

Botanic name : *Launaea asplenifolia* Hook.f.

[syn-*Launaea procumbens* (Roxb.) Ramayya & Rajagopal -- Kew Bull. 23(3): 465. 1969 [14 Nov 1969] (IK)]

Common name: Balrajkonda.

Family: Asteraceae (Compositae)

Habitat: Terrestrial.

Distribution: Indian subcontinent but becomes invasive in sub-tropical areas with high allelopathic potential

Description: Annuals or biennials shrubs , sometimes spiny taprooted,Stems erect distally branched, hairy , Leaves basal blades oblanceolate , often pinnately lobed , ultimate margins usually dentate Heads in spiciform or racemiform to paniculiform arrays].. Florets 25-30; corollas yellow to ochroleucous [cyanic].; pappi persistent or tardily falling [bristles in 2-3 series white, coarser, barbellulate to smooth bristles in 2-3+ series.

Phytochemicals: 1-H-pyrazole (30.95%) and D-glucose, inositol, 1-H-pyrazole (33.17%) and fructose (7.34%), pyrazole as pyrazole hydrazoles,[12] Pyrazolo [3,4,5- kl] acridines, anthrapyrazoles,[13] ester coupled bisanthrapyrazole derivatives, 3-(1 H-indole-3-yl)- 1H-pyrazole-5-carbohydrazide derivatives 32, 1-aryl-4-(4,5-dihydro-1H-imidazole-2-yl)-1H-pyrazoles and 5-amino-1-aryl-4-(4,5-dihydro-1H-imidazole-2-yl)-1H-pyrazoles, imidazole-(benz) azole and imidazole piperazine derivatives, terpenoids.

Medicinal/Economic uses : Used as stimulant, tonic, demulcent; in bilious complaints, fever, cough, asthma. Traditionally used in the treatment of rheumatism, kidney, liver dysfunctions and eye diseases. In Gujrat (India), leaves are used locally in curries.