



Survey of Medicinal Plants in Egalnatham of Krishnagiri District, Tamil Nadu

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Abstract: *In the last 2000 years of the history of medicine, we can see that for most of this period, mankind had no other source of medicine than plants, either fresh or dried for the present study the some of the medicinally valued plant species. The survey of medicinal plants was done at Egalnatham Krishnagiri district, Tamil Nadu, India, 32 important medicinal plants were observed and listed in this study. This is the first survey on medicinal plants in Egalnatham village. The plants were reported with its common/ Vernacular name, morphology of parts used, family and its medicine/ Commercial properties. The people of Egalnatham using different morphological useful parts such as leaves, flowers bark, fruit, stem for health care. The present studies revealed that to analysis the forms of plants as in herb, shrubs, trees and climbers. The medicinal plants were pre dominantly found in this hill. The climbing most species pertaining to 18 sites and belongs to 34 families. The family Malvaceae with 28 species was by far the largest genera in this survey result as Euphorbiaceae and Rutaceae and Apocyanaceae, occupies the second position followed by Asclepiadaceae and Malvaceae, Moraceae, Cucurbitaceae Sapindaceae, (4 species each), Palmaceae, Rhamnaceae, Acanthaceae, Lamiaceae, (3species each), Ceasalpinaceae, Papillinaceae, poaceae, Oliaceae, Liliaceae, (25 species) were well represented in medicinal plants survey of Krishnagiri District in egalnatham.*

Keywords:

I. INTRODUCTION

Plants are the basis of life on earth and are central to people's live LaHood's. Tribal people are the ecosystem people who live in harmony with the nature and maintain a cross link between man and environment. Herbal medicines are assumed to be of great importance in the primary health care of individual and communities in many developing countries (Arokyaraj et.,al),2007 considering the current rate of deforestation with the Concurrent loss of biodiversity. Recently, some floristic exploration had also been done by. These localized studies have resulted in the publication of many papers, describing taxonomic studies of many species, ethno-botanical studies and many new reports of taxa for the state flora. With the Jumping cultivation in practiced, anthropogenic activities and over exploitation of natural resources, there by contributes to the rapid degradation of forest causing irreversible loss of species diversity in Manipur. Hence, revision work of this rich diversity is urgent necessity for taking up concrete steps for protection and conservation. About 80% of the population in the developing countries depend son plant products' for their primaryhealtecare (francisXavier.,T.,FreedaRoseAnddhivyaa.M(2011)Traditionally,indigenouscommunitiespossesknowledge about usage of plants and other natural resources.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

In Egalnatham hill, is situated in the eastern hill 18 kilometers away from the Krishnagiris city and near Velakalnatham, Tamil Nadu. It lying between 13: 39'26'' western latitude and 80: 46'' north longitude of Western Ghats. The climatic data of this hill range are as follows- annual rain fall 85 mm , temperature varies between 25 to 32 cent grade's and humidity 80 to 95 percent with an elevation range of 350-986m.the trees in this region are very small with stunted growth.

Egalnatham Hill



Wide when was forested in the past, the mountain is reputed for another kind of gold all chemical and medicinal plants of various kind. Many forms of plants were identified with help of Flora Books. Kits of rope, knife, field note book, camera, lens, papers are useful for collection of materials. Plants a material was assigned in field book number and finds the family and Binomial name.

Collection materials:

Plants were collated using some materials such as knife, cutter, scissor, poly thin bags and digger.

Plant collection:

Plant collection was done along the slope, ridge and other part of Eganatham hills. Periodic field visit for plant collection were in Eganatham hills region of Krishnagiri District, Tamil Nadu.

Flora Books:

The plants were identified and authenticated by referring the standard taxonomic characteristic features (keys) according to the flora of madras presidency (Gamble, 1935) and the flora of Tamil Nadu Carnatic (Mathew, 1983). the voucher specimens of the plants were kept in the Department of Botany, Periyar University Salem, Tamil Nadu, India for future reference.

