orange, bark thick, brown, rough with scales (EPU K262).

**Therapeutic use:** Jaundice  
**Part used:** Stem and leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Jaundice:** Equal proportions of stem and leaf are powdered and boiled with water. In the morning, 25ml of the juice is taken once daily until cured.

**112. Grewia gamblei** J.R. Drumm.

**Family:** Tiliaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Erangu seengai

**Phytography:** A climbing shrub with elliptic, acuminate 3 veined leaves, stellate hairs, peduncles opposite the leaves, leaves and twigs softly tomentose, flowers yellow, ovary raised a torus, stalk of ovary small, fruit 4 lobed (EPU K75).
Non-Therapeutic use: Aphrodisiac

Aphrodisiac: The stem is used as an aphrodisiac.


(= *G.arborea* Roxb. ex Rottler)

Family: Tiliaceae

Vernacular name: Kadasai

Phytography: A tree, leaves ovate, acuminate, crenate-dentate, upper surface minutely stellately hairy or subglabrous, the nerves pubescent, lower surface hairy-tomentose, cordate and inequilateral at the base, flowers small, umbellate, buds obovoid-oblong or subglobose, tomentose, peduncles 3 or several, axillary, thick, about equalling the petioles, pedicles divergent, shorter than the peduncles, bracts beneath the pedicels linear-lanceolate. Sepals oblong, subacute, pubescent outside, glabrous within. Petals about half as long as sepals, oblanceolate or spatulate, entire or notched, gland about one-third the length of the petal, densely white-villous on the margin. Torus rather long, ribbed, glabrous, with 5 obscure villous teeth at the apex. Ovary villous, style longer than the stamens, stigma somewhat irregularly 5-lobed. Fruits drupe, black, globose (EPU K79).

Flowering and fruiting: February – August

Therapeutic use: Detoxication

Part used: Leaf and whole plant

Mode of administration:

Detoxication: The leaves are crushed and made into a juice. Half a tumbler of leaf juice is taken orally daily to detoxicate the uterus after delivery.

Non-Therapeutic uses: House construction and roof thatching

House construction and roof thatching: The whole plant is used in house construction and thatching of roofs.

114. *Gymnema sylvestre* (Retz.) R.Br.ex.Schult

(= *G.melicida* Edgew.)

(= *Periploca sylvestris* Retz.)

Family: Asclepiadaceae

Vernacular name: Sarkaraikolli
Phytography: A large, woody, branched, twining shrub; young parts pubescent. Leaves thin ovate-lanceolate, shortly acuminate; pubescent on both sides. Flowers yellow, small, in terminal corymbose cymes or umbels. Calyx and corolla-lobes 5 each, corolla lobes twisted in the bud. Follicles slender, seeds broadly margined. The leaves have the property of neutralizing the taste of sugar (EPU K233).

Flowering and fruiting: August-December

Therapeutic uses: Hypertension, leucorrhoea, uterus ulcer and cuts and wounds.

Part used: Leaf

Mode of administration:

i) **Hypertension**: Shade dried leaf powder is consumed in empty stomach once or twice a day.

ii) **Leucorrhoea**: Equal quantities of dry leaf powder of *G. sylvestre* and *Abrus precatorius* are mixed with honey and taken in empty stomach twice a day.

iii) **Uterus ulcer**: The above said mixture is taken for one mandalam (41 days) for curing uterus ulcer.

iv) **Cuts and wounds**: The leaf paste is applied on the affected part(s).

115. *Helicteres isora* L.

Family: Sterculiaceae

Vernacular name: Edampuri – valampuri


Flowering and fruiting: April- December

Part used: Fruit, leaf, root and seed

Therapeutic uses: Menorrhoea and scorpion sting

Mode of administration:

i) **Menorrhoea**: The fruit, leaf and root are crushed with water and made upto half a tumbler. This juice is taken daily to stop over bleeding after delivery.
ii) **Scorpion sting**: The seeds are powdered and applied over the affected part(s).

**Non-Therapeutic use**: Insect repellent

**Insect repellent**: The leaves are used as insect repellent.

116. *Helictotrichon virescens* (Nees ex Steud.) Henrard.

\[ (= H. asperum \text{ (Munro ex Thw.) Bor.}) \]

\[ (= Trisetum virescens \text{ Nees ex Steud.}) \]

\[ (= Avena aspera \text{ Munro ex Thw.}) \]

\[ (= Avenastrum asperum \text{ (Thw.) C.E.C.Fisch.}) \]

**Family**: Poaceae  
**Vernacular name**: Aadampul

**Phytography**: Culms tufted, erect, leafblade flat or convolute, glabrous, ligule truncate, panicles oblong, often nodding, rachis scabrid, spikelets ovate-oblong, shiny, lower glume lanceolate, keel scabrid below, upper glume ovate-lanceolate, scaberulous near apex, lowest lemma ovate-lanceolate, margins sparsely hairy, mid vein continued as awn, lateral veins produced as setae on either side of awn (EPU K346).

**Flowering and fruiting**: August - September

**Non-Therapeutic use**: Improves hair growth  
**Part used**: Whole plant

**Hair growth**: The whole plant is dried and powdered. This powder is made as a paste with castor oil and applied to the head.

117. *Hemidesmus indicus* (L.) R.Br.

\[ (= Periploca indica \text{ L.}) \]

\[ (= P. emetica \text{ Retz.}) \]

**Family**: Periplocaceae  
**Vernacular name**: Kodi Nannari

**Phytography**: A twining shrub; root stock woody. Leaves dark, sometimes silver white above, opposite, decussate, very variable, from elliptic-orbicular apiculate, acute or obtuse, flowers yellowish-brown, in axillary subsessile cymes. Calyx and corolla lobes 5 each, ovate, acute. Stamens 5. Follicles cylindric, long, slender, tapering at apex, seed ovate-oblong, coma silvery white (EPU K235).
Flowering and fruiting: October February

Therapeutic uses: Blood clot, dysurea and snakebite  
Part used: Leaf and whole plant

Mode of administration:

i) Blood clot: The crushed leaf juice (5 ml) is given after delivery to stop blood clot.

ii) Dysurea: The crushed leaf juice (3 ml) is administered orally. This induces the excretory organs and helps in the discharge of urine freely.

iii) Snake bite: The whole plant is crushed and the juice is administered orally (3.5 ml) in snake-bite.

118. Hemonites cordata (Burm. f.) Moore.

Family: Sinopteridaceae  
Vernacular name: Periathavalai

Phytography: Axis, an almost erect stock, short, thick, dictyostelic, copiously scaly at the apex. Scales concolorous, light brown, linear-lanceolate, entire, narrow and not peltate at the base. Fronds spirally-clustered on the stock, simple, coriaceous, stiff, glaborous and dark green on the adoxial surface. Villous on the abaxial surface, obuse, entire, auriculate, dimorphous and stipitate. Venation circinate and hairy (EPU K349).

Therapeutic use: Wheezing  
Part used: Leaf

Mode of administration:

Wheezing: Equal proportions of the dry powdered leaves of Hemonites cordata and Adiantum lunulatum are mixed with coconut oil. This mixture is applied over the head before bath. (mostly in infants).

119. Heylandia latebrosa DC.

(= Goniogyna hirta (Willd) Ali.)

Family: Fabaceae

Phytography: Prostrate herbs, branches silky. Leaves ovate, subcordate at base, acute, pilose on both surface, calyx pubescent. Corolla yellow, exserted, Pod ovate, silky, 1-2 seeded (EPU K165).

121
Flowering and fruiting: September-February.

Therapeutic use: Abdominal pain

Part used: Whole plant

Mode of administration:

Abdominal pain: The whole plant juice is administered (2 ml) in the morning after food until cured.

120. Hibiscus mutabilis L.

Family: Malvaceae

Vernacular name: Mullangi Vaalai

Phytography: A small tree without prickles, branches tomentose. Leaves cordate, long-petioled, suborbicular, 5-7-lobed or -angled, irregularly crenate-dentate, often entire near the base, more or less softly pubescent or tomentose, stipules linear-lanceolate. Pedicles jointed near the flower, axillary solitary. Involucral bracts linear-lanceolate, shorter than the calyx. Calyx-lobes ovate, acuminate, velvety-pubescent. Corolla spreading, white or pink in the morning, turning red before night, petals almost twice as long as the calyx. Staminal tube shorter than the corolla. Capsule globose, flattened, hairy. Seeds reniform, hispid (EPU K63).

Flowering and fruiting: Through-out the year

Therapeutic uses: Edema

Part used: Bark and leaf

Mode of administration:

Edema: The leaves are made as a paste with Allium cepa and applied over the swellings.

Non - Therapeutic use: White hair

White hair: The bark is powdered and made into a paste with water. This paste is applied on the grey hair.

121. Hibiscus lunarifolius Willd.

Family: Malvaceae

Vernacular name: Uththal

Phytography: Large, erect herb, densely stellate, pubescent and setaceous, leaves 3-5 lobed, orbicular-ovate, acute-acuminate, doubly serrate, dentate, lobes triangular, flowers axillary or in terminal racemes, epicalyx lobes linear, acute, calyx longer, corolla densely hairy outside, capsule ovoid, beaked, stellate-hairy, seeds with minute stellate scales (EPU K64).
Flowering and fruiting: October-January

Therapeutic uses: Edema

Part used: Root and leaf

Mode of administration:

Edema: Equal proportions of dried leaf and root are mixed with gingelly oil and the affected part is massaged.


(= H. pubescence (Buch.-Ham.) Wall ex DC.)

Family: Apocynaceae

Vernacular name: Vepali


Flowering and fruiting: June-March.

Therapeutic uses: Dyspepsia and psoriasis

Part used: Seed and leaf

Mode of administration:

i) Dyspepsia: The powdered seeds are taken with curd twice a day.

ii) Psoriasis: The leaf paste is applied over the affected parts.

Non – Therapeutic use: Meal plate

Meal plate: The leaves are used as meal plates.

123. Holigarna beddomei Hook.f.

Family: Anacardiaceae

Vernacular name: Saarai maram

Phytography: A lofty tree, leaves broad, midrib on upper surface, ciliate with long hairs as margins, petiole-spurs slender, long -villous- pubescent, flowers in axillary and terminal racemes or panicles, calyx 5 toothed, petals 5, valvate, stamens 5, filament subulate, anthers oblong, dehiscing longitudinally, style 3, stigma capitate. ovule pendulous, fruit a resinous, acrid, compressed ovoid drupe, bark smooth, wood light grey, soft and perishable (EPU K144).
Therapeutic use: Psoriasis

Mode of administration:

Psoriasis: The dried and powdered leaf is mixed with castor oil. This mixture is applied 2-3 times daily.

124. *Holoptelea integrifolia* (Roxb.) Planch.

(= *Ulmus integrifolia* Roxb.)

Family: Ulmaceae

Phytography: Deciduous tree, leaves alternate, simple, petiole long, stipules lanceolate, leaf blade elliptic-ovate or suborbicular, acute or acuminate, lateral nerves 5-7 pairs. Flowers in short fascicles, brownish, pubescent, tepals unequal, fruit samara, emarginate at apex with persistent stigma (EPU K305).

Flowering and fruiting: December - May

Therapeutic use: Paedal edema

Mode of administration:

Paedal edema: The bark is ground to a paste and the paste is applied on the affected part(s).

125. *Hydrocotyl javanica* Thunb.

Family: Apiaceae

Vernacular name: Neervaadi

Phytography: Stem succulent, pubescent below the nodes, with erect branches leaves circular, triangular lobes present, hairy above on the veins, pubescent underneath, stipules entire, stalks on the prostrate stem, flowers small, pale green, nearly sessile and crowded on very slender peduncles fascicled in the leaf-axils. No sepals. Petals with incurved tips. Fruits broader, mericarps compressed, with five primary ridges (EPU K209).

Therapeutic use: Wound healing

Mode of administration:

Wound healing: The whole plant is crushed and the juice is applied over the cuts and wounds.
126. *Indigofera linnaei* Ali.  
\(=I.\ \textit{enneaphylla}\ \textit{L.})\\ 
**Family**: Fabaceae  
**Vernacular name**: Nerinji seppu  
**Phytography**: Trailing profusely branched, slender, grey-pubescent herbs. leaflets 7-9, oblong-ovate, obtuse, flowers in raceme, calyx incised to more than halfway. Pod subovoid, thinly hairy, 2-seeded (EPU K167).  
**Flowering and fruiting**: July- November.  
**Therapeutic use**: Amenorrhoea  
**Part used**: Stem  
**Mode of administration**:  
Amenorrhoea: The crushed stem is boiled with milk and made as a juice. This is administered orally daily for 30 days.

127. *Ipomoea barlerioides* (Choisy.) Benth.  
**Family**: Convolvulaceae  
**Vernacular name**: Maan kodi  
**Phytography**: Herbs, twining, leaves alternate, entire, flowers solitary, purple, sepals markedly enlarging in fruit, seeds villous, margin hirsute (EPU K242).  
**Non-Therapeutic use**: Fodder  
**Part used**: Leaf  
**Fodder**: The leaves are used as fodder for deer.

128. *Ipomoea hederifolia* L.  
\(=I.\ \textit{angulata}\ \textit{Lam.})  
\(=\textit{Quamoclit phoenicea}\ \textit{(Roxb.) Choisy.)}
**Family**: Convolvulaceae  
**Vernacular name**: Kannavalikkodi  
**Phytography**: Branchlets pubescent. Leaves broadly ovate-cordiform, chartaceous, glaucous below, base cordate, margin entire or obscurely lobed, apex acuminate, Cymes lax, Calyx-lobes5, subequal, half-united, lobes aristate, thick, acute, corolla red, salverform, inflated above, lobes slightly unequal, acute stamens 5, unequal exserted, glandular-hairy at base, anthers oblong, parallel, Ovary conical, style exserted, fruit a capsule, seeds oblong, puberulous, septum persistent, white membranous (EPU K243).
Flowering and fruiting: September-December.

Non - Therapeutic use: Fodder
Part used: Leaf

Fodder: The leaves are used as fodder for cattle.

129. Ipomoea staphylina R. & S.

Family: Convolvulaceae
Vernacular name: Oonan kodi

Phytography: Leaves deltoid, elliptic to broadly ovate, chartaceous, base truncate to subcordate, apex gradually acute, apiculate, Panicles rarely subterminal, bracts deciduous, Calyx-lobes 5, subequal, broadly ovate to suborbicular, puberulous without, obtuse. Corolla pink with a deeper throat, funnel-form, Stamens 5, sparsely hairy, Ovary conical, fruit a capsule, seeds oblong, subtrigonus, hairy at top, hairs soft, silky, brownish white, longer than seeds (EPU K245).

Flowering and fruiting: December-March

Therapeutic use: Hypothermia
Part used: Flower and leaf

Mode of administration:

Hypothermia: Leaf juice is given daily until cured.

