

Botanic name: *Leucas lavandulifolia* Sm.(syn. *Leucas linifolia* (Roth.) Spreng.)

Common name: Chhoto Halkusha,

Family: Labiatae (Lamiaceae)

Habitat: Terrestrial

Distribution: Native to Indo-Malaysia and East Asia

Description: Annual herbs, branches puberulous, quadrangular stem; leaves linear-lanceolate, Flowers in dense axillary verticils, sub-sessile, bracteate; corolla white; bi-lipped; stamens 4, didynamous; filaments sparsely hairy. Ovary 4-celled; ovules 4; stigma bi-fid. Nutlets 4, minute.

Phytochemicals: Alkaloids, steroids flavonoids, triterpenoids, essential oil, fatty alcohol, saponins, tannins; Acacetin and chrysoeriol; isopimarane rhamnoglucoside, linifolioside;a new flavonoid glycoside, chrysoeriol-6'' (OAc)-4'- β -glucoside (ethyl acetate extract of aerial parts)

Medicinal/Economic uses: Hepatoprotective, hypoglycemic, analgesic, antipyretic, anti-inflammatory, wound healing, antiulcer. Used as vermifuge, febrifuge (leaves are roasted and eaten with salt), antiulcer, to restore appetite. Juice employed in headaches, cough, scabies and cold. The juice of the plant along with a little amount of salt is applied into the eye to cure conjunctivitis. A decoction of leaves is used as a sedative in nervous disorders, as expectorant, carminative, vermifuge and stomachic. Flowers are stimulant, expectorant and diaphoretic. Leaves mixed with salt and kerosene is useful as poultice in sores and wounds (Bangladesh). Also has been used as folk medicine in human and cattle ailments, such as cough, cold, fever, loss of appetite, skin diseases, headache, snake bite and scorpion sting. Cooked as vegetables by Orissa, India tribal folk.