

Ceropegia lawii

Botanical Name: *Ceropegia lawii*

Common Name: Kharpudi

Morphological Characters

Law's *Ceropegia* is a woody herb, 30-60 cm tall, with very large, fresh green leaves, 5-10 cm. The species was named in honor of John Sutherland Law (1810–1885) Indian Civil Servant and amateur botanist. The white flowers have the typical lantern-shape, associated with *Ceropegias*. The flower tube has 5 lobes, curved into a closed bowl shape. The lantern shaped flowers are purple inside. This species was first described scientifically in 1883 and not found again for a long time, until it was rediscovered in 1970 at *Harishchandragad* hill. This species is threatened with extinction. It is now heavily endangered because the natives consume its tubers in very high numbers.



Growing season and Type

- 1) Flowering: August
- 2) *Ceropegia* shows a variety of growth habits, such as non-succulent twiners, leafless succulent twiners, and erect herbs.
- 3) The leaf shape varies from narrow to broad among the twiners and erect herbs. Some species have fascicled roots whereas most others have tubers.
- 4) The characteristic floral features of the genus include tubular corolla with a dilated base and often fused corolla lobes at the tip.



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- 1) Flower of *Ceropegia lawii*
- 2) Leaf of *Ceropegia lawii*
- 3) Tree of *Ceropegia lawii*

Source: www.flowersofindia.net