

Nervilia aragoana Gaud.

Synonyms : *Pogonia flabelliformis*, *P. carinata*, *Nervilia concolor* (Blume) Schltr.

Family : Orchidaceae

Parts Used : Whole plant

Vernacular Names

English : Nervilia

Malayalam : Orilathamara

Hindi : Sthalapadma

Sanskrit : Padmacarini

Tamil : Orilattamarai



Distribution and habitat: Throughout Travancore and Palany hills at all elevations.

Botany: A terrestrial orchid with single lotus like leaf raised on a long stalk with subglobose white fleshy tubers.

• **Leaves:** single, simple, orbicular or sub reniform, base cordate, 13 or more ribbed, margin wavy, almost coarsely dentate, 10-25 cm diameter, Petiole 10-20 cm long,

• **Flower:** sepals and petals pale green veined with purple, lip white 3-lobed about the middle, veined with purple, tinged with yellow near the base, mid lobe ovate, acute, crisped, hairy.

Properties: Galactogogue, diuretic

Uses: Urography, colic, mental instability, asthma, lithiasis, epileptic fits

Formulations: *Vastyamayana ghrtam*, *Sutavari ghrtam*

Propagation: tubers

The natural growth habitat is forest area. The growth was found to be better in 50% shade level when domesticated. The growing medium suitable for growth is a mixture of sand, soil and farm yard manure in a ratio 1:1:1.

