



**SIGMA<sup>®</sup>**  
**UNIVERSITY**

**KAREN**



# Synonyms

- Hindi: कनेर
- Gujarati: કરેણ (karen)
- English: *Nerium oleander*, Oleander, Kaner

# Botanical Name

- *Carissa carandas*

# Family

- Apocynaceae

# Chemical Constituents

- *Casaba thevetia* contains several bioactive compounds, primarily cardiac glycosides, which contribute to its toxicity:
- Cardiac glycosides: Thevetin A, Thevetin B, Neriifolin, Oleandrin, Peruvoside, Thevetoxin, Ruvoside.
- Other constituents include alkaloids, flavonoids, steroids, terpenoids, tannins, and saponins .

# Therapeutic Uses

- Despite its toxicity, various parts of the plant have been used in traditional medicine:
- Bark: Used as an antiperiodic and febrifuge.
- Seeds: Employed as a purgative and in treating rheumatism and dropsy.
- Latex: Applied to decayed teeth for toothache relief; used for chronic sores, ulcers, and to soften corns and calluses.
- Leaf sap: Used as eye and nose drops for headaches and fainting; also for colds.
- Leaf and bark decoctions: Taken to treat jaundice, fever, and as a purgative for intestinal worms .
- Caution is advised due to the plant's toxicity.

# Marketed Preparations

- *Cascabela thevetia* is not commonly found in commercial pharmaceutical preparations due to its toxicity. However, its cardiac glycoside, peruvoside, has been studied for its potential use in treating heart failure .