

PHARMACOGNOSTIC STUDIES ON *AERVA LANATA*(AMARANTHACEAE)

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A decoction of *Aerva lanata* (Sinhala-Polkudupala) is a reputed diuretic and considered to be of great value in Lithiasis. The plant is also used for coughs and as a vermifuge for children in Ayurvedic medicine.

The morphological and anatomical characters of the entire plant of *A.lanata* were studied. The diagnostic features could be used for identification and authentication of the plant.

The characteristic features to identify the plant in dried form and to detect its presence in a preparation were obtained by studying the powder microscopy, TAS (Thermal extraction, transfer and application method for substances on a microscale, accordance to Stahl) profiles and TLC profiles which were developed. These could be used in the authentication, detection and quality control of Ayurvedic products which include *A.lanata*.

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References

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