Identification:

All those plants were grouped to gather according to the alphabetical order in three categories such as botanical name, family name and Tamil name (common name). The local names and medicinal value locality of the plant rare identified and recorded.

III. RESULT

Egalnathum forest were the documented that various life form of medicinal herb, shrub, climber, and tree such as epiphytic, parasitic distributed on entire zone of forest .

Triumfetta rhomboidea

Systematic position:

Family : **Malvaceae**
Order : **Malvales**
Genus : **Triumfetta**
Species : **rhomboidea**



Fig -1 Triumfetta rhomboidea

Common name:

Burr Bush, Chinese Burr, Diamond Burrbark, Chiriyari (Hindi), Thinjhira (Marathi), Ottu Pullu (Tamil), Bankathuthara (Telugu), Bon okhra (Bengali), Kadu bende (Kannada).

Description:

Erect, woody herb or shrub 75-150 cm in height. Stems glabrous, longitudinally grooved. Fruit a subglobose bur with the body 3-4 mm in diameter, covered with 75-100 hooked spines 1.0 to 1.5 mm long.

Uses:

In traditional African medicine the stems and leaves are widely used as emollients and for treating skin-complaints of children, burns, eczema, and scabies and to mature abscesses and furuncles..

Argemone Mexicana

Systematic position

Family : **Papaveraceae**
Order : **Papaverales**
Genus : **Argemone**
Species : **Mexicana L.**



Fig – 2 Argemone mexicana

Common Name:

Brahmadandi:Hindi,Mexicanpoppy: English, brahm: Malayalam bengali: shialkanta, tamil: karukkan sedi

Description:

Argemone Mexicana is an annual herb, growing up to 150 cm with a slightly branched tap Root. Its stem is branched and usually extremely prickly. It exudes a yellow juice when cut.

Uses:

Throughout the tropics *Argemone mexicana* is widely used as a medicinal plant. It is considered a painkiller, diuretic, cholagogue and anti-inflammatory.. A root decoction is used as a mouthwash and eye bath to treat infections.

Trichodesma indicum

Systematic position:

Family : **Boraginaceae**
Genus : ***Trichodesma***
Species : ***indicum* R.Br.**



Fig – 3 Trichodesma indicum

Common name:

Indian Borage • Hindi: Chhota Kalpa • Gujarati: Undhanphuli • Kannada: Katte tume soppu • Tamil: Kallutaitumapi • Telugu: Guvvagutti • Marathi: Chota

Description:

This is an erect, spreading, branched, annual herb, about 50 centimeters in height, with hairs springing from tubercles. The leaves are stalkless, opposite, lanceolate, 2 to 8 centimeters long, pointed at the tip, and heart-shaped at the base.

Medicinal uses:

The plant is acrid, bitter in taste. In herbal medicine jargon, it is thermogenic, emollient, alexetericnti-inflammatory, carminative, constipating, diuretic herb.

Lucas aspera

Systematic position:

Family : ***Lamiaceae***
Order : ***Lamiales***

Genus : *Lucas*
Species : *aspera* L.



Fig - 4 Lucas aspera

Description:

A large shrub grows up to 2 -3 meters in height. Leaves paripinnately Compound, leaflets 10-12 pairs, ovate-lanceolate, large stipule at the base of each compound leaf.

Medicinal Properties:

Plant pacifies vitiated pita, Kapa, skin diseases, ulcers, diabetes, diarrhea, worm infestation, conjunctivitis, and nocturnal Emission. Useful part, Root, Bark, Leaves, Flowers, Seeds.

Cassia auriculata

Systematic position:

Family : **Caesalpiniaceae**
Order : **Roseales**
Genus : **Cassia**
Species : **auriculata (L.Roxb)**



Fig – 5 Cassia auriculata

Description:

It is generally found in warm and most climates. In India it is found in western region. It is found in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Madhya Pride.

Common Names:

English: Tanner’s cassia, Hindi:Tarvar, Malayalam:Avara,others:Avarikai,Tamil:Avaram

Uses:

It is used against fever, disease or urinary system, eye disease, gout etc. According to Ayurveda it decrease the aggravate bite and Kapha.

