

170. *HOMALOMENA* SP. (ARACEAE) — Homalomena

The plant seems to possess antiseptic properties. Leaves mixed with *Himantandra* bark and leaves in Papua. The resultant concoction, if drunk, produces a violent intoxication accompanied by spectacular vision and dream-like states that end in deep somnolence.⁵⁴ Some species are used to scent tobacco.

Reported to be expectorant, stimulant, various species of *Homalomena* show up in folk medicine for colic, distended stomach, enterosis, fever, hoarseness, lumbago, parturition, sore feet, sores, yaws.^{5,32} Species of *Homalomena* have been used to treat skin ailments, miscarriage, syphilis, sores, tired feet, and wounds in Indonesia. Chinese use *Homalomena* species for numbness and rheumatism; Indochinese to treat diarrhea; Malaysians for fever, hoarseness, leg sores, lumbago, parturition, sore feet, and stomach distention; Philipinos for cough, fever, pain, rheumatism, and snakebite.¹⁶

Toxicity — Perhaps narcotic.⁵⁴