Non – Therapeutic use: Festivals

Festival: The flowers are collected by ladies on the day after ‘Mattu Pongal’ and they play on the river banks with flowers.

130. Jatropha curcas L.

Family: Euphorbiaceae

Phytography: A deciduous, shrub; latex sticky. Laves alternate, orbicular-cordate, broadly ovate, lobes 3-5, entire, acute. Flowers unisexual, yellowish-green, in axillary cymes; penduncles and pedicels tomentose. Outer petals equal in male flowers, unequal in females. Stamens 10 (5+5), capsule subglobe, rugose when dry. Bark smooth, whitish green, peeling off in thin flakes (EPU K298).

Flowering and fruiting: May - December
Therapeutic uses: Dental caries and wound healing  

Part used: Stem and whole plant

Mode of administration:

i) Dental caries: Fresh stem is used as a tooth brush. This strengthens the gums and cures boils and bleeding of gums.

ii) Wound healing: Whole plant is crushed and applied on the affected part(s).

131. Justicia repens L.

(= Rungia repens Nees.)

Family: Acanthaceae  
Vernacular name: Mattan kurichi

Phytography: Procumbent herb. Leaves elliptic-lanceolate, puberulous, acute at both ends. Spikes terminal, bracts 4-farious, usually 2 rows barren, the rest fertile, similar, elliptic-lanceolate, softly pubescent, margin scarious, shortly acuminate, bracteoles lanceolate, ciliate, a few gland-tipped, acuminate. Calyx-lobes 5, subequal, shortly connate, valvate lanceolate, ciliate, gradually acute. Corolla pinkish, lobes 5, bilipped, 2+3, imbricate, upper lip shortly bifid, lower lip crested, obtuse. Stamens 2, juncture at the 2 lips, filaments, puberulous anther cells oblong, divergent, unequal, lower cell shortly appendaged below, connectives broad. Ovary globose, puberulous, style hairy, stigma bifid, fruit a capsule, elliptic-oblong, flat, pubescent, seeds suborbicular, compressed, concentrically tuberculate, elastically separating from the valves (EPU K259).

Flowering and fruiting: November-February

Therapeutic uses: Psoriasis and general weakness (in cattle)  
Part used: Leaf

Mode of administration:

i) Psoriasis: The dried leaves are powdered and mixed with vegetable oil and ‘Panneer’ (rose water). This paste is applied on the affected part(s) in cattle.

ii) General weakness: The leaves are crushed and given to the cattle for general weakness.
132. *Justicia tranquebarensis* L. f.

**Family**: Acanthaceae  
**Vernacular name**: Upanakodi


**Therapeutic use**: Contraception  
**Part used**: Leaf

**Mode of administration**:  
**Contraception**: The leaves are crushed and mixed with milk. This mixture (half-a tumbler) is given continuously once daily for a week.

133. *Lantana camara* L.

**Family**: Verbenaceae  
**Vernacular name**: Unni chedi

**Phytography**: A large scrambling evergreen shrub, high, twigs usually more or less prickly, pubescent. Leaves opposite, ovate, subacute, base truncate or narrowed, crenate-serrate, scabrid on both sides. Flowers orange, in which heads are permanently capitate, peduncles long, hispid, thickened upwards, bracts long, lanceolate, hispid. Calyx long. Corolla-tube long, slender, pubescent, lobes 4, rounded. Fruit black, shining (EPU K269).

**Therapeutic uses**: Cuts and wounds (in cattle)  
**Part used**: Leaf

**Mode of administration**:  
**Cuts and wounds**: The leaves are crushed and applied on the affected part(s) and tied with a cloth for two days in cattle.

134. *Leea indica* (Burm. f.) Merr. (Endangered)  

(= *L. staphylea* Roxb.)  
(= *L. sambucina* willd.)

**Family**: Leeaceae  
**Vernacular name**: Kaattu Kothu

**Phytography**: A shrub, branches numerous, straight, tough, the young ones green, glabrous. Leaves 2-pinnate, leaflets, oblong or elliptic-oblong, acuminate. coarsely and...
irregularly serrate, glabrous, base acute or cuneate, main nerves in pairs, prominent, beneath, arched. Flowers white, in large branched corymbose cymes, bracts inconspicuous, caducous. Calyx shortly divided, lobes subacute or rounded and with membranous margins. Lobes of the staminal tube rounded at the apex, notched, anthers united in bud. Berry depressed-globular, smooth, shining, purple-black (EPU K130).

**Therapeutic uses:** Edema and pruritus

**Part used:** Whole plant

**Mode of administration:**

i) **Edema:** The whole plant is crushed and mixed with 50ml coconut oil. This oil is applied all over the body to get relief from pain.

ii) **Pruritus:** The aforesaid mixture is applied on the affected part(s) of body against itching.

135. *Limonia acidissima* L.

(= *F. elephantum* Corr.)

**Family:** Rutaceae

**Vernacular name:** Vilamaram


**Flowering and fruiting:** May - December

**Therapeutic use:** Health tonic

**Part used:** Fruit, leaf and bark

**Mode of administration:**

**Health tonic:** The pericarp of dried fruits is powdered and mixed with equal proportions of the leaf powder of *Tribulus terrestris*. This mixture is administered twice daily for pregnant ladies as a health tonic.

**Non - Therapeutic uses:** Edible and hair nourisher

**Edible:** The fruit is edible.

**Hair nourisher:** The bark and leaves are dried, powdered and used as shampoo.
136. **Litsea glutinosa** (Lour.) Robinson.

(= **L. sebifera** Persoon.)

**Family:** Lauraceae  
**Vernacular name:** Suruli maram

**Phytography:** Trees, leaf blade elliptic or ovate-lanceolate, obtuse or acute at apex, narrowed at base, grey-pubescent especially on lower surface. Peduncles grey-pubescent. Umbellules bracteate, pedicellate, crowded at tip of peduncle. Perianth lobes 0. Stamens and staminodes hairy (EPU K292).

**Flowering and fruiting:** May-August.

**Non - Therapeutic use:** Incense stick  
**Part used:** Bark gum

**Incense stick:** The bark gum is used as incense sticks.

137. **Ludwigia octavalvis** (Jacq.) Raven.

(= **Oenothera octavalvis** Jacq.)

**Family:** Onagraceae  
**Vernacular name:** Kaattumalli

**Phytography:** Subshrub, branchelets densely tomentose. Leaves lanceolate, oblong or elliptic-ovate, chartaceous, base and apex attenuate, margin entire, petiole, bracteoles subulate, Calyx-tube pubescent, lobes4, lanceolate, petals4, yellow, obovate, base cuneate, apex rotund, Stamens 8, filaments short, epipetalous, anthers oblong, Ovary 4-celled, ovules numerous, stigma subglobose. Capsule terate, thin-walled, 8-ribbed, pubescent, seeds multiseriate, free, ovoid, raphe prominent, equal to seed (EPU K201).

**Non - Therapeutic use:** Hair nourisher  
**Part used:** Leaf

**Hair nourisher:** The dry leaves are powdered, mixed with castor oil and made as a paste. Application of the paste to the hair improves the growth and prevents falling of hair.

138. **Malvastrum coromandelianum** (L.) Garcke.

(= **M. tricuspidatum** (R.Br.) A. Gray.)

(= **Malva coromandeliana** L.)

**Family:** Malavaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Kalakaranda
Phytography: Woody herbs, strigose with simple and 4-armed stellate hairs. Leaves ovate to ovate-lanceolate, 5-nerved from rounded to truncate base, dentate. Flowers axillary, solitary often clustered, epicalyx lobes linear-lanceolate. Calyx exceeding epicalyx, long triangular, acute. Mericarps included in calyx, with dorsal bristles, 3-awned (EPU K65).

Flowering and fruiting: May-August.

Therapeutic use: Normal delivery

Part used: Leaf

Mode of administration:

Normal delivery: One g of the leaf is crushed and made into a paste with water. This paste is given during pregnancy to ease child birth.

139. Mappia foetida Miers.

Family: Icacinaceae

Vernacular name: Kalintha chedi

Therapeutic use: Cancer

Part uses: Stem and leaf

Mode of administration:

Cancer: The fresh juice of stem and leaf is taken twice daily.

140. Microsorum punctatum (L.) Copel.

Family: Polypodiaceae

Vernacular name: Moonukiluppai

Therapeutic use: Paronychia

Part used: Leaf

Mode of administration:

Paronychia: The leaf decoction is taken daily until cured.

141. Miliusa eriocarpa Dunn.

(= M. indica auct. Non Lesch.)

Family: Annoaceae

Vernacular name: Vakkanai

Phytography: Shrubs. Leaves elliptic or oblong-lanceolate, obtuse or acute at apex, rounded or slightly oblique, often subcordate at base, flowers axillary, solitary, pedicel slender, Sepals ovate, reflexed. Outer petals ovate, acute, slightly longer than sepals and

Non - Therapeutic use: Fish poison  
Part used: Whole plant

Fish poison: The whole plant is used to stupefy the fish.

142. Mucuna pruriens (L.) DC.  
(= M. prurita Hook.)  
(= Dolichos pruriens L. Herb)

Family: Fabaceae  
Vernacular name: Poona kali

Phytography: Herbaceous or sometimes woody, pubescent twiners, leaves alternate, pinnately compound, trifoliate leaflets ovate-rhomboid, white appressed-pubescent beneath. Flowers in axillary racemes, purple, Corolla long. Anthers glabrous. Fruit a pod, curved at both ends, thick, covered with yellow-brown stinging hairs, seeds oblong (EPU K169).

Flowering and fruiting: August - March

Therapeutic uses: Fever, cuts and wounds  
Part used: Root and leaf

Mode of administration:

i) Fever: Root extract with water (5 ml) is taken daily until cure.

ii) Cuts and wounds: Leaf paste is applied on the affected part(s).

143. Naravelia zeylanica (L.) DC.  
(= Atragene zeylanica L.)

Family: Ranunculaceae  
Vernacular name: Moovilai kodi

Phytography: A scandent or climbing shrub with tuberous roots, wiry stem and strong tendril, leaves 3-foliate, opposite, terminal leaflets modified into a 3-branched tendril, leaflets ovate-lanceolate, serrate or crenate, prominently nerved, flowers yellow, fragrant, in axillary and terminal panicles, sepals downy, petals linear-clavate, elongate, fruits aggregate of achenes, ending in twisted feathery tails (EPU K28).

Flowering and fruiting: October - January

Therapeutic use: Head ache  
Part use: Whole plant
Mode of administration:

Headache: The plant is tied over the head to rid headache.

144. *Nephrolepis auriculata* T.Moore.

**Family:** Polypodiaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Thane vanangi  
**Therapeutic use:** Psoriasis  
**Part used:** Leaf

Mode of administration:

Psoriasis: The leaf powder is mixed with maida flour and water and made into a paste. This paste is applied on the affected part(s).

145. *Ocimum basilicum* L.  

(= *O. caryophyllantum* Roxb.)

**Family:** Lamiaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Tulasi

**Phytography:** A branching herb. Leaves ovate to lanceolate, entire or toothed sometimes. Flowers creamy or purple, in densely racemes; bracts stalked. Calyx enlarging in fruit. Stamens 4, slightly exserted. Seeds mucilaginous during wet condition (EPU K274).

**Flowering and fruiting:** September - March

**Non-Therapeutic use:** Spiritual  
**Part used:** Leaf and flower

Spiritual: The leaves and flowers are used in pooja / worship.

146. *Ocimum gratissimum* L.  

(= *O. frutescens* L.)

**Family:** Lamiaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Raja tulasi

**Phytography:** Shrubby, perennial, much-branched, woody below, stem and branches subequadrangular, the young ones pubescent. Leaves, elliptic-lanceolate, acute, coarsely crenate-serrate, pubescent on both sides, gland-dotted, base cuneate petiole long, slender, more or less pubescent. Flowers in simple or branched rather short racemes, in tolerably close whorls, rachis quadrangular, softly pubescent, bracts sessile, longer than the calyx, acuminate from a broad ovate base, decussate and squarrose in the young inflorescence,
ciliate, pedicels shorter than the calyx, softly pubescent. Calyx pubescent and glandular, upper lip rounded, veined, scarcely mucronate, curved upwards in fruit, longer than the lower, lower lip strongly nerved, the 2 central teeth short, subulate, the lateral teeth shorter and broader, lanceolate. Corolla pale greenish yellow, pubescent outside, Stamens exserted, upper filaments with a bearded tooth at the base. Nutlets subglobose, rugose, brown (EPU K275).

**Flowering and fruiting:** October - March

**Therapeutic uses:** Fever, vomiting and edema

**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

i) **Fever and vomiting:** The crushed leaf paste is applied on the whole body especially in children in fever and vomiting.

ii) **Edema:** Two hours after applying the crushed leaf paste on the body in adults, bath is taken against body pain.

147. *Ocimum tenuiflorum* L.

(= *O. sanctum* L.)

**Family:** Lamiaceae

**Vernacular name:** Tulasi

**Phytography:** A much branched, pubescent, erect, annual under shrub; branchlets often purple, sub-quadrangular. Leaves oblong, entire or dentate, pubescent; petioles slender, hairy. Flowers purple, in slender racemes. Calyx long. Corolla 5. Staminal filaments slender. Nutlets small, ellipsoid (EPU K276).

**Flowering and fruiting:** Through-out the year

**Therapeutic uses:** Headache, fever and ulcer

**Part used:** Leaf and whole plant

**Mode of administration:**

i) **Headache and fever:** The leaves are made as a paste and applied on the head.

ii) **Ulcer:** The leaf juice (2.5 ml) is taken daily in empty stomach.

**Non - Therapeutic use:** Insect repellent

**Insect repellent:** The whole plant is used as an insect repellent.
**148. Oxalis corniculata** L.

**Family:** Oxalidaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Pulichcherai

**Phytography:** A small, diffuse, slender herb, branchlets rooting at nodes, pubescent with appressed hairs. Leaves palmately 3-foliolate, obovate, acute-emarginate, petioles very slender. Flowers yellow, in axillary subumbels, peduncles diflexed in fruit. Sepals oblong, appressedly hairy outside. Petals oblong, Stamens 10. Ovary 5-celled, ovules numerous per cell. Capsule linear, beaked, seeds broadly ovoid, acute, transversely striate (EPU K92).

**Flowering and fruiting:** Through-out the year.

**Therapeutic use:** Body pain  
**Part used:** Whole plant

**Mode of administration:**

**Body pain:** The whole plant is crushed and applied on the whole body in body pain.

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**149. Pandanus odoratissimus** Roxb.

(= *P. tectorius* Soland. ex. Park.)

(= *P. amaryllifolius* Roxb.)

**Family:** Pandanaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Thaalai

**Phytography:** A tortuous small tree or shrub, rarely erect with many aerial stilt roots, leaves glaucous-green, coriaceous, marginal spines pointing forward and those of the midrib forward and backward male flowers in numerous subsessile cylindric spike with fragrant caudate-acuminate spathes, female flowers in solitary spadix, fruits oblong or globose syncarps, yellow or red when ripe (EPU K331).

