



***Nerium indicum* L.**

Family: Apocynaceae

Common names: Kaner, Indian oleander



Description:

Nerium indicum is cultivated as an ornamental shrub in gardens throughout India. It is an evergreen shrub that grows up to the height of 4 m. The leaves are long, linear-lanceolate, about 10- 15 cm in length and have horizontal veins. Flowers are hermaphrodite, white, pink or red in colour, sweet smelled and 4-5 cm in diameter. Fruit is long about 15-20 cm and cylindrical. Seeds are numerous, compressed and white in colour having smooth hairs.

Utilization:

The plant is used as a rat poison and an insecticide. The leaves and bark are used as an insecticide. The plant is commonly used for informal hedging in the Mediterranean. The plants have an extensive root system and are often used to stabilize soil in warmer areas (Patel, 2010). The leaves and the flowers have cardiotoxic, diaphoretic, diuretic, anticancer, antibacterial, anti-Fungal and expectorant properties (Ajinkya and Saraswati, 2013).

Part used	Disease
Leaves and flowers	Malaria and induces termination of embryo
Tincture	Reduce swelling and scabies
Root powder	Hemorrhoids and ulcers around genitals
Leaves and bark	insecticide, rat poison and parasitic

References:

Patel G; (2010) Protective Effect of *Nerium indicum* on ccl4 Induced Hepatotoxicity in rat, *International journal of biomedical Research*,, 147-152.

Ajinkya N. N, and Saraswati S. P; (2013) A Review on Phytochemistry and Pharmacology of *Nerium indicum* Mill. *Plant Int. J. Pharm. Sci. Rev. Res.*, 21(2).

Khan A. V; (2002). Ethnobotanical studies on plants with medicinal and anti_bacterial properties.

Dey P and Chaudhuri T. K; (2015). Anti-inflammatory activity of *Nerium indicum* by inhibition of prostaglandin E2 in murine splenic lymphocytes. *Indian journal of pharmacology*, 47(4), 447.