

Ethnobotanical survey of some medicinal trees from Deori Taluka , Gondia dist. (M.S)

*GHOSHAL KP, MESHAM SM AND SM AKARE

Department of Botany, M. B. Patel College of Arts, Commerce & Science, Deori.Dist. Gondia. MS. 441 901

*Corresponding author : Email: kalpanabanerjee56@gmail.com

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ABSTRACT

Ethnobotany is the study of the relationship between man and their surrounding plants. One has to understand the human interaction and role of plants in their lives. An ethnobotanical study contributes in the field of medicine. The ethnic and the rural people of India have traditional knowledge of medicinal uses of plants growing around them. Deori being a tribal area is surrounded by the forest regions and the people (Adivasi) residing here still practices herbal medicine for treating various diseases. A large number of ethnomedicinal information remained endemic to many regions or people due to lack of communication. Hence a survey was carried out in Deori Taluka of Gondia district to collect information regarding medicinal plant species (particularly trees) used by the tribal people for curing various diseases. The present paper enumerates about list of some 34 medicinal plant species (trees) with their correct botanical names, vernacular names, family and plant part used to cure various diseases.

KEY WORDS

Ethnobotany,
Ethnomedicinal,
Adivasi,
Tribes.

INTRODUCTION

In ethnobotanical studies, the major contribution has been in the field of medicine. A large number of ethnomedicinal information remained endemic to many regions or people due to lack of communication. The ethnic and rural people of India have preserved a large bulk of traditional knowledge of medicinal uses of plants growing around them (Yigra, 2010). This knowledge is handed down to generations through word of mouth and extensively used for the treatment of diseases and conditions (Mishra *et al.*, 2008). But this knowledge transmission is in danger because of older and younger generation is not always assured. Therefore proper documentation of traditional knowledge especially of medicinally useful plants will be of great importance as it can provide important information for the modern drugs. Even today this area holds much more hidden thesaurus (Joseph *et al.*, 2011). Keeping in view this objective the present work was undertaken to collect the traditional information from the rural (Adivasi) people of Deori region about some medicinally important plant species (Trees) used by them for treating various diseases.

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

Following methods were adopted during the course of investigation

- A.** Ethnobotanical survey was conducted to collect information regarding medicinal trees used by the ethnic and rural people of Deori region.
- B.** The medicinal trees used for the treatment of various diseases were collected by the investigators from the different study sites from July-12 to March-13
- C.** Field and survey work was made after carefully planned field trips. During the field trip personal, interview was made between the authors and tribes of the regions.
- D.** Data regarding herbal remedies were collected as per native informants who were hakims, priests, tribal people and the common people who have knowledge of the therapeutic value of the plants.
- E.** Plant species were photographed and identified using proper Flora.

RESULTS

The present study focuses mainly on some of the traditional trees reported by the tribal people of Deori taluka for their medicinal uses.

Table 1: Medicinal Trees of Deori region and their uses

Sr. No	Botanical Name	Family	Local name	Plant part and uses
1	<i>Acacia arabica</i>	Mimosaceae	Hiwar	Bark, for tooth infection and skin diseases
2	<i>Acacia nilotica</i>	Mimosaceae	Babul	Bark, gum, leaves fruits used as antifungal, antiplasmodial, anti-inflammatory agent
3	<i>Albizia lebeck</i>	Mimosaceae	Siris	Stem, Bark, To remove swelling and wound healing
4	<i>Aegle marmilos</i>	Rutaceae	Bel	Young leaves, fruit, for stomach disorder, antidiabetic
5	<i>Australian acacia</i>	Mimosaceae	Australian Babul	Bark used for skin infection
6	<i>Azardirachta indica</i>	Meliaceae	Neem	Roots, Stem, Leaves, fruit, seed, as antiseptic, for toothache, blood purifier, antibacterial, for preserving grains, for treating worms ,treatment of smallpox
7	<i>Bauhinia variegata</i>	Caesalpinaceae	Apta	Bark, Leaves, flowers, seeds ,to cure diarrhea, to treat tumors, antibacterial, antihelmentic, as laxative
8	<i>Bombax ceiba</i>	Bombacaceae	Sesamule	Roots, stem, bark, gum, leaf, fruit, flower, seeds, used as astringent, diuretic, effective in dysentery, anti inflammatory, hepatoprotective
9	<i>Butea monosperma</i>	Fabaceae	Palas	Bark, flower, gum, seed antidiabetic , diuretic, anthelmintic
10	<i>Cassia fistula</i>	Caesalpinaceae	Amaltas	Roots, Bark,, Fruit, as laxative, anti-inflammatory, for swelling. Fruits used for asthma, diabetes and eczema.
11	<i>Cassia siamia</i>	Caesalpinaceae	Kased	Leaves, Root, used as purgative, for worms and convulsions in kids. plant as avenue for afforestation, food for cattle
12	<i>Citrus lemon</i>	Rutaceae	Nimbu	Fruits rich source of vit c, used for stomach problems, indigestion, for tooth problem. used in making pickles, jams jelly, as preservative.
13	<i>Dalbergia sisso</i>	Fabaceae	Sissam	Leaves for skin diseases, Wood and Bark for anal disorder, blood pressure, leukoderma, burning sensation, dysentery, and Dhaturoga.
14	<i>Delonix regia</i>	Caesalpinaceae	Gulmohar	Leaf extract used for diabetes , constipation, arthritis
15	<i>Diospyrus melanoxylon</i>	Ebenaceae	Tendu	Bark for fungal diseases, fruits used for making pickles.
16	<i>Embilica officianalis</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Amla	Fruits edible, good source of vitamin-C, minerals, amino acids and used to treat ulcer, anemia, gum bleeding, to improve eye sight, pitta, in diabetes , colitis
17	<i>Eucalyptus citriodora</i>	Myrtaceae	Nilgiri	Leaves, for asthma, cold and flu, chest cognition, bronchitis, pneumonia, respiratory infection, liquid inhalers
18	<i>Ficus bengalensis</i>	Moracaceae	Bargad	Bark, stem, for wound healing, treating ulcers
19	<i>Ficus racemosa</i>	Moraceae	Umbar	Bark used for skin treatment and insect bites, fruits used for treating intestinal worms, to purify blood, leprosy, bowl complain, fatigue, etc.
20	<i>Ficus religiosa</i>	Moracaceae	Pipal	Stem, Bark, as cardi tonic and skin disease