**Therapeutic use:** Snake bite  
**Part used:** Leaf and fruit

**Mode of administration:**

**Snake bite:** The leaf is put in fire and burnt, which is collected and boiled with castor oil. This hot mixture is applied on the affected part(s).

**Non - Therapeutic use:** Edible

**Edible:** The fruit is edible.
Family: Pedaliaceae  
Vernacular name: Anai nerinji  
Flowering and fruiting: April-November  
Therapeutic uses: Leucorrhoea, haematuria, hypothermia and cuts and wounds  
Part used: Leaf  
Mode of administration:  
i) Leucorrhoea: Leaves are crushed and agitated with water to extract the mucilage. To this sugar or ‘Kalkandu’ (type of sugar popular in South India) is added and taken twice a day.  
ii) Haematuria and hypothermia: The leaves are mixed with fermented rice water and kept overnight. Then the mixer is homogenized and taken orally to get relief from haematuria and hypothermia.  
iii) Cuts and wounds: The crushed leaves are mixed with coconut oil and applied over the affected part(s).  

151. Phaseolus calcaratus Roxb.  
Family: Fabaceae  
Vernacular name: Thattachedi  
Phytography: Leaves ovate, more or less lobed. Leaflets broadly ovate, acuminate, scarcely ever lobed, Stem and leaves hairy. Stipules ovate-acute, attached above their base. Flowers in racemes, Corolla yellow or reddish. Pod glabrous, at first very silky, seeds slightly curved (EPU K171).  
Therapeutic use: Otolgia  
Part used: Whole plant
Mode of administration:

**Otolgia:** The whole plant is crushed and made as a juice and mixed with boiled coconut oil. 2-3 drops of this mixture are applied to the affected ear for 2 days.

*152. Phyllanthus emblica L*

*(=Emblica officinalis Gaertn.)*

**Family:** Euphorbiaceae

**Vernacular name:** Nelli maram

**Phytography:** Deciduous tree with flaky bark, greenish, grey or red, leaves distichously closely set, bipinnate, dark green, leaflets linear-oblong, flowers densely fascicled, yellowish, unisexual, males on slender pedicels, females subsessile, fruits light green when young, yellowish when mature, globose, depressed, succulent, obscurely six-lobed, one-seeded, seed trigonous (EPU K299).

**Flowering and fruiting:** February-May.

**Therapeutic use:** Contraception

**Part used:** Seed

Mode of administration:

**Contraception:** Seeds are made into a powder and about 1.5 gm is administered with food daily for a week.

*153. Phyllanthus lawii Grah.*

**Family:** Euphorbiaceae

**Vernacular name:** Yeru seengai

**Phytography:** A straggling shrub, with long purplish branches armed with stipular tubercles bearing small thorns, leaves linear-oblong, petiole short, close-set, distichous, nerves obscure, stipules minute, setaceous, the flowers pink, stamens 3, filaments united in a short column, recurved (EPU K300).

**Non - Therapeutic use:** Aphrodisiac

**Part used:** Whole plant

**Aphrodisiac:** The whole plant is used as an aphrodisiac.
154. *Physalis minima* L.

(= *P. pubescens* W.)

**Family:** Solanaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Balloon kayee

**Phytography:** A herbaceous annual, leaves simple, alternate, ovate, shallowly toothed or lobed, more or less pubescent, flowers yellow, solitary, nodding, fruits green, many seeded round berry, enclosed in enlarged calyx which is 5-10 ribbed, seeds many, discoid, orange yellow (EPU K249).

**Flowering and fruiting:** November - February and July - October

**Therapeutic use:** Snake bite (also in cattle)  
**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

Snake bite: The leaves are crushed and applied over the snake-bitten site(s).

155. *Physalis peruviana* L.

**Family:** Solanaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Pitalachedi

**Phytography:** Subshrub, flowers yellow with five purple blotches on the innerside (EPU K249).

**Flowering and fruiting:** Throughout the year

**Non - Therapeutic use:** Edible  
**Part used:** Fruit

Edible: The fruit is edible.

156. *Pilea microphylla* (L.) Liebm.

**Family:** Urticaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Neeradi

**Phytography:** A prostrate herb, with a spatulate, leaves fleshy, garden weed (EPU K303).

**Therapeutic use:** Detoxication  
**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

Detoxication: The leaf juice (5ml) is given after delivery to eliminate the toxic substances from the stomach and uterus.
Plate 12.

Ocimum basilicum L.

Ocimum tenuiflorum L.

Pedalium murex L.

Phyllanthus emblica L.

Piper longum L.
157. *Pimpinella leschenaultii* DC.

**Family:** Apiaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Kattu manjal

**Phytography:** An erect scapigerous perennial, basal leaves 2-3, long-petioled, upper bractiform leaves palmately trifid, bluntly toothed, flowers white, fruit glabrous, smooth (EPU K210).

**Flowering and fruiting:** May - October

**Therapeutic use:** Pimple  
**Part used:** Leaf and fruit

**Mode of administration:**

**Pimple:** The leaves and fruits in equal proportions are made as a paste and applied over the affected part(s).


**Family:** Piperaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Thelkadi maram

**Phytography:** Stem striated, slender. Petiole glabrous, blade membranous, 5-ribbed from base, covered with closely arranged silvery scales on lower surface. Spikes glabrous, Bracts oblong, glabrous, sessile, adnate to axis. Stigma 5 (EPU K290).

**Flowering and fruiting:** June-September

**Therapeutic use:** Antidote for scorpion sting  
**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Scorpion sting:** The leaves are crushed and mixed with lime and applied immediately on the bitten site(s).

159. *Piper longum* L.  

(*= Chavica roxburzhii* Miq.)

**Family:** Piperaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Vethalai

**Phytography:** A slender creeping under shrub with jointed root stock, branches many, ascending or prostrate. Leaves many, lower ones broadly ovate, upper ones oblong-oval, lower leaves with petioles whereas upper ones with or without petioles, stipules lanceolate, early falling. Flowers in spikes. Solitary; bracts peltate. Stamens 2. Fruit small, blackish green, completely covered by fleshy spike (EPU K291).
Flowering and fruiting: August - November

Therapeutic uses: Asthma, leucorrhoea, migraine and ulcer Part used: Fruit, root and leaf

Mode of administration:

i) Asthma: Dry fruit is powdered and taken with honey before food.

ii) Leucorrhoea: The roots are crushed and applied over the head and taken bath.

iii) Migraine and ulcer: The leaf is crushed and the juice is administered orally until cure.

Non - Therapeutic use: Edible

Edible: The fruit is edible.


(= *P. brachystachyum* (Wall.) Gamble.)

Family: Piperaceae

Vernacular name: Thippili


Flowering and fruiting: May- July.

Therapeutic use: Pharyngitis Part used: Leaf and fruit

Mode of administration:

Pharyngitis: The leaves are chewed and left in the tongue. It induces saliva and cures dry throat.

Non - Therapeutic use: Edible

Edible: The fruit is edible.

161. *Plectranthus amboinicus* (Lour.) Spreng.

(= *Coleus aromaticus* Benth.)

(= *C.amboinicus* Lour.)

Family: Lamiaceae

Vernacular name: Narai poodu

Therapeutic use: Intestinal parasites (in cattle) Part used: Leaf and whole plant

Mode of administration:

Intestinal parasites: The leaves are given with fodder to control intestinal parasites.

Non-Therapeutic use: Insect repellent

Insect repellent: The whole plant is used as an insect repellent in the paddy fields.

162. Plectranthus nilgherricus Benth.

Family: Lamiaceae Vernacular name: Malanji

Phytography: Stem simple or branched, glabrous, pubescent or softly hairy. Leaves usually much less petioled, thin or thick, ovate, with acute, cordate, or nearly straight base, toothed nearly all round, upper small. Panicle large with foliaceous bracts, Cymes very lax, Calyx small, slightly curved and teeth acute. Lobes rounded with tawny hairs, Nutlets oblong. Corolla white with pink spots, lower lip longer than the tube, concave. Stamens longer (EPU K278).

Therapeutic use: Scabies Part used: Whole plant

Mode of administration:

Scabies: The whole plant is crushed and applied on the affected skin.

163. Plumeria rubra L.

(= P. acutifolia Poir.)

Family: Apocynaceae Vernacular name: Paal kalli

Phytography: A deciduous tree with thick and fleshy branches containing milky juice, leaves long, oblong-lanceolate, spirally arranged with an intramarginal vein, flowers large, white with yellow or cream-coloured center, sometimes pink outside in terminal
panicles, very fragrant, corolla funnel shaped, stamens inserted at the base of the corolla tube, fruits follicles, paired, brownish black, seeds winged (EPU K226).

**Flowering and fruiting:** February - August

**Therapeutic use:** Edema  
**Part used:** Latex

**Mode of administration:**

**Edema:** The latex is mixed with soil and applied on the swollen part(s).


**Family:** Polygonaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Kol soranai

**Phytography:** Climber over bushes, Leaves stiff, ovate acute, base truncate or round, sometimes cordate, glabrous, nerves conspicuous, petioles with round auricles at base, Inflorescence of paniced cymes with leafy bracts. Flowers few in small clusters, white or pink. Stamens 7-8, in 2 whors. Ovary trigonous, style trifid above. Nutlet trigonous, pulpy, black (EPU K287).

**Therapeutic uses:** Bugs bite and rashes  
**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

i) **Bugs bite:** Two leaves are crushed and mixed with water. This paste is applied on the bitten site(s).

ii) **Rashes:** The leaf is made as a paste with water and applied on the affected part(s).

165. *Pothos scandens* L.

**Family:** Araceae

**Phytography:** A climbing plant clothing trees and walls, stem as thick as the little finger, much-branched, tough, terete, smooth, leafy, leaves very variable, obovate, elliptic or lanceolate, acute, acuminate or apiculate, coriaceous bright green, base cuneate or rounded, petiole broadly winged, Peduncles base clothed with ovate acute imbricating cataphylls spathe, long, cymbiform, cuspitate, green. Spadix yellow, as long as the spathe, stipitate, globose, ovoid, or shortly oblong, the stipes as long as the inflorescence.
Anthers terminal, minute, the cells divaricate. Ovary 3-celled, truncate, stigma minute, lobulate. Berries oblong, scarlet, few ripening (EPU K366).

**Therapeutic use:** Ulcer

**Part used:** Stem

**Mode of administration:**

**Ulcer:** The stem decoction (2.5 ml) is given daily until cured of mouth ulcer.

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**Family:** Amaranthaceae

**Vernacular name:** Maaraani

**Part uses:** Leaf

**Therapeutic uses:** Health tonic

**Mode of administration:**

**Health tonic:** The leaves are boiled with water and the decoction is separated using a white cloth. This leaf decoction is used to prepare rasam with onion and given after delivery as a health tonic.

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**Family:** Fabaceae

**Phytography:** A medium sized to large tree, dark brown or grey bark having shallow cracks, exfoliating in thin flakes and exuding a red gummy substance leaves compound, imparipinnate, leaflets 5-7, coriaceous, oblong, obtuse, emarginate or even bilobed at apex, glabrous on both surfaces, main nerves numerous, prominent, flowers yellow in terminal panicles, corolla with crisped margins, fruits nearly circular, glabrous, flat, winged pods, convexly curved between stipe and style, wings veined, seeds 1-2, convex bony (EPU K172).

**Flowering and fruiting:** December-March

**Part used:** Bark-latex, stem and whole plant

**Non-Therapeutic use:** Bindhi (cosmetic), house construction and musical instrument

i) **Bindhi:** Ladies use the bark latex as bindhi.

ii) **House construction:** The whole plant is used in house construction.

iii) **Musical instrument:** The wood is used in making musical instrument.

**Family:** Polypodiaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Kiluppai

**Phytography:** Axis horizontal, creeping, long, woody, dorsiventral, dictyostelic, black and scaly. Scales dirty brown, oblong, acuminate, long, dentate and peltate. Fronds scattered and solitary lanceolate with reticulate venation (EPU K368).

**Part used:** Leaf  
**Therapeutic use:** Paronychia

**Mode of administration:**

**Paronychia:** The leaves are crushed and the juice is administered orally (3 ml) daily until cured.


**Family:** Rhamnaceae

**Phytography:** A shola shrub or tree, twigs dark green and like all the other parts glabrous. Leaves 3 to 5 inches long, elliptic or oblong, shortly acuminate, finely serrate, when dark black. Flowers in fascicles in the leaf-axils, pedicles shorter than the petioles, floral parts in fives. Sepals triangular. Petals flat. Styles three. Disc thin. Fruit purple, set on the half-cup-shaped expansion of the pedicel (EPU K127).

**Flowering and fruiting:** April-September.

**Therapeutic use:** Astringent  
**Part used:** Bark

**Mode of administration:**

**Astringent:** The bark decoction is given orally until cured.

170. *Rhinacanthus nasutus* L. Kurz.  

(= *R. communis* Nees.)  
(= *Justicia nasuta* Linn.)

**Family:** Acanthaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Naaga malli

**Phytography:** Subshrub, tender parts hirsute. Leaves elliptic to oblanceolate, puberulous, densely so along the nerves, base acute to attenuate, apex acute. Panicles divaricate, terminal or axillary, ultimate branches trichotomous, terminating in cymes, bracts and
bracteoles lanceolate, flowers subsessile. Calyx-lobes 5, shortly connate, valvate, linear-
lanceolate, scabrid without, acute. Corolla white, tube narrowly cylindric, lobes 5.
imbricate, 2-lipped, upper lip linear, lower lobes, hispid without, obtuse. Stamens 2, 
attached at the throat of tube, exserted, anther cells superposed, oblong, muticous, ovary, 
pubescent, 4-ovuled, style filliform, hairy, stigma obliquely bifid. Capsule linear, 
ellipsoid, with a solid basal beak, seeds 4, orbicular, rugose, funicle curved (EPU K261).

**Flowering and fruiting:** December-April

**Therapeutic use:** Snake bite (also in cattle)

**Mode of administration:**

**Snake bite:** The leaves are crushed and applied on the snake-bitten part(s) and are tied in 
a cloth for 4 hours.

171. *Rhodomyrtus tomentosa* (Ait.) Hassk.

**Family:** Myrtaceae

**Vernacular name:** Thavittu chedi

**Phytography:** A round topped bush. Branches downy and compressed towards the tips.

Foliage very grey-green, the youngest leaves almost white. Lower leaves often in threes, 
upper opposite, subsessile, blades elliptic or obovate, Flowers pink in small cymose 
axillary corymbs. Petals downy on the backs. Stamens deeper pink. Fruit globular, size of 
a cherry yellowish crowned by the calyx teeth, seeds compressed (EPU K198).

**Non-Therapeutic use:** Edible

**Part used:** Fruit

**Edible:** The fruit is edible.

172. *Rivea hypocrateriformis* (Desr.) Choisy.

