

Botanic name : *Leucas procumbens* Desf. -- Mém. Mus. Hist. Nat. 11: 7, t. 3. f. 2. 1824 (IK)

Common name : Dronapushpi

Family : Lamiaceae (Labiatae)

Habitat : Terrestrial

Distribution : Indian subcontinent, SE Asia

Description : Annual procumbent herb; stems 4-angled, much branched; petiolate; petiole densely tomentose; leaf blade linear-lanceolate, leaves abaxially densely villous-tomentose, acute at apex, crenate-serrate at margins, broadly cuneate to cordate at base; flowers white, irregular, arranged in axillary verticillasters, many-flowered; calyx tubular, teeth unequal, truncate at mouth, densely pubescent outside, posterior part puberulent, anterior glabrous inside; corolla white, yellowish, or reddish, bi-lipped; stamens didynamous, epipetalous; stigma unequally bi-fid, style gynobasic; fruits-cerise-nutlets dark brown, ovoid.

Phytochemicals: Alkaloids, tannins, flavonoids, steroids, cardiac glycosides, saponin glycosides, anthraquinones, 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). The plant is used in treating scorpion stings, snake bite, cough, fever, skin diseases, abnormally heavy bleeding at menstruation, cough, leucorrhea, asthma, fever. The whole plant has fever reducing and insecticidal properties. The leaves are applied externally on snake bites and scorpion stings. The leaf juice is applied externally (rubbed on forehead) in headache. The decoction is used orally to treat diabetes mellitus, hepatitis and liver diseases.