

Botanic name : *Triumfetta rhomboidea* Jacq. -- Enum. Syst. Pl. 22. 1760 [Aug-Sep 1760] ; Select. Stirp. Amer. Hist. 147, t. 90 (1763) (IK)

Common name : Diamond burbark, Burr bush, Thinjhira

Family : Tiliaceae

Habitat : Terrestrial

Distribution : Originated in tropical America; widely distributed in India

Description : An annual undershrub, much-branched, branches slender, slightly pubescent; leaves variable, lower leaves tri-lobed, irregularly serrate, clothed with stellate hairs on both surfaces, upper leaves ovate/rhomboid, almost sessile, alternate; flowers 6mm, yellow, arranged in dense spikes, stamens 10-15; fruit capsule, sub-globose, echinate with hooked bristles, indehiscent

Phytochemicals: Triumboidin (a flavones glycoside), flavones, flavonoids (apigenin 7-O-glucuronide, luteolin 7-O-glucuronide, schaftoside and kaempferol 3-O-(p-coumaroylglucoside), glycosides, phytosterol, β -sitosterol, friedelin, friedelinol quercetin, 2,6-dimethoxy-1,4-benzoquinone and rosmarinic acid, steroids, tannin, phenolic compounds and triterpenoids

Medicinal/Economic uses: Astringent, abortifacient, hepatoprotective, anti diabetic, analgesic, antibacterial, demulcent, diuretic, tonic, cooling, antihypertensive, immunomodulating, mucilaginous and emollient; used to treat diarrhea and dysentery (bark, fresh leaves), gonorrhoea (flowers mixed with sugar and water), during childbirth (hot infusion), internal ulceration (root decoction), leprosy (leaves and fruits), snake-bites (root infusion-African countries), boils, pimples, and blisters (leaf paste-Nepal) Used by hill-tribes to treat stomachache, indigestion, and to treat fever during menstruation. Paste applied to treat pimples, intestinal worms; leaves mashed with rhizome of *Zingiber officinale*, lemon juice and coconut oil, fried, and taken as bechic. Leaves-used as soups. The soft, glossy fibre obtained from the bark is rather similar to Jute.