(= *Lettsomia bona-nox* F.)

(= *L. uniflora* F.)

**Family:** Convolvulaceae

**Vernacular name:** Misti kodi

**Phytography:** A large climbing shrub, leaves cordate, glabrous above, silky beneath, 
petiole long, flowers axillary, sepals 5, ovate, obtuse, petals 5, cylindrical, anthers 
narrow, ovary four celled, fruit subglobose, seeds glabrous (EPU K247).
Flowering and fruiting: September - December

Therapeutic use: Hydrocele  
Part used: Fruit and leaf

Mode of administration:

Hydrocele: The fruit is taken orally to reduce scrotal sac enlargement. Also the leaves are crushed and the juice (3.5 ml) is administered orally once daily.

173. Rothia indica (L.) Druce.

(= R. trifoliate Pers.)

(= Trigonella indica L.)

Family: Fabaceae  
Vernacular name: Pittu keerai

Phytography: Annual villous herbs, leaves trifoliate, stipules foliaceous, leaflets obovate-oblong to oblanceolate, acute or obtuse, membranous, calyx long, stamens monadelphous, ovary sessile, many ovuled, pod linear, appressed-villous (173).

Therapeutic use: Headache  
Part used: Leaf

Mode of administration:

Headache: The leaves are crushed and the juice is mixed with lime. This is made as a paste and applied over the head until cured.


(= R. munjista Roxb.)

Family: Rubiaceae  
Vernacular name: Siruperandai

Phytography: A climbing scabrous herb; stems slender, rough, tetragonal. Leaves in 4 whorls, ovate, acuminate, base cordate, scabrous on both sides. Flowers very small, greenish or greenish-white, in axillary and terminal glabrous cymes. Calyx and corolla-lobes 5 each. Stamens 6. Ovary globose, ovules 1 per cell, styles 2. Fruit smooth, purplish balck when ripe (EPU K373).

Flowering and fruiting: July - February

Therapeutic use: Glossitis (also in cattle)  
Part used: Leaf
Mode of administration:

Glossitis: The leaves are boiled with water. To this pepper, fenugreek and seeds of *Syzyium cumini* are added. This mixture is made as a paste and applied on the affected tongue.

175. *Sapindus emarginatus* Vahl.

(= *S. laurifolius* Vahl.)

**Family:** Sapindaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Poochakayee

**Phytography:** A moderate sized, semi-evergreen tree; Leaves paripinnate; leaflets emargiate, entire, oblong. Flowers polygamous, yellowish-white, in terminal rusty-pubescent panicles. Sepals 5. Petals 5, shortly clawed. Stamens 8, inserted within disc, filaments unequal. Disc annular, concave with a fleshy hirsute margin, 5-lobed. Ovary hairy. Fruit drupe, fleshy, ovoid, 1-3 lobed, green and clothed with fulvous hairs when young, glabrous and wrinkled when ripe; seeds black, smooth, round, hard (EPU K141).

**Flowering and fruiting:** October-March

**Non - Therapeutic uses:** Detergent, bathing soap and hair wash  
**Part used:** Seed

**Detergent and bathing soap:** The crushed seeds are used for washing and bathing.

**Hair wash:** The crushed seeds are used as shampoo.

176. *Selaginella krussiana* Lam.

**Family:** Selaginellaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Pinthodari – munthodari

**Part used:** Whole plant

**Non - Therapeutic use:** Aphrodisiac

**Aphrodisiac:** The whole plant is used as aphrodisiac.

177. *Semecarpus anacardium* L.f.

(= *Anacardium orientale* L.)

**Family:** Anacardiaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Kattuppalai

Flowering and fruiting: June - December

**Therapeutic uses:** Mastitis and lactogogue

**Parts used:** Leaf, fruit and seed

**Mode of administration:**

Mastitis and lactogogue: The leaf is dried and powdered and made into a paste with water. The leaf paste is applied on the breasts for an hour. This reduces pain in the breast and induces lactation.

**Non-Therapeutic uses:** Detergent, bathing soap and edible

i) **Detergent and bathing soap:** The crushed seeds are used for washing and bathing.

ii) **Edible:** The fruit is edible.

178. *Shorea roxburghii* G. Don.

(= *S. laccifera* Heyne ex Bedd.)

**Family:** Dipterocarpaceae

**Vernacular name:** Peenari

**Phytography:** Leaves elliptic-oblong, coriaceous, glabous, acute or emarginated at tip, subcordate at base, petals free, oblong-lanceolate, contorted. Ovary globose, hairy. Accre nced calyx lobes oblong, erect, 8-10-nerved, turning red (EPU K54).

**Flowering and fruiting:** February-March.

**Therapeutic uses:** Lactagogue (in cow) and scabies

**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

i) **Lactagogue:** Fingers are dipped in the dried leaf powder before milking the cow.

ii) **Scabies:** The leaf paste is applied on the affected part.

179. *Sida acuta* Burm.f.

(= *S. carpinifolia* L. f.)

**Family:** Malvaceae

**Phytography:** Erect herbs, nearly glabrous. Stipules linear-lanceolate, Petiole blade ovate or linear-lanceolate, serrate. Pedicels equal to or longer than petiole, jointed above middle. Calyx lobes triangular, acute. Cocci 7, shortly awned (EPU K68).
Flowering and fruiting: August-October.

Therapeutic use: Normal delivery Part used: Leaf

Mode of administration:

Normal delivery: The leaf is crushed and one ml of the leaf juice is administered orally daily during pregnancy to ease child birth.


\(= S. \text{maysorensis} \ W. \ & A.\)

Family: Malvaceae


Flowering and fruiting: May-February.

Non - Therapeutic use: Broom sticks Part used: Leaf and stem

Broom: The stem and leaf are used for cleaning the floor.

181. *Solanum surattense* Burm.f

\(= S. \text{xanthocarpum} \ Schrad. \ & Wendl.\)

\(= S. \text{maccanni} \ Sant.\)

Family: Solanaceae Vernacular name: Kathri chedi

Phytography: A prickly, diffuse bright green suffrutescent, perennial undershrub, woody at the base, covered over with strong, broad, sharp, compressed, straight, yellowish white prickles, leaves ovate or ovate-oblong, stellately hairy on both sides, armed on the midrib and the nerves with long yellow sharp prickles, flowers blue or bluish-purple, in extra-axillary cymes, fruits glabrous, globular drooping berry, yellow or white with green veins, surrounded by the calyx, seeds many, small, reniform, smooth and yellowish brown (EPU K250).

Flowering and fruiting: All through the year
Therapeutic use: Dental ache

Mode of administration:

Dental ache: The fruit is burnt and powdered. Application of this powder on the affected tooth gives relief from toothache.

Non-Therapeutic use: Edible

Edible: The fruit is cooked and eaten.

182. Solanum torvum Swartz.

Family: Solanaceae

Vernacular name: Sundai


Flowering and fruiting: Throughout the year

Therapeutic use: Impetigo

Mode of administration:

Impetigo: The leaves are crushed, mixed with soil and made as a paste. This paste is applied over the boils.

183. Solanum verbascifolium L.

(= S. erianthum D. Don.)

Family: Solanaceae

Vernacular name: Kandankathiri

Phytography: A shrub or small unarmed tree, covered almost all over with a dense yellowish or grey tomentum of scurfy stellate hairs. Leaves elliptic-lanceolate, acuminate, entire, velvety-pubescent above, densely woolly beneath, base acute or subrhomboid flowers numerous, in woolly dichotomous corymbose cymes which are at first apparently terminal, afterwards becoming lateral, peduncles and pedicels stout, calyx cup-shaped, densely stellately woolly, broadly deltoid, acute, corolla white, deeply divided, elliptic-lanceolate, acute, stellately hairy outside. Filaments flat, glabrous,

**Therapeutic use:** Scabies  
**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Scabies:** The leaves are crushed and made as a paste. This paste is applied over the affected part(s) of the skin.

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### 184. *Solanum violaceum* L. Ortega  
(= *S. indium* L.)

**Vernacular name:** Chinnasundai  
**Family:** Solanceae

**Phytography:** A branching very prickly undershrub, very variable in pubescence, size and shape of leaf and length of racemes. fruit berry, dark yellow (EPU K253).

**Therapeutic uses:** Flatulence (also in cattle), post partum and uterus ulcer

**Part used:** Leaf, root and fruit

**Mode of administration:**

i) **Flatulence and post partum:** Equal quantities of fruit, leaf and root are crushed and mixed with water. 2ml of this mixture is taken daily to get relief from post delivery pain and also from gas trouble.

ii) **Flatulence (in cattle):** Three to four leaves are administered orally to cattle.

iii) **Uterus ulcer:** The leaf is boiled with water and the juice is administered orally daily before food.

**Non - Therapeutic use:** Edible

**Edible:** The fruit is cooked and eaten.

---

### 185. *Sonerila rheedei* W. & A.  
(= *Sonerila wallichii* Benn.)

**Family:** Melastomaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Karuncharai

**Phytography:** A small herb high, stem distinct, quadrangular, sparsely clothed with weak hairs. Leaves ovate, remotely bristle-serrate, often tinged with purple, the upper
Plate 13.

Selaginella krussiana Lamk.
Solanum torvum Swartz.
Solarium violaceum L. Ortega
Sonerila rheedei W. & A.
Spilanthes calva DC.
surface sparsely clothed with short thick bristles, lower surface usually with minute scaly points, base subcordate or rounded, petioles with a few scattered weak hairs. Flowers 4-8, crowded, subumbellate on terminal or axillary peduncles which are sometimes long, pedicles hairy. Calyx hairy, lobes triangular deciduous. Petals violet, oblong-obovate, acute. Anthers bright-yellow, subulate, sagittate at the base, fruit a capsule long, seeds with raised points (EPU K200).

**Flowering and fruiting:** July-August

**Therapeutic use:** Scabies

**Part used:** Whole plant

**Mode of administration:**

Scabies: The whole plant is made as a paste and applied over the affected part(s) until cured.

---

186. *Spilanthes calva* DC.

(= *S. acmella* auct. Non (L.) Murray.)

**Family:** Asteraceae

**Vernacular name:** Naaku silanthi chedi

**Phytography:** Scabrid herb, Leaves opposite, ovate, chartaceous, base truncate, margin serrate, apex acute to shortly acuminate, penninerved, basal pair prominent, capitulum solitary, terminal, long-stalked, conical, long, homogamous, disciform, receptacle elongate, involucre campanulate. Phyllaries biseriate, elliptic-oblancoceleolate, herbaceous, pubescent, acute, outer ones smaller. Florets yellow, bisexual. Palea oblong, concave, scarious, cuneate extending into a stalk, apex puberulous, acute. Pappus 0. Corolla campanulate, tube narrowed below, lobes 5, ovate, acute, reflexed. Stamens 5, subexserted, anthers linear, flat, sagittae, connectives obtuse. Ovary obovoid, stigma obtuse. Achenes compressed (EPU K216).

**Flowering and fruiting:** September - January

**Therapeutic uses:** Spider bite, cough and cold and glossitis

**Part used:** Leaf and flower

**Mode of administration:**

i) **Spider bite:** The leaves are crushed and made as a paste and applied on the affected part(s).
ii) **Cough and cold:** The leaf and flower are crushed and smelled.

iii) **Glossitis:** The flower is rashed on the tongue.


(= *S. acuminata* Roxb. non Gamble.)

(= *S. microphylla* Wall.ex. Hook.f.)

**Family:** Anacardiaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Pulichchai

**Phytography:** Tree, leaves odd-pinnate, leaflets opposite, 3 pairs, oblong-ovate, coriaceous, nerves close, parallel, connected by an intramarginal nerve, base obtuse-subacute, margin entire, apex acuminate, Panicles terminal, rarely axillary. Flowers bisexual or unisexual, Calyx-lobes 5, triangular, caduous. Petals 5, yellow, ovate, valvate, Disc cupular, 10-crenate. Stamens 10, inserted below disc, filaments equal, free, glabrous, anthers oblong, pistillode with 5-fid styles. Bisexual, ovary 5-celled, style 5, connivent. Drupe oblong-ovoid, furrowed (EPU K148).

**Flowering and fruiting:** March - July

**Therapeutic uses:** Pimples and tumours  
**Part used:** Leaf and bark

**Mode of administration:**

**Pimples and tumours:** The paste made from leaf or bark is applied externally on the affected part(s).

188. *Stachytarpheta jamaicensis* (L.) Vahl.

(= *S. indica* auct. Non (L.) Vahl.)

**Family:** Verbenaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Surutti chedi

**Phytography:** Undershrub, branchlets glabrescent. Leaves obovate-elliptic, base acute, gradually narrowed and decurrent, margin serrate, serratures blunt to acute, Spikes glabrescent, bracts ovate-lanceolate, margin scarious, thinly ciliate, apex acuminate. Calyx teeth 4, scabrid-puberulous without. Corolla tube lobes 5, Stamens 2, filaments, hairy, fruit pyrenes, oblong (EPU K270).
Flowering and fruiting: December-March.

**Therapeutic use:** Insect bite  
**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Insect bite:** The leaves are boiled with gingelly oil till it forms a paste. The paste is applied over the affected part(s).

189. *Stachytarpheta urticaefolia* Sims.

**Family:** Verbenaceae

**Phytography:** Annual, high, stems erect, dichromously branched, nearly glabrous, young branches nearly quadrangular. Leaves 5-10, elliptic, obtuse or acute, coarsely serrate, glabrous or nearly so, base much tapering and decurrent into the petioles which are consequently obscure. Flowers sessile, in long slender, nearly continuous glabrous spikes reaching 30 cm. Long, the rhachis hollowed out beneath each flower, bracts long, lanceolate-subulate, scariously margined near the base. Calyx 6 mm, long, membranous, tubular, glabrous, teeth 4, short, acute. Corolla deep blue, glabrous, tube 1 cm. Long, slightly curved, hairy inside, limb about 1 cm. Across, 5-lobed. Filaments slender, hairy below. Ovary glabrous, style long, filiform, glabrous. Fruit 3-4 mm. Long, oblong, ribbed, splitting into 2 pyrenes (EPU K271).

**Therapeutic use:** Otolgia  
**Part used:** Whole plant

**Mode of administration:**

**Otolgia:** The whole plant is crushed and the juice is applied directly into the ear (2-3 drops).

190. *Syzygium cumini* L. Skeels.

(= *S. jambolanum* DC.)

(= *Eugenia jambolana* Lam.)

**Family:** Myrtaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Naval maram

**Phytography:** An evergreen tree; Leaves alternate, elliptic-lanceolate, acuminate, secondary nerves close and parallel, venation intramarginal. Flowers greenish-white, in paniculate

**Flowering and Fruiting:** March-August

**Therapeutic uses:** Diabetes and mouth ulcer

**Part used:** Seed and fruit

**Mode of administration:**

i) **Diabetes:** The dried and powdered seeds are taken with milk twice daily.

ii) **Mouth ulcer:** The seed powder is placed on the affected part for an hour.

