

ETHNOMEDICINAL PLANT DIVERSITY IN BHUPDEVPUR RESERVE FOREST AREA OF DISTRICT RAIGARH CHHATTISGARH

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ABSTRACT

A survey of medicinal plants of Bhupdeopur Reserve forest area of district Raigarh has been carried out during the year 2009 to 2011. During study medicinal plants have been identified for the various medicinal properties. The information pertaining to botanical name, local name, family, parts, used, their uses and process of administration was identified with the help of local population and available literature. The study area is dominated by the Gond, Oraon, Sanwara, Dhanwar, Khadiya and Kanwar tribes. The study thus underlines the potentials of the ethno botanical research and the need for the documentation of traditional ecological knowledge pertaining to the medicinal plant utilization for the greater benefit of mankind in different regions. The present study revealed in Bhupdeopur Reserve forest area of dist. Raigarh. We investigate 122 Genera 137 species and 53 families. Top two families which used more times as a medicinal plant are Fabaceae and Euphorbeaceae then Apocynaceae, Liliaceae and Asteraceae. The Fabaceae is in the most useful family of this area.

KEYWORDS: Medicinal Plants, Bhupdeopur Reserve forest area Chhattisgarh, Ethnobotanical studies

Ethnobotany deals with the direct relation of plants with man. The term has often been considered synonymous with economic botany or with traditional medicine. Ethnobotanical survey was done by following the methodology of Cotton (1996). Ethnobotanical survey in relation to health security was conducted in 16 villages of Raigarh district and information was collected from 320 tribals belonging to 8 different categories on the spot/during the transit visit. No systematic documentation has been made so far to know the medicinal value of the plants of the study area. The proposed work will be very useful in documenting the medicinal plants and conserving the vital knowledge of tribals regarding the use of plants. The present work will also provide information about the inter relationship of tribals with forest and Ethnobotanical uses of plants.

STUDY AREA

The present study was carried out at Bhupdeopur reserve forest area of Raigarh forest division. The site is spread at about 8 to 25 km North West of Raigarh city. The area comes under Raigarh forest range of Raigarh forest division within Raigarh and Kharsia administrative block. According to the records of forest department the area has divided into 4 circles and 20 beats. The total area of the forest is 4451.6 ha. in which 4300.4 ha. area is reserve forest and 151.2 ha. area is protected forest.

METHODOLOGY

The Ethnobotanical information was obtained from Baidyas, Baigas, knowledgeable person,

experienced people, medicine men and heads and local inhabitants of the village who have knowledge of plants for health & livelihood security.

Personal interviews were conducted with the persons having knowledge of medicinal plants like Baigas, medicinal men, women, Baidyas, Daimaa, Traditional bone setters etc. The knowledge of medicinal plants, information was collected by asking questions in interview session. Data was also recorded during the field visits. Help was also taken from the forest officers posted in the area. Interviews were also conducted with rural development professionals working in the study area.

The personal interviews of Baigas Baidyas and folk healers were conducted for documentation for the methods of preparation of drugs, its administration against diseases. Information was documented disease wise use of plant/plant parts for the preparation of drug.

IDENTIFICATION

Plant samples and plant parts collected during the survey were preserved as herbarium specimens and voucher specimens. The plant samples were identified with the help of published, authentic literature. The Flora of British India, vol. I-VII by Hooker (1872, 1879), Cooke (1967) and Gamble (1935) have been consulted for the identification of plant sample.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In complete Bhupdeopur reserve forest area we investigate 122 Genera, 137 species and 53

families. Top two families which used more time as a medicinal plant are Fabaceae and then Euphorbiaceae these are commonly occurring medicinally important plants used to treat various diseases like cough and cold, fever, dysentery, diarrhea, skin diseases, indigestion, jaundice toothache worm infestations, liver diseases and as an antidote for poison and in wound healing. many local people of this area are going for agriculture and sustainable harvesting of plants with medicinal value which helps not only in conservation of these traditional medicinally important plants but also in marketing of these plants and their products for economic growth of the people.(Table 1& Figure 1)

No doubt plant contain different active ingredients known as alkaloids, resin, tannins, nicotine, saponin etc it is possible to boost up human health.

Finally to conclude, this research article will attract the attention of Ethnobotanists, phytochemists and pharmacologists for further critical investigation of medicinal plants present in this area.

This data will support to how much parts using as a medicine by local tribes.

