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## RESEARCH ARTICLE

# ETHNOMEDICINAL PLANTS OF BEED AND NANDED DISTRICT FROM MARATHWADA

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### ABSTRACT

A survey was conducted in Nanded and Beed district, for the ethno medicinal plants. The paper documents were prepared from ethnomedicinal uses of wild plant species in Nanded and Beed District. The plants parts are most commonly used in treatment of various diseases are roots, leaves, whole plant bark and seeds. In spite of vast scientific development in modern age man is looking towards traditional medicines. Due to ethno medicines many diseases are cured like jaundice, snakebite, scorpion bite, leucoderma liver and many more challenging, incurable diseases which are not cured by the modern medical science are cured by traditional medicines. This knowledge still exists in the villages. So interviews of traditional Jantas were taken, the details of plants collected, identified were noted. It is suggested that local forest management with Forest Department and NGOs needs to pay attention for Conservation of commercially important species, with sustainable harvesting methods. The cultivation and detailed assessment of the economically valuable medicinal plants is the demand of present day. Hence it is to be collected, preserved, protected and propagated for future generation.

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## INTRODUCTION

The use of traditional medicine is widely accepted in Maharashtra as our state is rich in medicinal plants. Beed and Nanded districts are located in Marathwada region in Maharashtra. In this region more than 70% population lives in villages which are far away from roads and cities. They have their many health problems. Many a times emergency comes due to snakebites, accidents, delay in delivery etc. At such a time people use to go to 'Janatas'. (Kale, 1996)

From the ancient time India is rich in traditional knowledge which deals with various aspects and the health problems of the villagers. They get their diseases treated with the help of local healers. Due to lack of modern medical facilities and the richness of medicinal flora have led to strong ethno medicinal practices in this region. During last three decades several tribal localities of India have been explored for ethno medicinal studies, by a number of workers. However a very few of such studies have been conducted in this region Chhetri (1997).

#### Study area

The present study area includes Nanded and Beed Districts in Marathwada from Maharashtra. From Beed District Dharmapuri, Sirsala, Saradgaon, Nandagaon and Parli Vaijnath etc. were selected. While from Nanded,

Kinwat, Mahur, Loni, Daheli were selected. The people here are mainly dependent on agriculture horticulture and animal husbandry for their live hood. The tribal groups have their own culture language and traditions. However Marathi language is the medium of communication among the tribes. The study was conducted in July 2004 to Dec 2005. The people of Marathwada are completely dependent on herbal medicines for their healthcare.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

Regular field trips were conducted in Beed and Nanded Districts, between July 2004- Dec 2005 for collecting ethno botanical data. The tribal people, including local healers, who regularly use the plants, provided important information regarding ethno medicinal uses of the plants. Information obtained from more than one source has been incorporated, we took interviews, noted down and taped their interviews recorded their knowledge of the plants. Collected plants were identified with the help of Indian ancient literature (Flora of Naik, 1998, Maheshwari, 1985 and Hooker, 1897.)

## ENUMERATION

In the enumeration date on ethno medicinal uses of plants presented in the following sequences. Botanical name, family, local name followed by plants parts used and the mode of use (in brief). In the presented report decoction

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means, solution derived by boiling medicinal herbs. 'Extract' denotes the liquid obtained by grinding the plant parts, with water and filtering through a fine cloth while 'juice signifies' the liquid obtained by crushing and pressing the useful plant parts without adding water. Whenever more than one species belonging to the some genera were used for the same purpose only the more commonly used species furnished for Botanical names followed a Dictionary of Folk medicine & ethno botany – Jain, 1991 used.

The new ethno medicinal use of the plants has been indicated with asterisk mark preceding the botanical name of the enumeration.

\**Aloe vera* Linn (Liliaceae) 'Korephad' : Leaf extract given with honey. One spoonful given once a day to treat Asthma utilized by Pandurang Ramrao Munde at Nandagaul Dist. Beed.

\**Allium sativum* Linn (Liliaceae) 'Lahsun': 2 Green plants of garlic are fed daily, to treat cough. Utilized by Baliram Pandurang Gadade at Vaijvadi Tal. Parli-V. Dist. Beed. It is already motioned in Jain, 1991.