**Non-Therapeutic use:** Edible

**Edible:** The fruit is edible.


(= *Webera corymbosa* willd.)

(= *Rondeletia asiatica* L.)

**Family:** Rubiaceae

**Vernacular name:** Tharani maram or Theranai

**Phytography:** Shrub, Leaves oblong to oblanceolate, coriaceous, lateral nerves 12-14 pairs, glabrous, base truncate, margin entire, apex acute, petiole, stipules interpetiolar, scaly. Cymes trichotomous, corymbose, terminal, bracts linear, bracteoles minute. Calyx campanulate, lobes 5, spreading, valvate, puberulous without, corolla cream, salver-form, tube villous within, lobes 5, twisted, oblong, reflexed, obtuse. Stamens 5, exserted, anthers linear, ovary hemispheric, 2-locular, ovules a few, axile, style columnar, stigma fusiform. Berry globose with a crown of calyx-lobes (EPU K214).

**Flowering and Fruiting:** December-April.

**Therapeutic use:** Cough (especially in infants)

**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Cough:** The tender leaves are crushed and applied on the head. After 15 minutes, the child is given a bath.

(= *Stenolobium stans* (L.) D. Don.)

**Family:** Bignoniaceae

**Phytography:** An erect, branched, sparingly pubescent or nearly glabrous shrub, Leaves opposite, odd-pinnate, leaflets 5 or 7, lanceolate to oblong-lanceolate, slenderly acuminate, base acute or acuminate, margins sharply serrate. Panicles terminal. Flowers racemosely arranged on the few branches. Calyx green, 5-toothed. Corolla yellow, long, tube inflated upward. Capsules linear, acuminate, compressed (EPU K254).

**Non - Therapeutic uses:** Spiritual

**Part used:** Flower

**Spiritual:** The flowers are used in pooja / worship.


**Family:** Verbenaceae

**Vernacular name:** Thekku maram

**Phytography:** A large to very large deciduous tree, light brown or grey bark having shallow longitudinal furrows, fluted and buttressed base and characteristically quadrangular channeled branchlets, leaves simple, opposite, broadly elliptical or obovate, acute or acuminate, coriaceous, rough above, stellately-grey tomentose beneath, possessing minute glandular dots, main nerves 8-10 pairs, flowers many, white, small, sweet scented, in large erect terminal branched tomentose cymose panicles, fruits hard, bony, irregularly globose drupes enveloped by light brown blader-like calyx, seeds usually 1-3, ovate, marble white (EPU K272).

**Flowering and fruiting:** July - January

**Therapeutic use:** Pre-eclamptic toxema

**Parts used:** Bark, stem and leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Pre eclamptic toxema:** The bark is soaked overnight in tender coconut milk and made into a paste. This paste is applied on the swollen part(s) and left for one or two days during pregnancy.

**Non - Therapeutic uses:** Broom, house construction and meal plate
i) **Broom**: The stem and leaves are used as brooms.

ii) **House construction**: The stem and leaves are used in house construction.

iii) **Meal plate**: The leaf is used as meal plate.

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194. *Terminalia bellerica* (Gaertn.) Roxb.

(= *Myrobalanus bellerica* Gaertn.)

**Family**: Combretaceae  
**Vernacular name**: Thani kayee

**Phytography**: A large tree; branchlets with persistent leaf scars; branches rusty tomentose when young. Leaves long petioled. Densely clustered at the ends of branchlets, obovate or broadly elliptic. Flowers solitary or clustered. Calyx-lobes 5, pubescent. Stamens 10. Fruit softly tomentose, obscurely 5-ridged, horned (EPU K197).

**Flowering and fruiting**: March - October

**Non - Therapeutic uses**: Edible, house construction and musical instrument

**Parts used**: Fruit and stem

i) **Edible**: Raw fruits are edible.

ii) **House construction and Musical instrument**: The wood is used in house construction and in making musical instrument.

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**Family**: Thunbergiaceae  
**Vernacular name**: Chakka kodi

**Phytography**: Leaves hastate or sagittate, prominently 5-nerved from base, tawny-pubescent, base hastate with 1 or 2 broad teeth on either side, margin entire, apex mucronate, petiole winged. Flowers solitary or paired, axillary, bracteate, glabrous, hastate, acute, folded in the middle like a wing, pedicilate, Calyx-lobes subulate, unequal, ciliate. Corolla yellow with purple throat, across, tube narrowed below, lobes, spreading, obtuse. Stamens 4, attached at the throat of the narrow tube, filament curved, flattened, anthers oblong, bearded, unequal, tailed. Ovary, style erect, stigma 2-fid, lobes lamellate, margin folded or fringed. Capsule depressed-globose, pubescent, with a long apical beak, seeds closely appressed together, testa wrinkled (EPU K263).
Flowering and fruiting: Through-out the year

Therapeutic use: Abdominal ulcer

Part used: Whole plant

Mode of administration:

Abdominal ulcer: The whole plant is made into a paste and is given daily with food until cured.


(= *T. glabra* (N. Burm.) Merr.)

(= *Menispermum cordifolium* Willd.)

Family: Menispermaceae

Vernacular name: Sheendil kodi

Phytography: A large extensively spreading glabrous, perennial deciduous twiner with succulent stems and papery bark, leaves simple, alternate, cordate, entire, glabrous, 7-9 nerved, flowers yellow in lax racemes, arising from nodes on the old wood, male flowers in clusters, female flowers usually solitary, fruits drupes, red when ripe. The surface of the stems appears to be closely studded with warty tubercles and the surface skin is longitudinally fissured. On removal of the surface skin the dark greenish mucilaginous stem is seen (EPU K371).

Flowering and fruiting: April - December

Therapeutic use: Health tonic

Part used: Leaf

Mode of administration:

Health tonic: The leaf is crushed and the juice is administered twice a day after delivery as a health tonic.


(= *T. tomentosa* (Coleb.) Miers.)

Family: Menispermaceae

Phytography: A large climber, Leaves membranous or papyraceous, sparingly pubescent above, pilose below, sometimes whitish tomentose, broadly ovate-cordate or rotundate-cordate, sometimes obsoletely angular, acuminate, petioles long, striate. Pseudo-racemes arising from the old branches, pedunculate, Male flowers present, pedicles fasciculate.
sepals 6, yellowish green, the outer ones minute, thin, the inner membranous broad, petals membranous, clawed at base, obliquely rhomboid-ovate, acute, above the claw with the margin slightly inflexed. stamens 3, filaments slightly dilated towards apex. Female flowers not seen. Drupes 1-3, scarlet or orange, smooth, on thick stalks. endocarp with many sharp-pointed tubercles (EPU K372).

**Part used:** Whole plant

**Therapeutic use:** Dysentery

**Mode of administration:**

**Dysentery:** The whole plant is made as a paste and administered daily with food until cured.

198. *Toddalia asiatica* (L.) Lam.

(= *Paullinia asiatica* L.)

(= *T. aculeate* Pers.)

**Family:** Rutaceae

**Vernacular Name:** Erigonthe

**Phytography:** An evergreen prickly, stout, climbing shrub, branchlets glandular, leaves digitately trifoliate, leaflets oblong, elliptic or obovate, crenulate, glabrous and gland-dotted, flowers dioecious, white or greenish yellow in axillary and terminal pubescent panicles, polygamous, calyx lobes 5, campanulate in male flowers, petals 5, stamens 5, free, ovules 2 per cell, fruits berry, fleshy, orange coloured, seeds one, reniform, surrounded by colourless mucilage (EPU K109).

**Therapeutic uses:** Cardiac problems and scabies

**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

i) **Cardiac problems:** The crushed leaf juice is taken orally before food for heart pain and related problems.

ii) **Scabies:** The leaf is crushed and applied on the affected part(s).

199. *Tragus biflorus* Schult.

**Family:** Poaceae

**Vernacular name:** Odappul
Phytography: Annual, small ridged, erect herbs, leaves short, glaucous, glabrous, margins stiffly ciliate, racemes long, spiciforum, solitary, terminal, spikelets sessile in deciduous clusters, glume 2, lemma solitary, puberulous, stamens 3, style 2, free, grain linear, oblong, free within the lemma and palea (EPU K347).

Therapeutic uses: Cough and cold

Mode of administration:

Cough and cold: The leaf is made as a paste with coconut oil. The paste is applied on the head and also smelled.

200. *Trianthema portulacastrum* L.

\[ (= T. monogyna \textit{L.}) \]

\[ (= T. obcordata \textit{(Roxb.) W.}) \]

Family: Aizoaceae

Vernacular name: Oota maram

Phytography: Leaves opposite, one of a pair much smaller than other, lamina obovate, rounded or apiculate, cuneate at base, petiole expanded into a sheathing membranous base. Stipules triangular, acuminate. Flowers axillary, solitary, partly hidden by the sheathing leaf-bases, white or pinkish. Calyx lobes ovate-lanceolate. Ovary truncate or depressed around the style. Seeds 3-many (EPU K206).

Flowering and fruiting: May - October

Therapeutic use: Abortion

Mode of administration:

Abortion: Root powder is given orally for abortion.

201. *Trichosanthes cucumerina* L.

Family: Cucurbitaceae

Vernacular name: Popodalan

Phytography: An annual tendril climber with very slender, long, furrowed stems and 2-3 fid tendrils, leaves simple, lobed, base deeply cordate, thin, membranous, flowers white, unisexual, males in axillary racemes near the apex, females axillary, solitary, fruits
upto 4 mm in length, green when young, or pale green or white striped, changing to orange when ripe, often twisted, containing many seeds in the fleshy pulp, seeds hard, yellowish brown when ripe with ornamental testa (EPU K204).

**Therapeutic use:** Miliary rubra

**Part used:** Whole plant

**Mode of administration:**

**Miliary rubra:** The whole plant is crushed and made into a paste. The paste is applied on the affected parts all over the body to cure sweat rashes.

---

202. *Trigonella foenum-graceum* L.

**Family:** Fabaceae

**Vernacular name:** Venthaya chedi

**Phytography:** An aromatic, erect annual, leaves pinnate, 3-foliate, leaflets toothed, flowers white or yellowish white, axillary, fruits pods with persistent beak, seeds greenish brown along with a deep groove across one corner (EPU K175).

**Non-Therapeutic use:** Edible

**Part used:** Leaf

**Edible:** The leaves are cooked as greens and taken with food.

---


**Family:** Euphorbiaceae

**Vernacular name:** Kodithali

**Phytography:** A shrub or small tree, leaves alternate, elliptic-oblong or lanceolate sinuate-lobed, the young parts and inflorescence strigose-hairy, the flowers red, monoecious, in axillary or terminal spikes, racemes or cymes, calyx 5 imbricate, petals 5, disc united in lobed cup, stamens 3-5, connate in short column, spreading tips, ovary 3 celled, ovule one in each cell, styles bifid, fruit a capsule, seeds ovoid or globose (EPU K301).

**Therapeutic use:** Cough

**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Cough:** The leaf is powdered and given with food daily until cured.
204. *Vallaris solanacea* (Roth.) Kuntz.

(= *V. heynei* Spreng.)

**Family:** Apocynaceae

**Vernacular name:** Manipushpam

**Phytography:** Liane, tender parts puberulous. Leaves decussate, elliptic or oblong, chartaceous, base acute to attenuate, apex shortly acuminate, Cymes dichasial, extra-axillary, Pedicle hispid. Calyx cupular, lobes 5, unequal, lanceolate, alternating with minute glands, hispid, subacute. Corolla white, salver-form or sub-rotate, cylindric, villous within, lobes 5, suborbicular, overlapping to right, obtuse. Stamens 5, attached at the throat of tube, exserted, anthers lanceolate, sagittae, basally bearded, subsessile, connivent around and adnate to stigma, connectives prolonged below, with a dorsal gland. Ovaries 2, free, hairy at top, ovules numerous, marginal, placenta intruded, bifurcate, style hairy, stigma obconic, pointed. Disc annular, 5-lobed. Mericarps connate, slowly splitting later, cylindric, gradually tapering, seeds oblong, yellowish grey, beaked at one end, with a tuft of silky white coma (EPU K228).

**Flowering and fruiting:** March-April

**Therapeutic uses:** Bone fracture (also in cattle) and arthritis

**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

i) **Bone fracture**: The leaves are crushed and made into a paste. The paste is applied on the broken part(s) and tied with a cloth for 3 days.

ii) **Arthritis**: The leaves are crushed and made into a paste and applied on the affected part(s).

205. *Vanda testacea* (Lindl.) Reichb. f.

**Family:** Orchidaceae

**Vernacular name:** Maramkatti thavi

**Phytography:** An epiphyte on trees in plains, stem stout, scadent by the stout, simple or branching roots. Leaves thickly coriaceous, recurved, complicate, obtusely keeled, pramorse. With usually 2 unequal rounded lobes and an acute interposed one. Flowers in racemes reaching with the peduncle, bracts scarious, ovate, acute, pedicels with ovary.
Sepals yellow, tessellated with brown lines and with white margins. Lateral sepals obovate with subcuneate bases and with waved margins, dorsal sepal as long as the lateral, Broad obovate-oblong. Petals yellow shorter than the sepals, wide. Lip long, bluish dotted with purple, side-lobes rising from the mouth of the spur, ovate, acute, erect, pandurate, the lower part broadly elliptic, the apical portion quadrate, dilated at the fleshy 2-lobed tip, disk tumid, with fleshy ridges, spur straight, conical, obtuse, Column very short, pollinia ellipsoid or subglobose, caudicle short, broad, gland large. Capsule long, narrowly clavate-oblong with acute ribs and a short pedicel (EPU K313).

**Flowering and fruiting:** March - December

**Part used**  Leaf

**Non - Therapeutic uses:** Insect, snake and lizard repellent and aphrodisiac.

i) **Insect, snake** and **lizard repellent:** The fumes of leaves act as repellent against snake, insect and lizard.

ii) **Aphrodisiac:** Leaves are used as aphrodisiac.

206. *Vateria indica* L.  *(Vulnerable) (= V.malabarica* Blume.)

**Family:** Dipterocarpaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Seguttolai

**Phytography:** A large, evergreen tree, leaves simple, alternate, elliptic-oblong or ovate, rounded at the base, thick and coriaceous with 12-15 pairs of nerves, flowers white, fragrant, in large drooping panicles, fruits ovoid, rough, pale brown, 3-valved capsules, valves one-seeded, seeds reddish white or cream-coloured. The resin which exudes out through cuts becomes yellowish white or reddish white in colour on solidifying (EPU K58).

**Therapeutic use:** Otolgia  
**Part used:** Leaf

**Mode of administration:**

**Otolgia:** The leaf powder is mixed with castor oil and heated. 2-3 drops of this mixture is put into the ears during night.

