



ETHNOBOTANICAL SURVEY OF PLANTS USED IN THE TREATMENT OF SKIN DISEASES IN MAHUR RANGE FOREST OF NANDED DISTRICT, MAHARASHTRA, INDIA

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ABSTRACT

The present research work was undertaken to study the ethnomedicinal practices of some medicinal plants used to skin diseases in Mahur range forest of Nanded district. During survey 17 flowering plants belonging to 14 families were collected and identified. Venders, local herbalists and tribals use these medicinal plants in the treatment of skin diseases. The medicinal information was collected through semi-structured interviews. It was pointed out that flowers, latex, root, leaves, stem bark, seeds and stem are commonly used in the medicines preparation in the form of paste, powder, extract and juice.

Key Words: Ethnomedicinal Plants, Tribals, skin diseases, Mahur forest, Maharashtra

INTRODUCTION

The use of ethnomedicines for the treatment of diseases is common in Mahur range forest. Ethnomedicine have received global attention of scientists in india (Sivaperumal,*et.al.*, 2009).The medicine prepared from plants is safer and no side effect due to that reason people are depends on medicinal plants for the treatment of diseases. Huge number of medicinal plants are used in the preparation of medicine and people prefer them because of their lesser side effects and have more benefits (*Mughal.*, *et.al.* 2013)The skin diseases are common problem in study area. Skin is most important organ of human body, skin complaint affect all ages form child to the elders and causes harm in many ways (Johnsy, *et.al.*, 2012). Skin diseases are caused due to contaminated water, malnourishment, high temperature, poor hygiene and more humidity. Ringworm and eczema are the common and spread through skin contact. It has been observed that the tribal community use medicinal plants for the

treatment of skin diseases. Tribal people, venders and medicinal practitioners use medicinal plants for the preparation of drugs. The most widely used species in the treatment of skin diseases are *Ammannia baccifera* L., *Butea monosperma* (Lamk.) Taub., *Dioscorea bulbifera* L., *Euphorbia barnhartii* Croizat, Euph. and *Triumfetta rotundifolia* Lamk. The medicinal plants are arranged alphabetically followed by family name, local name, parts used and ethnobotanical uses. The aim of the present study was to collect the medicinal plants and ethnomedicinal data from study area for the treatment of skin diseases.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The tribal population of Mahur consists of *Andh, Kolam, Gond, Naikede* and *Pradhan* (Pawadeet *al.*, 2008). From this region ethnobotanical data was collected during 2008-2010. The information was gathered through semi structured interviews of knowledgeable elders between the age group of 45 to 65years. During the course of the study Each informant was visited three times in order to verify reliability of the obtained data.

The collected plants were identified with the help of standard floras (Naik, 1979; Naiket *al.*, 1998) and Yadav and Sirdesai (2002). The plants were enumerated alphabetically along with botanical name, family, Local name, Part used and uses.

ENUMERATION

The plants were enumerated alphabetically along with botanical name, family, Part(s)used and vernacular name.

1. *Ammannia baccifera* L.

Family: Lythraceae. **Local Name:** Bharjambul.

Part(s) used: Entire plant.

Ethnobotanical Uses:

Plant ash is mixed in coconut oil and is applied over infected skin till cure (Ubale).

2. *Annona reticulata* L.

Family: Annonaceae. **Local Name:** Ramphal. **Part(s) used:** Leaves.

Ethnobotanical Uses:

Juice of leaves is used to cure skin diseases (Pawar)

3. *Azadirachta indica* A. Juss.

Family: Meliaceae. **Local Name:** Kadu limb.

Part(s) used: Leaves and stem bark

Ethnobotanical Uses:

Powder of stem bark and leaves is locally applied on diseased skin to control skin diseases (Cherange)

4. *Butea monosperma* (Lamk.) Taub.

Family: Fabaceae. **Local Name:** palas.

Part(s) used: Seeds.

Ethnobotanical Uses:

A mixture made from seed powder and lemon juice is applied on infected skin to cure skin diseases (Kadam

Kupti).

5. *Cocculus hirsutus* (L.) Diels

Family: Menispermaceae. **Local Name:** Wasanwel.

