



DIVERSITY OF GEOPHYTES FROM KALWAN TEHSIL DISTRICT NASIK MAHRASHTRA INDIA

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ABSTRACT

The present paper deals with the diversity of geophytes occurring in Kalwan tehsil of Nashik District. A study was carried out for studying the Ethno botany in Kalwan tehsil Kalwan tehsil has a predominantly tribal population .Many geophytes are used as ethno –medicines and as food .During the field visits carried out, twelve geophytes were recorded. One species, *Zingiber neesatum* (J. Graham.) Ramamoorthy, was recorded as a new record for Nashik district.

Keywords: Ethno-botany, Tribal Population, Geophytes, New record.

INTRODUCTION:

Geophytes are an important group of plants having a subterranean stem in form of Tubers, Corms, bulbs etc these are use full as food, Medicines. As most of them are visible for a short time above the ground, making their habitats vulnerable for acquisition of the land on which they grow for development and other purposes. On the other hand they are economical important for the local people. So a comprehensive record of the occurrence of geophytes is important. The present paper is the outcome of the field visits carried out in Kalwan tehsil of the Nashik District (M.S) India, to record the ethno-botanic wealth of the same.

MATERIAL AND METHOD:

Study Area - Kalwan tehsil lies on the north western fringes of Nashik district in Northern Maharashtra .Lying in between 20°29'25"N Latitude and 74°01'35"E Longitude. Bordered by Dang district of Gujarat state towards west, Satana towards north, Deola towards east and Chandwad and Dindori towards south. Field trips were carried to various locations throughout the Kalwan tehsil

in different seasons of the year. Plants were photographed and herbarium sheets were prepared as per method of Jain, S.K. and Rao, R.R. (1976). Plants were identified by using floras and websites. Following twelve geophytes were recorded from the study area and their economic importance as food and Medicine was recorded by interviewing Vaidis / Bhagats.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS:

A total of twelve geophytes were recorded from the study area, all these are useful in form or the other, one *Zingiber neesatum* was recorded as a new record for the flora of Nashik District .The habitats in which these are found must be protected so that these plants would flourish and could be used by the tribal's of that area for coming generations.

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Table:1 Geophytes recorded with their Local names, Families, Plant part used and Economical use.

Sr. No.	Plant Name	Local name	Family	Plant part used	Medicinal uses
1	<i>Arisaema murrayi</i> (J. Graham) Hook	Sapkanda	Araceae	Tubers	Skin Aliments
2	<i>Asparagus racemosus</i> Willd	Shatavari, Divas-mauli,	Liliaceae	Tubers	Galactogouge sexual disorder
3	<i>Chlorophytum glaucum</i> Dalz	Safed Musali	Liliaceae	Tubers	Aphrodisiac
4	<i>Costus speciosus</i> (Koenig) Smith	Pev	Coastaceae	Tubers	Menstrual Problems, Febrifuge
5	<i>Curcuma pseudomontana</i> J. Graham.	Ranhalad	Zingiberaceae	Rhizome	Stomach and Liver Problems and in Jaundice, Tubers are edible.
6	<i>Dioscorea bulbifera</i> L	Kadu Karanda	Dioscoreaceae	Tubers	Tubers Edible
7	<i>Dioscorea oppositifolia</i> L	Medwan	Dioscoriaceae	Tubers	Swelling, Dysentery
8	<i>Dipcadi ursulae</i> Blatt	Deepkadi	Asparagaceae	Bulb	
9	<i>Gloriosa superba</i> L	Kal- lavi, kadya nag,	Liliaceae	Bulb	Easy Delivery, and as abortifacient
10	<i>Habenaria grandifloriformis</i> Blatt.	Chi- chur kanda	Orchidaceae	Tuber	Edible for gaining strength
11	<i>Habenaria marginata</i> Colebr	Piwali Bhui Amri	Orchidaceae	Tuber	Rheumatism and treating ulcers
12	<i>Zingiber neesatum</i> (J.Graham)	Dongri Aale	Zingiberaceae	Rhizome	Asthama, Toothache

Photo plates:



A

B

C

D



E

F

G

H



I

J

K

L

A) *Arisaema murrayi* (J.Graham) Hook

B) *Asparagus racemosus* Willd

C) *Chlorophytum glaucum* Dalz

D) *Costus speciosus* (Koenig) Smith

E) *Curcuma pseudomontana* J. Graham

F) *Dioscorea bulbifera* L

G) *Dioscorea oppositifolia* L.

H) *Dipcadi ursulae* Blatt

I) *Gloriosa superba* L

J) *Habenaria grandifloriformis* Blatt.

K) *Habenaria marginata* Colebr

L) *Zingiber neesatum* (J.Graham)