



Traditional Wisdom of Rural Women's about Flora Kingdom and their Use in Various Diseases

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ABSTRACT

A medical plant is the plant whose are more organs contain substance that can be used for therapeutic purpose or which are precursors for chemo pharmaceutical semi synthesis. This study was conducted in Amaniganj block of Faizabad district. A sample size of 115 rural women (wife of household head) was selected from the list of families. The knowledge about medicinal herbs, shrub & plant against the various disease were as aonla, neem, sahan, papaya, babool, peepal, mango, amrud (each 100%) behaya and gudhal (95%), kaner (80%), khajur (75%).

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INTRODUCTION

The history of herbal drug plants in India is very old since ancient time mentioned in 'Rig Veda' around 4000-1600 B.C. in the 'Atharva veda' and 'upavedas', the properties of drugs in described in details (August,1996). Many people have defined medicinal plants in many ways. The agricultural and Natural resources Development defined it is: "Plants that are recognized by people to have reliable and effective medicinal values are commonly used in treating and preventing specific ailments and diseases and play an essential role in health

care" (Singh *et al.*,2005 and Vasdeva, 2000). The number of medicinal plants in India, both indigenous and introduced has been estimated to be 3000 to 3500 species of higher plants (Singh *et al.*,2010). The number of plants listed in *Ayurvedic material nighantu* in 560 (Debnath, 2004). Two thousand five hundred plants have been reported to be used in etho-medicine (Gupta *et al.*, 2007). The household health tradition comprises home remedies, health related customs, seasonal regime, rituals, ceremonies, food and regomen. It not only utilizes the species and condiments from the kitchen, but also

Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to wisdom (knowledge) of rural women about flora kingdom

N=115

Name of flora Kingdom	Unknown (%)	Known (%)			Use in various disease
		Listened	Read	Seen	
Aonla	-	-	-	100.00	Hair wash and Gastric
Arjun	35.00	-	15.00	50.00	Anti-dysenteric
Bael	-	-	2.00	98.00	Constipation diarrhea
Jamun	-	-	8.00	92.00	Gastric and Diabetese
Neem	-	-	-	100.00	Skin disease, Bone hilling, Scabies, tooth brush
Mithi neem	40.00	-	-	60.00	Only eating purpose
Shahjan	-	-	-	100.00	Only eating purpose
Papaya	-	-	-	100.00	Constipation
Gudhal	-	-	5.00	95.00	Dysenteric
Amrud	-	-	-	100.00	Only eating purpose
Babool	-	-	-	100.00	Tooth bursh
Peepal	-	-	-	100.00	Injury
Mango	-	-	-	100.00	Only eating purpose
Khajur	25.00	-	-	75.00	Only eating purpose
Guggul	90.00	-	-	10.00	Nil
Kanner	-	15.00	5.00	80.00	Scabies and Itching

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a wide range of plants and its product available in locality. Medicinal plants are used at the household level by women to improve the health of the family members. At the village level by medicine men or tribals by the practitioners of classical traditional system of medicine such as Ayurveda, Chinese medicine or the Japanese Kampo System.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present study was conducted in Amanganj of Faizabad district. A sample size of 115 rural women (wife of household head) was selected from the list of families through proportionate random sampling technique keeping in view the caste system. The other she had collected the data from the respondents with the help of interview schedule (Suman, 2014). Data were analyzed according to the procedure described by Bharati *et al.* 2014.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The data pertaining to wisdom (knowledge) of rural women about flora kingdom had been mentioned. The data shows

that the cent-percent respondents were found who had seen the medicinal plants. The other medicinal plants were also found seen by most of the respondents excluding Arjun, Khajur and Guggul (Table 1). As, for as, the information collected about knowledge of usage of these plants in various diseases was concern, the maximum respondent were found known about usages in various diseases except Guggul.

Medicinal herbs

As for as, the traditional wisdom (knowledge) about medicinal herbs was concerned more than 50 per cent of the respondents were found having traditional wisdom about all the herbs listed in the Table 2 except few like. Ashwagandha (48%), Giloy (35%), Punarnava (45%), Shankpushpi (6%) and Safed Musli (2%). In regards to usages of these medicinal herbs in various diseases, it was found that most of the respondents reported that they are known about use of these herbs in various diseases except Ashwagandha, Giloy, Sankhpushpi, Safed Musli and Jatamansi.

