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Study of Ethnobotany and Its Utilization in District Agra **Uttar Pradesh**

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ABSTRACT

Uttar Pradeshhas been known as a rich source for valuable medicinal Vegetation. This Vegetation are found and distributed in throughout India and various parts of world. Since the ancient time, Vegetation species have been used as the source of botanical medicine by the human beings. Vegetationis the richest source of medicine due to the presence of biochemical, which are useful to cure the various diseases. Usefulness of medicinal Vegetation is well documented since the time immemorial. The present study includes ethno-botanical importance in which vegetative parts of plants which is commonly used by different local community. Ethno-botanical density as well as diversity may variable region to region and locales to locales. Keeping this in view an extensive survey exertion was carried out in Agra (western part) of Uttar Pradesh state of India, for the medicinal Vegetation resources of Agra, Uttar Pradesh to obtain info about the traditional uses, knowledge of local people and traditional healers about this popular Vegetation. Based on the results obtained, it was concluded that find 175 species is a useful medicinal used to treat different human and livestock diseases. Their body parts are using for curing different types of serious diseases such as tuberculosis, leprosy, asthma, piles, dengue fever, typhoid fever, blood bleeding etc. in human beings, domestic animals and other wild animals. Present paper advocated to local peoples (especially of rural areas), for protection of these Vegetation and secure their life for better survival.

Keyword: Vegetation, Medicinal Values, Ethno-Botany, Traditional use, Agra

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INTRODUCTION

The study of ethno botanical was carried out along with the ethnic groups (Villupuram district) in the South Western Ghats of India [1]. Most people especially in rural areas depend on herbal medicines to treat many diseases including inflammation-related ailments such as rheumatism, muscle swelling, cut wound, accidental bone fracture, insect bites, pains and burn by fire and hot water [2]. The state of Nagaland in northeast India is inhabited by 14 distinct aboriginal tribes among which there exists a rich plant folklore. These tribes live mostly in isolated villages on hilltops and slopes and depend mostly on the natural resources of the region for their existence [3]. Traditional medicine variously known as ethno-medicine, folk medicine, native healing or complementary and alternative medicine is the oldest form of health care system that has stood the test of time. Mbah,G.O et al., [4] Ethnobotany is critical to the growing importance of developing new crops and products such as drugs from traditional plants. Since ancient times humans have used various natural materials as sources of medicines [5].

The upper Siran, an internationally recognized biodiversity hotspot, has preserved the immense biodiversity of the Himalayan region and is a precious natural resource of Pakistan, contributing immensely to ecosystem tem services, irrigation, drinking water, timber, medicinal, and non-timber forest products [6]. In most scenarios, the traditional



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knowledge in Ethiopia is passed verbally from generation to generation and valuable information can be lost whenever a traditional medical practitioner passes without conveying his traditional medicinal plants knowledge. In addition, the loss of valuable medicinal plants due to population pressure, agricultural expansion and deforestation is widely reported by different workers. As a result, the need to perform ethno botanical researches and to document the medicinal plants and the associated indigenous knowledge must be an urgent task [7].

Indians are forerunners in utilizing plant resources for their basic necessities and sustenance. Though plants have been used as a source of food, fodder, shelter, clothing, medicine and a verity of useful commodities from ancient time, the value of wild edible vegetables in food security has not been given sufficient attention in India [8]. In rural settlements where vegetable cultivation is not practiced and market supplies are not organized, local inhabitants depends on indigenous vegetables either cultivated by themselves or collected from wild [9]. The traditional knowledge about indigenous wild vegetables is largely transmitted by oral tradition from generation to generation without any written record. Such practices are still prevalent among rural and tribal communities in many parts of the world [10]. The present learning is towards a complete probe on the role of plants in food, shelter, medicines, occupations, recreation, magic-religion, ceremonies, decoration and adornment by the people of District Agra [11].

