

Muehlenbeckia platyclada (F.Muell.) Meisn.

Synonyms : *Coccoloba platyclada* F.Muell. ex Hook. , *Honalocladium platycladaum* (F.Muell)

Family : Polygonaceae

Parts Used : Leaf

Vernacular Names

English : Centipede plant

Malayalam : Pazhuthara cheti



Distribution and Habitat: Solomon Islands.

Botany: Subshrub; branchlets green, flattened, jointed, modified in to phylloclades; nodes flattened.

• **Leaves:** Lanceolate, chartaceous, lateral nerves 4 pairs, faint, base acute, margin entire, apex gradually acute, deciduous; petiole to 0.5cm; stipules sheathing, deciduous.

• **Flowers:** Axillary fascicles or on short, lateral spikes; bract ovate, scarious; bracteoles 2-4. perianth greenish yellow, campanulate; lobes 6, equal, oblong, concave, 1.5 mm, obtuse. Stamens 6-9, (sub) exserted; ovary 3-gonous; stigma simple.

• **Fruit:** Nutlet trigonous, long.

Chemical constituents: flavanoids (morin-3-O- α -rhamnopyranoside, kaempferol-3-O- α -rhamnopyranoside, kaempferol-3-O- β -glucopyranoside, quercetin 3-O- α -rhamnopyranoside and (+)-catechin

Properties: Fruit is astringent

Uses: anti-oxidant, antiulcer, anti inflammatory

Propagation: By cuttings.