**Diet:** Tomato, tamarind, chilles should be avoided.
207. **Vulpia myuros** (L.) Gmel.

**Family:** Poaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Neerkaalpul

**Phytography:** An erect annual with slender culms, leaves setaceous, at least when dry, panicles narrow, spiciform, erect or nodding, glume acuminated, lemmas 3-5, perfect, 1-2 reduced (EPU K348).

**Therapeutic uses:** Gastritis and fever  
**Part used:** Root

**Mode of administration:**

**Gastritis and fever:** The root is crushed and applied on the stomach and head.

208. **Wrightia tinctoria** (Roxb.) R. Br.  

(= **W. rothii** G. Don.)  

(= **Nerium tinctorium** Roxb.)

**Family:** Apocynaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Vedippalai

**Phytography:** A small deciduous tree, wood pale grey, smooth, thin bark abounding in yellow milky juice with opposite divaricate branches, leaves simple, opposite, elliptic-ovate or obovate-oblong, acuminated, glabrous, main nerves 6-12 pairs, flowers white, fragrant, in lax terminal cymes, fruits follicles in pairs, pendulous, cylindrical, tips adhering at first, seeds linear, pointed at the apex with a deciduous coma (EPU K230).

**Therapeutic use:** Cracks  
**Parts used:** Bark, fruit and latex

**Mode of administration:**

**Cracks:** The latex and bark are mixed and applied on the cracks in legs.

**Non - Therapeutic use:** Edible

**Edible:** The fruit is edible.


(= **Bryonia maysorensis** W. & A.)

(= **Melothria perpusilla** var. **subtruncata** Cogn.)

(= **M. perpusilla** auct. Non (Blume.) Cogn.)

**Family:** Cucurbitaceae  
**Vernacular name:** Mosakayee
Phytography: Slender monoecious climber. Leaves membranous, ovate, suborbicular or oblong, simple or 3-7-lobed, often hispid beneath, remotely serrate. Flowers umbellate or pistillate flowers solitary, subsessile, sometimes staminate and pistillate flowers co-axillary. Corolla white. Stamens inserted at the base of calyx tube, filaments pilose. Berry smooth, seeds smooth, apiculate (EPU K205).

Therapeutic uses: Leprosy and scabies

Mode of administration:

Leprosy and scabies: The dried leaves are powdered and mixed with castor oil. This mixture is applied on the affected part until cured.

Part used: Leaf
II. UTILITY BASED CLASSIFICATION OF ETHNOBOTANICAL PLANTS

1. PLANTS USED IN MEDICINE

1. Abscess

Localized collection of pus in a tissue formed as a reaction to pyrogenic organisms.

*Cayratia pedata*  
Bulb  
External application

*Curculigo orchioides*  
Rhizome + leaf  
External application

2. Antidote for poisonous bite

Antidote refers to an agent that counteracts a poison or neutralizes the poison by changing its chemical nature.

i) Bug bite

*Polygonum chinense*  
Leaf  
External application

ii) Insect bite

*Acacia leucophloea*  
Leaf + bark  
External application

*Allium cepa*  
Bulb  
External application

*Anisomeles indica*  
Leaf  
External application

*Argemone mexicana*  
Seed  
External application

*Boswellia serrata*  
Bark  
External application

*Cayratia pedata*  
Bulb  
External application

*Crotalaria candicans*  
Whole plant  
External application

*Curculigo orchioides*  
Rhizome + leaf  
External application

*Stachytarpheta jamaicensis*  
Leaf  
External application

iii) Scorpion sting

*Acorus calamus*  
Whole plant  
Infusion

*Amorphophallus complanatus*  
Corm  
External application

*Angiopteris evecta*  
Leaf  
Infusion

*Brassica juncea*  
Whole plant  
External application

*Cayratia pedata*  
Bulb  
External application
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Part Used</th>
<th>Application</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eleiotis monophylla</td>
<td>Whole plant</td>
<td>External application</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helicteres isora</td>
<td>Seed</td>
<td>External application</td>
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<tr>
<td>Piper argyrophyllum</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>External application</td>
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<td><strong>iv) Snake bite</strong></td>
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<td>Alangium salvifolium</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>External application</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albizia procera</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>External application</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andrographis paniculata</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angiopteris evecta</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arisaema tortuosum</td>
<td>Corm</td>
<td>External application</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aristolochia indica</td>
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<tr>
<td>Berberis tinctoria</td>
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<td>Dichrostachys cinerea</td>
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<td>Hemidesmus indicus</td>
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<td>Pandanus odoratissimus</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physalis minima</td>
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<td>Rhinacanthus nasutus</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>v) Spider bite</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dendrobium microbulbon</td>
<td>Root + bark</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dioscorea oppositifolia</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spilanthes calva</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**3. Cardiac disorders**

Ailment relating to heart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Part Used</th>
<th>Application</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eria dalzellii</td>
<td>Bulb</td>
<td>Oral administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toddalia asiatica</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>Oral administration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**4. Cataract**

Opacity or clouding of lens of eye causing partial blindness.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Part Used</th>
<th>Application</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bauhinia racemosa</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. Diabetes

A metabolic disorder resulting in elevated blood glucose.

*Andrographis paniculata*  
Leaf  
Infusion

*Syzygium cumini*  
Seed  
Infusion

6. Dental problems

Ailments relating to tooth.

i) Dental ache

Inflammation of gum.

*Acacia nilotica*  
Bark  
External application

*Asparagus racemosus*  
Tuber  
Infusion

*Croton bonplandianum*  
Latex  
External application

*Solanum surattense*  
Fruit  
External application

ii) Dental caries

Inflammatory decay of teeth usually associated with pus formation.

*Acacia farnesiana*  
Bark  
External application

*Diospyrus malabarica*  
Fruit  
External application

*Glycosmis pentaphylla*  
Leaf  
External application

*Jatropha curcas*  
Stem  
External application

7. Edema

An abnormal accumulation of fluid in intracellular spaces of the body.

i) General

*Bidens pinnata*  
Leaf  
External application

*Hibiscus lunarifolius*  
Root+leaf  
External application

*Hibiscus mutabilis*  
Leaf  
External application

*Leea indica*  
Whole plant  
External application

*Ocimum gratissimum*  
Leaf  
External application
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Part Used</th>
<th>Administration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oxalis corniculata</td>
<td>Whole plant</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plumeria rubra</td>
<td>Latex</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ii) Paedal Edema**

An abnormal accumulation of fluid in the intercellular spaces of the leg.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Part Used</th>
<th>Administration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Holoptelea integrifolia</td>
<td>Bark</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**8. Fever**

Abnormal body heat and quickening of pulse.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Part Used</th>
<th>Administration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coelogyne uniflora</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mucuna pruriens</td>
<td>Root</td>
<td>Oral administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ocimum gratissimum</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ocimum tenuiflorum</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>Oral administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vulpia myuros</td>
<td>Root</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**9. Gastro-intestinal tract disorders**

Ailments related to abdominal region.

**i) Abdominal pain**

Pain in the abdomen, which is the largest body cavity immediately below the thorax, from which it is separated by the diaphragm.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Part Used</th>
<th>Administration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cassia occidentalis</td>
<td>Root</td>
<td>Oral administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heylandia latebrosa</td>
<td>Whole plant</td>
<td>Infusion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ii) Anorexia**

Loss or deficiency of appetite.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Part Used</th>
<th>Administration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cissus quadrangularis</td>
<td>Stem</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**iii) Constipation**

An implied chronic condition of infrequent and often difficult evacuation of faeces due to insufficient dietary fibre or fluid intake.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Part Used</th>
<th>Administration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cassia fistula</td>
<td>Fruit</td>
<td>Oral administration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
iv) Dysentery

A disease caused by bacteria or protozoa by inflammation of mucous membrane and glands of large intestine.

- *Aeschynomene indica* Leaf Decoction
- *Cissus quadrangularis* Stem Infusion
- *Euphorbia heterophylla* Leaf Infusion
- *Tinospora malabarica* Whole plant Oral administration

v) Dyspepsia

Difficulty in digestion (Indigestion)

- *Acorus calamus* Rhizome Infusion
- *Crotalaria verrucosa* Leaf Decoction
- *Holarrhena antidysenterica* Seed Oral administration

vi) Gastritis

Inflammation of the stomach, especially lining the mucous membrane.

- *Acorus calamus* Rhizome Infusion
- *Azadirachta indica* Bud Infusion
- *Bridelia crenulata* Bark Infusion
- *Vulpia myuros* Root External application

vii) Gastro enteritis

Inflammation of mucous membrane of stomach and small intestine usually by a bacterial infection.

- *Dodonaea viscosa* Bark External application

viii) Diarrhoea

Watery motion.

- *Cordia gharaf* Leaf Infusion
- *Dalbergia lanceolaria* Bark+leaf Infusion
ix) Ulcer

An open sore in the body surface (both external and internal) associated with extensive burns and scalds.

a) Abdominal ulcer

*Elaeocarpus oblongus*  
Leaf  
Decoction

*Euphorbia heterophylla*  
Leaf  
Infusion

*Gmelina arborea*  
Leaf  
Decoction

*Ocimum tenuiflorum*  
Leaf  
Infusion

*Piper longum*  
Leaf  
Infusion

*Thunbergia alata*  
Whole plant  
Infusion

b) Mouth ulcer

*Syzygium cumini*  
Seed  
External application

*Pothos scandens*  
Stem  
Infusion

c) Uterus ulcer

*Gymnema sylvestre*  
Leaf  
Oral administration

*Solanum violaceum*  
Leaf  
Infusion

x) Vomitting

Ejection of the stomach-contents through the mouth.

*Euphorbia hirta*  
Leaf  
External application

*Ocimum gratissimum*  
Leaf  
External application

xi) Worm infestation

Ailments caused by worms ie. presence of worms in the gastro-intestinal system.

*Carica papya*  
Latex  
Infusion

*Erythroxylon monogynum*  
Leaf  
Decoction

10. General weakness

A feeling of loss or reduction in normal strength of the body.

*Alsophila cranita*  
Whole plant  
Infusion

*Chlorophytum heynei*  
Whole plant  
Infusion
11. Gynaecological disorders

Ailments in women related to menstruation, conception and delivery.

i) Abortion

Expulsion from uterus of product of conception before it is viable i.e.) before the end of the 28th week.

- *Abrus precatorius* Leaf Infusion
- *Argyreia nervosa* Leaf Oral administration
- *Aristolochia indica* Whole plant Infusion
- *Calamus rotang* Stem Oral administration
- *Catharanthus roseus* Root Decoction
- *Celastrus paniculatus* Bark Oral administration
- *Gloriosa superba* Whole plant Infusion
- *Trianthema portulacastrum* Root Oral administration

ii) Amenorrhoea

Abnormal suppression or absence of menstruation.

- *Indigofera linnaei* Stem Oral administration

iii) Blood clot

Conglutinated red blood corpuscles during menstrual cycle.

- *Hemidesmus indicus* Leaf Infusion

iv) Contraception

Drug that inhibits formation of ovum (egg) or sperm or interferes with the process of fertilization.

- *Phyllanthus emblica* Seed Oral administration
- *Justicia tranquebarenensis* Leaf Oral administration

v) Detoxication

The process of removing the poisonous property of a substance (detoxicant).

- *Basella alba var.rubra* Leaf Infusion
Callicarpa tomentosa Leaf+bark Infusion
Grewia tiliafolia Leaf Infusion
Pilea microphylla Leaf Infusion

vi) Dysmenorrhoea

Painful menstruation.

Delonix regia Flower Oral administration

vii) Flatulence

Gastric and intestinal distension with gas.

Solanum violaceum Fruit+leaf+root Oral administration

viii) Haemorrhage

Discharge of blood from blood vessels.

Basella alba var. rubra Leaf Infusion

ix) Health tonic

An infusion given as a nutritive supplement.

Acacia sinuata Leaf Oral administration
Limonia acidissima Fruit bark Oral administration
Psilotrichum murale Leaf Infusion
Tinospora cordifolia Leaf Infusion

x) Labour pain

Pains experienced during child birth.

Asystasia dalzelliana Leaf Infusion
Boerhaavia diffusa Whole plant Oral administration

xi) Lactagogue

The process promoting secretion and flow of milk.

Ficus arnotianna Bark External application
Ficus callosa Bark External application
xii) Leucorrhoea

A sticky white or yellowish mucopurulent discharge from vagina.

*Amaranthus spinosus* Leaf Oral administration
*Amaranthus viridis* Leaf Infusion
*Cayratia pedata* Leaf Infusion
*Cordia gharaf* Leaf Oral administration
*Dioscorea oppositifolia* Tuber Oral administration
*Gymnema sylvestre* Leaf Oral administration
*Pedalium murex* Leaf Oral administration
*Piper longum* Root External application

xiii) Mastitis

Inflammation of the breast.

*Ficus arnotianna* Bark+leaf Oral administration
*Semecarpus anacardium* Leaf External application

xiv) Menorrhagia

An excessive regular menstrual flow.

*Dioscorea oppositifolia* Tuber Oral administration
*Helicteres isora* Fruit+leaf+bark Infusion

xv) Menstrual disorder

An abnormal condition or irregularity in the monthly discharge from uterus.

*Butea monosperma* Bark Oral administration
*Centella asiatica* Whole plant Infusion

xvi) Normal delivery

*Abutilon indicum* Bark Infusion
*Acacia torta* Leaf Infusion
*Achyranthes aspera* Leaf Infusion
*Celosia argentea* Leaf Infusion
Dioscorea pentaphylla Tuber Oral administration
Malvastrum coromandelianum Leaf Oral administration
Sida acuta Leaf Infusion

xvii) Pre eclampsia

During pregnancy, a combination of minor disorders characterized by paedaledema, hypertension and proteinuria.

Tectona grandis Bark External application

xviii) Post partum

Pain in the abdomen after the delivery.

Solanum violaceum Fruit+leaf+root Infusion

xix) Uterus ulcer

An open sore in the uterus associated with excessive burns and scalds.

Gymnema sylvestre Leaf Oral administration
Solanum violaceum Leaf Infusion

12. Head related ailments

i) Head ache

Pain in head.

Argyreia kleiniana Whole plant External application
Naravelia zeylanica Whole plant External application
Ocimum tenuiflorum Leaf External application
Rothia indica Leaf External application

ii) Migraine

A recurring and very painful headache on one side of the head often accompanied by giddiness and vomiting.

Glycosmis mauritiana Root Infusion
Piper longum Leaf Infusion
iii) Sinusitis

Inflammation of sinus.

*Acacia sinuata* Leaf External application

13. Hydrocele

Pathological accumulation of serum fluid in body cavity especially in the area around the testes.

*Aloe vera* Leaf Oral administration

*Rivea hypocraterifolius* Fruit Infusion

14. Hypertension

Abnormally high tension, by emotion alluding to blood pressure and involving high systolic and/or diastolic levels.

*Gymnema sylvestre* Leaf Oral administration

15. Hypothermia

Below normal body temperature, ascertained by a low-reading in thermometer.

