

# *Canthium coromandelicum* (Burm. f.) Alston

**Synonyms** : *Canthium parviflorum* Lam.

**Family** : Rubiaceae

**Parts Used** : Root , Leaf

**Vernacular Names**

English : Canthium

Malayalam : Kara

Hindi : Kirma

Sanskrit : Gangeruki



**Distribution and Habitat:** Throughout India in scrub forest and dry plains.

**Botany:** A thorny subscandent shrub with spreading branches.

- **Leaves:** Simple, small, opposite with interpetiolar stipules and axillary spines
- **Flowers:** Yellowish white, 4-merous, small, in axillary cymes, corolla tube short
- **Fruits:** Oblong-ellipsoid or compressed drupes, yellow when ripe.

**Properties:** The roots and the leaves are astringent, thermogenic, diuretic, febrifuge, anthelmintic and constipating.

**Uses:** Useful in diarrhoea, strangury, fever, intestinal worms and general debility.

**Propagation:** Seeds

