

*Oxalis corniculata*

[Synonyms : *Acetosella corniculata*, *Acetosella corniculata* var. *repens*, *Oxalis corniculata* var. *atropurpurea*, *Oxalis corniculata* var. *langloisii*, *Oxalis corniculata* var. *lupulina*, *Oxalis corniculata* var. *macrophylla*, *Oxalis corniculata* var. *minor*, *Oxalis corniculata* var. *pilosiuscula*, *Oxalis corniculata* var. *reptans*, *Oxalis corniculata* var. *repens*, *Oxalis corniculata* var. *typica*, *Oxalis corniculata* var. *villosa*, *Oxalis corniculata* var. *viscidula*, *Oxalis cymosa*, *Oxalis javanica*, *Oxalis langloisii*, *Oxalis lupulina*, *Oxalis meridensis*, *Oxalis pilosiuscula*, *Oxalis pubescens*, *Oxalis pusilla*, *Oxalis repens*, *Oxalis repens* var. *eu-repens*, *Oxalis rufa*, *Oxalis steudeliana*, *Oxalis stricta*, *Oxalis tubistipula*, *Oxalis villosa*, *Xanthoxalis corniculata*, *Xanthoxalis corniculata* var. *atropurpurea*, *Xanthoxalis langloisii*]

**PROCUMBENT YELLOW-SORREL** is an invasive, trailing or ascending annual, biennial or perennial. Found worldwide (including in Europe, south-eastern Asia, Zimbabwe and North America) it has small yellow flowers often with base red spot.

It is also known as *Amrul* (Bengali), *Blodoxalis* (Swedish), *Brunsyra* (Swedish), *Chalingching* (Sundanese), *Changeri* (Hindi), *Chua me* (Vietnamese), Creeping lady's-sorrel, Creeping oxalis, Creeping sorrel, Creeping wood sorrel, Creeping yellow oxalis, Creeping yellow sorrel, *Gehörnter Sauerklee* (German), *Hornfrüchtiger Sauerklee* (German), Indian sorrel, *Krypoxalis* (Swedish), Lady's sorrel, *Paliakiri* (Tamil), Poison sheep-sorrel, Procumbent oxalis, Procumbent wood sorrel, Rabbit clover, *Rempi* (Javanese), *Semanggi gunung* (Indonesian), Sheep's clover, Sheep sorrel, *Sikup dada* (Malay), Sour grass, *Štavel růžkatý* (Czech), *Suran-y-Coed Felen Orweddol* (Welsh), *Susokoyili* (Filipino/Tagalog), *Tarhakäenkaali* (Finnish), Toad sorrel, *Tuinranksuring* (Afrikaans), *Tutaekahu* (Maori), Yellow oxalis, Yellow procumbent sorrel, Yellow sorrel, Yellow wood sorrel, and *Žlutoštavel růžkatý* (Czech).

When the capsular fruit are ripe they split and the seeds are ejected violently a few at a time. Warning – procumbent yellow-sorrel can be poisonous for humans in large doses and it can also be poisonous for some animals, particularly sheep.

*Corniculata* is derived from Latin *cornu* (horn) meaning 'with small horns'.

Familiar to several of the North American Indian tribes, the whole plant was boiled to give a yellow dye for the Menominee and – it provided food for Cherokee and Iroquois Indians. Among Cherokee Indians the plant was also a source of medicine, particularly for any children suffering from hookworms for which an infusion was both prescribed internally and applied externally. It was used to stop vomiting, and also in the treatment of cancer. The leaves were chewed to ease a sore throat or mouth, and a leaf infusion (made into a cream with sheep grease) was applied to sores.

In Asia it has been used locally as an insecticide for caterpillars.

Medicinally, the leaf juice is used locally in northern India as part of an external treatment for rickets. It has been used in Chinese medicine to ease sore eyes. The plant has also provided a treatment for scurvy, fevers and dysentery.