

Botanic name: *Duranta plumieri* Jacq. -- Select. Am. 186. t. 176. f. 76. (IK)

Common name: Golden dew drop

Family: Verbenaceae

Habitat: Terrestrial

Distribution: Native of tropical America. South Asian distribution as hedge and fence plant; has dangerous potential to inhibit growth of native crops (Invasive) in USA, Australia.

Description: Smooth, unarmed shrub, with straggling and drooping branches, small, obovate-elliptic leaves, pointed or rounded tips and pointed base; Flowers are scentless, borne on one side of the rachis, white or lilac-blue with two violet stripes in axillary racemes with terminal panicles, spreading and slender, fruit is fleshy, ovoid, orange-yellow and 7 to 8 millimeters long.

Phytochemicals: Alkaloids, flavonoids, steroids, triterpenoids (β -amyrin and 12-oleanene 3 β ,21 β -diol) tannins and phenols and also, glucosidal principle (bark), saponin (roots), naringenin, sitosterol, iridoids, durantoside IV and durantoside V, oleanolic acid, ursolic acid, (E)-cinnamic acid, beta-sitosteryl-3-O-beta-D-glucopyranoside, (E)-p-methoxycinnamic acid, KNO-3, KCl, kusagin, glucose, durantoside I, and durantoside II.; cleomiscosin A, hardwickic acid, 3,13-clerodadien-16, oleic acid

Medicinal/Economic uses: Antibacterial, antioxidant, antiplasmodial, febrifuge, malaria and intestinal worms (fruits), stimulant (flower), gastroprotective, mosquito larvicidal, diuretic (Infusion of leaves and juice of fruit), for treatment of abscesses (leaves), malaria (Bangladesh), also used by mainstream Kavirajes as insect repellent, treatment of itches, infertility, fever, and pneumonia in North-East (Assam, Shillong) and South India. Fruits are poisonous. Ornamental hedge.