



Oxalis corniculata L.

Family: Oxalidaceae

Vernacular names: Puliyarila, പുളിയാറില (Malayalam), Creeping oxalis (English), Changeri (Sanskrit), Amrul (Hindi), Puliyarai (Tamil)

Distribution: Cosmopolitan

Description: Prostrate herbs with creeping stem. Leaves digitately 3-foliolate. Flowers yellow, solitary or in axillary umbels. Capsules, linear, puberulous outside; seeds many, minute, brown.

Habit: Herb

Habitat: Degraded forests, also in the plains

Flowering & Fruiting: March-December

Parts used: Whole plant

Properties & Uses: Plant is cooling, antiseptic, astringent, appetizer and antiscorbutic; useful in fevers and biliousness; juice of the plant cures scurvy, piles, anemia and tympanites; also relieves the intoxication produced by Datura. Expressed juice made into a sherbet is prescribed in dysentery, prolapse of the rectum and also allays thirst. Fresh leaves made into a curry are said to improve appetite and digestion of dyspeptic patients. They have also been used for removing corns, warts and other excrescences on the skin. Decoction of the leaves is prescribed in fevers and dysentery. An infusion of the leaves is used externally to remove opacities of the cornea.

Systems of Medicines: Ayurveda, Folk, Unani,

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