

Botanic name : *Leucas mollissima* Wallich ex Bentham, Pl. Asiat. Rar. 1: 62. 1830

Common name : Thumbai, Dronapushpi

Family : Lamiaceae (Labiatae)

Habitat : Terrestrial

Distribution : India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam, China

Description : Annual erect herbs; stems slender, twisted, appressed tomentose-villous, much branched; petiolate; petiole densely tomentose; leaf blade ovate, leaves abaxially densely villous-tomentose, gradually reduced at apex, densely villous-tomentose, corrugate adaxially, greenish white abaxially, base broadly cuneate to cordate, margin crenate-serrate, apex acute at apex; Verticillasters axillary, widely spaced, 2-8(-10)-flowered; calyx tubular, teeth subequal, truncate at mouth, densely pubescent outside, posterior part puberulent, anterior glabrous inside; villous; teeth 10, triangular-subulate, subequal; corolla white, yellowish, or reddish, puberulent near throat outside, obliquely villous-annulate on middle inside; lower lip spreading, as long as upper lip; middle lobe largest, obcordate; lateral lobes oblong, pilose at base outside, glabrous inside. Nutlets dark brown, ovoid, triquetrous

Phytochemicals: Alkaloids, tannins, flavonoids, steroids, cardiac glycosides, saponin glycosides, anthraquinones, saponin, volatile oil

Medicinal/Economic uses: Anthelmintic, antioxidant, antimicrobial, anti-inflammatory. Used in the medicines of eye-drop, nose-bleeding, leucorrhoea, wound, sores (crushed leaves), excessive thirst (boiled flowers), gastro-intestinal troubles (leaf infusion), and various skin-diseases (itching, patchy skin, psoriasis and scabies). The plant is used in treating scorpion stings, snake bite, cough, fever, skin diseases, abnormally heavy bleeding at menstruation, cough, leucorrhoea, asthma, fever. The whole plant has febrifuge and insecticidal properties. The leaves are applied externally on snake bites and scorpion stings. The leaf juice is applied externally (rubbed on forehead) in headache. The decoction is used orally to treat diabetes mellitus, hepatitis and liver diseases.