

# *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

