



## Asystasia gangetica

Family Acanthaceae

GIR: Tsalakushe / Vongonya

DUR: Tsalakushe

Common in woodland around Kilifi. Very easily propagated from cuttings and wildlings. Sun or shade.

Scrambles as ground cover or climbs shrubs & fencing. Flowers intermittently throughout the year. Can be invasive.

Leaves can be eaten as spinach and can be used as an alternative to basil in pesto. Used in Ayurvedic medicine.

This is a very important butterfly host plant, and is also important plant for bees and other insects. (refer Acanthaceae butterflies)



Possibly a larval foodplant to:

Salamis anacardii,

Junonia orithya,

Junonia hierta

Junonia oenone,

Junonia natalica

Eretis umbra,

Hypolimnas misippus,

