

Botanic name : *Psoralea corylifolia* L.

Common name: Babchi

Family: Fabaceae (Leguminosae)

Habitat: Terrestrial

Distribution: Native to India, In India the species is largely distributed in south eastern districts of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar & Gujrat regions

Description: Erect annual herb Grooved; Leaves Simple, 3.8x2.5-5.0 cm, broadly elliptic, inciso-dentate, rounded and mucronate at apex, white hairy, nigro-punctate, petioles hairy and gland dotted. Flowers In dense axillary, solitary, 10-30 flowered racemes; Corolla bluish purple, standard orbicular, clawed. Pod-ovoid-oblong, closely pitted, mucronate, Seeds- One, smooth.

Phytochemicals: Psoralen, isopsoralen, psoralidin, isopsoralidin, corylidin, coumarins-bavacoumestan A & B, flavonoids, phenolics, volatile oils, saponins, glucoside, angelicin etc

Medicinal/Economic uses: long been used in traditional Ayurvedic and Chinese medicine, used to improve general vitality. It is also used in the treatment of skin disorders, including vitiligo, also in febrile diseases, premature ejaculation, impotence, lower back pains, frequent urination, incontinence, bed wetting etc. The seed is anthelmintic, antibacterial, aphrodisiac, astringent, cardiac, cytotoxic, deobstruent, diaphoretic, diuretic, stimulant, stomachic and tonic. It is also used externally to treat leprosy, leucoderma and hair loss. The antibacterial action of the fruit inhibits the growth of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.