

Osbeckia parvifolia Arn.

Family : Melastomaceae

Parts Used : Leaf

Vernacular Names

English : Osbeckia

Malayalam : Cherukadhali



Distribution and Habitat: Found throughout Deccan Peninsula and Ceylon

Botany: Annual and biennial herbaceous plant, drying yellow.

- **Stems** : 8-20 inches, tetragonous, glaucous upwards, simple ascending often closely- adpressed hairs.

- **Leaves** :Elliptic, sub acute, nerved, hairy on both surfaces; petiole 1/8- 1/4 inches. bracts ovate or oblong, glabrous on their backs. Calyx tube and teeth with stalked stellate hairs; teeth pattered sub persistent, petals dark purple or nearly white.

- **Flowers:** Sub capitate often with 2 or 4 leaves close under the head some times more lax, bristles on the apex of the ovary very numerous,

- **Fruit** : Rarely less than 1/4 in broad obscurely main ribbed ovoid.

Chemical constituents: The plant is rich in phenolic compounds, tannins and flavanoids

Properties and uses: It has antioxidant properties, anti-nociceptive properties and used in treating inflammations.

Propagation: By seeds