\**Azadirachta indica* A. Juss (Meliaceae) 'Neem'

- I) Leaves boiled with water used for washing body to treat skin diseases. Utilized by Manik Nivruttirao Gitte at Parli Vaijnath Dist. Beed.
- II) Green fresh leaves are fed to cattle to treat prolapse of uterus in case of cattle's utilized by Vitthal Mukundrao Gitte at Nandagaul Tq. Parli v. Dist. Beed.

\**Luffa echinata* Roxb. (Cucurbitaceae) 'Danger': Fruit boiled in water & prepare 'Decoction' It is taken once a day for 7-14 days to cure Jaundice. This plant utilized to cure Jaundice is also mentioned in Jain, 1991.

\**Balanotis roxburghii* Linn, (Simarubiaceae): 'Hinge bet' Seeds with 12 'Meere' *piper nigrum* Linn (Piperaceae) & Jiggery the tablets of all this mixture made & taken once a day for 3 days to core 'Jaundice'. This method is utilized by Patil, at Loni Tq. Kinwat Dist. Nanded.

\**Emblica officinalis* see *Phyllanthus*. (Euphorbiaceae) 'Awalla': Fruit powder one teaspoonful with butter milk twice a day to cure 'Appendix' utilized by Tauphic Khan at Kinwat Dist. Nanded.

\**Andrographis paniculata* (Burm. F.) Wall (Acanthaceae) 'Bhuilimb'

- i) Whole plant powder with *Azadirachata indica* Juss (Meliaceae) leaves powder all this mixture is taken with warm water, once a day for 21 days to cure 'Diabetes' Utilized by Patil D.H. at Kinwat Dist. Nanded.
- ii) Juice extract from leaves is mixed with coconut water and given orally to cure fever utilized by Kasthinathbaba Khadeshwari at Daheli Dist. Nanded.

\* *Zingiber officinale* Roxb. (Zingiberaceae) 'Adrak'

- i) Rhizome extract utilized to cure stomach disorders.

- ii) Powdered rhizome along with turmeric & Jiggery & lime made pills given once a day for 20 days to cure Tuberculosis utilized by Madawi at Kinwat Dist. Nanded.

\**Cassia fistula* L. (Fabaceae) 'Amaltash' : Root juice about 50g. Root crushed in cup of water is taken twice a day for 3-4 claps to cure fever. One teaspoonful powder of seed is given once in the morning for 15 days to cure diabetes ; It is utilized by Kasthinath Baba Khadeshwari at Daheli Tq. Mahur Dist. Nanded.

\**Acacia catechu* (L.F.) Willd 'Mimosaceae' : Fruit powder with 'Curd' utilized to cure 'dog bite' used by Mohanlal Gupta at Mahur Dist. Nanded.

\**Achyranthes aspera* Linn. (Amranthaceae) 'Datiwan': About two teaspoonful powder of dried root is taken thrice a day for 3-4 days to treat dysentery. Root paste is applied twice a day for 3-4 days to cure eruption of lips utilized by Karad at Hanumantwadi Dist. Beed.

\**Tamarindus indica* L. (Caesalpinaceae) 'Chinch': Leaf powder one pinch is given with water to treat vomiting. Utilized by Kale at Dharmapuri Dist. Beed.

\**Vitex negundo* L. (Verbanaceae) 'Nirgudi': Leaf powder with honey given for 15-20 days to cure 'Sciatica' utilized by Gadade at Vaijvadi Dist. Beed.

\**Catharanthes roseus* (L.) Don. (Apocynaceae) 'Sadabahr': Fresh leaves juice is given to cure 'Diabetes.

\* *Ficus benamina* L (Moraceae) 'Kabra': Paste of young leaves is applied on sores, scabies, ringworms etc. utilized by Mohanlal Gupta at Mahur Dist. Nanded.

\**Hydrocolyle asiatica* L. (Apiaceae) 'Golpatta': The whole plant extract is taken orally in dysentery. Leaf extract is taken as a brain tonic & blood purefier utilized by Kasthinath Baba Khadeshwari at Daheli Dist. Nanded.

\* *Coriandrum sativum* Linn. (Umbelliferae) 'Dhane': Fruits kept in water & then water taken in case of micturation in utilized by Mohanlal Gupta at Mahur Dist. Nanded.

