Int. Journal of Universal Science and Technology
ISSN: 2454-7263, Volume: 05 No: 02 Published: Jan., 2019
Paper ID: IJUP3111, Web: www.universalprint.org
Title Key: Ethno-Medico Botanical Studies…

Ethno- Medico Botanical Studies of Mahur Taluka, Nanded District, Maharashtra, India

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Abstract:

Since long time, plants are being used for treating different diseases in different parts of world by different communities. The present ethno-medico botanical explorations conducted in forest areas of Mahur Taluka resulted in the information on the plants used in treating many diseases. For which about 25 plants species belonging to 19 families are used. Of these, maximum species belongs to Liliaceae with 4 species, Fabaceae, Acanthaceae and Euphorbiaceae with 2 species. Information gathered from Mahur taluka indicates that the indigenous and other village people of this region have good knowledge of plants in treating different ailments, but their continuous and progressive exposure to modernization may result in extinction of the rich heritage of knowledge in the course of time. Majority of preparation are from Root and Stem bark. Method of preparation of medicine and its application. Among the plant parts used in different formulations, Root are profusely used which is followed by Stem bark, leaves, whole plant and fruit.

Keywords: Mahur, Ethno medico botanical.

Introduction:

Mahur taluka is located in northern part of Nanded district. It is bounded North by Yavatamal district, South by Kinwat taluka of Nanded district East part by Adilabad district of Telangana and West by Pusad taluka of Yavatmal district of Vidarbh region.Geographically the Mahur taluka is situated between $19^0$49`to$19^0$83` North latitude and 77^0 91` to $77^0$55` East longitude. The total geographical area of taluka is 52,160 hectares of which 14397.39 hectares area covered with forest and 37762.61 hectares are non-forested area and its population is 86782 (Census-2001), out of this 15.5 percent is inhibited by tribal population of aborigines like Andh, Kolam, Gond, Naikede and Pradhan. Mahur taluka is a thick forested area of Nanded District. The main river is Penganga which flows from the South to North direction.

Materials And Methodology:

For documentation of ethno-botanical information and collection of plant material, several tours were undertaken during the period 2017-18. Data presented here is based on personal observations and interviews with traditional healers (Viz. medicine men, hakims and old aged people) and methodology used is based on the methods available in literature (Jain 1989) and (Jain and Mudgal 1999). Ethno medico botanical information gathered was documented in datasheets prepared. For collection of plant material, local informer accompanied to authors. Plant identification was done by using regional flora and flora of adjoining districts (Naik 1998), (Cooke 1958).

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Medicinal uses of plants were compared with major published literature (Ambasta1992), (Anonymous 1948-1976), (Asolkar et.al. 1992), (Chopra et. al. 1956 & 1969), (Jain 1991), (Jain 1996), (Jain 1999), (Kapur 2001), (Kirtikar & Basu 1933), (Sharma & Singh 2001), (Vijigiri & Sharma 2010), (Vijigiri et al 2013) and (Vijigiri & Himalaya 2017).

Enumeration

The present ethno-medico botanical explorations conducted in forest areas of Mahur taluka resulted in the traditional plant uses of 25 plants species belonging to 19 families. Following data includes botanical name of species, family, local name and uses.

Sr. No.	Botanical Name	Family	Local Name	Uses
1.	*Alocasia macrorhiza* (L.) G. Don	Araceae	Bhadmya Rakshas	Kidney Stone: One inch Root crush and take with one glass of water once only.
2.	*Aloe vera* (L.) Burm. f.	Liliaceae	Korphad	Foot crack: Leaves crush and apply externally till cure.
3.	*Andrographis paniculata* (Burm. f.) Wall. ex Nees	Acanthaceae	Bhoineem	Fever: Whole plant decoction taken orally daily twice for three days.
4.	*Argemone mexicana* L.	Papavaraceae	Bilayti	Leucorrhea: Handful fresh root crush in each one tea spoon sugar and *Cuminum cyminum* prepare paste and taken orally daily once for three days.
5.	*Argyreia nervosa* (Burm. f.) Bojer	Convolvulaceae	Samudra shok, Paratvel	Joint pain: Leaves crush and past apply with salt daily twice till cure.
6.	*Asparagus racemosus* Willd.	Liliaceae	Shatavari	Lactation: 50gm root tubers powder taken orally with milk daily once for 7days.
7.	*Barleria prionitis* L.	Acanthaceae	Katekoranti	Mouth ulcer: Leaves chewing till cure.
8.	*Cardiospermum halicacabum* L.	Sapindaceae	Popti	Dog bite: Handful seeds taken orally daily once for 5days.
9.	*Cissus quadrangularis* L.	Vitaceae	Kandvel, Kandyachavel	Nail infection: Stem crush and apply externally daily twice till cure.
10	*Coccinia grandis* (L.) Voigt	Cucurbitaceae	Thonduli	Cooling effect: Handful root with *Phyllanthus amarus* root handful prepare one glass juice taken orally daily once for 4days.
11	*Dioscorea bulbifera* L.	Dioscoreaceae	Jata shankar	Dysentery: Stem bark crush and taken orally daily twice for three days.

