

ETHNO-MEDICINAL WEEDS OF VETERINARY IMPORTANCE FROM DULLAPATHAR FRONTIER REGION OF DISTRICT SONEBHADRA (SOUTH EAST U.P.)

N.K. MISHRA^{a1}, RAM DAS^b AND DEEPAK KUMAR SRIVASTAVA^c

Department of Botany, A.B.R. College, Anapara, Sonebhadra, U.P., India

^aE-mail: neelkanth_2007@rediffmail.com

^bE-mail: rdas.abr@rediffmail.com

^cE-mail: drdeepak76@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

The present representation deals with plants of ethno-medicinal importance and is a part of 2 year detailed floristic and ethno-medicinal survey of dullapathar frontier region of district Sonebhadra. The study focuses on the weeds of Ethno-veterinary uses. In the present paper, 17 plants have been reported to be of ethno-veterinary importance. Botanical names, common names, families and ethno-medicinal usage of reported plants are points of interest of the paper.

KEYWORDS : Ethno-medicine, Weeds, Veterinary, Sonebhadra

The South-East part of U.P., India (23°52' N to 26°40' N and 80°52' E to 84°35'E) is demarcated from North-east part of U.P. by Ghaghra river with an area of about 4,53,992 km including 14 revenue districts. The general elevation of this region is 80 mts. above the mean sea level and its general slope is towards the east. The slope causes the eastern flow of rivers. This region is in the northern subtropical zone on the globe, as a result the climate becomes variable. Although, in this area, the climate is neither very hot nor very cold, yet both conditions follow each other and thus there occurs two main seasons in this zone; the summer and the winter with a transit period of rainy season. A good rain fall in this area occurs due to its situation in the way of monsoon. All these factors, collectively cause a rich floristic diversity in this zone and a large number of herbs, shrubs and trees with lower plants appear every year finding favourit climatic conditions.

Sonebhadra is the district of Uttar Pradesh located on the globe on 24°41'23"N and 23°03'55"E. The district has an area of 6788 km² and population of 1,46,3468 with a population density of 216 person /KM². This district is situated in the extreme south east of the state and is bounded by Mirzapur district to the north west, Chandauli district to the north, Kaimur and Rohtas district of Bihar to the north east, Garhwa district of Jharkhand state to the east. Koriya and Surguja district of chhattisgarh state to south and Singrauli District of Madhya Pradesh to the west. This district is located in the south eastern range of the Vindhya mountain and has a relatively subtropical climate with high summer and low winter temperature. The average

temperature is 32°C-42°C in summer and 2°C-15°C in winter. The average rain fall is approximately 150 cm-160 cm/ anum falling from July to October. Due to distinct variation in climate the district is very rich in plant diversity. Several tribes reside in this district and use the plants in their general livelihood as food, fuel, fodder, medicine etc. The area consists of about 800 angiospermic plant species out of which about 200 are of well known medicinal importance.

The rich heritage from plants to medicine is well known. The plants like *Rauwolfia*, *Atropa*, *Ocimum*, *Papaver*, *Ephedra* are some important plants which are very frequently used as therapeutic agents to cure several problems, diseases and ailments. Beside these special ones, there grow several plants which are either unknown or less known regarding their medicinal values and are unfortunately considered as weeds. Most of them are used as good remedy for human being as well as to our livestock. Such plants need more attentive study of their importance, utility as well as conservation.

Basu,(2002); Goud and Pullaiah, (1996); Pal, (1990); Ramdas et.al., (2000); Reddy and Sudarshanam ,(1987); Sebastian and Bhandari ,1984) have made outstanding contributions in the field of veterinary phyto-medicines of several places and various tribes.

The importance of such a study needs much emphasis and work in the South-east part of Uttar Pradesh because of its rich floristic conditions but less literacy level and less awareness about the medicinal importance of plants among the tribal people of this region.

¹Corresponding author

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present piece of work is completely survey based. The surveys were made fortnightly during the course of exploration of the medicinal flora of South-East (U.P.).

From the list of plants obtained in the surveys, the plants of ethno-veterinary importance were chosen and enumerated as the base material for the present work. These plants were brought to the laboratory for studying their taxonomic peculiarities and identifying features following Duthie, (1960) and Hooker, (1937). The Habit, Habitat and local names of these plants were studied on spot consulting the people of the locality and information about their ethno-medicinal uses was collected from villagers and local elderly physicians (Vaidyas).

