

## ***Jatropha integerrima* Jacq.**

Family: Euphorbiaceae

Bengali/tribal name: Jayati

English name: Spicy jatropha

*Jatropha integerrima*, commonly known as peregrina or spicy jatropha, is a plant recognized in traditional medicine for various therapeutic purposes.



Here are some of its medicinal uses:

1. **Anti-inflammatory Properties:** Extracts from *Jatropha integerrima* have anti-inflammatory effects, making them useful for treating inflammatory conditions such as arthritis and rheumatism. The leaves and bark can be used to reduce swelling and inflammation.
2. **Wound Healing:** The plant's latex and leaf extracts are traditionally applied to wounds, cuts, and sores to promote healing. Its antiseptic properties help in preventing infections and accelerating the healing process.
3. **Antimicrobial Activity:** *Jatropha integerrima* has been shown to have antibacterial and antifungal properties. It is used in treating various skin infections and conditions caused by microbial pathogens.
4. **Pain Relief:** The plant possesses analgesic properties, which help in relieving pain. It can be used to treat headaches, muscle pain, and other types of pain. The leaves are often applied as poultices to affected areas to alleviate discomfort.
5. **Gastrointestinal Issues:** Traditional uses of *Jatropha integerrima* include treating gastrointestinal problems such as diarrhea and dysentery. The plant extracts can help soothe the digestive tract and relieve symptoms associated with these conditions.
6. **Antioxidant Properties:** The plant contains compounds that exhibit antioxidant activity, helping to protect the body from oxidative stress and free radical damage. This can contribute to overall health and wellness.

7. **Treatment of Fever:** In some traditional practices, *Jatropha integerrima* is used to reduce fever. The plant's extracts are believed to have antipyretic properties, helping to lower body temperature during febrile conditions.
8. **Respiratory Health:** The plant is also used to treat respiratory issues such as coughs and colds. The leaves can be boiled, and the steam inhaled or the decoction consumed to alleviate respiratory symptoms.

While *Jatropha integerrima* has various traditional medicinal uses, it is important to approach its use with caution due to the presence of toxic compounds in the plant. Proper preparation and dosing are essential to avoid adverse effects. More scientific research is needed to fully understand the medicinal properties and safety profile of *Jatropha integerrima*.