

PHARMACOGNOSY OF *SUSHAVI* (*CALYOPTERIS FLORIBUNDA* LAM.)

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Sushavi (Calyopteris floribunda Lam.) belonging to the family Combretaceae is an Ayurvedic drug which is used as a remedy for colic, and as a tonic and depurative. The present study deals with detailed pharmacognosy of the above plant which includes morphological, histological as well as preliminary phytochemical and pharmacological observations including physical constant values, behaviour of powder drug on treatment with different chemical reagents, fluorescence analysis. Diagnostic characters are given which will help in the proper identification of the drug.

Calyopteris is a scandent shrub with slender, rusty puberulous branches. It is available in deciduous forests of South India, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Assam, Chittagong and Burma along water courses up to 750 meters elevation.

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