

ETHNO-MEDICINAL PLANTS USED FOR CURING SKIN DISEASES BY TRIBAL OF BETUL DISTRICT, MADHYA PRADESH

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Abstract

The present investigation was carried out in Betul District, Madhya Pradesh a region dominated by the Korku and Gond tribes. A large number of traditional herbal healers exist belonging to the tribal community and are utilizing local plants in Skin disorders. The study thus underlines the potentials of the ethno-botanical research and the need for the documentation of traditional ecological knowledge pertaining to the medicinal plant utilization for the greater benefit of mankind in different regions.

Key words: Ethno-botanical studies, Gond tribe, Korku tribe, Skin disease.

INTRODUCTION

About 64% of the total global population still remains dependent on traditional medicine for their healthcare system, whereas about 85% of the rural population of India depends on wild varieties of plants for the treatment of various diseases they suffer from (Fransworth 1994 and Jain SK 1994). The indigenous tribal communities possess a broad knowledge base of the interaction within the ecosystems around them and develop the resource base system, tested over the generations. They extensively utilize the plants for meeting their various requirements including healthcare management and treatment of various diseases and ailments. Madhya Pradesh, the home of many tribals harbours a large number of indigenous plant species. Nearly one fourth of the total population of the state is tribals. However, a number of these tribals are giving up old customs, beliefs, traditional medicine, food habits, rituals and folklores as consequences of modern development. However, the traditional healers of Betul district of Madhya Pradesh are having good knowledge of the medicinal values of plants those growing within the forests, and utilise many medicinal plants for the management of various diseases. Betul district located in the southern part of Madhya Pradesh is surrounded in the North by Hoshangabad district, in the South by Amaravati district, in the East by Chhindwara district and in the West by part of Hoshangabad, East Nimar and Amaravati districts. It lies between 21°22'-22°24' N longitude and 77°04'-78°33' E latitude. The area occupies 10,043 sq km. The area is very rich in medicinal plants owing to the occurrence of different forest types viz. Southern tropical moist deciduous teak forests, southern tropical dry deciduous forests, dry teak forests, *Boswellia* forests, bamboo forests and tropical thorn forests (Kumar A & Khanna KK 1998). The main tribal communities of Betul are *Korku*, *Gond*, *Gaiki* and *Bhaira* which comprise of nearly 37% of total population of the district (Samvastar, S 1996). Though some studies on ethnomedicinal uses have been reported from Betul district but there are many uses which are hitherto unreported (Jain SK 1965, 1963, 1991, Jadhav D 2006, Kumar A & Khanna KK 2000, Jain SP, Singh J 2003, Jain A.K 1992, Nagendra Mishra, Anil Prakas 2012, SP. Jain, SC. Singh, S. Srivastava, J. Singh and NP Mishra 2010). Such new uses have been reported in the communication based on field studies carried out so far in different tribal pockets of Betul district of Madhya Pradesh.

METHODOLOGY

A survey was carried out during 2008 to 2010 to collect information on the medicinal uses of plants specific for skin disorders found in the Korku and Gond inhabited villages of Budani, Bhainsdehi, Amala, Ghodadongari (Kanavadi), Kewalajhir, Khamala, Masod, Patha, Rampur Mal, Shirdi, Sawalmerha, Sonaghat, Nanda, etc. The above villages lie at (21°74'N latitude and 78° 23'E longitudes) and belong to the Betul plateau of Satpura, Central India. The details about plant parts

used, mode of administration and local or tribal names, etc. were specially recorded during the survey. The ethno-medicinally important plant specimens were identified with the help of regional flora and deposited in the herbarium of the Barktullah University Bhopal (Mudgal V, Khanna KK & Hajra PK 1997)

