



Ethno Botanical Studies on Indigenous Medicinal Flora of Terai Belt of U.P.

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The use of traditional medicine is widely accepted by the Tharus and other local rural people residing near the forest. Terai Belt of U.P. is rich in Forests starting from Pilibhit upto Gorakhpur. Most of the forests are located in this area. Forests of Terai belt are comprising valuable tree species like Sal, Asna, Sheesham, Khair, Teak, Jamun, Siris, Harrha, Bahera, Chiraunji, Aonla, Tendu and other species. These forests are also rich in medicinal plants. People residing near the forest are based on herbal medicine, they know very much about indigenous flora and their medicinal use. This area is an ideal site for ethno botanical study of medicinal plants.

Sohelwa wild life forest division is situated in district Balrampur of Eastern Uttar Pradesh. The geographical area of the forest is approximately 45000 hectares, and is located with in 27° 30' 01" and 27° 55' 92" N latitude and 81° 55' 36" and 82° 48' 35" E longitude. East Sohelwa and west Sohelwa Ranges of Sharawasti District are in the administrative control of Sohelwa Wild Life division Balrampur.

The Present Study exclusively deals with wild indigenous medicinal plants found in East and west Sohelwa Ranges of Sohelwa wild life division Balrampur, where natives are Tharus, Bhars and other backward people. The present paper provides ethno medicinal information on plants collected from the Tharus and other rural inhabitants of east and west Sohelwa forest areas of district of Shrawasti.

Enumeration

Botanical names are arranged in alphabetical order followed by family, local names, preparation and mode

of utilization. Voucher numbers are given in parenthesis.

Abrus precatorius Linn. (Papilionaceae) Ghoomchi, *Aristolochia indica* Linn. (Aristolochiaceae) "Ishraul", *Centella asiatica* Linn. (Apiaceae) "Brahmi", *Cissampelos pareira* Linn. (Meisneriaceae) "Purain Parhi", *Cretavia unilocularis* buch. Ham. (Capparidaceae) "BaiBaran", *Cyperus rotundus* Linn. (Cyperaceae) "Motha", *Gloriosa Superba* Linn. (Liliaceae) "Karihari", *Grewia sclerophylla* Roxb. (Tiliaceae) "Dapher" fruits, *Helminthostachys zeylanica* Hook. (Ophioglossaceae) "Kamraj", *Hemidesmus indicus* Rbr. (Asclepiadaceae) "Anantmul or Kapuri", *Holarrhena antidysentrica* Linn. (Apocynaceae) "Kachari", *Jatropha gossypifolia* Linn. (Euphorbiaceae) "Parvati Rend" Latex, *Leucas Cephalotes* Spreng. (Labiatae) "Gooma", *Litsea ghutinsa* Lour (Lauraceae) "Maida", *Mimosa pudica* Linn. (Mimosaceae) "Lajwanti", *Momordica dioca* Roxls. (Cucurbitaceae) "Kheksi", *Piper longum* Linn (Piperaceae) "Peepar", *Pueraria tuberosa* Roxb. (Papilionaceae) "Bilra Kand", *Rauvolfia serpentina* Linn. (Apocynaceae) "Dhamarbarua", *Streblus asper* Lour. (Lauraceae) "Sihor", *Tephrosia purpurea* Linn (Papilionaceae) "Sarpokha", *Urginia indica* (Liliaceae) "Jangali pyaz",

Conclusion

Ethno medicinal uses of 22 indigenous medicinal plants from Sohelwa Wild Life Division Distt. Balrampur studied and documented Tharu tribes and other rural neighbours of Sohelwa forest, Balrampur use these plants in day to day life for treatment of various ailments. Local residents used *Leucas*



Abrus precatorius



Aristolauchia indica



Centella asiatica



Cyperus rotundus



Tephrosia purpurea



Jatropha gossypifolia



Lucas cephalotes



Mimosa pudica



Piper longum



Gloriosa superba



Urginia indica



cephalotes, *Piper longum*, *Rauvolfia serpentina* and *Hemidesmus indicus* more frequently at very large scale for treatment of various diseases out of which *Piper longum*, *Rauvolfia serpentina* and *Gloriosa superba* are now rarely available in forest areas. Further pharmacological studies and investigations on these plants will benefit mankind. Some plants may be easily cultivated, It will provide alternate employment to the local rural people as well as it will help in conserving the biodiversity of area.

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