

Clitoria ternatea Linn.

Family : Fabaceae

Group : Antidotes, Brain tonic, Eye diseases, Diuretic/renal protectant

Parts Used : Root , Leaf, Seed

Vernacular Names

English : Clitoria

Malayalam : Sankhupushpam

Hindi : Aparajit

Sanskrit : Aparajitha

Bengali : Aparajit

Gujarathi : Gorani

Kannada : Girikarniballi

Tamil : Kannikkoti

Telugu : Dintana



Distribution and habitat: Found throughout India and adapted to diverse soil and climatic conditions.

Botany: Perennial climber with terete stem

• **Leaf:** Imparipinnate; petioles 2-2.5 cm long; stipules 4 mm long, linear and acute; Leaflets 5-7, sub coriaceous, elliptic, oblong, and obtuse, 2.5-5 by 2-3.2 cm

• **Flowers:** Blue or white, axillary, solitary, pedicellate, bracts small and linear, bracteoles 6-13 mm long, roundish, obtuse. Calyx 1.3-2 cm long; teeth lanceolate, shorter than the tube. Corolla 3.8-5 cm long

• **Fruit:** Pods 5-10 cm long, flattened, nearly straight, sharply beaked. Seeds 6-10, yellowish brown, smooth.

Properties: Purgative, diuretic, laxative

Chemical constituent:

Root- Taraxerol and taraxerone

Seeds- cinnamic acid and anthoxanthin glucoside

Seed oil- Palmitic, stearic, oleic, linoleic and linolenic acids

Leaf- Glycosides of kaempferol and stigmast-4-ene-3, 6-dione.

Flowers- Blue anthocyanin delphinidin- 3, 5- diglucoside, 6-acylated anthocyanins based on delphinidin along with flavanols

Uses: Antidote, constipation, ophthalmopathy, tubercular glands, burning sensation, leprosy, leukoderma, elephantiasis, inflammation, bronchitis, asthma, pulmonary tuberculosis, ulcer, hepatopathy, eruptions, otalgia, hepatopathy, and fever

Formulations: *Garphabala rasa*, *Visha taila*, *Somaraji taila*.

Propagation: Seeds, calyx regeneration and shoot tip culture