Table 2: Medicinal herbs use in various disease

N=115

Name of flora kingdom	Unknown (%)	Known (%)			Use in various disease
		Listed	Read	Seen	
Tulsi	-	-	-	100.00	Cough and Cold
Ginger	-	-	-	100.00	Cough and Cold
Haldi	-	-	-	100.00	Wound hilling and Skin care
Ghrit kumara	40.00	5.00	-	55.00	Cough, Skin care and Headache
Akarkara	40.00	-	-	60.00	Cough and Skin disease
Ashwagandha	52.00	-	-	48.00	Nil
Giloaya	65.00	-	-	35.00	Nil
Patharchura	10.00	5.00	-	85.00	Stomach disease
Punernava	55.00	-	-	45.00	Jaundice
Sankhpusphi	94.00	-	-	6.00	Nil
Lat-zeera	2.00	-	-	98.00	Pieria and Tooth brush
Safed musali	98.00	-	-	2.00	Nil
Pudina	-	-	-	100.00	Stomach pain and Eating
Mulathi	40.00	-	-	60.00	Cough and Constipation
Kewach	15.00	-	-	85.00	Nil
Jatamansi	100.00	-	-	-	Nil
Bathua	-	-	-	100.00	Only eating purpose

Medicinal shrubs

As for at, the traditional wisdom (knowledge) about medicinal shrubs was concerned more than 50 per cent of the respondents were found having traditional wisdom about all shrubs in listed in the Table 3 excepted few like, lemon grass (10%), Rajnigandha (20%) and Punarnava (28%). In regards to usages of these medicinal shrubs in various diseases it was found that most of the respondents reported that they were known about usage of these shrubs in various diseases except Jasmin, Lemon, Grass, Rajnigandha,

Khush, Makoi, Dhatura, Sadabahr and Punarnava, respectively.

Envisages the rank orders of suggestive measures to overcome the constraints in maintaining and using of the traditional wisdom about flora kingdom for medicinal purpose viz. promotion of use of medicinal values of plants ranked-I followed by traditional knowledge must be passed on generation to generation ranked-II and 'creation of interest for flora kingdom' ranks-III, so on as for each suggestions indicate the degree of importance (Table 4).

Table 3: Medicinal herbs used in treatment of various disease

N=115

Name of flora kingdom	Unknown (%)	Known (%)			Use in various disease
		Listened	Read	Seen	
Rose	-	-	-	100.00	Injury
Jasmine	20.00	-	-	80.00	Nil
Lemongrass	90.00	-	-	10.00	Nil
Marigold	-	-	-	100.00	Wond healing and Scabies
Mentha	-	-	-	100.00	Pain balm
Rajnigandha	80.00	-	-	20.00	Nil
Khus	100.00	-	-	-	Nil
Arandi	10.00	-	-	90.00	Swelling
Makoi	12.00	-	-	88.00	Nil
Dhatura	-	-	-	100.00	Nil
Sadabahar	20.00	-	-	80.00	Nil
Behaya	-	-	-	100.00	Swelling
Sanai	25.00	-	-	75.00	Eating purpose
Punernava	22.00	-	-	28.00	Nil
Satawari	10.00	-	-	90.00	For pregnant women
Dudhi	-	-	-	100.00	Loosmotion
Oak	100.00	-	-	-	Nil

Table 4: Suggestion regarding maintaining and usage of the traditional wisdom of flora kingdom

Suggestions	%	Rank Order
Promotion of use of medicinal value of plants	80.00	I
Traditional knowledge must be pest on generation to generation	79.00	II
Creation of interest for flora kingdom	69.00	III
Dissemination of knowledge of medicinal views of flora kingdom through electronic media like, T.V. and radio	68.00	IV
People must be oriented towards use of medicinal values of flora kingdom	66.70	V
Deforestation must be stopped	65.00	VI
Creation must be given to women to explore their wisdom about flora kingdom	64.70	VII

CONCLUSION

The result show the respondent aware with the medicinal plants against the various diseases were as aonle, neem, shahjan, papaya, babool, khajur. The respondents said that the

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young generation do not believe on traditional medicine. Hence, this class of women should encourage in respect of medicinal ways through training programmes.

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