Commelina benghalensis

Systematic position:

Family : **commelinaceae**
Order : **Commelinales**
Genus : **Commelina**
Species : **bengha lensis L.**



Fig – 6 Commelina benghalensis

Description:

Commelina benghalensis can be an annual or perennial herb. Leaves are ovate to lanceolate, 2.5-7.5cm long, 1.5-4cm wide, with parallel venation, entire leaf margins, and pubescence on top and bottom. **Uses:** Used against cough, seeds used as aphrodisiac and increase male fertility, Anti-inflammatory and wound healing (Fig 6).

Table – 1 Medicinal Plants List

S. No	Name of the plant	Family	Local Name	Part Used	Therapeutic Uses
1	<i>Adhatoda vasica</i>	Acanthaceae	Adathodai	Aerial part	Bronchitis, leprosy, heart, troubles, asthma, cough sore eyes and gonorrhoea.
2	<i>Andrographis Paniculata</i>	Acanthaceae	Seriyangai Nilavembu	Leaf	Snake bites and liver disease.
3	<i>Blepharis Maderaspatensis</i>	Acanthaceae	Nethirapoondu	Leaf	Wound healing
4	<i>Dipteracanthus Patulus</i>	Acanthaceae	Nittinaviralk Urittan	Leaf	eye sore
5	<i>Hygrophilla Auriculate</i>	Acanthaceae	Nirmuli	leaf,seed	Used against cough,seeds used as aphrodisiac and increase male fertility.
6	<i>Indoneesiella Echioides</i>	Acanthaceae	Pittumpai	Leaf	Leaf juice boiled with coconut oil is applied on head to prevent falling and graying hair.
7	<i>Justicia Tranquebariensis</i>	Acanthaceae	Sivanarvembu	Leaf	Swelling and snake bites.
8	<i>Rhinacanthus Nasutus</i>	Acanthaceae	Nagamalli	Leaf	Leaves boiled with Gingelly oil are applied to treat toothache.
9	<i>Furcraea foetida</i>	Agavaceae	Annaikatraiei	Leaf	Anti-inflammatory and wound healing
10	<i>Achyranthes Aspera</i>	Amaranthaceae	Naivooruvi	Leaf	Wounds
11	<i>Polyalthia longifolia</i>	Annonaceae	Nettilinakam	Leaf	Fever,gonorrhoea,uterus ailment, leucorrhoea,mouth ulcer,heart problem, blood pressure and stimulated respiration.
12	<i>Catharanthus Roseus</i>	Apocyanaceae	Nithyakalyani Sudukadumalli	Aerial part	Dry plant powder is used for cancer therapy.
13	<i>Hemidesmus indicus</i>	Asclepiadaceae	Nannari	Aerial part	Fever and skin disease.
14	<i>Eclipta procera</i>	Asteraceae	Mangel karisalnkanni	Leaf	Jaundice
15	<i>Brassica juncea</i>	Cruciferae	Katuku	Seed,leaves	Eye diseases (white patches in pupil)
16	<i>Cassia tora</i>	Cesalpinioideae	Tagarai	Aerial part	Malaria, ring worm, chronic inflammation of the skin and other skin diseases.
17	<i>Cassia fistula</i>	Cesalpinioideae	sarakondrai,	Aerial part	Bark decoction mixed with garlic and