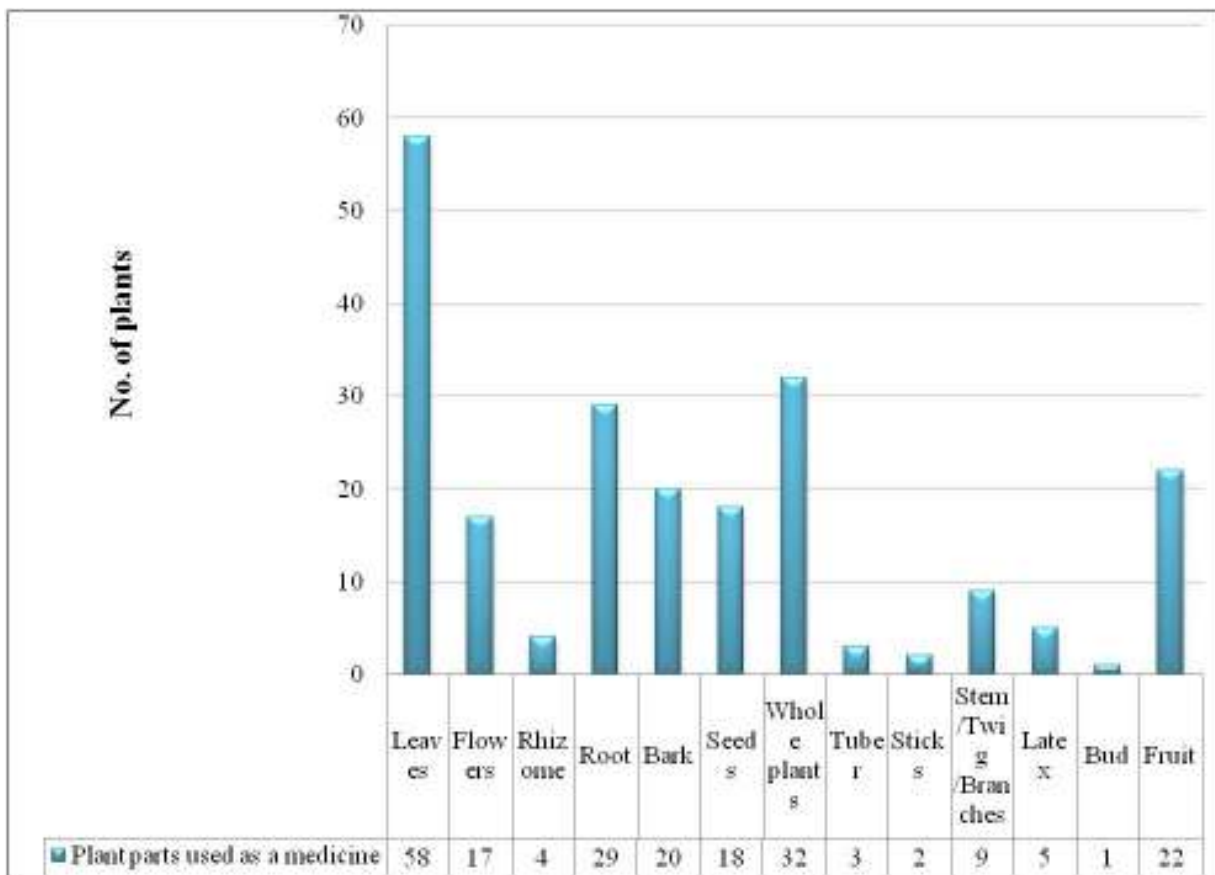


Figure 1: Plant parts used by the tribals of Bhupdeopur Reserve Forest area as a medicine to cure different diseases investigated during the year 2009-2011

leaves are the most widely used (42%) plant parts of the reported medicinal plants uses followed by as whole plant (23%) roots (21%) bark (14%) seed (13%), flowers 12% rhizome (3%) tuber (2%) latex (1%) some times combination of two or more different plant species is also used for few remedies. Medicines are prepared after drying the plant parts. Unfortunately due to the lack of written documents most of the

traditional knowledge about medicinal plants and their uses survived only by words of mouth from generation to generation are being slowly lost. The study revealed traditional medicinal plants still play a vital role in primary health care need of humans in this region and the knowledge received from them will be very useful for researchers in Ethnobotany.

Table 1: Family wise occurrence of plants used by the tribals of Bhupdeopur Reserve forest area of district Raigarh, for their health security, investigated during the year 2009-2011

S. No.	Name of the Family	No. of plants
1	Acanthaceae	3
2	Agavaceae	1
3	Alangiaceae	1
4	Amaranthaceae	3
5	Anacardiaceae	3
6	Annonaceae	1
7	Apiaceae	2
8	Apocynaceae	5
9	Araceae	3
10	Asclepiadaceae	3
11	Asteraceae	5
12	Bombacaceae	1
13	Brassicaceae	2
14	Celastraceae	1
15	Caricaceae	1
16	Combretaceae	4
17	Convolvulaceae	1
18	Cucurbitaceae	1
19	Cuscutaceae	1
20	Cyperaceae	1
21	Dioscoreaceae	2
22	Dipterocarpaceae	1
23	Ebenaceae	2
24	Euphorbiaceae	8
25	Fabaceae	24
26	Lamiaceae	4
27	Liliaceae	5
28	Lythraceae	3
29	Malvaceae	4
30	Meliaceae	1
31	Meliaceae	1
32	Menispermaceae	1
33	Moraceae	4
34	Moringaceae	1
35	Myrtaceae	2
36	Nyctaginaceae	1
37	Oleaceae	2
38	Oxalibaceae	1
39	Papaveraceae	1
40	Plumbaginaceae	1
41	Poaceae	2
42	Polygonaceae	1
43	Rhamnaceae	1
44	Rubiaceae	4
45	Rutaceae	3
46	Sapotaceae	1

47	Scrophulareaceae	1
48	Solanaceae	2
49	Sterculiaceae	2
50	Sterculiaceae	1
51	Verbenaceae	3
52	Vitaceae	1
53	Zingiberaceae	3

CONCLUSION

The traditional knowledge documented so far in the Bhupdeopurreserve forest areawill help in preparation of action plan for the development of herbal drug industries and to boost up tribal and rural economy of this region.

Sometimes a single species is used to cure more than one disease. this could help in creating mass awareness regarding the need for conservation of such plants and also in the promotion of ethno medico botany knowledge with in the region besides contributing to the preservation and enrichment of the gene bank of such economically important species before they are lost forever.

There are a lot to be done in this field with the positive and active support of village people so that importance of these important medicinal plants could be rejuvenated for the benefit of our future generations and also need to improve health care condition.

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