

Oxalis corniculata Linn.

Family : Oxalidaceae
Group : Stomach disorders/carminatives/laxative
Parts Used : Whole plant
Vernacular Names
English : Indian sorrel
Malayalam : Puliyaral
Hindi : Amrool
Sanskrit : Amlika, Ambashta, Amlalonika
Tamil : Pooliaray
Telugu : Poolichinta



Distribution and habitat: Found throughout the warmer part of India.

Botany: A diffuse annual or perennial procumbent or more or less erect creeping acid herb, 6-25 cm in height.

• **Leaves:** Palmately trifoliate, alternate, long stalked; leaflets sessile or sub-sessile, obcordate, pubescent, cuneate at base. Petioles 3.8-9 cm long, very slender, pubescent; stipules small, oblong, adnate to the petiole. Peduncles 2-5, but mostly 2-flowered.

• **Flowers:** Yellow, in small long stalked axillary or subumbellate cymes. Sepals pubescent, 3-4.5 mm long, oblong, obtuse, appressedly hairy outside; petals emarginated, yellow, oblong, rounded at the apex, twice as long as the sepals; pistils as long as the longer stamens; Stamens monadelphous. Stigma papillose.

• **Fruit:** Capsule tomentose, oblong, 1.2-2.5 cm long, many seeded, densely pubescent and narrowed at apex.

• **Seeds:** Several in each cell, transversely ribbed, numerous, broadly ovoid, acute, brown.

Properties: Astringent, anodyne, antiseptic

Chemical constituent:

• Stem & leaves: Carotene, vitamin-C, malic, tartaric and citric acids

• Leaves- C-glycosyl flavonoids, 5,7,4'-trihydroxy- 8-C- β -D-glucopyranoside(vitexin), 5,7,4'-trihydroxy-6-C- β -D-glucopyranoside(isovitexin) and vitexin -2''-O- β -D-glucopyranoside

Uses:

• Whole plant is used in dyspepsia, insanity, anaemia, fever, dysentery, scurvy, eye diseases, cardiac disorders, burning sensation etc.

• Infusion of leaves are used to remove opacities of cornea, it is dropped in to sore eyes for itching lids.

Propagation: Seeds