			Konnei		powdered pepper is given to cattle as purgative
18	<i>Delonix elata</i>	Cesalpinoideae	Vatanarayanan	Leaf	Antimicrobial and antioxidant properties.
19	<i>Commelina benghalensis</i>	Commelinaceae	Kannankolai	Leaf	Rabies
20	<i>Tridax procumbens</i>	Rubiaceae	kenatrupasan, Vettukkaya puntu	Leaf	Leaf juice is applied externally for healing wounds.
21	<i>Ipomoea obscura</i>	Convolvulaceae	Cirutali	Leaf	Leaf past mixed with casote oil is applied on wound.
22	<i>Cyperus rotundus</i>	Cyperaceae	Muttakkacu	Aerial part	Wounds, fevers and digestive system disorders.
23	<i>Acalypha indica</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Kuppai meni	Leaf	Leaf juice is applied externally for curing body itching.
24	<i>Phyllanthus amarus</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Kilanelli	Aerial part	Plant extract is used to cure jaundice.
25	<i>phyllanthus emblica</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Nelli	Fruits	Decoction of fruits along with green gram is given to treat Blood Pressure.
26	<i>Leucas aspera</i>	Labiatae	Thumbai	Leaf	Leaf juice is given with honey to treat bronchitis in children.
27	<i>Aloe vera</i>	Liliaceae	Nali, Thizhai	Aerial part	Promotes menstrual flow, heals wounds and fresh cuts, eye diseases, asthma, leprosy and jaundice.
28	<i>Asparagus recemosus</i>	Liliaceae	Catavari	Aerial part	Nervous disorders, diarrhea, Dysentery, tumors, and control Vita and pita, cough throat infections and scalding of urine.
29	<i>Acacia nilotica</i>	Mimosoideae	Tiritapicam	Leaf	Astringent, acrid, cooling, styptic, aphrodisiac, vulnerary, Anthelmintic, constipating, depurative, diuretic, expectorant, alexeteric and nutritive.
30	<i>Ficus benghalensis</i>	Moraceae	Alam	Latex	Latex is given to children in fever and dullness.
31	<i>Musa paradisiacal</i>	Musaceae	Valai, tatam	Stem	Juice is obtained from pseudo stem is taken orally to dissolve the Kidney stone.
32	<i>Lablab purpureus</i>	Papilionoideae	Avarai	Leaf	Alexipharmic, Emmena gogue, Astringent, diuretic, an aphrodisiac, stomachic and antispasmodic.
33	<i>Punica granatum</i>	Punicaceae	Mathulai	Fruits	Elimination of kidney stones from Caring mothers.
34	<i>Ixrora cocinea</i>	Rubiaceae	Vetic	Leaf	Cough ,fever, gonorrhea ,diarrhea, Dysentery, sores, ulcers and skin Disease.
35	<i>Aegle marmeolus</i>	Rutaceae	Vilvam	Fruit	Ripened fruit pulp paste is applied on head to get cooling effect to eyes.
36	<i>vitex negundo</i>	Verbenaceae	Nochi	Leaf	Headache, sinus problem
37	<i>Cissus quadrangularis</i>	Vitaceae	Perandai	Areal part	Heart diseases, diabetes and metabolic syndrome
38	<i>Solanum trilobatum</i>	Solanaceae	Thuthulai	Leaf	Leaf extract is taken Orally to cure cough.

IV. DISCUSSION

The present studies revealed that to analysis the forms of plants as in herb, shrubs, trees and climbers. The medicinal plants were pre dominantly found in this hill. The survey of medicinal plants was done at Egalnathum Krishnagiri district, Tamil Nadu, This is the first survey on medicinal plants in Egalnathum village. The plants were reported with its common/ Vernacular name, morphology of parts used, family and its medicine/ Commercial properties. The people of Egalnathum using different morphological useful parts such as leaves, flowers bark, fruit, stem for health care. These remedies are taken internally or applied externally in the form of past, decoction, powder and extract. (Jayaprasad et al., 2011).

V. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

People living in villages and far-flung areas depend completely on forest resources for maintaining their day-to-day needs like medicine, food, fuel and household articles. In the last 2000 years of the history of medicine, (Das, K., 2010) we can see that for most of this period, mankind had no other source of medicine than plants, either fresh or dried for the present study the some of the medicinally valued plant species were reported from Eagalnatham, Krishnagiri, and Tamil Nadu circumference in the region of Eastern Ghats. From the study thirty important medical plants were documented which belonged to tree species, herbs shrubs and climber under 18 families. These medicinal plants were used for various ailments including cough, fever, pain, chronic diseases, diarrhea, constipation, head ache etc and the information was documented in the present study, people are living in the Eagalnatham region who are used these medicinal plants for various disease ailment.

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