

Botanic name : *Seseli indicum* Wight & Arn. -- Prodr. Fl. Ind. Orient. 1: 371. 1834 [10 Oct 1834] (IK) [Syn. *Seseli diffusum* (Roxb. ex Sm.) Santapau & Wagh in Bull. Bot. Surv. Ind. 5:108. 196]

Common name : Indian Celery, Ajawain jungle, Banywani (Sanskrit),

Family : Apiaceae (Umbelliferae)

Habitat : Terrestrial

Distribution : Native to Indian Himalayas - and in the plains from Punjab to Bengal, and in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka (South India); cultivation reported from Pakistan

Description : An annual pubescent herb; leaves bipinnate, segments ovate. Involucre of 5 linear pubescent bracts, Rays 10-16, pubescent. Involucel of 5-8 linear bractlets; flowers whitish, arranged in a basic umbel inflorescence; Calyx teeth minute; fruit hispid; ridges prominent.

Phytochemicals: Alkaloids, seselin and anthriscinol methyl ether, isopimpinellin and isorutarin, steroids, fixed oils, glycosides, tannins, saponin and flavonoids, cumene, thymene, amino acids and dietary fiber, essential oil- α -pinene (21.2%), β -phellandrene (14.9%), β -pinene (14.2%) and sabinene (13.4%), coumarins, phenolics, terpenes

Medicinal/Economic uses : Antibacterial, antioxidant, analgesic, fungitoxic, antispasmodic and diuretic, anti-inflammatory, anti-tussive effect, inhibitory effect on histamine (H1) receptors, antihypertensive, antispasmodic, larvicidal and neurobehavioral, bronchodilator, hepato-protective, analgesic, anti-inflammatory, antioxidant and anti mutagenic, insecticide, antinociceptive, stomachic, spasmolytic, digestive, intestinal tonic; effective against *Ascaris*, itching, tympanitis, bloating, pain, digestive disorder, and skin diseases. Plant and fruits stimulant, stomachic, anthelmintic, vermifuge, for expelling roundworms. Veterinary medicine, seeds carminative used as cattle medicine [CRC World Dictionary of Medicinal and Poisonous Plants]. Also used as folk medicine.

More read: PHYTOTHERAPY RESEARCH 26(5): 783-786 [2012]