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RESEARCH ARTICLE

TRADITIONAL USES OF MEDICINAL PLANTS OF BADAMI TALUK DISTRICT BAGALKOT

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ABSTRACT

Traditional knowledge of local vaidhyas about medicinal plants and their importance in local health care is well known since Vedic period. Plants are considered as divine in origin and were worshipped as Mother (Goddess). Screening of medicinal plants has become a potential source of bio-dynamic compounds of therapeutic value in phytochemical researches. Ethnobotanical documentation is one way of capturing this body of knowledge. Hence the survey of medicinal plants and their traditional uses by traditional practitioners of Badami taluk of Bagalkot district as it has a long history of medicinal plants since from Chalukyan period.

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INTRODUCTION

Plants are the principle source of raw materials for plant based medicines since ancient times from the period of Charaka and Sushruta. Now a days traditional herbal medicines are receiving great importance in health care throughout the world. This traditional knowledge is handed down orally or in the form of scripts from one generation to the other through trial and error methods. In India most rural population and tribal community rely on traditional medicines for their health care needs.

METHODOLOGY

Data sheets were prepared at different villages of the taluk where traditional practitioners are practicing, with village name and its locality, date of visit, address of the patients with their age, sex and the treatment they are getting from the medicinal plants.

The vernacular names of the plant and the part used for the treatment with questioners with the patient and traditional practitioners of particular locality.

Frequent field survey in prominent villages like Mahakoot, Adagal, Nandikeshwa, Pattadakal, Belur, Hosoor, Yaragoppa, Kendur, Naganathkolla etc. Plant species were identified with flora and the preliminary data was recorded by observing the fresh plants in fields.

RESULTS OF SURVEY

Some plants species used to treat human ailments in Badami taluk of Bagalkot district is as Table showing details about medicinal plants and their use to treat various ailments

| Name of plant | Family | Parts used | Ailments |
|---------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|---|
| <i>Asparagus racemosa</i> | Liliaceae | Roots | Hypertension & insomnia |
| <i>Andrographis peniculata</i> | Acanthaceae | Whole plant | Fever & weakness |
| <i>Aloe vera</i> | Liliaceae | Gelatinous extract of leaf | Laxatives, wound healing, & skincare |
| <i>Aegle marmelos</i> | Rutaceae | Fruits & bark | Diarrhoea, dysentery, constipation |
| <i>Adathoda vasica</i> | Acanthaceae | Leaf | Antispasmodic, respiratory stimulant |
| <i>Calotropis gigantea</i> | Asclepidaceae | Flower powder, leaves | Cough and cold, dropsy inflammation |
| <i>Centella asiatica</i> | Umbelliferae | Whole plant | Anti-inflammatory, Jaundice diarrhoea |
| <i>Solanum nigrum</i> | Solanaceae | Fruits/whole plant | Dropsy, Diuretic antidiarrhoea |
| <i>Oscimum sanctum</i> | Labiatae | Leaves/seeds | Cough, cold and bronchitis |
| <i>Holerhina antydysentrica</i> | Apocynaceae | Bark/seeds | Scabies, antipyretic. Amoebic dysentery |

Conclusion

The survey indicates that the study area has plenty of medicinal plants to treat a wide spectrum of human ailments.

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The study concluded that even though the accessibility of western medicine for simple and complicated diseases is available many people still rely on medicinal plants at least for treatment of some simple disease such as cold, cough, fever, headache, poison, snake bites, skin disease and tooth infections. It is necessary to acquire and preserve these medicinal plants by proper documentation and identification.

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