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Study of Tribal Medicinal Plants of Maharashtra

Rupali N. Agme

Department of Applied Science, RAIT, Navi Mumbai, India

Vaishali N. Agme

Department of Applied Science, RAIT, Navi Mumbai, India

Abstract:

The current study is carried out among two tribes “Korku & Gond” of Maharashtra from various regions like Chikhaldara, Dharni, Achalpur, Morshi from Amravati District & Bitargaon, Arvi from Yeotmal District during 2013-14 to investigate various medicinal uses of plants utilized by above mentioned two tribes. This study hereby reveals that Medicinal properties of plants are due to presence of some bioactive Chemical Constituents which can be further confirmed by various Spectroscopic techniques as well as Chromatography methods. The present study hereby suggests that these two tribes from their ancient times largely depends on locally available & traditionally known medicinal plants for various treatments like for Scabies, wound, skin diseases, Psoriasis, Itching, Allergies, Piles, Leprosy, Eye infections-cataract, night blindness, Infertility, Menstrual problems, Snake bites & Scorpion bites, Hair loss, headache, cough, cold, Bronchitis, for detoxification of body etc. Around 20 plants species utilized by them were studied & 15 are discussed during this paper along with their botanical name, families, and common names & their specific uses. This study is essential to know the wealth of natural products as well as herbal medicines as they are safe because they are natural & can have ability to replace synthetic drugs.

Keywords: Tribal medicines, Tribes “Korku & Gond”, Medicinal plants, Skin diseases. Scorpion bite, Eye infection, Hair loss

1. Introduction

Tribal Medicines are medicinal system followed by various tribes of different regions of countries. Medicinal plants have been identified & used throughout human history. Lack of understanding of plant & drug interaction have led to adverse effect that are sometimes life threaten, hence, proper clinical trials are needed to determine safety of each plant before utilization or before they are recommended for medicine use. But these tribal people don't believe on synthetic medicines because of lack of education & prefer only medicinal herbs. It was observed that these people use locally available medicinal herbs for dental problems, lactation, Fatigue, Scabies, wound, skin diseases, Psoriasis, Itching, Allergies, Piles, Leprosy, Eye infections-cataract, night blindness, Infertility, Menstrual problems, Snake bites & Scorpion bites, Hair loss, headache, cough, cold, Bronchitis, for detoxification of body etc. Generally it is believed that herbal medicines are safe because they are natural & can have ability to replace synthetic drugs.

2. Methodology

The above discussion was collected by the information given by Tribal heads, Mukhiya, Vaidus, Bhumkas, Ayurvedic Practitioners from their personal interviews, direct interactions with them & Villagers treated by them for various disorders from. Various regions of Maharashtra Chikhaldara, Dharni, Achalpur, Morshi from Amravati District & Bitargaon, Arvi from Yeotmal District were studied. These tribal heads provides herbal medicines in the form of pills or powder or in suggest taking in more conc. liquid forms or telling to apply directly to the skin or infected area as poultices.





Plant name	Family	Local name	Uses
<i>Tridax Procumbens L.</i>	Asterceae	<i>Kambarmodi</i>	Wound healing, Scabies, dandruff.
<i>Calotropis gingata</i>	Asclepiadaceae	<i>Rui</i>	Antiseptic, Snake bite
<i>Saraca Asoca</i>	Caesalpinaceae	<i>Ashoka</i>	Menstual problem
<i>Emblica Officinalis</i>	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Amala</i>	Cough, Acidity.
<i>Aloe vera</i>	Liliaceae	<i>Korphad</i>	Healing, skiin disorders, ulcers.
<i>Asparagus racemosus</i>	Liliaceae	<i>Shatavari</i>	Lactation, fatigue, Cough
<i>Lagenaria Siceraria</i>	Cucurbitaceae	<i>Doodhi</i>	Juice for urinary disorder, Acidity, Ulcer.
<i>Ricinus Communis Linn.</i>	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Arandi</i>	Seed oil for Hair loss
<i>Aegle marmelous (L.)</i>	Rutaceae	<i>Bael</i>	To avoid nausea, Constipation, diarrhea.
<i>Oscimum sanctum Linn.</i>	Lamiaceae	<i>Tulsi</i>	Cough, cold, expectorant, Bronchitis.
<i>Momordica Charantia L.</i>	Cucurbitaceae	<i>Karale</i>	For Detoxification of body, to stimulate digestion & to help with pregnancy.
<i>Glorisa superba Linn</i>	Colchcaceae	<i>Langali</i>	Scorpion bite, Leprosy.
<i>Maytenus emarginata wild</i>	Calastraceae	<i>Malkangani</i>	Dental problems
<i>Achyranthes aspera L.</i>	Amaranthaceae	<i>Aghada</i>	Eye diseases
<i>Ipomea stramonium</i>	Sapotaceae	Besharam	Its bark paste is applied on sting part.

3. Result

Present study includes information of near about 15 plants belonging to 15 genera & 14 families which are commonly used by tribal for regular remedies. Present study focuses on 15 common medicinal plants & their uses which are extremely safe & can have bright as well as immense support for the research development in medicinal science with the development & use of advance technique as well as it proved that medicinal herbs have immense potential for the replacement of synthetic drugs.

4. Conclusion

Historically thousands of species of plants have been reported to being useful for the treatment of various diseases like Cancer & various scientific studies can show that toxic effects of radiation & chemotherapy in cancer can be reduced by natural medicines & surgical wounds healing can be accelerated by natural medicines as well as all the above mentioned disorders can be easily cured but modern science & technology have an essential role to play the process.

5. Acknowledgement

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6. References

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