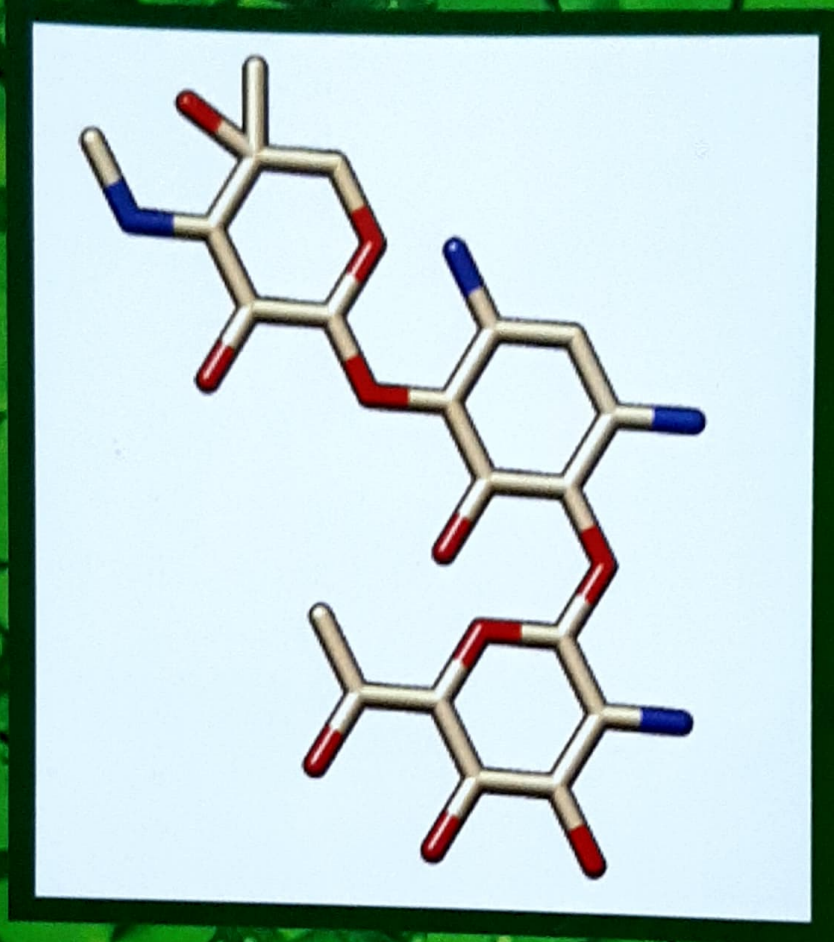


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AN ETHNOBOTANICAL STUDY OF MEDICINAL PLANTS USED BY LOCAL PEOPLES OF KADEGAON TAHSIL IN SANGLI DISTRICT (MAHARASHTRA STATE)

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ABSTRACT

The present research work was carried out in fifty six villages of Kadegaon Tahsil in Sangli district, richest with ethnomedicinal plants. The objective of present study was documentation and identification of medicinal plants used by local peoples of Kadegaon tahsil, Dist.Sangli (M.S.) to treat different human ailments. This research paper attempts to report traditional knowledge of twenty ethnomedicinal plants along with their scientific name, family, local or vernacular name (Marathi), plant parts used and traditional practice of using them.

Key words: Ethnomedicinal plants, Kadegaon Tahsil, Traditional practice.

Introduction:

Ethnobotanical study have important contribution in the traditional ayurvedic medicines. Traditional medicine and ethnomedicinal plants information play an important significant role in scientific research.

Plants are being used in traditional medicine for several thousand years (Kritikar and Basu, 1999; Nadkarni, 2001; Abu-Rabia, 2005). There is very little or no documentation of ethnomedicinal plants knowledge was carried out pertaining to villagers of the Kadegaon tahsil in Sangli district in Maharashtra state. The Kadegaon town is connected to fifty six adjoining villages rich in ethnomedicinal plants.

In this paper, twenty medicinal plants, along with their properties have been described and Information about scientific name, family, common name, parts of the plant used and their mode of application has been summarized.

