

# *Phyllanthus amarus* Schum. & Thonn.

**Family** : Phyllanthaceae  
**Group** : Hepatoprotective  
**Parts Used** : Whole plant  
**Vernacular Names**  
English : Phyllanthus  
Malayalam : Kizharnelli  
Hindi : Jaramla  
Sanskrit : Tamalaki  
Kannada : Kirunelli  
Tamil : Kilanelli  
Telugu : Nela usirika



**Distribution and habitat:** Throughout warmer parts of India as a weed in cultivated and waste lands.

**Botany:** A branching annual glabrous herb 30-60 cm high with slender, spreading leaf-bearing branchlets.

- **Leaves:** Numerous, distichous, subsessile, elliptic-oblong, obtuse, base rounded.
- **Flowers** : Yellowish, greenish or whitish, axillary, males in group of 1-3, females solitary.
- **Fruits** : Depressed globose smooth capsules underneath the branches,
- **Seeds** : Trigonous, pale brown with longitudinal parallel ribs on the back .

**Chemical constituent:**

- Aerial parts- nor-securinine, 4-methoxy-nor-securinine, nirphyllin, phyllantheon, phyllanthanol, tricontanol, thallic acid bis- ester
- Leaves- niranthin, nirtetralin, phyllanthin, hypophyllanthin, vitamin C and phyltetralin

**Uses:** The whole plant is used against gastropathy, dropsy, jaundice, diarrhoea, dysentery, intermittent fevers, ophthalmopathy, diseases of urino-genital system, scabies, ulcers and wounds.

**Formulations:** Jamalakilem, Parutyadi tailam.

**Propagation:** Seeds

