Botanic name : Hyptis suaveolens (L.)Poit

Common name: American mint

Family: Lamiaceae (Labiatae)

Habitat: Terrestrial

Distribution: plant native to tropical regions of Mexico, Central, the West Indies, and South America, as well as being naturalized in tropical parts of Africa, Asia and Australia.

Description: Rigid annual herb, stem quadrate hairy, leaves either ovate or obovate. serrulate margins, long stalk, lower surface of the leaves bears hairs; copious blue flowers in small cymes along branch that ends with reduced leaves. Sepal tube is hairy in nature, 4 stamens.

Phytochemicals: Alkaloids, flavonols, flavones, flavonones, terpenoids, tannins, aldehydes and ketones and the absence of steroids, enols, saponins and anthraquinones

Medicinal/Economic uses: The plant is stimulant, carminative, sudorific and lactagogue; infusion is used in catarrhal conditions, affections of the uterus and parasitical cutaneous diseases. Leaves used in cancer and tumour, antispasmodic and antirheumatic; infusion is given in fever.