

# Otostegia integrifolia

*Lamiaceae*

Indigenous

Sh: *Digdale*

Tg: *Chindog*

Tr: *Shenebet*

**Ecology:** Grows in the central and northern highlands of Eritrea and on the eastern and western escarpments, 1,500-2,400 m, sometimes on the edge of relict Juniperus forest with *Dodonaea angustifolia*. Localities where it is common are Anagule, Rora-habab, Rora-mensa, Areza, Seled and Senafe. It is particularly common on rocky slopes throughout the plateau.

**Uses:** Fumigant for pots and houses, bee forage, **roofing material** (branchlets), **medicine** (root), insecticide.

**Description:** An **erect perennial shrub, much branched and spiny, 1-3 m**. There are usually **4 spiny stipules** at the leafy nodes. **LEAVES:** Long oval, mealy grey-green, variable in size, 1-3 cm, young leaves silky. **FLOWERS:** Arise in whorls of 6, falling quickly. The flower is **strongly 2-lipped, the upper lip oblong green-white, hairy, the lower orange-yellow** in the centre with pale side lobes. The greenish calyx has a small upper lip but the **lower lip soon enlarges, becomes stiff and papery, pale white-yellow-brown, with well-marked veins**. **FRUIT:** Small nutlets within the calyx.

**Propagation:** Seedlings, wildings.

**Seed:**

**treatment:**

**storage:**

**Management:**

**Remarks:**