Part(s) used: Root.

Ethnobotanical Uses:

Extract of root is applied on infected skin to treat skin diseases (Chavan).

6. *Crotalaria notonii* Wt. and Arn.

Family: Fabaceae. **Local Name:** Pivla charak.

Part(s) used: Whole plant.

Ethnobotanical Uses:

Powder of plant is mixed with coconut oil and is applied regularly on skin to cure skin diseases (Perchake).

7. *Dioscorea bulbifera* L.

Family: Dioscoreaceae. **Local Name:** Jatashankar.

Part(s) used: Root tuber.

Ethnobotanical Uses:

Powder of root tuber is applied along with coconut oil on affected skin twice a day for five days (Adhe).

8. *Echinops echinatus* Roxb.

Family: Asteraceae. **Local Name:** Katechabuk.

Part(s) used: stem.

Ethnobotanical Uses:

A mixture of stem ash and coconut oil is applied on infected skin till cure (Perchake).

9. *Erigeron lyratus* L.

Family: Asteraceae. **Local Name:** Sonati. **Part(s) used:** Leaves.

Ethnobotanical Uses:

Paste of leaves prepared in safflower oil and is applied locally on scabies regularly till cure (Rathod).

10. *Euphorbia barnhartii* Croizat, Euph.

Family: Euphorbiaceae. **Local Name:** Tindhari nivdung.

Part(s) used: Plant latex.

Ethnobotanical Uses:

Latex of plant is applied on infected skin till cure (Marape).

11. *Exacum pedunculatum* L.

Family: Gentianaceae. **Local name:** Tagari. **Part(s) used:** Leaves.

Ethnobotanical Uses:

Juice of leaves is applied on infected skin two times in a day for eight days to cure skin diseases (Maruti Ubale)

12. *Indigofera tinctoria* L.

Family: Fabaceae. **Local Name:** Neel. **Part(s) used:** Flowers.

Ethnobotanical Uses:

Paste of flowers is applied over infected skin two times in a day for eight days. (Maruti Ubale, Perchake, Cherange and Kadam).

13. *Lantana camara* L.

Family: Verbenaceae. **Local Name:** Ghaneri.

Part(s) used: Stem and Leaves.

Ethnobotanical Uses:

Juice of leaves is applied on infected skin (Perchake).

14. *Lawsonia inermis* L.

Family: Lythraceae. **Local Name:** Mendi. **Part(s) used:** Leaves.

Ethnobotanical Uses:

Paste of leaves is locally applied on infected skin to control skin diseases (Rathod).

15. *Leonotis nepetifolia* (L.) R. Br.

Family: Lamiaceae. **Local Name:** Matisul or Deepmal.

Part(s) used: flowers.

Ethnobotanical Uses:

Paste of flowers is applied on infected skin to control skin diseases (Ubale).

16. *Madhuca longifolia* (Koen.) Macbr.

Family: Sapotaceae. **Local Name:** Mahuwa.

Part(s) used: Seed.

Ethnobotanical Uses:

Seeds are crushed in water and applied over eczema till cure (Pawar).

17. *Santalum album* L.

Family: Santalaceae. **Local Name:** Chandan.

Part(s) used: Stem bark.

Ethnobotanical Uses:

Paste of stem is applied on infected skin to cure skin diseases (Gite).

DISCUSSION

The present investigation comprises 17 species of medicinal plants belonging 14 families used in the treatment of skin diseases. Different parts of medicinal plants are used in the treatment of skin diseases. Most of the medicine is prepared from single plant part. Leaves were commonly used and mostly applied topically as a paste and powder on the affected skin area (Helene, et.al. 2013). Medicines are prepared in the form of paste, powder, extract and juice. Powder, leaf juice and extract are directly applied locally on infected skin whereas some medicines are prepared in safflower oil, coconut oil and lemon juice. Medicines are prepared from combination

of different part (Mowobi., et.al. 2016). All medicines are externally applied on skin. Ethnomedicinal information collected from tribal, vendors and medicinal practitioner is useful for research in the fields of ethnobotany and pharmacology for further studies.

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