

Biophytum sensitivum(Linn.) Dc

Synonyms : *Biophytum reinwardtii* (Zucc.) Klotzsch. var. *reinwardtii*; Hook. f.

Family : Oxalidaceae

Group : 2. Dasapushpam, Antipyretic

Parts Used : Whole plant

Vernacular Names

English : Sensitive wood sorrel

Malayalam : Mukkutti, Nilamthengu

Hindi : Lajjalu

Sanskrit : Jhullapuspah

Gujarathi : Jharera, Ladjiri, Lahanamulki

Tamil : Tintanali



Distribution and habitat: It is an herb and distributed throughout hotter parts of India as weed in moist shady places.

Botany: A slender erect annual herb with a rosette of leaves on top of the stem. Stem 2.5-25 cm long, stout or slender, glabrous or hairy.

• **Leaf:** Abruptly pinnate, sensitive, crowded into a rosette on the top of the stem 3.8-7.5 cm long; petiole short; rachis slender, glabrous or hairy. Leaflets opposite, 1 cm long, 6-12 pairs (the terminal pair largest, the pairs becoming smaller downwards), oblong, obliquely rounded and apiculate at the apex, subsessile, glabrous, paler beneath.

• **Flowers:** Dimorphic, 8 mm across, yellow. Peduncles many, of various lengths up to 10 cm long, slender, pubescent or glabrous; pedicels many, bracts lanceolate, small, crowded beneath the pedicels. Sepals lanceolate, acute, with parallel nerves. Corolla much exceeding the sepals, lobes rounded, spreading. Style nearly glabrous.

• **Fruit:** Capsule ellipsoid, apiculate, slightly exceeding the sepals. Cells few seeded.

• **Seeds:** Ovoid, transversely striate.

Properties: Astringent, anti-pyretic, anti-septic

Uses: Whole plant used for cure of strangury, urinary calculi, hyperdipsia in bilious fevers, wounds, hemorrhage, cough, dysentery, abscesses, asthma, stomachalgia and snake bite.

Formulations: *Chemparutyadi tailam*

Propagation: Seed

