

Hon. Nishikant Bhosale-Patil (Dada) Founder, Prakash Shikshan Mandal, Islampur

Prakash Shikshan Mandal's



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## DEPARTMENT OF DRAVYAGUNA



## **VRUDHADARUKA**

Marathi: Samudrashok, varadhara, vriddhadaru

Botanical name: Argyreia nervosa

Synonyms: Argyreia speciosa, Convolvulus nervosus, Lettsomia nervosa

Family: Convolvulaceae (Morning glory family)

Common name: Elephant Creeper, Hawaiian baby woodrose, silky elephant glory, woolly

morning glory

Description: Elephant Creeper is a vigorous vine native to India, introduced world-

wide. It has large, leathery heart-shaped leaves, which are white on the underside due to hairs. It is called elephant creeper because of the large leaves which look like elephant ears. Leaf blades are 15-25 cm long, and 13-20 cm wide, heart-shaped. Trumpet-shaped flowers are borne in cymes, on long, white-velvety stalks. Sepals are 1.3-1.5 cm long, velvety like the leaves. Flower-stalks are up to 15 cm long. Flowers are 5-7.5 cm long, with a short tube and bell-shaped limb, lavender to pink, the throat being of a darker shade. The flowers are followed by hard, woody capsules, which when they ripen break open to resemble miniature roses. The toxic seeds should not be eaten as they contain alkaloids. Flowering: July-December, March-April.

Attributes: Ras – Kashay, Katu, Tikta, Vipak – Madhur, Virya - Ushna

Guna – Laghu, Snigdha.

Medicinal uses: Argyreiaspeciosa Sweet (Family - Convolvulaceae) is an important 'rasayana' herb used extensively as an adaptogen in the Ayurvedic system of medicine. ... Pharmacological activities such as anti-oxidant, anti-inflammatory, anti-rheumatic, immunomodulatory, adaptogenic and hepatoprotective have also been reported.