

Sanseveria roxburghiana Schult.

Family : Asperagaceae (Dracaenaceae)

Group : Anti tussive (expectorant)

Parts Used : Rhizome

Vernacular Names

English : Indian bow-string hemp

Malayalam : Vishappola, Muramanchi, Sarpapola

Hindi : Murva

Sanskrit : Murva



Distribution and habitat: Coromandel Coast.

Botany: A herb with a creeping root stock.

• **Leaves** : 6-24 to a growth smooth above, slightly rough beneath, 10-20 cm long, 2.5-3.8 cm broad, flat, strap shaped or narrowly lanceolate.

• **Flowers** : Stem 30-75 m high, with 4-5 erect acuminate sheaths 2.5-3.8 cm long on the lower part and a spike like raceme 30-45 cm long of flower clusters above. Bracts 3-4 mm long, lanceolate-attenuate, membranous. Flowers about 4 in a cluster; pedicels 5.0-8.4 mm long; tube 6.3-7.3 mm long; lobes 8.4-9.5 mm long, linear, obtuse.

Properties: Expectorant, anti rheumatic, febrifuge

Active principles: Rhizomes contain Palmitic acid, isorhamnetin-3-O- β -D- glucopyranoside, gallic acid, bupanidrine, caftaric acid etc. It also contains diosgenin and rhein.

Uses: Biles, heat of blood, gonorrhea, heart diseases, long standing cough, clearing throats of viscid phlegm (in children), itch, leprosy, fever, rheumatism and glandular enlargements.

Formulations: *Sudarsan churna* and *yograj-guggulu*

Propagation: By leaf cutting and suckers

