
**STUDY OF VALUABLE MEDICINAL PLANTS AND SIGNIFICANCE FOR HUMAN
BEING FROM SOEGAON, DISTRICT AURANGABAD (M.S.) INDIA**

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ABSTRACT

Maharashtra state flora abounds in medicinal plants which can be called as storehouse as it covers varied geographical area and phytogeographical area. Soegaon is situated at 20.6° North latitude, 75.62° East longitude and 375 meters elevation above the sea level. There are a number of advantages associated with using herbal medicines as oppose to pharmaceutical products. Medicinal plants have been

identified and used throughout human history. In present investigation 15 medicinal plants were collected from a various places which are abundant in Soegaon, Aurangabad. The importance of collected medicinal plants is discussed in this investigation.

KEYWORDS

Medicinal plants, diversity, geographical area, advantages

INTRODUCTION

Plant containing active chemical constituents (alkaloid, glycosides, saponins, essential oils, bitter principles, tannins and mucilages) in any of its part like root, stem, leaves, bark, fruit and seed, which produces a definite curing physiological response in the treatment of various ailments in humans and other animals, is regarded as medicinal plant. The present day knowledge about medicine considered to be a gift of ancient men to the mankind. The herbal medicines are in great demand in both developed and developing countries in primary health care because of their great efficacy and little or no side effects (Narula *et al.*, 2000). Most of the plant species are used in preparation of drugs (Nautiyal *et al.*, 2002). The two most important works in Indian system of medicine are Charak Samhita and Sushruta Samhita. The Charak Samhita provides description of the materia medica in which 484 medicinal plants are mentioned whereas Sushruta Samhita has an account of 573 plants of medicinal importance (Kumar and Srivastava, 2002).

According to Schippmann *et al.* (2002) more than 50000 species are used for medicinal purposes worldwide, of which almost 13% are flowering plants. Over 8000 plant species are used in traditional and modern medicine in India (Planning Commission 2000) and 90-95% collection of medicinal plants is from the wild, of which more than 70% collection involves destructive and unscientific extraction. The World Health Organisation (WHO) estimated that 80% of the populations rely on traditional medicines, mostly plant drugs, for their primary health care needs in developing countries. Conservation and sustainable use of medicinal plants are issues on which immediate focus is required in the context of conserving biodiversity (Kshirsagar *et al.*, 2012).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The frequent visits to various places in Soegaon and villages namely Kankarala, Kawali, Galwada etc. The traditional local healers sell herbal medicines. Data was collected on the sources and uses were recorded. Some of the plants are conserved in gardens.

Table 1. List of collected medicinal plants and their uses

Sr. No.	Genus & Species Vernacular Name	Family	Distribution	Parts Used	Medicinal Uses
1.	<i>Terminalia bellirica</i> (Bahede)	Combretaceae	Scattered in forest	Fruits	Used in popular Indian herbal rasayana treatment Triphala, control vomiting, remove vata and cures bronchitis, cures kapha, throat and respiratory problems etc.
2.	<i>Anona squamosa</i> L. (Sitaphal)	Annonaceae	Commonly found	Leaf, root, fruits and seeds	Suppurative, antispasmodic, antihelminthic, cathartic, Antiemetic expectorant, antiphthistic, abortifacient etc.
3.	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i> L. (Gokharu)	Zygophyllaceae	Common in sandy places	Root, Fruits, and Leaf etc.	Diuretic in painful micturition, aphrodisiac, antighnorrhoeic antiasmetic, in skin and heart disease, haemastasis, stomachic etc.
4.	<i>Cleome viscosa</i> L. Higur/Buruga.	Brassicaceae	Commonly found	Seed, Leaf and Bark.	Carminative, antihelminthic, antiseptic, externally as rubefacient etc.

5.	<i>Aegle marmelos</i> L. Bel	Rutaceae	Occasional found	Fruit, pulp, root, bark, stem, leaf	stomachic, in piles, anticonvulsant, cardiogenic Laxative, tuberculosis, hepatitis, antidiarrhoeic, emetic, anti-inflammatory, expectorant in Optic Helminthic, jaundice, urinary troubles etc.
6.	<i>Azadirachta indica</i> A.Juss. Neem	Meliaceae	Commonly found	Fruits, seed oil, gum, bark, stem and flower etc.	Antiperiodic, astringent, in skin trouble, antiseptic, ulcer, stomatic, antihelminthic purgative stimulant etc.
7.	<i>Tamarindus indica</i> L. Chinch/Imali	Caesalpiniaceae	Commonly found	Bark, Leaf, Ash, flowers, fruits and seed etc.	Antiparalytic, astringent, ulcers in ring worm, smallpox, bleeding piles, laxative, anti-inflammatory, liver complaints, cough, useful in vaginal discharge etc.
8.	<i>Citrus medica</i> L. Nimbu, Limbu	Rutaceae	Cultivated for edible fruits	Fruit juice, root bud and flower etc.	Antihelminthic, purgative, antiemetic in urinary calculus, astringent, stimulant. etc.
9.	<i>Adhatoda zeylanica</i> Medic. Adhulsa	Acanthaceae	Commonly Found	Leaf and root etc.	Uterotonic, abortifacient, antiseptic, in chronic bronchitis, expectorant, antidiarrhoeal etc.

10.	<i>Withania sominifera</i> (L).Dunal. Ashwagan dha	Solanaceae	Common in dry places	Leaf, root, seed and fruit etc.	Narcotic, abortifacient, antiinflammatory, tonic, inconsumption, female dis- Orders, ulcer, scabies, lesions, painful swellings, soreeyes, hypotonic etc.
11.	<i>Quisqualis indica</i> L. Rangun	Combretaceae	Commonly found	Leaf and flower etc	Antihelmintic, febrifuge, antidiarrhoeal, carminative etc
12.	<i>Butea monosperma</i> Palash	Fabaceae	Commonly found	Seeds, bark, gum, leaves, flower and roots	Tonic, antihelminthic, anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial, antidiabetic, antianalgesic, antitumor, night blindness treatment
13	<i>Calotropis gigantean</i> Rui plant	Apocynaceae	Commonly found	Leaves, flowers, latex	Pitta dosha, pain relievers, vomiting therapy, anti-inflammatory, purgative
14	<i>Accacia pinnata</i> (L)Willd. Babhul	Mimosaceae	Commonly found	Bark, Leaf etc.	Antidote for snake poison, in bronchitis, scalding of urine etc.
15.	<i>Lantana camara</i> Ghaneri	Verbenaceae	Commonly found	Leaves, dried roots, flower	Relief from headache, toothache, relief from indigestion, flu, colds, fever, to cure malaria, influenza, mumps etc.

2

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Traditional medicinal plants available in Soegaon can be used as major source of ayurvedic drugs in curing a number of diseases. A herbal prices for common man, they are time tested and considered safer than modern synthetic drugs. Hence many diseases can be effectively cured with medicinal plants. In present research records 15 local medicinally important plants collected and their medicinal information collected by traditional medical practioners, folk peoples and available literature.

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