

Operculina turpethum (Linn.) S. Manso

Family : Convolvulaceae
Group : Stomach disorders/carminatives/laxative
Parts Used : Root
Vernacular Names
English : Indian jalap
Malayalam : Thrikolpakkonna
Hindi : Tarbut
Sanskrit : Trivirt
Bengali : Dudhkalami
Kannada : Sigade
Tamil : Kumbham



Distribution and habitat: Found throughout India

Botany: A large stout perennial twiner with milky juice, winged twisted, pubescent, twining stems and long slender fleshy much branched roots;

- **Leaves** : Simple, large very variable in shape, subacute, mucronate, more or less pubescent on both sides especially when young, base cordate or truncate.
- **Flowers** : White, tubular- campanulate in few flowered cymes.
- **Fruits** : Globose capsules, enclosed in enlarged brittle embricate sepals.
- **Seeds** : 4 or less, glabrous, dull black.

Properties: Purgative, antidote, anti-inflammatory

Chemical constituents: Coumarin, scopoletin, α - & β -terpetheins, sugars, luteolin and its derivatives, gentisic, protocatechuic, vanillic, p-coumaric, melilotic and ferulicacids. Saponins are the major components reported from the various parts of the plant.

Uses: Used against poisoning by scorpion sting, snake bite

Propagation: By seed

