

# *Derris elliptica* (Wall.) Benth.

**Family** : Fabaceae

**Parts Used** : Root

**Vernacular Names**

English : Tuba root

Malayalam : Bhuthakkaranti valli.



**Distribution and habitat:** Assam, Myanmar, Malaya and East- Indies

**Botany:** A large climbing shrub with purplish brown stem having scattered, circular to elliptic lenticels and black, closely warted branchlets.

• **Leaves:** Alternate, graying- green, imparipinnate. Leaflets are oblong, oblong-lanceolate to oblanceolate, slightly hairy to glabrous on upper surface, rusty tomentose on the lower surface.

• **Flowers:** Papilionaceous and occur in axillary compound racemes.

• **Fruit:** Pods flattened, elliptic, 5-7.5 cm x 1.8 cm, 1- 3 seeded, thin sutures raised, nearly winged along the sutures.

**Properties:** cytotoxic, Insecticide

**Chemical constituents:** rotenone, toxicarol, elliptone, sumatrol, tephrosin, and deguelin in roots. 6,4'-dihydroxy-7,5' - dimethoxy-coumaronochromone in the aerial parts.

**Uses:** Insecticide and fish poison.

**Propagation:** seeds and stem cuttings.

