

Botanic name: *Tephrosia candida* DC.

Family: Fabaceae (Leguminosae)

Common name: White hoarypea, bangara (Bengali)

Habitat: Terrestrial

Distribution: Asia, Africa; invasive in some geographic regions

Description: Erect perennial herb with straggling branches from the base, spirally arranged, imparipinnate leaves, stipulate; caducous; leaflets opposite, narrowly ovate, narrowly obovate, flowers in fascicles, white, silky, with dark brown hairs on the outside in terminal, axillary or leaf-opposed pseudo-raceme; Pod linear, green or brown with silky hairs.

Phytochemicals: Candidol (a flavonol) and spirorotenoids belonging to a new class of spirocompounds, named tephrospirolactone, tephrospiroketone I, and tephrospiroketone II has been extracted from ethyl acetate extract of roots. Presence of tephrosin and 12a-Hydroxyrotenone, flavones, glucosides, flavans (tephrocandidin A & B), rotenoids, isoflavones, sesquiterpene, chalcones (tephrone, candidachalcone), flavanols (tephrospiroketone I, II), and prenylated flavonoids also reported

Medicinal/Economic uses: High protein forage; Toxic and repellent (leaves) to larval and adult Diaprepes root weevil (Coleoptera); estrogenic. Bioactive as insecticidal, antiviral, antidiabetic, antiprotozoal, antiplasmodial and cytotoxic.