

# *Citrus medica* Linn.

**Family** : Rutaceae  
**Parts Used** : Whole plant

## **Vernacular Names**

English : Citron  
Malayalam : Ganapatinarakam  
Hindi : Baraneembu, Bijaura  
Sanskrit : Matulungah  
Bengali : Batapi  
Tamil : Kadaranarattai  
Telugu : Lungamu.



**Distribution and habitat:** Throughout in forests along streams, up to 1200 m elevation

**Botany:** An evergreen armed shrub, 1.8-3.6 m high with straggling thorny branches and smooth yellowish brown bark.

• **Leaves:** Oblong or elliptic with acute or rounded apex, coriaceous, glabrous, pellucid-punctate, dull dark green above. Petiole 5-10 mm long.

• **Flowers:** 3.8-4.5 cm diameter, white tinged with pink, scented, in axillary cymes.

• **Fruits:** Large berries oblong or globose, fleshy, rind thick, rough, irregular or warted, yellow when ripe. Seeds few and smooth.

**Properties:** Anodyne, laxative, anthelmintic, diuretic, astringent, stimulant, anti-emetic, appetizer, emollient, anti-inflammatory.

**Chemical constituents:** Fruit juice contains citric acid, volatile oil containing citral, limonene, linalool, linalyl acetate, terpinol and cymene; perfumed essential oil, composition of petilgrain oil; leaf contain coumarins, bergapten, citropten; bark; xanthyletin.

**Uses:** Used in constipation, dental caries, helminthiasis, vomiting, renal and vesical calculi, tumors, pharyngodysnia, leprosy, skin diseases, stimulant, anorexia, abdominal disorders, high cough, tumours, inflammations, amenorrhoea, and haemorrhoids

**Propagation:** Seeds

