



Ethnobotanical Studies on the Flora of Yavatmal District – Some Interesting Reports of Herbal Medicines

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Abstract

The present paper deals with some herbal medicines employed the tribals of Yavatmal District. 30 interesting medicinal plants have been reported in the present paper along with their local names, brief description and way the plant or the plant parts are employed. Either these plants have not been mentioned by the earlier worker or the uses mentioned here are quite different from the previous reports, and the present study should form a significant contribution towards the understanding of our herbal remedies for various ailments.

KEY WORD: Ethnobotany, medicinal plant, tribes. Medicinmen, herbal remedies.

Materials and Methods

A survey was carried out during 20010 to 2012 to collect information on the medicinal uses of plants found in the tribes inhabited villages of Zhari, Bori, Patan, Ghonsa, Zamkola, Arjuni, Sakhara, Botony, Shibla, Junoni Marki. and Raypur. The information was documented involving field study by contacting and interviewing voids, ojhas for plants used to cure various types of fever.

Ethnobotanical data were collected according to the methodology suggested by Jain. The ethnobotanical data (local name, mode of preparation, medicinal uses) were collected through questionnaire, interviews and discussions among the tribal practitioners in their local language. The information recorded in field was further screened in laboratory as per work pertaining to Indian ethno-botany and plants recorded by Chopra et.al. (1982), Nadkarani (1982), Jain (1981, 1991) , Jain (1996), to distinguish the information already known, reported and published by taxonomists and ethno-botanist and little known and unpublished work.





ENUMERATION OF PLANTS:

In the following enumeration, only some important medicinal plants are mentioned.

Achyranthes aspera. Linn. (L.N. Atenpera) An erect herb.

The decoction of the root with water is a good diuretic, which acts on the kidney and tends to increase their secretion.

Andrographis paniculata Burm. (L.N.Bhuilimba)

Decoction or strong infusion of the root-stalked and leaves are a household febrifuge, bitter tonic alterative anthelmintic and antiperiodic, useful in fever and malaria.

Anona squamosa. Linn. (L.N. Sitabar) A small tree.

The root is a violent purgative. The bark is a powerful astringent and as a tonic is much used in medicine. Leaves are applied for extractions of worm.

Argyrea nervosa Linn. (L.N. Sagara) Very large climber.

Root is an alternative and tonic, powdered root is given in milk in synovitis and syphilis. Leaves are aniphlogistic and used in skin diseases.

Barleria prionitis Linn. Shrub.

Bark dried in sunlight and making a powder and used for cough. Whole root boil and applied on the glandular swelling.





Bauhinia racemosa, Lam. (L.N. Arre) A small tree.

The bark is astringent, tonic and alterative; it yields a brown coloured gum. The bark rubbed in to an emulsion with rice water and administered with the addition of ginger in scrofulous enlargement of the glands of the neck.

Bombax ceiba Linn. (L.N. Buruj) tall deciduous tree.

Fresh root collect early in the morning making a powder and used in leucorrhoea. Bark paste mix with edible oil and used in wound.

Bryonopsis laciniosa Linn. (L, N. Shivlinge) A climber.

Fresh leaves crushed in cold water and making syrup and with courd given in piles. Extract of the leaves used in round worm.

Caesalpinia bonduc Linn. (L.N Gotta) A large prickly climbing shrub.

The seed and root bark are noted as antiperiodic, antispasmodic, it is used in asthma and fever.

Calotropis gigantea. Linn. (L.N.Chiladam) Large shrub.

Root bark is useful in skin diseases, asthma. The milky juice is recommended for the cold. The dried flower powder mix with honey and used on Cough

Capparis sepiaria Linn. (L.N.waghatte) A stragglng large shrub.

Fresh root bark decoction used in rheumatism. Bark decoction used in dropsy.





Cassia fistula Linn. (L.N. Bammwa) A moderate sized tree.

Root is useful in fever, heart diseases, retained excretions, etc. Externally the leaves round into a paste are applied to ringworm.

Catharanthus roseus Linn. (L.N. Jaganathii) Perennial sub shrub.

Decoction of the root used on cancer patient. Whole plant boiled and decoction used on the regular menstruation cycle.

Celosia argentea L. (L.N. Kombda) Erect annuals.

Decoction of the leaves used on fever. Root powder mix in hot water and used on kidney stone.

Gymnema sylvestre Retz. (L.N. Goodmar) Large climbers.

Decoction of the leaves given in diabetes patient. Decoction of the whole plant used in asthma. Fresh root paste applies on the snake bite.

Holarrhena antidysenterica Heyne ex. (L.N. Dudhekurhe) A small tree.

The bark of the stem and root, preferably of the young plants and seeds, are recommended as remedies in acute and chronic diarrhoea and dysentery.

Jatropha curcas Linn. (L.N. Chandrajoti) A large shrub.

The leaves warmed and rubbed with castor oil and applied to boils and abscesses have the supportive effect.

Maytenus emarginata Willd. (L.N. Datti) A densely branched armed shrub.

Young petiole dried and making a powder and used in dhat. Leaves powder mix with coconut oil and making a paste and apply on wound.





Momordica dioica Roxb. (L.N.Karli) A perennial climber.

Juice of the leaves mixed with coconut oil to form an ointment, and applied to the head relieves headache.

Nerium indicum Mill. (L.N. Hajarfugadi) A large glabrous branchy shrub.

Root is used externally, made in to paste with water and applied to hemorrhoids', in cancers and ulcerations. Root is used for applying or tying to the ear of the patient suffering from fevers.

Semecarpus anacardium Linn. (L.N.Siddi) A large tree.

The fruit powder in water is used for gargling in throat infection. Fruit oil used for massage by rheumatic patients. The fruit powder used in the worm in children.

Spilanthes acmella Muri. (L, N. Akkarekara) Annual erect tout herbs.

The flower heads are chewed to relieve the toothache and other mouth related troubles. Leaves are used externally in treatment of skin diseases.

Tridax procumbens Lin. (L.N. Kambarmodi) A decumbent herb.

Plant extract is used as antiseptic. Paste helps the wound to heal quickly. Plant ash in coconut oil applied on wounds. Plant decoction for stomach diseases,

Terminalia arjuna Roxb. (L.N.Arjunemak) A large tree.

Decoction of the bark is given to the fever. Decoction of leaves used in roundworm. Externally leaves are used for covering ulcers and sores.





RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The present investigation revealed over thousand used of more than 200 to 300 plants out of which this investigation report 24 unique plant. Usage of these plants mainly is to treat asthma, disorder associated with lactation menstrual problems, poisonous bites, skin problem, stomach ache and toothache, etc.

Ethnomedicinal studies preferably promote the interaction between organized traditional medicine and folk medicine. It is observed that most of the tribals do not accept any other medicine except the ones prescribed by their medicinmen.

A large section of the Indian population, living in village, remote forests and sometimes even in cities, still depend on folk medicines and household remedies, it cannot be overemphasized that information on all such knowledge should be recorded at the earliest, and scientifically tested for blending in to other traditional Indian system of medicine.

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