

Literature Review of *Flemingia wightiana*^{1,2}

Botanical Name: *Flemingia wightiana*

Synonym: *Flemingia grahamiana*

Moghania grahamiana (Wight & Arn.) Kuntze

Moghania grahamiana

Family: Fabaceae

Vernacular names:

SS

Telugu : Kandaran regu

Marathi: Dandola

Distribution: Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Nilgiris, Koncan, Canara.



Figure 3: *Flemingia wightiana*.

Plant Description:

Flemingia wightiana is a low erect perennial shrub, with tomentose young shoots. Petiole 1.3 -2.5 cm., spikes dense, oblong, 2.5-5cm long, often fascicled, bracts under 1.3 cm long, erect – patent, subpersistent. Calyx 1 cm, teeth plumose. Pods oblong, 1 cm long, finely pubescent and often covered with red viscous glands.

Traditional Uses³:

Flemingia wightiana is used externally for skin disease, inflammation and internally as a purgative and specific for cold.

Flemingia chappar:

Traditional healers of Jashpur region of chhattisgarh uses roots of *Flemingia chappar* (salpan) in the treatment of epilepsy, diabetes, insomnia, acidity and stomach disorders.

In Bihar the people of santhal tribes use 1 to 2 drops of juice extracted from pressed seeds put in the eyes as a remedy in eye troubles and to remove cataract.

In Madhya Pradesh the *Flemingia chappar* Ham is known as ‘Galphule’, in Gamharia (Raigarh) of Madhya Pradesh, the leaf juice mixed with seven drops of mustard oil and a little amount of jaggery is used in eye pain by the tribal people.

Flemingia strobilifera:

In Burma the roots of *Flemingia strobilifera* are used to treat epilepsy. The Assamese take a small portion of the root of *Flemingia strobilifera* in order to induce sleep and, it is said, even under great pain heavy sleep is brought on according to the quantity of root taken. There are no ill effects.

The leaves of *Flemingia strobilifera* are reported to be used in Java as vermifuge for children. Dried bracts are used for stuffing pillows and cushions.

In Malay Peninsula a decoction of it is administered as a post partum protective medicine and as a lotion to treat rheumatism.

In the Philippines a decoction/infusion of the leaves and flowers is prescribed by “curanderose” against tuberculosis. In India, root paste applied externally to body

swellings.

In Nepal, root juice (fresh roots crushed in cup of water by mortar and pestle) is taken twice daily for 7 days for diarrhea and dysentery. In Trinidad and Tobago, it is used for kidney problems.

Flemingia macrophylla:

In Gamharia (Raigarh) of Madhya Pradesh, the root decoction of *Flemingia macrophylla* (Mahadeokama) 50 ml. is administered orally three times daily in spermatorrhoea by the tribal people. The roots of *Flemingia macrophylla* are used by santals as an external application to ulcers and swellings, inflammation mainly of the neck.

The pods of *Flemingia macrophylla* and *Flemingia wightiana* yield Warrus. Warrus is a dull purplish resinous powder somewhat similar to “kamala” powder (from *Mallotus philippensis* Muell.Arg.) and is obtained from the dried pods of the plants by gentle shaking and rubbing to denude them of their outer hairy covering.

It is used in dyeing silk and to a lesser extent wool. In Arabia warrus is employed as a cosmetic, anthelmintic and a remedy for cough and chills.

Flemingia nana:

The roots of *Flemingia nana* are used in ulcers and swellings.

Flemingia vestita:

A decoction of the tubers of *Flemingia vestita* is used as a vermifuge. The outer skin of the tubers is used as an anthelmintic and fish poison.

Flemingia tuberosa:

The tuber and roots of *Flemingia tuberosa* are sweet, astringent useful in

dysentery and vaginal discharges (leucorrhoea).

***Flemingia lineata* Roxb:**

Flemingia lineata Roxb, is an undershrub occurring throughout India at lower elevations. It has been tried as a green manure plant. The ash of this plant is made into paste with coconut oil and applied over the affected part in skin diseases

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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3. <http://www.science20.com/humboldt-fellow-and-science/blogspot>. (Cited on 2012-July-14). Plants used in folk medicine in India believed to have medicinal potential by users of folk medicine in India.