Exotic medicinal plants from West Vidarbha region of Maharashtra -III

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Abstract
Present paper deals with the report of 23 exotic medicinal plants collected from various localities from West Vidarbha region of Maharashtra. Some of them are naturalized and now they are the part of our indigenous flora. Tribals and villagers are used them as a medicine and also some are having reputed value. The medicinal values of all plants collected by taking oral interviews with tribals and villagers.

Keywords: Exotic, medicinal plants, West Vidarbha region

INTRODUCTION
Exotic plants found in West Vidarbha region of Maharashtra are naturalized, in some parts of forest along dams, canals, roadsides, around villages, on hedges of fields& they are dominating to the native vegetation. Some of them are harmful to human beings & also to animals. During our exploration tour in forest, found that the tribal communities and villagers are regularly using some plants for the purpose of medicine so we have collected those plants, which are used in medicine. Some earlier reports on these plants having ethnomedicinal values reported by Kothale and Rothe (2009), Rothe (2009), Pullaiah (2002), WHO (2002), WHO (2004). A list of 23 plants mentioned in this article.

MATERIAL AND METHODS
An extensive plant exploration was conducted during 2005-2008 for the study of exotic medicinal plants from the West Vidarbha region several medicine men and the Vaidos was contacted with the help of discussion and oral interviews with them collected the data on medicinal uses also the literature available on the same plants compared with the latest information, It is found that most of the exotics are now used by them instead of indigenous plants probably they may have better results or their easy availability in the region. These plants material after drying and processing with mercuric chloride, herbarium sheets have been prepared and are identified by using Floras like, Flora of Maharashtra by Almeida (1996-2009), Cooke (1901-1908), Naik (1998), Sharma et al. (1996), Singh et al. (2000), Singh et al. (2001) & the medicinal value is compared with earlier available literature. Bhattacharjee, (2008), Prajapati et al. (2009), Dastur, (1962), Naik (1998), Sabnis, and Bedi (1983). All these plants are enumerated in the following ways.

Paleotropical
1) Ipomoea purpurea L.

Vernacular name: Laxman
Locality: Dagadparva, Rothe, 2400.
Uses: Leaves of this plant used to keep pregnancy in buffalo.

2) Physalis minima L.
Vernacular name: Popati
Locality: Patur, Rothe, 453.
Uses: Fruits are diuretic, leaf juice used against the earache.

Tropical America
3) Phyllanthus asperulatus Hutch.
Vernacular name: Lekurwali
Locality: Narnala, Rothe 635.
Uses: Plant is used for stomach ache, Diarrhoea, Dysentery and Urinogenital disorder. Fresh roots are used for jaundice. Stem and Leaves are used for Cotton black.

4) Dioscorea bulbifera L.
Vernacular name: Varahkand
Locality: Kasmar, Rothe, 1498.
Uses: Tubers are edible after thorough processing, often used as vegetable.

5) Sonchus asper (L.) Hill.
Vernacular name: Mhatari
Locality: Chandur, Rothe 459.
Uses: Leaves used as salad, leaf juice in liver complaints, stomach ache and ulcers.

Mexico
6) Nicotiana glauca Graham.
Vernacular name: Tambakhu
Locality: Wangeshwar, Rothe 751.
Uses: Leaves used as an insecticide in combination with leaves of Lawsonia inermis.

7) Nicotiana plumbaginifolia Viv.
Vernacular name: Ran-tambakhu
Locality: Wangeshwar, Rothe 974.
Uses: Leaves used as an insecticide, also against snake bite and wounds.

South America
8) Lantana camera L.
Vernacular name: Ghaneri
Uses: The decoction of leaf is given in Tetanus and rheumatism. It contains an essential oil; leaves are used for snake bite.

9) Passiflora foetida L.
   Vernacular name: Krushnkamal
   Locality: Vanoja, Rothe 428
   Uses: Fruits are edible.

10) Opuntia elatior Mill.
    Vernacular name: Fanta
    Locality: Gautama River, Rothe 752,
    Uses: Watery juice obtained from stem used against fevers, indigestion, chest complaint, urine stone and stomach ache. Dried flower powder mixed with honey used against hic cough.

