



DIVERSITY OF ETHNOBOTANICAL PLANTS USED BY RURAL COMMUNITY OF TRYAMBAKESHWAR HILL OF NASHIK DISTRICT, MAHARASHTRA, INDIA.

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ABSTRACT

An ethno botanical survey on medicinal plants and their indigenous uses was carried out in Trymbakeshwar region of Nashik District in Maharashtra. These areas are floristically rich areas where plants of various categories are growing spontaneously in their natural habitat. The rural community of these region uses some of the plants as medicine for the treatment of human ailments. In a floristic survey 31 ethno medicinal plants species belonging to 25 families were recorded from this region. These medicinal plants are listed in alphabetically order of Latin names, local names along with family & part used as medicine.

Keywords : - Baidya, Herbal medicines, Indigenous knowledge, Ojhas.

INTRODUCTION

Trymbakeshwar hill region of Nashik District have rich diversity of vegetation mostly tribals and rural communities, depending on plant resources for their day to day life. The rural communities are well versed with traditional knowledge and are using various parts of major, minor plants and tree species extensively for health care and other purposes. The present study, therefore aimed to highlight 31 ethno medicinal plant species belonging to 25 families with their local name of plant parts used as medicine in Trymbakeshwar hill region of District in Maharashtra.

METHODOLOGY

The study was initiated in the month of August to December 2012 To collect the information from some proper knowledge informants, elderly people, headman of the hamlets, tribal medicinal man 'Baidya' and 'Ojhas' were collected because they were the only source to plant name which were used for different ailments. Voucher specimens were

Scientifically identified , and mounted in the laboratory .

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In table 1, the medicinal uses of plant species from families are described in alphabetical order and Latin name, local name along with family and parts used as medicine. The present study has brought out to light, the traditional and indigenous knowledge on 31 ethno medicinal plants belonging to 25 families used by Tribal rural communities of Trymbakeshwar hill region of Nashik District in Maharashtra for treating and controlling the diseases. The tribes and rural population of India are highly dependent on the medicinal plant therapy for meeting their health care needs. There is an urgent need to catalogue the plants used by indigenous around the Country and to collaborate with chemists to analyze the compound in medicinal plants. It is high time for agriculturists and foresters to introduce new crops, for

anthropologists to gather more information on traditional culture and conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable use of plant resources. The survey in different area Tryambakeshwer hill region revealed that we were engaged in the collection of large no. of plant parts like stems, barks, leaves, flowers, fruits and roots of their day to day requirements.

During the course of investigation it was observed that a particular plant was sometime prescribed for different ailments in different localities and some medicinal man applied a mixture of plants for remedy of a disease. For example according to tribal healers *Andrographis paniculata* (locally known as 'Bhui neem') was a excellent remedy for liver disorders but its plant powder was also effective for warts. As such, this study indicated that the tribal had good knowledge

of medicinal uses of the plant species available in the region. Unfortunately, their knowledge had not been documented and there was an urgent need for documentation knowledge on priority basis. Efforts should be made to conserve this knowledge. If this knowledge does not flow on to the next generation, a time will come when this knowledge pool will be lost forever. Hence there is an immediate need that this treasure of knowledge should be conserved and inherited in such a way that we may be able to preserve this age old cultural heritage. The clinical trials may also be done and the plants may be furthered explored on active principles which may yield longer dividends if researchers, planners and policy makers combine their efforts. This will recognize the traditional knowledge on one hand and enrich the state wealth as the other.