Material and Methods:

The information was obtained through direct field interviews with knowledgeable

people of the villages and traditional healers. The data regarding names of plants, parts used and method of their preparation and mode of administration for various remedies has been given. The information, thus collected has been summarized on following pages.

Enumeration of the data:

1. ***Andrographis paniculata*** Nees Family : Acanthaceae

Local name : Kadechirayat

Distribution : Rare on waste land

Plant parts used : Whole plant

1. Shade dried leaves fine powder with one cup of milk is given twice a day after food for 120 days to treat diabetes

2. Paste form of entire plant is applied externally for skin diseases

3. Leaves grind with sugar candy and given orally in 1 spoonful twice a day for children for about 3 days to cure fever.

2. ***Adhatoda zeylanica*** Medic.

Family : Acanthaceae

Local name : Adusa

Distribution : Planted in gardens' sometimes found as wild

Habit : Shrub

Plant parts used : Leaves

Ethnomedicinal uses :

1. Half to one cup decoction of leaves of adulesa with stem pieces of gulvel is given twice a day for 1-2 days in fever
2. An extract of the fresh leaves is given to relieve the symptoms of cough and cold.
3. Leaves are boiled with water and extract is taken thrice in a day in fever.

3. *Aegle marmelos* Linn.

Family : Rutaceae

Local name : Bel

Distribution : Rare in all village

Habit : Tree

Plant parts used : Fruits

Ethnomedicinal uses:

1. Raw fruit is burnt on fire and then pulp is powdered. Two teaspoonful powder is given thrice a day in blood dysentery.
2. Four spoonful of fruit juice is administered daily thrice for 3 days to cure diarrhea.

4. *Aloe barbadensis* Mill.

Family : Liliaceae

Local name : Korphad

Distribution : Common on waste places

Habit : Perennial shrub

Plant parts used : Leaves

Ethnomedicinal uses:

1. 50 gms of mucilaginous juice obtained from leaf- pulp mixed with a little amount of sugar are given twice daily for a week on leucorrhoea.
2. The juice or paste of the leaf, when added to germinated *Trigonella foenum-graceum* seeds, is helpful in preventing hair loss.

5. *Cynodon dactylon* Pers.

Family : Poaceae

Local name : Harali/ Durva

Distribution : Agricultural fields

Habit : Herb

Plant parts used : Whole plant

Ethnomedicinal uses:

1. One cup decoction of the whole plant is taken twice a day for days to cure chronic dysentery.
2. Equal amount of plant juice mixed with curd

is regularly used for stopping bleeding from piles.

6. *Datura metel* Linn.

Family : Solanaceae

Local name : Dhotra

Distribution : Common on waste places

Habit : Herb

Plant parts used : Leaves, Fruits

Ethnomedicinal uses:

1. Leaves and fruits ground into paste and massaged gently on painful parts it cure muscular pains.

7. *Euphorbia hirta* Linn.

Family : Euphorbiaceae

Local name : Dudhi

Distribution : Common on waste places

Habit : Annual herb

Part used : Entire plant

Ethnomedicinal uses:

1. Latex of the entire plant applied externally till cure of burns and lip cracks.

8. *Foeniculum vulgare* Mill.

Family : Umbelliferae

Local name : Badishep

Distribution : Cultivated in agricultural fields for seeds

Habit : Herb

Plant parts used : Seeds

Ethnomedicinal uses:

1. About 20 gms seeds are soaked over- night in a glass of water. The resulting extract is taken to an empty stomach to cure constipation.
2. 50 gms of powder of fruits is taken with one glass of water once a day in the morning for 7 to 8 days after menses as contraceptive.

9. *Helicteres isora* Linn.

Family : Sterculiaceae

Local name : Murudsheng

Distribution : Rare in Sagareshwar sanctuary

Habit : Shrub

Plant parts used : Fruit

Ethnomedicinal uses:

1. Extract of fruit is useful as colic stomachic for children.

10. *Jatropha curcus* Linn.

Family : Euphorbiaceae

Local name : Mungli Erand
 Distribution : Common on waste places
 Habit : Perennial herb

Plant parts used : Leaves

Ethnomedicinal uses:

1. Watery juice of young leaves is collected and applied on affected part to cure muscular pain.

11. ***Kalanchoe pinnata*** Pers.