11) Bidens biternata (Lour.) Merr. & Sherff.
    Vernacular name: 
    Locality: 
    Uses: Leaves used in inflammation.

12) Xanthium strumarium L.
    Vernacular name: Landga
    Locality: Manora, Rothe 697.
    Uses: Root is used as a bitter tonic, diuretic diaphoretic, sedative, cooling and demuscent also given in small pox chronic malaria leucorrhoea and urinary diseases.

Africa

13) Coccinia grandis (L.) Vight
    Vernacular name: Tandali
    Locality: Dabki, Rothe 158.
    Uses: Whole plant is laxative used in gonorrhoea as a wound healer. Leaf juice and roots are used in diabetes. Poultice of leaves used in skin eruption. It helps in improve digestion in amoebiasis. It purifies blood also for removal of extra amount of mucous accumulation in respiratory tract.

Europe Asia and North America

14) Medicago sativa L.
    Vernacular name: Lasunghas
    Locality: Patur, Rothe 693.
    Uses: Plant is a source of vitamin A; C & E. Seeds are the source of drying oil used for manufacture of paints. Leaves and stem are source of commercial chlorophyll.

Eurasia

15) Medicago polymorpha L.
    Vernacular name: Lasunghas
    Locality: Barshitakali, Rothe, 17
    Uses: Grown as a green manure & fodder crop. Leaves are rich source of Ascorbic acid.

Afro Asian

16) Asclepias curassavica L.
    Vernacular name: Haldi Kunku
    Locality: Chikhaldara, Rothe, 980
    Uses: Seed hairs are used as substitute for kapok. Leaves are anthelmintic. Some plants are live stock poison.

17) Citrullus colocynthis (L.) Schrad.
    Vernacular name: Indrayan
    Locality: Kapsi, Rothe, 875.
    Uses: Fruits are purgative. Seeds along with Coconut Oil used in blackening of hairs.

Pantropical

18) Dioscorea oppositifolia L.
    Vernacular name: Akashwel
    Locality: Kasmar, Rothe, 1287
    Uses: Tubers are boiled in water with salt and their skin is removed and they are eaten.

19) Euphorbia geniculata Orteg
    Vernacular name: Dudhi
    Locality: Kinhiraja, Rothe 549.
    Uses: Leaf juice and seed used as strong purgative. Juice is also used for remedy of ringworms and other skin diseases. It is an antidote for snake bite.

20) Ricinus communis L.
    Vernacular name: Erandi
    Locality: Medshi, Rothe, 764
    Uses: Seed oil for joint pains. Young twigs in vagina caused abortion. Leaves applied externally after heating to remove muscular pain.

21) Rhynchosia minima (L.) DC
    Vernacular name: Ran tur
    Locality: Kapsi, Rothe, 11.
    Uses: Plant is useful as fodder. Leaves are reported to be abortifacient, pods eaten by villagers.

22) Sesbania sesban (L.) Merr
    Vernacular name: Shevari.
    Locality: PDKV, Rothe, 10.
    Uses: as a wind break for betel vines & grape vines. As a green manure crop, leaves and young branches are fed to live stock. Bark yield a fibre which is used for ropes. A poultice of leaves is said to promote suppuration of boils & absorption of rheumatic swelling.

23) Zornia diphylla (L.) Pers
    Vernacular name: Govind
    Locality: Narnala, Rothe, sn
    Uses: Used as fodder for cattle. Root induces sleep in children.

DISCUSSION

Naturalists and conservationists know that the biodiversity in any area comprises native or indigenous species and also exotics species. Among indigenous species some occurs only in restricted areas like within a state or country and some also occurs outside that area called as endemic. In true sense traditional knowledge relates primarily to indigenous species. Knowledge about exotics is a later creation or addition to traditional knowledge. Researches now try to determine what components of traditional knowledge related to indigenous species and what percentage of exotics. Discovering uses of exotic species by native people can indicate paucity or depletion of indigenous species, for the particular or better properties in the exotics. The following is a list of about 30 exotics plants, which are useful in medicine.

REFERENCES

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