



# ETHNOMEDICINAL SURVEY OF PLANTS USED IN THE TREATMENT OF HEPATITIS IN MAHAUR 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 cure Hepatitis in Mahur range forest of Nanded district. During survey 08 flowering plants belonging to 8 families were collected and identified. Vendors, local herbalists and tribals use these medicinal plants in the treatment of hepatitis. The medicinal information was collected through semi-structured interviews. It was pointed out that flowers, root, leaves, stem bark and seeds are commonly used in the preparation medicines in the form of powder, extract and juice

**Key Words:** Ethnomedicinal Plants, Tribals, Hepatitis, Mahur forest, Maharashtra.

## Introduction

Ethnomedicinal information of 08 angiospermic plants were collected during ethnomedicinal survey of Mahur range forest of Nanded district. Local people and tribals are used these plant for the treatment of Hepatitis. Vendors and local herbalists use medicinal plants for the preparation of drugs. Traditional medicines a principal form of healthcare of many population (Igberaese and Ogbale, 2018). Hepatitis is common in rainy season in this area caused due to ingestion of contaminated food and water. The common symptoms observed are: low grade fever, nausea, vomiting and loss of appetite. The most widely used species in the treatment of Hepatitis are: *Achyranthes aspera* L., *Boerhavia repens* L., *Limonia acidissima* L., *Ricinus communis* L. During present study the medicinal plants used by the tribal and villagers of Mahur, Dist. Nanded (M.S.) for the treatment of Hepatitis. Ethnomedicinal plants are utilize for the treatment of Hepatitis (Mowob, *et.al.*, 2016).

## 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 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. *Achyranthes aspera* L.

**Family:** Amaranthaceae. **Local Name:** Aghada. **Part(s) used:** Root.

#### Ethnobotanical Uses:

The mixture of 25 gm powder of root and 25 gm ghee is consumed twice a day to cure hepatitis (Kadam).

### 2. *Argemone mexicana* L.

**Family:** Papaveraceae. **Local Name:** Piwala dhotra or Bilayat. **Part(s) used:** Root .

#### Ethnobotanical Uses:

Spoonful extract of root is given twice a day for five days to control hepatitis (Gangaram)

### 3. *Boerhavia repens* L.

**Family:** Nyctaginaceae. **Local Name:** Punarnawa. **Part(s) used:** Leaves.

#### Ethnobotanical Uses:

About half cup juice of leaves is given in early morning for seven days to cure hepatitis (Mantute).

### 4. *Eclipta alba* (L.) Hassk.

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

**Ethnobotanical Uses:**

Half cup leaf juice is drunk twice a day for three days to treat hepatitis (Gangaram).

**5. *Limonia acidissima* L.**

**Family:** Rutaceae. **Local Name:** Kauth. **Part(s) used:** Leaves.

**Ethnobotanical Uses:**

About a cup juice of leaves is taken with a cup of cow milk twice a day for three days to treat hepatitis (Pawar).

**6. *Mangifera indica* L.**

**Family:** Anacardiaceae. **Local Name:** Amba. **Part(s) used:** Stem bark.

**Ethnobotanical Uses:**

Spoonful powder of stem bark is taken orally thrice a day for three days to control hepatitis (Perchake).

**7. *Ricinus communis* L.**

**Family:** Euphorbiaceae. **Local Name:** Earandi. **Part(s) used:** Leaves.

**Ethnobotanical Uses:**

Spoonful juice of young leaves is mixed with half cup cow milk and drunk in early morning for three days to cure hepatitis (Gangaram).

Half cup juice of young petiole is mixed with half cup goat milk and drunk at morning for three days to cure hepatitis (Gangaram).

**8. *Tinospora cordifolia* (Willd.) Miers.**

**Family:** Menispermaceae. **Local Name:** Gulwel. **Part(s) used:** Seeds.

**Ethnobotanical Uses:**

About two spoonful powder of seed is taken with water for seven days to cure hepatitis (Cherange).

**Discussion**

The data revealed that 8 angiospermic ethnomedicinal plants were used by Local people, Venders, local herbalists, and tribals for the treatment of hepatitis. The drug prepared by Venders, local herbalists, and tribals did not caused any side effects. Ethnobotany and ethnopharmacology have contributed to be discover of many important drugs prepared form plants (Oroian, *et.al.*, 2019). Flowers, root, leaves, stem bark and seeds are used in the preparation of drugs. Mostly fresh plants parts used in the treatment of hepatitis. The seeds are used in power

form. The root and leaves were commonly used for the preparation of drugs. Drugs are prepared in the form of powder, extract and juice. Drugs prepared from medicinal plants when compared to their synthetic counterparts minimize the adverse side effects (Diwan, *et.al.*, 2013).

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