\**Citrullus colocynthis* (L.) Schr. (Cucurbitaceae) 'Indrayan'

- i) Fresh leaves of it with 'Kawath' leaves boiled in water then filtered i.e. 'Decoction' of it is prepared & given to patient of cure Acidity' for one month utilized by Pawar at Nanded Dist. Nanded.
- ii) Root extract is given in case of Jaundice.

\**Plantago ovata* Forsk. (Plantaginaceae) 'Subgol': Seeds soaked in water & given for eating to cure dysentery utilized by Sharma at Kinwat Dist. Nanded.

\**Thespesia populnea* (L.) Sol Ex.Corraea. (Malvaceae) 'Parshi Pimple'

- I) Juice of young fresh leaves poured in nostrils to cure migrane it is utilized by Patil at Loni Tq. Kinwat Dist. Nanded
- II) Twings used as a toothbrush.

**\**Solanum nigrum* L. (Solanaceae) 'Kaalimakoi'**

- I) A paste of leaves is prepared & fried in 'deshighee' It is given (10-15 g) twice a day in cases of body swellings. Utilized by Madawi at Kinwat Dist. Nanded.
- II) Extract of leaves (1-2 drops) is applied over eye or three times a day to cure (conjunctivities of eye). Utilized by Lahane at Sirsala Tq. Parli Dist. Beed.

**\**Aegle marmelos* (L) Correa. (Rutaceae)**

- I) 'Bel' Root juice (4 Teaspoonful) about 25 g of root crushed in 10 teaspoonful water, is taken thrice a day to cure fever taken for 7 days.
- II) Half of a ripe fruit is eaten twice a day for 3-4 days to cure constipation 2 dyspesia. One forth of an unripe fruit is taken orally to cure diarrhoea utilized by Pathan at Saradgaon Tq. Parli Dist. Beed.

**\**Alstonia scholaris* (L) R Br (Apocynaceae)**

**'Bankankra'**: Decoction of bark is given orally in hypertention & heart disorders, utilized by Kendre at Nandagaul Tq. Parli Dist. Beed.

**\**Plumbago zeylanica* L. (Plumbaginaceae) 'Chitrak'**

Powdered root given once a day to pregnant women for ebolic action in delayed labour, utilized by Madawi at Kinwat Dist. Nanded.

**\**Boerhavia diffusa* L. (Nyctaginaceae) 'Purnarnava'**

Tender leaves are eaten like vegetable for Jaundice. A garland made of piece of its root is worn during Jaundice.

**\**Bauhinia vahlii* W. & A. Benth (Caesalpiniaceae):**

One teaspoonful aqueous extract of root given thrice a day, for 3 days in syphilis. Utilized by Mohanlal Gupta at Mahur Dist. Nanded.

**\**Acacia caesia* (L.) Wild (Mimosaceae) 'Incha'**

Seeds are powdered and applied against lice. The powder is mixed in castor oil and applied on legs to get relief from leach bite. Utilized by Kendre at Nandagaul Tq. Parli Dist. Beed.

**\**Acacia sinuata* (Lour) Merr. (Mimosaceae)**

**'Cheevacka'**: Seeds are powdered and added to a large quantity of water. Bathing in that water is good for rheumatic fever utilized by Madawi at Kinwat Dist. Nanded.

**\**Allium cepa* L.(Liliaceae) 'Piat'**: Bulb and whole plant are used as a spice with soup and vegetable; it is eaten raw with food; bulb crushed with a little mustard oil is used as massage on the forehead and body to lower body temperature; bulb is also used for asthma and nose bleeding. Utilized by Abdul Sattar at Mahur Dist. Nanded.

**CONCLUSIONS**

Ethno medicinal use of 45 species of Indian plants has been documented on the basis of information gathered and verified by cross-checking with medicine men, healers and herbal practioneers of Beed and Nanded district. It is notable that all the species referred to in the paper are common and traditionally used frequently as Indian folk medicines for various therapeutic treatments.

In the view of present observation the ethno medicinal uses of these plant species may lead to interesting findings. Publish literature on Indian ethno medicine as well as compilation of Jan. (1991) reveal that plant species have new or less known uses not reported earlier. The data may thus be used for further ethno pharmacological investigations & sustainable use of medicinal plants for the welfare of mankind.

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