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Psoralea corylifolia

[Synonyms : *Cullen corylifolia*, *Cullen corylifolium*, *Cullen corylifolius*, *Lotodes corylifolia*, *Pediomelum esculentum*, *Psoralea patersoniae*, *Trifolium unifolium*]

MALAYSIAN SCURFPEA is a climbing annual or perennial. Native to India, China and Indo-China (the south-eastern peninsular of Asia) it has pea-like, blue flowers.

It is also known as *Babachi* (Hindi, Sanskrit), *Babchi* (Hindi, Punjabi, Sanskrit), *Babechi* (Urdu), *Bakuchi* (Hindi, Russian, Sanskrit), *Bakuci* (Arabic), *Barachi* (Bengali), *Bavachi* (Bengali, Gujarati, Sanskrit), *Bavanchalu* (Sanskrit), *Bavanchi* (Hindi, Sanskrit), *Bavchi* (Sanskrit), *Bawachi* (Sanskrit), Bawchan seed, *Bawchi* (Hindi), *Bemchi* (Hindi), *Bhavaj* (Sanskrit), *Bhavanchi-vittulu* (Sanskrit), Black dot, *Bodi* (Sanskrit, Sinhalese), *Bokoshi* (Japanese), *Bokotsushi* (Japanese), *Bu gu zhi* (Chinese), *Bukchi* (Hindi), *Gaeampul* (Korean), *Hakuch* (Bengali), *Hei gu zhi* (Chinese), *Hokotsushi* (Japanese), *Kalaginja* (Telugu), *Karpogam* (Tamil), *Karpokarishi* (Tamil), *Karpuvarici* (Tamil), *Kaveti* (Thai), *Kavothi* (Tamil), *Kavoti* (Tamil), *Krishnaphala* (Sanskrit), *Latakasturi* (Bengali), Malay tea, *Oranda biyu* (Japanese), *Pagodzi* (Korean), *Phá cồ chi* (Vietnamese), *Pogolchi* (Korean), *Po gu zhi* (Chinese), *Psoraléa* (French), *Psoraleia* (Russian), Psoralea fruit, Scurf pea fruit, Scurfy pea, *Soma raji* (Sanskrit), *Trébol hediondo* (Spanish), and *Vaakucii* (Sanskrit).

Corylifolia is made up of the genus name *Corylus* and Latin *-folia* (leaved) components meaning ‘with leaves like those (hazel) in that genus’.

This bean is cultivated locally for the leaf shoots that are eaten as vegetables.

Experts on south-eastern Asia believe the region appreciates the plant most as a source of medicine.

Medicinally, Indian generally and Chinese medicine especially (as well as Hindu) have used the bitter tasting, aromatic seeds for treating leprosy, female disorders, fevers, stomach upsets, skin diseases, rheumatism and scorpion and snake bites. They have also been used to treat urinary problems and impotence.