TABLE

Sr. No	Botanical Name	Local name	Family	Part used
1	Acacia catechu	Khair	Mimosaceae	The bark is useful in conjunctivitis, Heartwood has high medicinal value.
2	Acacia nilotica Lam	Babul	Mimosaceae	The ark is used in diarrhea, dysentery and diabetes. The gum is medicinal.
3	Aegle marmelos L.	Bel	Rutaceae	Young fruit is crushed with a piece of turmeric which is applied externally in case of pimples.
4	Agave americana L.	Kekti	Agavaceae	The root is diuretic and used in syphilis.
5	Ageratum conizoides L.	Goat weed	Asteraceae	Leaf is used as blood coagulant and to heal the wounds, leprosy, skin diseases.
6	Andrographis paniculata Nees	Kalmegh	Acanthaceae	Whole plant is used in dysentery bronchitis, influenza, fever and in liver diseases.
7	Andrographis paniculata wall	Kalmegh	Acanthaceae	Leaf is used against insect bites. Whole plant is used in hepatitis and inflammation.
8	Artemisia vulgaris Linn.	Indian worm weed	Asteraceae	Leaf is used as laxative. Flower is used in exelling round worm & on wounds.
9	Asparagus recemosus willd	Shatawar	Liliaceae	Used in leucorrhoea, epilepsy, gastrointestinal disorders, Roots used in lactation in women and cattle's.
10	Azadirachta indica A.	Neem	Meliaceae	Leaves are used as insect repellent. Bark, leaf and fruit is antiseptic used in ulcers, skin diseases. Seed used for treatment of intestinal worms.
11	Blumea lacera Burn	Kukurband	Asteraceae	Root used piles and cholera. Leaves used for mouth diseases
12	Butea monosperma (Lam.) Taub.	Palash	Fabaceae	Root used to cure fever. Seed is used against roundworm and skin diseases It is also used to cure diarrhea and dysentery
13	Calotropis procera W.T. Aitn	Rui	Asclepidaceae	Root is used to cure tuberculosis, cough, bronchitis, asthma, dysentery and skin diseases. Latex is used as antidote to scorpion bite.
14	Cardiospermum helicacabum L.	Kanphuti	Sapindaceae	Leaves used for rheumatism, piles, fever, hydrocoele and ear ache.

15	Chlorophytum borivillianum Santpaus	Safed musli	Liliaceae	Root is used improving strength, capable of promoting the semen and sexual vigor.
16	Coccinia grandis L.	Kundru	Cucurbitaceae	Fruits are used in diabetes.
17	Datura metal L.	Datura	Solanaceae	Smoke of leaves and seeds used in asthma and respiratory disorders. Leaf used in various inflammation, piles, joints pain
18	Deospyros melanoxylon Roxb.	Tendu	Ebenaceae	Bark is used diarrhea. Leaf is used in skin and blood diseases Seed used for dysentery.
19	Ephorbia tricalli L.	Sehand	Ephorbiaceae	Whole plant is useful in wound healing. Milky juice is used in rheumatism, cough, asthma.
20	Evolvulus alsinoides L.	Shankha phuli	Convolvulaceae	The plant is bitter nerving tonic antispasmodic. The leaves are used treatment of epilepsy, bleeding.
21	Ficus religiosa L.	Peepal	Moraceae	Latex is used as tonic, bark for gonorrhea and scabies. Leaves as antidote to snake bite.
22	Magnifera indica L.	Aam	Anacardiaceae	The roots and bark used in wounds , ulcers, vomiting, diarrhea, dysentery, rheumatism. Fruits used as a cooling agent
23	Nerium indicum Mill	Kaner	Apocynaceae	The leaves are medicinal. Bark and Roots are poisonous
24	Ocimum sanctum L.	Tulsi	Lamiaceae	The leaves are used in treatment of skin diseases. Also used in cough and cold.
25	Psoralea corylifolia L.	Bawchi	Papilionaceae	Seed is used in cough, diabetes , fever, edema, piles and ulcer
26	Sesamum inducum L.	Til	Pedaliaceae	Seed oil in medicinal and also used as hair oil.
27	Syzygium cumini L.	Jamun	Myrtaceae	The seeds are used in diabetes
28	Tamarindus indica L.	Imli	Caesalpiniaceae	Fruits and leaves are used as carminative, digestive, laxative and astringent.
29	Tectona grandis L.	Sagwain	Verbanaceae	The oil is used to treat ringworm, and itches.
30	Withania somifera L.	Aswagandh	Solanaceae	Root is used in ulcer, fever, cough and leucoderma.
31	Ziziphus mauritiana	Ber	Rhamnaceae	The bark is used in diarrhea and in removing intestinal worms.

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