

Rotheca serrata (L.) Steane & Mabb.

Synonyms : *Clerodendrum serratum* (L.) Moon

Family : Lamiaceae

Parts Used : Root , Leaf

Vernacular Names

English : Beetle killer

Malayalam : Cheru thekku

Hindi : Bharang

Sanskrit : Ankaravalli

Bengali : Bomanhati

Gujarathi : Bharungi

Kannada : Gantubaranji

Tamil : Chirrutekku

Telugu : Cheruteku



Distribution and habitat: Found throughout India.

Botany: A slightly woody shrub with bluntly quadrangular stems and branches.

• **Leaves:** Usually 3 at a node, some times opposite, oblong or elliptic, coarsely and sharply serrate. Petioles 6mm long.

• **Flowers:** Blue, many, in long dichotomous cymes with a pair of acute bracts at each branching and a flower in the fork. Calyx 5 mm long, cup shaped, corolla pale blue, tube 1 cm long, cylindric.

• **Fruits:** 4- lobed purple drupe, some what succulent with one pyrene in each lobe.

Properties: Antispasmodic, expectorant, carminative

Chemical constituents: Plants contain saponin and manitol. Root bark yields saponin, manitol and stigmasterol.

Uses: It is used in cough, anasarca, dyspnoea, expectorant, flatulence, consumption, chronic nasitis cephalgia, and ophthalmia (external application)

Formulations: *Ayaskrti, Bharngyadi kasayam*

Propagation: Seed, stem cuttings