OBSERVATION

The observations of the present work during the survey, the main things which were observed are that the South-east U.P. is very rich in plant diversity and most of the plants are of medicinal importance. Some elderly people have superficial knowledge of the medicinal prosperities of some plants and the methods of their use but a large number of plants are either little known or unknown regarding their medicinal values. Another thing observed during the listing of the plants of ethno-medicinal value collected from this region is that there are 17 plant species having medicinal value and potency to cure animal diseases. These are as follows :

[1]. *Abrus precatorius* Linn.

It is commonly known as 'Ghumchi' or 'Ratti' belonging to the family Fabaceae.

It is used in lack of oestrus in animals. Ripen seeds are crushed and soaked overnight in water and then given orally.

[2]. *Acacia leucophloea* Roxb.

This plant is commonly known as 'Safed Babool' and it belongs to the family Mimosaceae.

The crushed bark of stem is soaked overnight and given orally next morning in case of lack of oestrus.

[3]. *Acacia nilotica* Linn.

It is commonly known as 'Babool' and it belongs to the family Mimosaceae. Seeds of this plant are given for a

week in case of immuno-deficiency in animals.

[4]. *Achyranthes aspera* Linn.

It is commonly known as 'Lat jeera' and it belongs to the family Amaranthaceae.

In cramps, crushed roots are given daily.

[5]. *Adhatoda zeylanica* Medic.

This plant is locally known as 'Aroos' and it belongs to the family Acanthaceae.

Decoction of leaves is given orally in case of cough and cold as an expectorant.

[6]. *Boerhaavia diffusa* Linn.

This plant is locally known as 'Punarnava' and it belongs to the family Nyctaginaceae.

Arial parts are given orally in care of urine problems and the paste of root dissolved in water is given in hepatic disorders.

[7]. *Calotropis gientia* Linn.

This plant is commonly known as 'Safed Aak' and it belongs to the family Asclepiadaceae.

In case of swelling the warmed leaves are applied.

[8]. *Cassia occidentalis* Linn.

Commonly it is known as 'Badi Chakwarh' and it is a member of the family Caesalpiniaceae.

In case of bone fracture, the pasted leaves with albumen and goat's milk are applied on the injured area.

[9]. *Cassia tora* Linn.

This plant is commonly known as 'Chakwarh' and it belongs to the family Caesalpiniaceae.

Crushed, soaked seeds serve as galactogogue.

[10]. *Cocculus hirsutus* Linn.

It is locally known as 'Jal jamni' and belongs to the family Menispermaceae.

Crushed whole plant serves as galactogogue.

[11]. *Commelina benghalensis* Linn.

This plant is commonly known as 'Kaina' and it belongs to the family Commelinaceae.

Leaf extract is used in eye problems.

[12]. *Eclipta prostrata* Linn.

It is commonly known as 'Bhangraiya' and is a member of family Asteraceae.

Paste of leaves is applied on swellings.

[13]. *Gloriosa superba* Linn.

This plant is commonly known as 'Kalihari'. It

belongs to family Liliaceae.

Crushed rhizome is used locally on small pox.

[14]. *Mucuna puriens* Linn.

It is locally known as 'Kewanch' which belongs to the family Fabaceae.

The hairs of pods are used as a vermifuge.

[15]. *Sida cordifolia* Linn.

This plant is commonly known as 'Bala' which belongs to the family Malvaceae.

Fresh leaves are given orally in case of rheumatism.

[16]. *Solanum surattense* Burm.

The common name of this plant is 'Bhatkataiya' and it belongs to the family Solanaceae.

Fresh leaves are given orally as expectorant.

[17]. *Tinospora cordifolia* Linn.

This plant is locally known as 'Gilloy' which belongs to the family Menispermaceae.

Crushed stem bark is soaked in water and is given orally as blood purifier.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The above observations report that there are 17 plant species which are potent enough to cure some ailments of animals out of which *Abrus* and *Acacia* are such plant which start oestrus in animals while others are used to cure rheumatism, cough and cold, verms, swellings etc. Species of *Cocculus* and *Cassia* are used as galactagogue which increase the quantity and quality of milk.

We can cure the animal diseases by using the plant and for it more hidden phyto-medicines are to be explored from areas like South-East U.P.

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