

MEDICINAL CONVULVACEOUS PLANTS OF EASTERN UTTAR PRADESH

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ABSTRACT

An account of 12 species of Medicinal Angiosperms found in the Eastern Uttar Pradesh, is presented in this paper. Nomenclature, Vernacular name(s), phenological Data and uses are provided.

KEYWORDS : Convolvulaceous, Medicinal Plants, Eastern U.P.

Eastern Uttar Pradesh is floristically very rich. Some attempts have been made on botanical exploration of the area. But no attempt has been made to assess medicinal plants belonging to the families Convolvulaceae of this region. In view of the rich floristic diversity, lack of information on medicinal plant wealth and recent changes in political boundaries, present studies were undertaken to assess the diversity of the medicinal flora of the area under study.

Present communication provides data about 12 species of flowering plants. Accepted names, vernacular names, family, flowering fruiting period, localities and medicinal uses of the species are presented (Srivastava, 1976; Srivastava et al. 1987; Srivastava, 1993, Siddiqui and Dixit 1975).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Field work was performed from 2010-2012 in different seasons, viz pre-monsoon, monsoon and post-monsoon in different local areas of Eastern Uttar Pradesh. Specimens of the constituent species were collected some of which were processed for herbarium preservation (HSNC, AZM.) and the rest were dissected, described and identified with the help of pertinent taxonomic literature, (Srivastava et al., 1987; Srivastava, 1976) and authentic specimens.

Information regarding local names of plants and other noteworthy characters were obtained from local inhabitants.

Site

The systematic ethnobotanical survey was carried out in different villages of Azamgarh district during 2010-

2012 for collection of information on medicinally significant wild plants being used by the rural population of the area and the plants were collected from different locations of the study area.

Interview And Discussion

The entire study was divided into following two parts :

- First part was based on the interview and discussion with the local people of the area about the use of medicinal plants available for the treatment of different diseases.
- Second part was based on the non-usage of indigenous medicinal plants by the local people.

Criteria For Selection of Local Informants

During the survey, local people were identified for interview and discussion on the basis of following criteria

- Specialists in the field of herbal medicines.
- A person who has ability to identify the medicinal plants,
- A person who was resident of a village.
- Vaidhyas, Hakims, Ojhas, Gunias, Saperas, etc. and
- Tribal and non-tribal

Collection of Data

All the plant specimens were collected during the maturity stage with the help of the knowledgeable persons of the area. The collected plants were preserved and the locality of the collection and information regarding uses in the field book. The collected plants thus pressed, mounted and properly numbered were identified with the help of local floras and other useful works in Hooker, (1872-1897) and Haines, (1921-1924).

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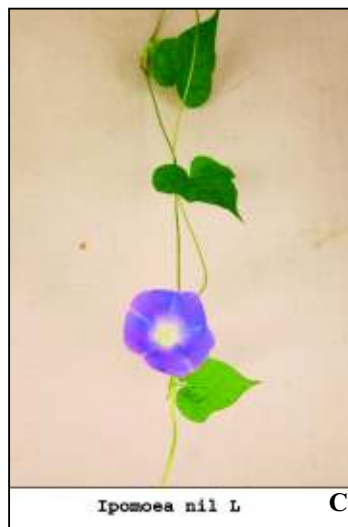


Photo Plate 1 : (A-H) of Convolvulaceous Plants

Table 1 : List of Convolvulaceous Plants

SN	Botanical Name	Local Names	Family	Fl./Fr.	Medicinal Uses
1.	<i>Argyria nervosa</i>	Samander Sokh	Convolvulaceae	Sept.-Jan.	Used as a tonic in dullness of intellect, emaciation, infirmity of old age and externally in abscesses.
2.	<i>Evolvulus alsinoides</i>	Sankhpushpi (H) Vishnugandhi (S)	Convolvulaceae	July-Dec.	Herbs bitter, tonic, alterative, febrifuge, vermifuge anthelmintic and antiphlogistic.
3.	<i>Ipomoea obscura</i>	Vachagandha (S)	Convolvulaceae	Sept-Feb.	Leaves used in aithous affections after roasting and boiling in ghee. Applied on sores also.
4.	<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	Karemua, Kalmisag (H) Swamp Cabbage (E)	Convolvulaceae	Sept-Feb.	Plant juice emetic, purgative; given in piles, mervous disorder, general debility; buds used in treatment of ringworm.
5.	<i>Ipomoea batatas</i>	Shakerkandi, Mitha alu (H), Sweet Potato (E)	Convolvulaceae	Dec.-Jan.	Roots laxative
6.	<i>Ipomoea cairica</i>	Railway creeper (E)	Convolvulaceae	Oct.-May	Curshed leaves given in body rashes. Seed purgative.
7.	<i>Ipomoea eriocapa</i>	Nakhari (S)	Convolvulaceae	Sept.-Nov.	Plant. boiled in oil and used in rheumatism, epilepsy, leprosy, and for ulcers.
8.	<i>Ipomoea carnea</i>	Beheya	Convolvulaceae	Most part of the year	Plant, considered to be toxic, mild purgative.
9.	<i>Ipomoea nil</i>	Kaladana (H) Krishnabija (S)	Convolvulaceae	Aug.-Nov.	Seeds purgative (Kaladana) used as substitute to Jala (Mirabilis Jalap).
10.	<i>Ipomoea pestigridis</i>		Convolvulaceae	Sept.-Dec.	Roots used as antidote to snakebite, applied on ulcers, bolis.
11.	<i>Ipomoea quamoclit</i>	Dhkpachak. Ka malata (H) Cypress vine (E)	Convolvulaceae	Aug.-Dec.	Leaf paste in water as poultice, in bleeding piles.
12.	<i>Porana paniculata</i>	Belkamu, Safedbell (H)	Convolvulaceae	Nov-Feb.	Leaves applied on sores.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The ethnobotanical survey was conducted in different villages of Azamgarh district to know the utilization of indigenous medicinal plants. A total of 12 plant species were identified which are being used for the treatment of different disease. Some important Plants of Convolvulaceae family are mentioned in Photo Plate (A to H).

The collected information are arranged in the alphabetic order of the plant botanical name, family with the local name and mode of used (Table, 1).

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