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Reconnaissance surveys were conducted throughout the district for locating the community groups, their distribution, status and traditional way of life, the degree of traditional knowledge practices, etc. The selected villages were visited regularly and data pertaining to Vegetation, in their life and culture was gathered periodically. Ethno-botanical information was gathered either by interviewing the informants or from the direct observation from the field itself on the uses of Vegetation. Each of the information of a particular herbs used among the people Community was tested directly or indirectly. The reliability of the information of the Vegetation used was assessed after repeated verification.

STUDY SITE

The present investigation was conducted in Agra district of Uttar Pradesh to study the ethno-botany of plants with its utilization. Phytosociology aspects of important forest herbs were gathered to study at four different site viz. Mau forest, Taj Nature walk , Kitham lake (Raunakata), Chambal safari the (Bahpinahat Agra) in Agra during the year 2016. Study site is situated in the extreme southwest corner of Uttar Pradesh, having stretches across 26° 44' N to 27° 25' N and 77° 26' E to 78° 32' E at an average elevation 171m above main sea level. Its borders touch Rajasthan to its west and south, the district of Firozabad to its East and the districts of Mathura and Etah to its North at the banks of Yamuna and Chambal rivers and has limited forest area sporting trees of Babul, Ber, Neem and Peepal.



Fig. 1: The study area of Agra district Uttar Pradesh.

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RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Data appeared in the figure no. 1 and 2 studies revealed that there are 175species of vegetation belonging 52 families have been documented. Maximum number of vegetation available on kitham lake (Raunakata) site-III,followed by Taj nature walk (Site-II),has minimum number of vegetation available onMau forest (Site-I) but 31 percent species of vegetation are common present all over site. Work conducted on these following sites-

- Mau forest (Site-I)
- Taj nature walk (Site-II)
- Kitham lake (Raunakata) (Site-III)
- Chambal safari (bahpinahat Agra) (Site-IV)

Maximum Source of information by vaidhya, followed by Source of information from mallah community, minimum Source of information by Brahmin but about 6 percent species no abidance available. The availability and distribution of individual plant species has to be scrutinized carefully for its upcoming sustainable utilization The common ailments in the community are diarrhoea, cough, cold, fever, asthma, body ache, arthritis, cut, helical and constipation. Even after arrival of modern medicines, people in remote areas are dependent on traditional therapy for primary healthcare management may be due to faith in system,easy availability and low price. At the same time, the traditional health performs and other life styles associated with wild plants of district Agra Uttar Pradesh which had been developed by the village people of this region over a dated of time should also be keptalike. There are a lot to be done in this promising field with the active support of village people so that position of these economically important plants could be rejuvenated for the benefit of our future generations.



Fig. 2: No. of Plant on Particular site



Fig. 3.:Source of information by community

CONCLUSION

The present study is very helpful to list out various ethno-botanical Vegetation of Agra district and revealed the knowledge about the edibility; the preservation of this knowledge appears to be the result of continued reliance of local communities, medicinal and edible

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plants. The paper provided here can be utilized to further studies on conservation and cultivation of ethno-botanical plants, because most of the Vegetation species are on the way of extinct due to pollution. The youth should also be encouraged to learn the traditional knowledge to preserve it from being lost with the older generation. The present paper briefly provides the ethno-botanical information's related to 175 Vegetation. Vegetation are one of the most important components of the forest where the different local community reside. Vegetation are similarly providing economic, aesthetic and ecological value, which directly involve in the life and culture of the local community in their nearby environment. However there are some spread reports on the ethno botanical usages of herbs species, complete studies are lacking. The information likely is directly comparative to the interface with the immediate surroundings. The consumption features of several prevalent herbs are slight acknowledged due to lack of certification. The current study challenges to document totally the varied uses in broad way. The study also concludes the records of the several previously new uses, which also comprise the psychoactive property. By the Upgrading, especially mechanization and expansion has resulted in the declining of this rich tradition of information, from among the people of the traditional societies. There is a crucial need for documentation of such fast disappearing knowledge, to study and certify, validate the various use value of neutral resources for future generation and to gain intellectual property rights for the privilege.

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