

Urena lobata Linn.

Family : Malvaceae
Parts Used : Root , Leaf, Flower
Vernacular Names
English : Urena
Malayalam : Ooram
Hindi : Bachata
Sanskrit : Vanabhenda
Tamil : Ottatti, Ottuttutti
Telugu : Peddabenda



Distribution and habitat: All tropical countries

Botany: Herbaceous, erect, 5-10 cm high.

• **Leaves:** Usually broader than long, up to 11.3 X 15 cm, cordate serrate or toothed, stellately hairy on both surfaces, roundish, angled. Lobes generally acute or acuminate varying in size and number. Nerves 5-7, prominent beneath, with often a gland at the base of the midrib and sometimes on the 2 adjacent nerves. Petioles variable in length 1.2-15 cm long, hairy.

• **Flowers:** Pedicels hairy, short, clustered. Involucral bracts less than 6 mm long. Calyx deeply divided. Lobes less than 6 mm long, lanceolate, ciliate. Corolla 15 mm long, pink.

• **Fruits** : Capsules pubescent, covered with blunt spines.

• **Seeds:** Rounded on the back, wedge-shaped on the inner side, smooth.

Chemical constituents: Roots contain β -sitosterol, quercetin, trans-tiliroside etc. Leaves contain flavanoids like kaempferol, rutin, quercetin, afzelin, astragalin, tiliroside, kaempferol-3-O- β -D-glycopyranoside-7-O- α -L-rhamnoside, crenuloside etc.

Properties: Diuretic, hypothermic, neurotonic, analgesic, aphrodisiac, antioxidant

Uses: In rheumatism, pectoral, sore throat

Propagation: Seeds.