*Bauhinia racemosa* Whole plant External application

*Cayratia pedata* Leaf Infusion

*Ipomaea staphylina* Leaf Infusion

*Pedalium murex* Leaf Oral administration

16. Infectious diseases

Diseases caused due to the invasion and multiplication of micro-organisms in body tissues.

i) Jaundice

Morbid state caused by obstruction of bile, marked by yellowness of skin and loss of appetite.

*Drymaria quercifolia* Root External application

*Gnetum edule* Stem+leaf Infusion
ii) Parotitis

Inflammation of parotid and salivary glands caused due to viral infection.

*Azadirachta indica*  Bud  Oral administration

iii) Pertussis

An infectious disease found among children, with attacks of coughing which reaches a peak of violence ending in an inspiratory whoop.

*Dodonaea viscosa*  Bark  External application

iv) Rabies

Canine madness, an infectious viral disease caused in man by bite of infected dogs and some other canine animals.

*Achyranthes aspera*  Leaf  External application

v) Small pox

A severe and fatal disease with eruptions on skin and fever due to pox virus infection.

*Dodonaea viscosa*  Bark+leaf  External application

17. Male fertility

*Diospyrus toposia*  Fruit  Oral administration

18. Neuritis

Inflammation of nerves

*Cassia occidentalis*  Leaf+seed  External application

19. Oncological diseases

Disorders relating tumours

i) Cancer

A general term which covers many malignant growths in many parts of the body.

*Mappia foetida*  Stem+leaf  Infusion

ii) Tumour

An abnormal swelling of body.

*Spondias pinnata*  Leaf+bark  External application
20. Orthopaedic

Pertaining to the correction of deformities of the musculo-skeletal system.

i) Arthritis

Inflammation of Joint(s).

Vallaris solanaceae Leaf External application

ii) Bone fracture

Breaking of a bone.

Alysicarpus vaginalis Whole plant External application
Vallaris solanaceae Leaf External application

iii) Rheumatism

Refractory disease of muscle, tendon, joint, bone, nerve, resulting in discomfort and disability.

Aegle marmelos Root Decoction
Clerodendrum viscosum Leaf Decoction

21. Otolgia

Inflammation of ear.

Phaseolus calcaratus Whole plant External application
Stachytarpheta indica Whole plant External application
Vateria indica Leaf External application

22. Psychological treatment

Treatment of mental disorder.

Ficus benjamina Leaf External application

23. Respiratory disorder

Problems pertaining to respiration.
i) Asthma

A lung disease characterized by wheezing, difficult breathing and feeling of suffocation.

*Azadirachta indica*  
Whole plant  
External application  

*Piper longum*  
Fruit  
Oral administration  

ii) Cough and Cold

*Alysicarpus vaginalis*  
Whole plant  
Decoction  

*Spilanthes calva*  
Leaf+flower  
External application  

*Tarenna asiatica*  
Leaf  
External application  

*Tragus biflorus*  
Leaf  
External application  

*Trigonostemon nemoralis*  
Leaf  
Oral administration  

iii) Glossitis

Inflammation of the tongue.

*Rubia cordifolia*  
Leaf  
External application  

*Spilanthes calva*  
Flower  
External application  

iv) Pharyngitis

Inflammation of the pharynx.

*Piper mullesua*  
Leaf  
Oral administration  

v) Wheezing

A symptom of bronchial asthma which results in breathing trouble.

*Hemonites cordata*  
Leaf  
External application  

24. Skin diseases

Ailments related to skin like scabies, ring worm, dermatitis, fissures, etc.

i) Astringent

An agent which contracts organic tissues, thus lessening secretion.

*Berberis tinctoria*  
Root bark  
External application  

*Rhamnus wightii*  
Bark  
Decoction
ii) Cracks

Fissures in feet.

- **Clerodendrum philippinum**
  - Leaf
  - External application

- **Decalepis hamiltonii**
  - Stem+leaf
  - External application

- **Wrightia tinctoria**
  - Latex+bark
  - External application

iii) Impetigo

An inflammatory, pustular, skin disease, characterized by bullae which become pustules and then honey-colored crusts.

- **Canthium parviflorum**
  - Leaf+bark
  - Infusion

- **Cayratia pedata**
  - Bulb
  - External application

- **Euonymus crenulatus**
  - Leaf
  - External application

- **Ficus benjamina**
  - Leaf
  - External application

- **Solanum torvum**
  - Leaf
  - External application

iv) Leprosy

Chronic contagious disease due to infection with *Lepra bacillus* causing varied manifestation in the skin, nerve or other tissues.

- **Zehneria maysorensis**
  - Leaf
  - External application

v) Leucoderma

A skin condition characterized by defective whitish pigmentation.

- **Ergrostris tenuifolia**
  - Leaf
  - External application

- **Euphorbia hirta**
  - Stem latex
  - External application

vi) Miliary rubra

Rashes on the skin resembling millet seed caused due to sweat.

- **Trichosanthes cucumerina**
  - Whole plant
  - External application

vii) Paronychia

A whitlow-suppurative inflammation around a finger nail.

- **Microsorum punctatum**
  - Leaf
  - Decoction

- **Pyrrosia lanceolata**
  - Leaf
  - Infusion
viii) Pimples

Small solid round outgrowths on skin.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Part Used</th>
<th>Method</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clerodendrum philippinium</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pimpinella leschenaulti</td>
<td>Leaf+fruit</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spondias pinnata</td>
<td>Leaf+bark</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ix) Pruritus

Itching of skin.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Part Used</th>
<th>Method</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cassia fistula</td>
<td>Whole plant</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curculigo orchioides</td>
<td>Rhizome+leaf</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ergrostris tenuifolia</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leea indica</td>
<td>Whole plant</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

x) Psoriasis

A chronic inflammatory skin disease resulting in reddish patches covered with white scales.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Part Used</th>
<th>Method</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adiantum malabaricum</td>
<td>Whole plant</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dioscorea oppositifolia</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eleagnus latifolia</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holorrhena antidysentrica</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holigrana malabarica</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justicia repens</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nephrolepis auriculata</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

xi) Rashes

Formation of wheals on the skin or skin eruptions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Part Used</th>
<th>Method</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Artocarpus integrifolia</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>Decoction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polygonum chinense</td>
<td>Leaf</td>
<td>External application</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

xii) Scabies

A contagious parasitic disease of skin causing itching.
25. Sprain

The wrench or twist of a ligament or muscle or a joint causing pain and swelling.

Cissus repens Leaf External application

26. Urinary disorder

Ailments related to urinary system.

i) Dysurea

Difficulty or painful urination.

Dioscorea oppositifolia Tuber Oral administration

Hemidesmus indicus Leaf Infusion

ii) Haematuria

Blood in the urine.

Pedalium murex Leaf Oral administration

iii) General

Gmelina arborea Root Decoction
27. Wound healing

The process of curing an incision in soft tissues of skin caused by external injury.

- *Adiantum capillus-veneris* Leaf External application
- *Argemone mexicana* Flower External application
- *Barleria montana* Leaf External application
- *Clematis gouriana* Whole plant External application
- *Erythroxylon monogynum* Leaf External application
- *Evolvulus alsinoides* Leaf External application
- *Gymnema sylvestre* Leaf External application
- *Hydrocotyl javanica* Whole plant External application
- *Jatropha curcas* Whole plant External application
- *Mucuna pruriens* Leaf External application
- *Pedalium murex* Leaf External application

2. PLANTS IN VETERINARY MEDICINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ailment</th>
<th>Plant used</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Bonefracture</td>
<td><em>Vallaris solanaceae</em> (Roth.) kuntz.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Dysentery</td>
<td><em>Cissus quadrangularis</em> L. Mant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Flatulence</td>
<td><em>Solanum violaceum</em> L. Ortega.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. General weakness</td>
<td><em>Justicia repens</em> L.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Glossitis</td>
<td><em>Rubia cordifolia</em> L. Mant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Hypothermia</td>
<td><em>Bauhinia racemosa</em> Lam.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Impetigo</td>
<td><em>Canthium parviﬂorum</em> Lam.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Insect bite</td>
<td><em>Anisomeles indica</em> (L.) Kuntze.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Intestinal parasite</td>
<td><em>Plectranthus amboinicus</em> (Lour.) Spreng.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Lactation</td>
<td><em>Shorea roxburghii</em> G. Don.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Leucorrhoea</td>
<td><em>Cayratia pedata</em> (Wall.) Gagnep.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
12. Psoriasis
   
13. Snake bite
   Dioscorea oppositifolia L.
   Physalis minima L.
   Rhinacanthus nasutus (L.) Kurz.
14. Sprain
   Cassia auriculata L.
15. Wound healing
   Argemone mexicana L.
   Argyreia cymosa (Roxb.) Sweet.
   Azadirachta indica A.Juss.
   Lantana camera L.

3. EDIBLE PLANTS

Plants used as food (vegetable, fruit, greens).

   Acacia sinuata (Lour.) Merr.
   Albizzia procera (Roxb.) Benth.
   Allium cepa L.
   Amaranthus spinosus L.
   Amorphophallus campanulatus (Roxb.) Bl. ex Decne.
   Artocarpus heterophyllus Bedd.
   Basella alba L.var. rubra (L.) Stewart
   Bauhinia racemosa Lam.
   Berberis tinctoria Lesch.
   Beta vulgaris L.
   Brassica juncea (L.) Czern & Coss.
   Bridelia crenulata Roxb.
   Canthium parviflorum Lam.
   Carica papaya L.
   Cissus quadrangularis L. Mant.
   Dioscorea oppositifolia L.
Dioscorea pentaphylla L.

Diospyrus malabarica (Desr.) Kostel.

Diospyrus toposia Buch. - Ham.

Dodonaea viscosa (L.) Jacq.

Elaeocarpus tectorius (Lour.) Poir.

Eleagnus kolaga Schlecht.

Ficus callosa Willd.

Limonia acidissima L.

Pandanus odoratissimus Roxb.

Physalis peruviana L.

Piper longum L.

Piper mulesua Buch.- Ham. ex D. Don.

Rhodomyrtus tomentosa (Ait.) Hassk.

Semecarpus anacardium L.f.

Solanum surattense Burm. f.

Solanum violaceum L. Ortega.

Syzygium cumini (L.) Skeels.

Terminalia bellerica (Gaertn.) Roxb.

Trigonella foenum-graceum L.

Wrightia tinctoria (Roxb.) R. Br.

4. INSECT/MOSQUITO REPELLENT

By arousing distaste or disgust to the insects they are driven away.

a) Mosquito repellent

Aloe vera (L.) Burm. f.

Anisomeles indica (L.) Kuntze.

Azadirachta indica A. Juss.
b) Insect repellent

*Helicteres isora* L.

*Ocimum tenuiflorum* L.

*Plectranthus amboinicus* (Lour.) Spreng.

*Vanda testacea* (Lindl.) Reichb. f.

5. **HAIR NOURISHER**

Conditioning the hair to improve its growth by providing nutrition.

a) Grey hair

*Hibiscus mutabilis* L.

b) Nourisher

*Helictrotrichon virescens* (Nees. ex Steud.)

*Ludwigia octavalvis* (Jacq.) Raven.

c) Hair wash

*Acacia sinuata* (Lour.) Merr.

*Limonia acidissima* L.

*Sapindus emarginatus* Vahl.

6. **FISH POISON**

Plants used in stupefying fish.

*Acacia leucophloea* (Roxb.) Willd.

*Albizia procera* (Roxb.) Benth.

*Miliusa eriocarpa* Dunn.

7. **FODDER**

Plants given to cattle as food.

*Ipomaea barlerioides* (Choisy.) Benth.

*Ipomaea hederifolia* L.
8. SOAP/DETERGENT

Plants used in washing and bathing.

*Sapindus emarginatus* Vahl.

*Semecarpus anacardium* L.f.

9. BROOM

Plants used to clean the house and temples.

*Bauhinia racemosa* Lam.

*Sida glutinosa* Commers. ex Cav.

*Tectona grandis* L.f.

10. COSMETIC

**Bindhi:** Traditional habit of women keeping a small dot like structure in the center of the forehead.

*Pterocarpus marsupium* Roxb.

11. HOUSE CONSTRUCTION / ROOF THATCHING

Plants used to build houses and thatch the roof.

*Albizia procera* (Roxb.) Benth.

*Bambusa arundinaceae* (Retz.) Willd.

*Bauhinia racemosa* Lam.

*Dalbergia lanceolata* L.f.

*Grewia tiliaefolia* Vahl.

*Pterocarpus marsupium* Roxb.

*Tectona grandis* L.f.

*Terminalia bellerica* (Gaertn.) Roxb.

12. MEAL PLATE

Leaves used to serve as meal plates.

*Butea monosperma* (Lam.) Taub.

*Holarrhena antidysenterica* (Roxb. ex Fleming) Wall.

*Tectona grandis* L.f.
13. MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

Plants used in making musical instruments.

- *Boswellia serrata* Roxb. ex Colebr.
- *Gmelina arborea* Roxb.
- *Pterocarpus marsupium* Roxb.
- *Terminalia bellarica* (Gaertn.) Roxb.

14. FIBRE

- *Acacia sinuata* (Lour.) Merr.
- *Albizia procera* (Roxb.) Benth.

15. RELIGIOUS PLANTS

Plants used in traditional customs and religious practices.

**a) Decoration**

Plants used to decorate the temples during festivals and celebrations.

- *Caryota urens* L.

**b) Festival**

Plants used at the time of felicitations.

- *Ipomaea staphylina* R. & S.

**c) Incense Sticks**

Emit sweet smelling aromatic smoke from the plant product at the time of prayers

- *Litsea glutinosa* (Lour.) Robinson

**d) Sacred plants**

Plants treated as ‘Holy’ with great respect.

**i) Pooja / worship**

*Plants used at the time of prayers especially during celebrations*

- *Butea monosperma* (Lam.) Taub.
- *Cassia fistula* L.
- *Ocimum basilicum* L.
*Plants worshipped before treatment

Angiopteris evecta (Forst.) Hoffm.

Alsophila cranita Holttum.

ii) Sacred groove

Plants preserved on religious grounds.

Alsophila cranita Holttum.

Bambusa arundinacea (Retz.) Willd.

Canthium parviflorum Lam.

16. SORCERY

Plants used in magical practices.

a) Aphrodisiac

Stimulates sex desire or vigour.

Bentinckia coddapanna Berry ex Roxb.

Blechnum orientale L.

Clitoria ternatea L.

Derris scandens (Roxb.) Benth.

Desmodium motorium (Houtt.) Merr.

Drosera peltata J. E. Sm.

Grewia gambleii J. R. Drumm.

Phyllanthus lawii Grah.

Selaginella krussiana Lam.

Vanda testacea (Lindl.) Reichb. f.

b) Superstitious belief

Plants used in irrational faith or fear in what is mysterious like witchcraft, magic, etc..