Table 1 : continued.....

Sr. No	Botanical Name	Family	Local name	Plant part and uses
21	<i>Madhuca indica</i>	Sapotaceae	Mahua	Flowers edible, used for making jam, jelly, sauce, Bark used for diabetes and is antibacterial
22	<i>Mangifera indica</i>	Anacardiaceae	Aam	The bark is used in treatment of leucorrhoea, menorrhoea, dysmenorrhoea and other menstrual disorders and eczema. Flowers are used in treatment of dysentery and they repel mosquitoes. Young leaves are antidiabetic
23	<i>Melia azedarach</i>	Meliaceae	Bakneem	Root, Leaves, Seed, Flowers used for vata, pitta, headache, skin diseases, wounds, ulcers, worm infestations, cough, diabetes , fever, vomiting, burning sensation, urinary tract infections and general debility.
24	<i>Moringa oliefera</i>	Moringaceae	Mungna	Leaves, Bark, Cough cold, Uterine disorder
25	<i>Peltophorum pterocarpum</i>	Caesalpiniaceae	Pilagulmohar	Bark used for dysentery, tooth powder, for eye lotion
26	<i>Pithecolobium dulce</i>	Mimosaceae	Chebelie	Bark used to make herbal tea which is given in dysentery, eye infection and skin infection
27	<i>Pongamia pinnata</i>	Fabeceae	Karanj	Bark and seed oil, for skin diseases
28	<i>Psidium guajava</i>	Myrtaceae	Jam/Amrood	Leaves, fruits, for pyrosis of teeth, for diarrhea, dysentery, antidiabetic , cardiovascular, antioxidant
29	<i>Syzygium cumini</i>	Myrtaceae	Jamun	fruits, leaves, antidiabetic for stomach disorder
30	<i>Tamarindus indica</i>	Caesalpiniaceae	Emli	Fruit, Seeds, fruit pulp used to flavor confection, curry, sauce, Leaves as antioxidant, anti-inflammatory
31	<i>Terminalia arjuna</i>	Cambretaceae	Arjun	Bark used as cardio tonic, Diuretic
32	<i>Terminalia chebula</i>	Cambretaceae	Harna	Fruit, Digestive probably antidysentery
33	<i>Terminalia bellerica</i>	Cambretaceae	Behda	It is used for controlling Kapha. The fruit is one among the triphala formula of ayurveda which is commonly prescribed in treating asthma, biliousness, bronchitis, inflammations, sore throat, eye, nose, heart and bladder disorders.
34	<i>Ziziphus jujube</i>	Rhamnaceae	Ber	Fruit extract used as sedation, in constipation and in liver cancer

**Fig:**

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|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. <i>Acacia arabica</i> | 6. <i>Azardirachta indica</i> | 12. <i>Citrus lemon</i> |
| 2. <i>Acacia nilotica</i> , | 7. <i>Bauhinia variegata</i> | 13. <i>Dalbergia sisso</i> |
| 3. <i>Albizia lebeck</i> | 8. <i>Bombax ceiba</i> | 14. <i>Delonix regia</i> |
| 4. <i>Aegle marmilos</i> | 9. <i>Butea monosperma</i> | 15. <i>Diospyrus melanoxylon</i> |
| 5. <i>Australian acacia</i> | 10. <i>Cassia fistula</i> | 16. <i>Embilica officianalis</i> |
| | 11. <i>Cassia siamia</i> | |

The present data is the general result of ethnobotanical survey conducted for 9 months (July 12 to March-13). About 34 Plant species were recorded which are being used by the tribes for curing various diseases. The list of which is being enumerated here.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Ethnobotany is multidisciplinary science defined as the interaction between plants and people which records the history and current state of human kind even while foretelling the future. In rural communities health care seems to be the first and foremost line of defense (Chaudhary *et al.*, 2008). The WHO has already recognized the contribution of traditional healthcare in tribal communities. In the present work 34 plant species were recorded from

different sites which are used to cure various ailments. (Table 1) In this region the general feeling is that the future of traditional medicine is bright, because it is widely used and respected, especially by the rural population that constitutes the majority. The ethnobotanical survey of the area revealed that the people of this area (Deori) possess good knowledge of herbal drugs but as the people are in progressive exposure to modernization, their knowledge of traditional uses of plants may be lost in due course. So it is important to study and record the uses of plants by different tribes for future study.

Such studies may provide useful and important information to scientific companies for screening active compounds that can be formulated into drugs. Further the isolated drugs can be used for the treatment of various other diseases.

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