

Botanic name : *Blumea lacera* (Burm.f.)DC

Common name: Kakronda

Family: Asteraceae

Habitat: Terrestrial

Distribution: The plant occurs throughout the plains of India from the north-west in the Himalayas. It is a common roadside weed in Ceylon and Malaya. It is distributed to the Malay Islands, Australia, China and Tropical Africa.

Description: Annual, erect herb with a strong odor, stems hairy or glandular, simple or branched, very leafy, leaves obovate or oblanceolate, smaller toward the top, stalked, and toothed or (rarely) lobulated at the margins; the bright yellow flowering heads, borne on short axillary cymes, and collected in terminal, spike-like panicles; the involucre-bracts are narrow and hairy; Fruit is an achene, oblong and not ribbed, Pappus is white;

Phytochemicals: hentriacontane, hentriacontanol, α -amyrin, lupeol and its acetates and β -sitosterol.

Medicinal/Economic uses : Astringent, stomachic, antispasmodic, antipyretic and diuretic; cures bronchitis, fevers and burning sensation, leaf juice is anthelmintic, astringent, febrifuge, stimulant and diuretic; mixed with pepper, it is given in bleeding piles. Roots mixed with pepper are given in cholera and along with rhizomes of *Cyperus rotundus* given in dysentery; essential oil from leaves is antimicrobial and insect repellent