

Botanic name : *Eleusine indica* (L.) Gaertn

Common name: Indian crowfoot Grass.

Family: Poaceae (Gramineae)

Habitat: Terrestrial.

Distribution: The geographical origin of this plant is uncertain but it is now *distributed* almost throughout the tropical world. It is an invasive species in some areas. Native to India.

Description: Coarse, caespitose ,annual tufted grass, the plant is clump- forming, branching from the base, leaf blades are flat or sometimes folded, flower spikes are mostly 2-6, usually 5 (4 digitate and 1 arising slightly below the tip of the stalk), Spikelets are, the florets closely imbricated, dark green, disarticulating at maturity, leaving glumes overlapping in 2 rows on one side of the flattened rachis. Distinguished from Chloris and Dactyloctenium by having awnless spikes. Fruit a nut.

Phytochemicals: Plant contains cyanogenetic glucoside, triglochinin, ochratoxin A and α -amylase inhibitors

Medicinal/Economic uses: The whole plant, but especially the root, is depurative, diuretic, febrifuge, laxative and sudorific .It is also used in the treatment of liver complaints]. The plant is a component of the 'basic remedy' in Vietnamese traditional medicine, also used in the treatment of influenza, hypertension, oliguria and retention of urine. The stems are used to make mats, baskets etc.