

Ocimum tenuiflorum L.



Habit: Subshrub

Description: Holy basil is an erect, many-branched subshrub, 30–60 cm (12–24 in) tall with hairy stems. Leaves are green or purple; they are simple, petioled, with an ovate blade up to 5 cm (2 in) long, which usually has a slightly toothed margin; they are strongly scented and have a decussate phyllotaxy. The purplish flowers are placed in close whorls on elongated racemes.

Taxonomy:

Kingdom	Plantae
Division	Tracheophytes
Class	Angiosperms
Order	Lamiales
Family	Lamiaceae
Genus	Ocimum
Species	<i>Ocimum tenuiflorum</i> L.

Uses: This plant is well known for its medicinal and spiritual properties in Ayurveda which includes aiding cough, asthma, diarrhea, fever, dysentery, arthritis, eye diseases, indigestion, gastric ailments, etc.

Reference: Indian Biodiversity Portal, NCBI