Family : Crassulaceae

Local name : Panphuti

Distribution : Cultivated in gardens

Habit : Herb

Plant parts used : Leaves

Ethnomedicinal uses:

1. One leaf is chewed and taken along with a glass of water in empty stomach for few days in the early morning for remedy of any urinary problems

2. Fresh leaf is taken orally daily for 15 to 20 days for kidney stone, gall-bladder stones.

12. ***Lantana camara*** Linn.

Family : Verbenaceae

Local name : Ghaneri

Distribution : Common on waste places

Habit : Shrub

Part used : Flowers.

Ethnomedicinal uses:

1. Powder of dried flowers is taken with tea twice a day to cure jaundice.

13. ***Mimosa pudica*** Linn.

Family : Leguminosae

Local name : Lajalu

Distribution : Bunds of agricultural fields

Habit : Shrub

Plant parts used : Leaves

Ethnomedicinal uses:

1. Leaf paste applied on effected parts to prevent pain and swelling for filarial.

14. ***Mentha arvensis*** Linn.

Family : Labiatae

Local name : Pudina

Distribution : Cultivated in agricultural fields for leaves

Habit : Herb

Plant parts used : Leaves

Ethnomedicinal uses:

1. Dried leaves are crushed and taken with one glass buttermilk with a pinch of salt 3 times a day for diarrhoea.

15. ***Lawsonia inermis*** Linn.

Family : Lythraceae

Local name : Mehendi

Distribution : Cultivated as hedge plant

Habit : Shrub

Plant parts used : Leaves

Ethnomedicinal uses:

1. Leaf paste applied to head, one hour before bath twice a week for one month to remove dandruff.

3. A dressing of fresh leaf juice is applied to the head as a hair tonic to promote healthy growth of hairs.

16. ***Moringa oleifera*** Lam.

Family : Moringaceae

Local name : Shevga

Distribution : Cultivated in agricultural fields for fruits

Habit : Tree

Plant parts used : Leaves, stem bark

Ethnomedicinal uses:

1. Paste of stem bark is applied on forehead to cure headache.

2. The juice of the leaves is used in the eye diseases.

3. The whole plant has the ability to cure rheumatism and sore throat. It is a good tonic.

17. ***Memordica charantia*** Linn.

Family : Cucurbitaceae

Local name : Kadu karle

Distribution : Cultivated in agricultural fields for fruits

Habit : Shrub

Part used : Fruits

Ethnomedicinal uses:

1. Fruits are dried, the dried fruit pieces are fried and given with normal diet for jaundice.

18. ***Ocimum sanctum*** Linn.

Family : Labiatae

Local name : Tulsi

Distribution : Grown near houses/ wild

Habit : Herb

Plant parts used : Leaves

Ethnomedicinal uses:

1. Leaf juice mixed with juice of *Zingiber officinale* and honey and administered in 2 spoonful twice a day for 3-4 days to cure cough and cold.

19. ***Pongamia pinnata* Pierre.**

Family : Leguminosae
 Local name : Karanj
 Distribution : Common on waste places
 Habit : Tree
 Plant parts used : Stem, seeds

Ethnomedicinal uses:

1. Seed oil is applied on the affected part for 7-8 days in skin diseases.
2. Stem small stick 6-8 inch long is used to brush the teeth in toothache.
3. The seed paste is used as a remedy for scabies.

20. ***Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* Linn.**

Family : Malvaceae
 Local name : Jasvand
 Distribution : Cultivated in gardens
 Habit : Shrub
 Plant parts used : Flower

Ethnomedicinal uses:

1. Fresh flowers boil in hair oil and paste is applied to make hair black and to promote healthy growth of hairs.
2. Mucilagenous paste of petals is applied to make hairs black.

Results and Discussion

In the present paper information regarding 20 ethno medicinal plants has been given, which are used for the various treatment of ailments. The plant species belonging to 16 families have been recorded in the present

study. The usage of plant part such as leaves, stem, bark, flowers, fruits, seeds, latex, rhizome used for treatment of various ailments. From the data, it is clear that for treatment of various remedies fresh leaf plant materials is used followed by stem and seeds. The information gathered during present study is in agreement with that reported by Jain and Patole (2001)

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