Asplenium indicum Sledge.

Cyclea peltata (Lam.) Hook. f. & Thoms.
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<td>Acacia nilotica (L.) Wild ex. Del. sub. sp. indica (Benth.) Brenan.</td>
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<td>Acorus calamus Roeb.</td>
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<td>Adiantum capillus - venera C. Presl.</td>
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<td>Aegle marmelos (L.) Corr.</td>
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<td>Atalangium salvator (L.f.) Wang</td>
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<td>Albizia procera (Roeb.) Benth.</td>
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<td>Allium cepa L.</td>
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<td>Aloe vera (L.) Burm. f.</td>
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<td>Alsophila crania Holttum.</td>
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<td>Alysarcapus vaginalis (L.) DC.</td>
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<td>Amaranthus spinosus L.</td>
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<td>Amaranthus viridis L.</td>
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<td>Amorphophallus campanulatus (Roeb.) Bl ex Decne.</td>
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<td>Andrographis paniculata (Burm.f.) Will. ex Nees.</td>
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<td>Angiopteris evecta (Forst.) Hoffm.</td>
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<td>Anisomeles indica (L.) Kunze.</td>
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<td>Argemone mexicana L.</td>
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<td>Argyreia cymosa (Roxb.) Sweet.</td>
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<td>Argyreia kleiniana (R. &amp; S.) Raiizada.</td>
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<td>Argyreia nervosa (Burm.f.) Boj.</td>
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<td>Ansaema tortuosa Schott.</td>
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<td>Aristolochia indica L.</td>
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<td>Asparagus racemosus Wild.</td>
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<td>Asplenium indicum Sedge</td>
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<td>Asystasia dalzelliana Sant.</td>
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<td>Atrocarpus heterophyllus Bedd.</td>
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<td>Azadirachta indica A. Juss.</td>
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<td>Bambusa arundinacea (Retz.) Wild.</td>
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<td>Banania montana Nees.</td>
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<td>Basella alba L. var. nubra (L.) Stewart</td>
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<td>41</td>
<td>Bauhinia racemosa Lam.</td>
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<td>Benedictia coddapanna Berry ex. Roxb.</td>
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<td>Bidens pilosa L.</td>
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<td>Boerhaavia diffusa L.</td>
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<td><em>Butea monosperma</em> (Lam.) Taub.</td>
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<td><em>Calanthe rotag L.</em></td>
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<td><em>Callicarpa tormentosa</em> (L.) Murr.</td>
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<td><em>Canthium parviflorum</em> Lam.</td>
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<td><em>Carica papaya</em> L.</td>
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<td><em>Carica urens</em> L.</td>
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<td><em>Cassia auriculata</em> L.</td>
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<td><em>Cassia fistula</em> L.</td>
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<td><em>Cassia occidentalis</em> L.</td>
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<td><em>Cayratia pedata</em> (Wall.) Gagnep.</td>
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<td><em>Catebus paniculatus</em> Wild.</td>
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<td><em>Celosia argentea</em> L.</td>
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<td><em>Centella asiatica</em> (L.) Urb.</td>
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<td><em>Cissus quadrangularis</em> L. Mant.</td>
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<td><em>Cissus repens</em> Lam.</td>
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<td><em>Clematis gunotana</em> Roxb ex DC.</td>
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<td><em>Clerodendrum philippinum</em> Schauer</td>
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<td><em>Clerodendrum viscosum</em> Vent.</td>
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<td>Citronella tamarinia L.</td>
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<td>Coelogyne uniflora Lindl.</td>
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<td>Cordia gharaf (Forsk.) Enreb. ex. Aschers.</td>
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<td>Cucurbita maxima L.</td>
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<td>Dendrobium microbulbon A. Rich.</td>
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<td>Desmodium motorium (Houtt.) Merr.</td>
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<td>Dicostachys cinerea (L.) W. &amp; A.</td>
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<td>Dioscorea oppositifolia L.</td>
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<td>Dioscorea pentaphylla L.</td>
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<td>Diospyrus malabarica (Desr.) Kostel.</td>
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<td>Hemonites cordata (Burm. f.) Moore.</td>
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<td>Malvastrum coromandelianum (L.) Garcke.</td>
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<td>Sida acuta Burm.f.</td>
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<td>Zanthanella mayorensis (W. &amp; A.) Am.</td>
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**Legend**

1. Medicinal
2. Veterinary
3. Edible
4. Insect/Mosquito repellent
5. Hair nourisher
6. Fish poison
7. Fodder
8. Soap / Detergent
9. Broom
10. Cosmetic
11. House construction /
12. Meal plate
13. Musical instrument
14. Fibre
15. Religious
16. Sorcery

**Legend**

1. Medicinal
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## Table 6. Distribution of plants at different altitudes

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<th>Plant species</th>
<th>Lower zone</th>
<th>Mid zone</th>
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<td>1. Abrus precatorius L.</td>
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<td>2. Abutilon indicum (L.) Sweet</td>
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<td>7. Acacia torta (Roxb.) Craib.</td>
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<td>Plant species</td>
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<td>70. <em>Clerodendrum philippinum</em> Schauer.</td>
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<td>71. <em>Clerodendrum viscosum</em> Vent.</td>
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<td>72. <em>Clitoria ternatea</em> L.</td>
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<td>73. <em>Coelogyne uniflora</em> Lindl.</td>
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<td>74. <em>Cordia gharaf</em> (Forsk.) Ehrenb. ex. Aschers.</td>
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<td>75. <em>Crotalaria candidans</em> W. &amp; A.</td>
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<td>76. <em>Crotalaria verrucosa</em> L.</td>
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<td>77. <em>Croton bonplandianum</em> Baill.</td>
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<td>78. <em>Curculigo orchioides</em> Gaertn.</td>
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<td>79. <em>Cyclea peltata</em> (Lam.) Hook. f.&amp;Thoms.</td>
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<td>80. <em>Dalbergia lanceolaria</em> L.f.</td>
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<td>81. <em>Decalepis hamiltonii</em> Wt. &amp; Arn.</td>
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<td>82. <em>Delonix regia</em> (Boj.ex. Hook.) Raf.</td>
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<td>83. <em>Dendrobium microbulbon</em> A. Rich.</td>
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<td>84. <em>Derris scandens</em> (Roxb.) Benth.</td>
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<td>85. <em>Desmodium motorium</em> (Houtt.) Merr.</td>
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<td>86. <em>Dichrostachys cinerea</em> (L.) W. &amp; A.</td>
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<td>87. <em>Dioscorea oppositifolia</em> L.</td>
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<td>88. <em>Dioscorea pentaphylla</em> L.</td>
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<td>89. <em>Diospyrus malabarica</em> (Desr.) Kostel.</td>
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<td>90. <em>Diospyrus toposia</em> Buch-Ham.</td>
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<td>91. <em>Dodonaea viscosa</em> (L.) Jacq.</td>
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<td>92. <em>Drosera peltata</em> J.E. Sm.</td>
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<td>93. <em>Drymaria quercifolia</em> (L.) J. Smith.</td>
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<td>94. <em>Elaeocarpus tectorius</em> (Lour.) Poir.</td>
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<td>95. <em>Eleagnus kolaga</em> Schlecht.</td>
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<td>96. <em>Eleiotis monophylla</em> (N. Burm.) DC.</td>
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<td>97. <em>Ergrostris tenuifolia</em> Hochst.</td>
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<td>98. <em>Eria dalzellii</em> (Hook. ex. Dalz.) Lindl.</td>
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<td>99. <em>Erythroxylon monogynum</em> Roxb.</td>
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<td>100. <em>Euonymus crenulatus</em> Wall. ex. W. &amp; A.</td>
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<td>101. <em>Euphorbia heterophylla</em> Gamble.</td>
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<td>102. <em>Euphorbia hirta</em> L.</td>
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<td>103. <em>Evolvulus alsinoides</em> (L.) L.</td>
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<td>104. <em>Ficus arnottiana</em> (Miq.) Miq.</td>
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<td>105. <em>Ficus benjamina</em> L.</td>
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<td>106. <em>Ficus callosa</em> Willd.</td>
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<td>107. <em>Gloriosa superba</em> L.</td>
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<td>108. <em>Glycosmis mauritiana</em> (Lam.) Tanaka.</td>
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<td>109. <em>Glycosmis pentaphylla</em> (Retz.) DC.</td>
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<td>110. <em>Gmelina arborea</em> Roxb.</td>
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<td>111. <em>Gnetum ula</em> Brongn.</td>
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<td>112. <em>Grewia gamblei</em> J.R. Drumm.</td>
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<td>113. <em>Grewia tiliaefolia</em> Vahl.</td>
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<td>114. <em>Gymnema sylvestre</em> (Retz.) R. Br. ex. Schult.</td>
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<td>115. <em>Helicteres isora</em> L.</td>
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<td>116. <em>Helictotrichon virescens</em> (Nees ex. Steud.) Henrard.</td>
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<td>117. <em>Hemidesmus indicus</em> (L.) R. Br.</td>
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<td>118. <em>Hemonites cordata</em> (Burm. f.) Moore.</td>
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<td>119. <em>Heylandia latebrosa</em> DC.</td>
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<td>120. <em>Hibiscus mutabilis</em> L.</td>
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<td>121. <em>Hibiscus lunarifolius</em> Willd.</td>
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<td>122. <em>Holarrhena antidysenterica</em> (Roxb. ex. Fleming) Wall.</td>
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<td>123. <em>Holigama beddomei</em> Hook. f.</td>
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<td>124. <em>Holoptelea integrifolia</em> (Roxb.) Planch.</td>
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<td>125. <em>Hydrocotyl javanica</em> Thunb.</td>
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<td>126. <em>Indigofera linnaei</em> Ali.</td>
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<td>127. <em>Ipomoea barterioides</em> (Choisy.) Benth.</td>
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<td>128. <em>Ipomoea hederifolia</em> L.</td>
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<td>129. <em>Ipomea staphylina</em> R. &amp; S.</td>
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<td>130. <em>Jatropha curcas</em> L.</td>
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<td>131. <em>Justicia repens</em> L.</td>
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<td>132. <em>Justicia tranquebariensis</em> L.f.</td>
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<td>133. <em>Lantana camara</em> L.</td>
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<td>134. <em>Leea indica</em> (Burm. f.) Merr.</td>
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<td>135. <em>Limonia acidissima</em> L.</td>
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<td>136. <em>Litsea glutinosa</em> (Lour.) Robinson.</td>
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<td>137. <em>Ludwigia octovalvis</em> (Jacq.) Raven.</td>
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<td>138. <em>Malvastrum coromandelianum</em> (L.) Garcke.</td>
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<td>139. <em>Mappia foetida</em> Miers.</td>
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<td>140. <em>Microsorum punctatum</em> (L.) Copel.</td>
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<td>141. <em>Miliusa eriocarpa</em> Dunn.</td>
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<td>142. <em>Mucuna pruriens</em> (L.) DC.</td>
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<td>143. <em>Naravelia zeylanica</em> (L.) DC.</td>
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<td>144. <em>Nephrolepis auriculata</em> T. Moore.</td>
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<td>145. <em>Ocimum basilicum</em> L.</td>
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<td>146. <em>Ocimum gratissimum</em> L.</td>
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<td>147. <em>Ocimum tenuiflorum</em> L.</td>
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<td>148. <em>Oxalis corniculata</em> L.</td>
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<td>149. <em>Pandanus odoratissimus</em> Roxb.</td>
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<td>150. <em>Pedaliun murex</em> L.</td>
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<td>151. <em>Phaseolus calcaratus</em> Roxb.</td>
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<td>152. <em>Phyllanthus emblica</em> L.</td>
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<td>153. Phyllanthus lawii Grah.</td>
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<td>154. Physalis minima L.</td>
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<td>156. Pilea microphylla (L.) Liebm.</td>
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<td>157. Pimpinella leschenaultii DC.</td>
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<td>158. Piper argyrophyllum Miq.</td>
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<td>159. Piper longum L.</td>
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<td>160. Piper mulesua Buch-Ham. ex. D. Don.</td>
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<td>161. Plectranthus amboinicus (Lour.) Spreng.</td>
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<td>162. Plectranthus nilgherricus Benth.</td>
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<td>163. Plumeria rubra L.</td>
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<td>164. Polygonum chinense L.</td>
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<td>165. Pothos scandens L.</td>
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<td>166. Psilotrichum elliotii Baker &amp; Clarke.</td>
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<td>167. Pterocarpus marsupium Roxb.</td>
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<td>168. Pyrrosia lanceolata (L.) Farwell.</td>
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<td>169. Rhamnus wightii Roxb.</td>
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<td>171. Rhodomyrtus tomentosa (Ait.) Hassk.</td>
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<td>173. Rothia indica (L.) Druce.</td>
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<td>174 Rubia cordifolia L. Mant.</td>
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<td>175. Sapindus emarginatus Vahl.</td>
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<td>176. Selaginella krussiana Lamk.</td>
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<td>177. Semecarpus anacardium L.f.</td>
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<td>178. Shorea roxburghii G. Don.</td>
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<td>179. Sida acuta Burm.f.</td>
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<td>180. Sida gultinosa Commers. ex. Cav.</td>
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<td>181. Solanum surattense Burm. f.</td>
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<td>182. Solanum torvum Swartz.</td>
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<td>183. Solanum verbascifolium L.</td>
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<td>184. Solanum violaceum L. Ortega</td>
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<td>185. Sonerila rheedei W. &amp; A.</td>
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<td>186. Spilanthes calva DC.</td>
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<td>187. Spondias pinnata (L.) Kurz.</td>
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<td>188. Stachytarpheta jamaicensis (L.) Vahl.</td>
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<td>190. Syzygium cumini (L.) Skeels.</td>
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<td>191. Tarenna asiatica (L.) Kuntze ex. K. Schum.</td>
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<td>192. Tecoma stans (L.) Juss. ex. H.B. &amp; K.</td>
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<td>193. Tectona grandis L.f.</td>
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<td>194. Terminalia bellerica (Gaertn.) Roxb.</td>
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<td>195. Thunbergia alata Boj. ex. Sims.</td>
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<td>196. Tinospora cordifolia (Willd.) Miers.</td>
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<td>Tinospora malabarica Miers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toddalia asiatica (L.) Lam.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tragus biflorus Schult.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trianthema portulacastrum L.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trichosanthes cucumerina L.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trigonella foenum-graceum L.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trigonostemon nemoralis Thw.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vallaris solanacea (Roth.) Kuntz.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vanda testacea (Lindl.) Reichb.f.</td>
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<td>Vateria indica L.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vulpia myuros (L.) Gmel.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wrightia tinctoria (Roxb.) R. Br.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zehneria maysorensis (W. &amp; A.) Arn.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**LEGEND**

- **Lower zone**: Foot hills to 550 m altitude
- **Mid zone**: 550 m to 1000 m altitude
- **Upper zone**: 1000 m to 1200 m altitude