

# *Ficus exasperata* Vahl

**Synonyms** : *F. asperrima* Roxb.

**Family** : Moraceae

**Parts Used** : Leaf, Bark

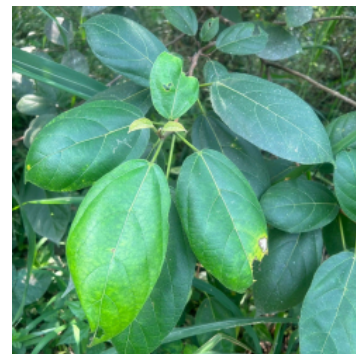
**Vernacular Names**

English : Ficus

Malayalam : Therakam

Hindi : Kalmnor

Sanskrit : Kharapatra



**Distribution and Habitat:** Small tree; through out Kerala, E. Africa, Arabia, India and SriLanka

**Botany:** Small tree; bark greyish- brown, smooth. Aerial roots absent.

• **Leaves:** Elliptic or obovate, acute or acuminate base rounded, scabrous, to 10 x 5 cm; lateral nerves 4-6 pairs, basal pair opposite and ribbed; petiole, to 4cm long; leaves of saplings and coppice shoots often lobed.

• **Fruit:** Figs axillary, solitary, globose, scabrid; yellow when ripe, 1 cm long; basal bracts 6 or 7; peduncle about 1cm long.

**Properties:** anti-inflammatory, analgesic, anti-ulcer, anti-diabetic, lipid-lowering and antifungal activities

**Chemical constituents:** Bark contains alkaloids, cardiac glycosides, saponines, sterols etc. Bergapten, oxypeucedanin hydrate and sitosterol-3-O- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside are present in stem bark. In leaves,  $\beta$ -sitosterol and sitosterol-3-O- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside were present. Essential oil from the leaves contain 1, 8 cineole, p-Cymene, (E)-Phytol,  $\beta$ -Ionone etc.

**Uses** : Bark juice is used against enlargement of liver and spleen.

**Propagation:** By seeds

