

Botanic name : *Canscora diffusa* R.Br.

Family: Gentianaceae

Common name: Kilwar

Habitat: Terrestrial

Distribution : Native to India, found in Uttar Pradesh (Lakhimpur), Khasi and Jaintia hills, Aka Hills, Lushai hills, Assam, and also in Bangladesh (Chittagong, Cox Bazar), Kaptai, Faridpur, Rajshahi, Kustia, Dhaka in fallow lands

Description: A diffuse annual herb, growing up to 15-50 cm high with many slender branches. Stalkless leaves oppositely arranged, ovate; Flowers occur in lax cymes at the end of branches. Rosy pink flowers with three visible petals. Actually there are 4 petals. Two of them merge to form a single notched petal. Four stamens emerge out of the flower; Fruit a Capsule, linear-oblong.

Phytochemicals: Free xanthenes, xanthone glucosides, (-)-loliolide, methoxy- and hydroxyxanthenes and its 3-O-rutinosyl derivative. Roots contain β -amyrin, friedelin, gentianine.

Medicinal/Economic uses : The Plant is used as a nerve tonic