

Botanic name: *Leucas biflora* R.Br. -- Prodr. Fl. Nov. Holland. 504. 1810 [27 Mar 1810] (IK)

Common name: Two-flowered *Leucas*, Jodi burumbi (Marathi), Dronapushpi

Family: Lamiaceae (Labiatae)-Mint family

Distribution: Native in India and Sri Lanka; tropical and subtropical Africa to Indian subcontinent, Myanmar and Malaysia.

Description: Perennial aromatic herb that contains nodal roots; stems quadrangular containing deflexed hairs at the ribs; leaves ovate to ovate-oblong, with acuminate at apex, crenate-serrate; flowers are bilabiate with almost equal two-lips in verticillaster inflorescence; calyx is bell-shaped; corolla white, 2-plipped, lower lip 4-lobed, upper lip concave, villous outside; stamens are 4, didynamous and orange in colour with hairy filament; gynoecium bi-carpellate, ovary superior, gynobasic style; nutlets are long, flat-topped-certerule

Phytochemicals: Alkaloids, tannins, flavonoids, steroids, cardiac glycosides, saponin glycosides, anthraquines, saponin, volatile oil

Medicinal/Economic uses: Anthelmintic, antioxidant, antimicrobial, anti-inflammatory. Used in the medicines of eye-drop, nose-bleeding, leucorrhea, wound, sores (crushed leaves), excessive thirst (boiled flowers), gastro-intestinal troubles (leaf infusion), and various skin-diseases (itching, patchy skin, psoriasis and scabies). In NE India, leaf decoction is used as eye drop in conjunctivitis, malarial fever, and also as tea, and insect repellent. Crushed leaves are used in treating colds, mild fevers, rheumatism, scorpion stings, and snake bites, and as a decoction against roundworm, mainly for children. The juice of leaves is put in nostrils as drops. For this purpose, the leaves juice is extracted and mixed with two times water. Then the diluted juice is put in nostrils (4 dops) for 3-4 days. For blockage of nose, headache due to cough, sinusitis, migraine, phlegm-flowers are heated in sesame (til) oil and applied on head.