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				Acidity: Root tuber boil and half inch taken orally daily once for 41 days.
12.	*Enicostema axillare* (Lam.) Raynal	Gentianaceae	Nai	Fever: Whole plant powder one tea spoon taken orally daily twice for three days.
13.	*Erythrina variegata* L.	Fabaceae	Pandra Pangra	Leucorrhoea: Stem bark crush and Juice take one cup daily trice for one day . Skin diseases: Stem bark crush and juice take one cup daily twice for one day.
14.	*Euphorbia thymifolia* L.	Euphorbiaceae	Chhotigondan	Cooling agent: Whole plant grind with one tea spoon sugar and *Cuminum cyminum* seeds prepare three cup juice and take orally daily once for three days. Fever and Loose motion: Whole plant takes orally once only.
15.	*Gloriosa superba* L.	Liliaceae	Kallavi	Boils: Root tuber crush and apply externally.
16.	*Gymnosporia senegalensis* (Lam.) Loes.	Celastraceae	Bharathi	Diabetes and Tuberculosis : Root bark with *Azadirachta indica* and *Ziziphus mauritiana* root bark in equal proportion take orally daily once one tea spoon for 21 days.
17.	*Helicteres isora* L .	Sterculiaceae	Murad Sheng	Stomach ache: Fruit pest 1gm orally for cure repeat after one hour.
18.	*Hiptage benghalensis* (L.) Kurz	Malpighiaceae	Sakhal Vel	Constipation: Stem bark Decoction One glass taken orally Daily morning for three days. Leucorrhea : One teaspoon Stem bark powder decoction taken orally daily once for 5days.
19.	*Madhuca longifolia* (Koen.) Mac Bride	Sapotaceae	Moha	Diabetic: Half inch fresh root bark taken orally daily once for two days.
20.	*Morinda pubescens* J. E. Sm.	Rubiaceae	Noni	Jaundice: Stem bark powder One tea spoon daily once in morning for five days.
21.	*Parkinsonia aculata* L.	Caesalpiniaceae	Bangali babul	Ringworm, Itch: 5 Leaves with *Ficus religiosa*, *Ficus bengalensis* each 5 leaves burn and apply externally with oil till cure.

				Wound : Leaves past apply externally till cure.
22.	*Pterocarpus marsupium* Roxb.	Fabaceae	Raktachandan	Swelling on Eyelids: Stem bark crush and apply externally with cow urine once a day for two days.
23.	*Ricinus communis* L.	Euphorbiaceae	Yarand	Jaundice: Handful root crush with cow milk take orally daily once for three days.
24.	*Sansevieria roxburghiana* Schult. & Schult. F.	Liliaceae	Nagida	Skin disease: Leaves crush and apply externally till cure.
25.	*Withania somnifera* (L.) Dunal	Solanaceae	Ashwagandha	Stomach ache: half inch Root with *Piper betle* leaf daily once for three days.

Results And Discussion:

Information gathered from Mahur Taluka of Nanded district indicates that the tribals, and other village people of this region possess good knowledge of herbal drugs, but their continuous and progressive exposure to modernization may result in extinction of the such rich heritage of knowledge in the course of time. The collective efforts of ethno-botanists, phytochemists, pharmacognostists, and pharmacologists are needed to document and evaluate the efficacy and safety of the claims. Majority of the species used are from families Liliaceae with 4 species, Fabaceae, Acanthaceae and Euphorbiaceae with 2 species.and majority of preparation are

From Root and Underground parts (09), stem (07) and leaves (06) etc. Most prevalent diseases/ailments found in the areas are Fever and Skin disease etc. To test the scientific validity of the herbal preparations or drugs, clinical studies are required, which can establish therapeutic properties of these preparations for safe use.

Acknowledgements:

Authors are thankful to Vice Chancellor and Academic Planning and Development Section of S. R. T. M. University, Nanded for financial support and Principal for constant support and encouragement.

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