Sr. No.	Botanical Name	Family	Local Name	Uses
1.	<i>Azadiracta indica</i> A.Juss	Meliaceae	Neem	Crushed leaves are used to cure many skin diseases, very frequently used by people
2.	<i>Hemidesmus indicus</i> Roem & Shultes	Asclepiadaceae	Antmul	Decoction of roots is used thrice a day for a month to cure many skin diseases
3.	<i>Woodfordia fruticosa</i> Linn.	Lythraceae	Dhawai	Paste of fresh leaves is used to cure many skins diseases.
4.	<i>Allium sativum</i> L.	Liliaceae	Lahsoon	Extracted juice from the bulb is applied twice daily to athletes.
5.	<i>Abrus precatorius</i> L.	Fabaceae	Ghumchi	Seed paste is used externally in skin diseases
6.	<i>Amaranthus spinosus</i> L	Amaranthaceae	Cholai	The paste of the leaf juice with a pinch of turmeric powder is applied on the face twice daily for curing pimples.
7.	<i>Acacia catechu</i> (L. F.) Wild	Mimosaceae	Khadir	Bark Paste is applied in skin diseases
8.	<i>Annona squamosa</i> L	Annonaceae	Sitaphal	The fruit and leaf juice heated over boiling water with honey is rubbed on burn area and wrinkle.
9.	<i>Arachis hypogeal</i> L	Fabaceae	Moong phali	Mashed peanut with butter and honey is used as remedy of dry skin.
10.	<i>Argimon maxicana</i> Linn	Papavaraceae	Satyanashi	Latex is applied on skin against ringworm
11.	<i>Aristolochia indica</i> L	Aristolochiaceae	Ishwarmul	A Paste of leafs with coconut oil applied on skin infected area
12.	<i>Azadirachta indica</i> Juss.,	Amaranthaceae	Neem	The mixture of leafs, barks and coconut oil applied for all skin disease
13.	<i>Brassica rapa</i> L	Brassicaceae	Sarso	Decoction of the leaves is used to treat an open wound on skin.
14.	<i>Calotropis procera</i> Br	Asclepiadaceae	Madar	Latex direct applied on infected skin areas.
15.	<i>Careya arborea</i> Roxb	Barringtoniaceae	Kumbhi	A Paste of bark with coconut oil area applied on infected areas of skin.
16.	<i>Carica papaya</i> L	Caricaceae	Papita	The latex is applied to treat ringworm and intcheing
17.	<i>Cassine glauca</i> Rottb	Celastraceae	Ktze	The Paste of whole plant parts are applied on skin against wounds and cuts.
18.	<i>Citrus reticulate</i> Blanco	Rutaceae	Neebu	The fruit juice mixed with olive oil is used to manage rough skin.
19.	<i>Clerodendrum viscosum</i> Vents	Verbinaceae	Pumiaya	The Paste of leaf is applied against all type skin diseases
20.	<i>Cucumis sativus</i> L	Cucurbitaceae	Khira	Cucumber fruits with evaporated milk mixed with few drops of lime are used as a cleaning lotion.
21.	<i>Cassia tora</i> L.	Fabaceae	Pumar	Plant paste is applied all type of skin

				diseases
22.	<i>Curcuma angustifolia</i> L	Zingiberaceae	Haladi	The Paste of the rhizome with a 50% of Neem leafs powder is applied on the skin against eczema and psoriasis.
23.	<i>Daucus carota</i> L	Apiaceae	Gajar	A Paste of root with honey is applied on skin against face pimple.
24.	<i>Leea alata</i> Edgew.	Leeaceae	Dokarbel	The tuber Paste mixed with Neem bark and coconut oil applied on all skin infection
25.	<i>Lycopersicon esculentum</i> L	Solanaceae	Tamatar	The juice of the fruit with milk is used to treat sun burn.
26.	<i>Mangifera indica</i> L	Anacardiaceae	Aam	Boiled unripe fruit mashed with butter is used to treat skin rashes.
27.	<i>Mentha piperita</i> L	Labiataea	Pudhina	The leaves juice is topically applied twice daily to treat of pimples
28.	<i>Momordica charantia</i> L	Cucurbitaceae	Karela	The mashed fruit with few drops of vegetable oil is topically applied to treat dry skin
29.	<i>Oroxylum indicum</i> L	Bignoniaceae	Sheonak	Root and bark Paste used for Burning maturation.
30.	<i>Plumbago zeylanica</i> L	Plumbaginaceae	Chitrak	A Paste of leafs with Neem bark and coconut oil applied on skin infected area
31.	<i>Soyamida ferbrifuga</i> Roxb	Meliaceae	Rohini	The paste of bark is used for skin against wound
32.	<i>Spheranthus indicus</i> L	Asteraceae	Gorakhmundi	Dry powder of whole plant mixed with cow milk applied on wound on skin.
33.	<i>Terminalia cattapa</i> L	Combrataceae	Badam	The powder of the leaves and bark crushed with milk can be applied twice daily for itching and rashes
34.	<i>Ventilago denticulate</i> Roxb	Rhamnaceae	Kevti	The Paste of leaf is used in all type skin disease
35.	<i>Zea mays</i> L	Poaceae	Makka	The Paste of grains extracted starch diluted with is treating diaper rash.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION:

In the present investigation total 35 plant species belonging to 29 families are used as herbal medicine for the treatment of different type of skin disorders. Fabaceae with 3 species was the dominating family followed by Meliaceae (2 Species), Asclpidiaceae (2 Species), Amaranthaceae (2 Species) and Cucurbitaceae (2 Species), rest of families has single species. The latex of *Argimon maxicana* have used against for ringworm at skin. The plant parts of *Azadirachta indica* is generally used in all type of skin diseases. Bressica rapa is used in wound healing.

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