

Botanic name: *Vernonia cinerea* (L.) Less. -- Linnaea 4: 291. 1829 (IK)

Common name: Sahadevi, Little Ironweed

Family: Asteraceae (Compositae)

Habitat: Terrestrial

Distribution: Invasive in East Asia, Africa, and parts of India

Description: An annual erect herb; leaves ovate, thinly hair below; corymbose cymes (homogamous capitulum, pedunculate, flower purple, bisexual, sessile, anthers syngenesious; fruit achene (cypsela)

Phytochemicals: The plant contains luteolin-7 mono- beta-D- glucopyranoside along with triterpene compounds like beta-amyrin acetate, lupeol acetate. The sterols- beta-sitosterol, stigmasterol and alpha-spinasterol are bioactive in the plant

Medicinal/Economic uses: The plant has anticancerous property, destroys kidney stones by its lithotropic properties, cures cough. Used as antidotes and in treating diseases like haemorrhoids, stomach troubles, pulmonary troubles, fever; also used to prevent arthritis, inflammation, dropsy, tonsillitis, insomnia, and piles.