

## ***Philodendron bipinnatifidum* Schott ex Endl.**

Family: Araceae

Bengali/tribal name: Not available

English name: Split-leaf philodendron

*Philodendron selloum*, commonly known as split-leaf philodendron or tree philodendron, is primarily known as an ornamental plant. However, in some traditional medicine practices, parts of this plant are used for their medicinal properties. Here are some of its medicinal uses:



1. **Anti-inflammatory Properties:** *Philodendron selloum* is traditionally used to reduce inflammation. Its leaves and extracts are applied topically to help alleviate symptoms of inflammatory conditions such as arthritis, muscle pain, and joint pain.
2. **Wound Healing:** The leaves of *Philodendron selloum* are sometimes used in traditional medicine to promote wound healing. They are applied as poultices to cuts, sores, and other skin injuries to help speed up the healing process and prevent infections.
3. **Analgesic Effects:** The plant is used for its analgesic properties to relieve pain. It is applied topically to the affected areas to reduce pain from headaches, muscle aches, and other types of pain.
4. **Respiratory Health:** In some traditional practices, *Philodendron selloum* is used to treat respiratory conditions. The plant's extracts are believed to help alleviate symptoms of coughs, colds, and bronchitis by reducing congestion and easing breathing.
5. **Digestive Health:** *Philodendron selloum* is sometimes used to treat digestive issues such as indigestion and stomach cramps. Its soothing properties help to calm the digestive tract and improve overall digestion.
6. **Antimicrobial Activity:** Extracts from *Philodendron selloum* have shown antimicrobial properties. These extracts are used to treat minor infections and prevent the growth of certain bacteria and fungi.
7. **Skin Conditions:** The plant is used in traditional medicine to treat various skin conditions, including rashes and insect bites. Its anti-inflammatory and soothing properties help reduce itching and irritation.

8. **Fever Reduction:** *Philodendron selloum* is sometimes used to help reduce fever. Its antipyretic properties help lower body temperature and provide relief from fever symptoms.

It is important to note that while *Philodendron selloum* has traditional medicinal uses, it also contains calcium oxalate crystals, which can be toxic if ingested and may cause skin irritation. Therefore, it should be used with caution, and it is essential to consult with a healthcare professional before using this plant for medicinal purposes. Additionally, further scientific research is needed to fully understand its medicinal properties and potential side effects.