



A survey of medicinally important plants from 32-Shirala tehsil district Sangali, Maharashtra, India

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Abstract

India is a vast country with a wide variety of medicinal plants. From the Himalayas to the sea, and from the desert to the rain forest habitat, medicinal plants can be found. Many diseases are treated with their roots, stems, bark, latex, leaves, fruits, and seeds. The anti-diabetic properties of ethno-medicinal plants in this region, as well as herbal anti-dotes and mental health, were investigated. Every plant has its own set of medical qualities, which can be utilized as an antiseptic, antibiotic, antifungal and antibacterial. The current study focuses on ethno-botanical core data collected during a large field survey in interior villages and forest areas of 32-Shirala Tehsil of Sangali (Maharashtra). A total of 35 families, 58 genera, and 60 species were identified in this study. This study's findings indicate that medicinal plants will continue to play an important part in public health care systems. Conservation and cultivation are required for several key therapeutic plants.

Keywords: conservation, disease, ethnobotany and medicinal potential

Introduction

India is a large area with a diverse range of medicinal plants. India is one of 17 countries with a high level of biodiversity. India is one of the world's top mega-biodiversity areas with 4 hotspots, with ten biogeographically regions and high endemism and genetic diversity (Ambasta *et al.*, 1992) [1]. India has an agro-climatic 20th century contributes approximately 7% of global biodiversity (Chopra *et al.*, 1956) [2]. India is the world's leading producer of medicinal plants. Medicinal plants can be found from the Himalayas to the sea and from the desert to the rain forest ecosystem. Among the 17000-18000 flowering plant species in India, more than 7000 have been identified as medicinal herbs. The Western Ghats are known for their mega-biodiversity and as a biodiversity hotspot (Deokar *et al.*, 2012) [3]. This area is home to some of the world's most endangered medicinal plants. Ethnobotany is the scientific study of indigenous peoples' traditional knowledge of plant resources for medicinal, religious, and other purposes. The humans' direct interaction with plants (Ford, 1978) has contributed much for ethnobotanical knowledge. Ethnobotany provides humans with food, shelter, fodder, and medicines. Traditional medicine and ethobotanical knowledge play an important role in scientific research, particularly when the literature and fieldwork data have been thoroughly evaluated by Mujawar (2004) [11]. Traditional awareness of herbal remedies for human diseases is rapidly fading in many parts of the world, including India. India is well-known for its unique traditional structure. Ayurveda, Siddha, and Unani are three traditional Indian healing systems. Ayurveda is a well-known western ayurvedic philosophy. Ayurveda is a medical system that is stated even in ayurvedic concepts that appeared and evolved in India between 2500 and 500 BC. Many plant species are used in indigenous medicine in India. It incorporates diet and herbal remedies, with a focus

on the body, mind, and spirit in disease prevention and treatment (Kamble and Pradhan, 1980) [5]. Herbal healing is deeply rooted in Indian culture and traditions. Local and tribal peoples have their own traditional knowledge of plants' medicinal properties. Approximately 60% of rural residents depend on conventional herbal remedies. Every plant has unique medicinal properties that can be used as an antiseptic, antibiotic, antifungal and antibacterial. Plant-based drugs are thought to be much safer and more effective in the treatment of a variety of ailments (Kamble *et al.*, 2008) [6]. The folk medicinal tradition plays an important and reflecting function in human-environment interaction (Kamble *et al.*, 2009) [7]. The importance of medicinal plants to humanity has been well established. It is estimated that 70 to 80 percent of the world's population relies heavily on conventional health care systems, especially herbal medicines (Kapase *et al.*, 2003) [9]. Herbal medicines derived from plants are thought to be much safer, as shown by their use in the treatment of a variety of ailments by Kamble *et al.* (2010) [8]. Due to the rarity of side effects, the market for herbal medicine has increased rapidly in recent years, 2007 (World Bank). People are increasingly turning to Ayurveda medicine. Ethno-medicinal plants are a local treasure of global significance. Since, in this day and age of globalization, the use of plant-based drugs has gained international recognition. It is now important to educate people on the importance of preserving traditional medicinal knowledge as well as plant. The current study focuses on ethno-botanical core data collected during a large field survey in interior villages and forest areas of 32-Shirala Tehsil of Sangali (Maharashtra)

Study Area

32-Shirala tehsil is situated between longitude 73:40 'E and 73:53 'E and latitude 17:03 N and 17:20N in Western Maharashtra, on the hilly and sub hilly edges of the