

Botanic name : *Rubus moluccanus* L. -- Sp. Pl. 2: 1197. 1753 [1 May 1753] (IK)

Common name : Molucca Bramble, Queensland Raspberr

Family : Rosaceae

Habitat : Terrestrial

Distribution : Indian temperate Himalayas to tropical rainforest; sensitive to rising temperature and rainforest destruction in Indian Himalayas; becoming vulnerable in its natural habitat

Description : Tall scrambling shrub or climber with woody, and thorny stems; leaves simple, dark green, lamina ovate to ± circular, mostly 2–15 cm long, usually shortly and widely 3–5-lobed, margins toothed, sometimes shallowly lobed, base often cordate, lower surface tomentose; flowers pinkish red or white, arranged in irregular panicles; fruit berry, globose, red, falling away from receptacle when ripe.

Phytochemicals: Alkaloids, flavonoids, tannins, saponins, glycosides, terpenoids, sterols, and carbohydrates; triterpenic acid and rubitic acid characterized as 7 alpha-hydroxyursolic acid; saponins and tannins (roots), fruits acid, flavonoids, and tannins (leaves)

Medicinal/Economic uses : Antioxidant (berry)- reducing the risk of esophageal, cervical, and breast cancer, antimicrobial, antianaemic (fruit and juice), Decoction of leaves is use as tonic and gargle. Poultice of the leaves is applied to abscesses and skin ulcers. Root is used in a decoction which is employed to treat dysentery, diarrhea, colitis, whooping cough, labor pain (leaf tea), toothache (leaves). Standard infusion can also be applied externally as a lotion, reported to cure psoriasis and scaly conditions of the skin. Also used to treat sore throats, mouth ulcers, and gum inflammations while leaf decoction is helpful as a gargle in treating thrush as a good general mouthwash. Used commercially for jam, syrups, wine, and liqueur (fruits).