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**Full Length Research Paper****Medicinal Plants Used By the Tribals of Nutangram Village District- Bankura, West Bengal****Harasourav Mallick\* and S. K. Mallick**

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***\*Corresponding Author: Harasourav Mallick*****ABSTRACT**

A survey of medicinal plants was carried out in the Nutangram village of Bankura district along with their use by the residing tribal peoples for the treatment of various ailments in their daily life as well as for some serious diseases. Altogether 35 medicinal plants belong into 24 families have been collected from here in different seasons from October 2010 to April 2011. Their scientific name, local name, family, parts used and therapeutic uses are given. Due to indiscriminate exploitation they require conservation and cultivation. The tribal of the village mostly dependent on the herbal treatment for their primary health care which is attributed partly to their socio-economic and cultural status.

***Key words:*** Medicinal plants, Bankura, tribal people, treatment, conservation**INTRODUCTION**

World is endowed with a rich source of medicinal plants. The variety of number of plants having various therapeutic properties is quite astonishing. The use of various parts of certain widely grown plants to cure specific diseases has also been in vogue in our indigenous system of medicine from ancient time [Das, Dutta and Sharma, 2009]. In India medicinal plants have made a good contribution to the development of ancient Indian "Materia Medica". From Vedic ages, the indigenous system of medicine has been an integral part of Indian culture and tradition.

However, our knowledge of traditional health care system is not being inherited properly as a secret rite of the ancient societies [Srivastava et al, 1987, Bennet, 1983]. But now a days this knowledge is gradually disappearing in their younger generations due to various developmental and cultural activities by the state Govt. and NGOs, which are on way to changing the private and cultural life of the tribals [Binu, 2009]. Thus, the elders are more informative on this subject. There are many interesting and sometime astonishing themes to learn while asking them regarding the uses of medicinal plants in their daily life [Krishnal, 1996]. On this background, the objective of thin paper is to document their variable information about the plants.

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

Survey work was carried out in different areas of the village. The ethno botanical data presented here is the outcome of a series of intensive field studies conducted over a period of 7 months [October 2010 to April 2011] with a duration of 13-15 days. Information on ethno medicinal uses of different plants were collected through interviews with the local medicine man i.e. ojha, vaidya, kabiraj and several households for recording the data especially local name, parts used, preparation, dosage of medicine etc., the correct botanical name with its family, local name, their medicina properties, method of application, dosage are enlisted in the paper, and the plants specimen were collected at that time for the preparation of their herbarium that will be deposited in the herbarium of Botany Department, Burdwan University, Burdwan.

**RESULTS**

S. NO	SPECIES	LOCAL NAME	FAMILY	PARTS USED	USES
1.	<u>Acalypha indica</u> L.	Muktajhuri	Euphorbiaceae	Whole plant	Toothache
2.	<u>Achyranthes aspera</u> L.	Apang	Amaranthaceae	Whole plant	Piles, Bladder stone
3.	<u>Adhatoda vasica</u> L.	Basak	Acanthaceae	Leaves, Stem bark	Bronchitis, cough
4.	<u>Alstonia scholaris</u> L.	Chatim	Apocynaceae	Mainly bark	Dysentery
5.	<u>Amaranthus spinosus</u> L.	Kanta notey	Amaranthaceae	Roots	Blood dysentery
6.	<u>Amaranthus viridis</u> L.	Notey	Amaranthaceae	Roots, Leaves	Dyspepsia
7.	<u>Andrographis paniculata</u> L.	Kalmegh	Acanthaceae	Leaves, stem	Liver problem, constipation
8.	<u>Boerhaavia diffusa</u> L.	Punarnava	Nyctaginaceae	Whole plant	Jaundice
9.	<u>Bryophyllum calycinum</u> Salisb.	Pathar kuchi	Crassulaceae	Leaves	Diarrhoea
10.	<u>Calotropis procera</u> L.	Acanda	Asclepiadaceae	Roots and leaves	Asthma, dyspepsia
11.	<u>Catharanthus roseus</u> L.	Nayantara	Apocynaceae	Roots and Leaves	Hypertension
12.	<u>Clerodendrum viscosum</u> L.	Ghentu	Verbenaceae	Leaves	Skin disease
13.	<u>Clitoria ternatea</u> L.	Aparajita	Fabaceae	Roots, seeds	Bronchitis, asthma
14.	<u>Cynodon dactylon</u> L.	Durba	Poaceae	Leaves	Bleeding, kidney stone
15.	<u>Dalbergia sisso</u> L.	Sissoo	Fabaceae	Roots, leaves, bark	Diarrhoea, dysentery
16.	<u>Desmodium gangeticum</u> L.	Salapan	Fabaceae	Roots	Bronchitis, cough
17.	<u>Euphordia hirta</u> L.	Gurri mokka	Euphorbiaceae	Aerial parts	Bronchitis, cough
18.	<u>Ficus bengalensis</u> L.	Bot	Moraceae	Aerial roots, leaves, latex, fruits	Bleeding
19.	<u>Ficus religiosa</u> L.	Aswattha	Moraceae	Aerial roots, leaves, latex, fruits	Asthma, haemorrhages
20.	<u>Heliotropium indicum</u> L.	Hanti sund	Boraginaceae	Leaves and roots	Fever, insects sting
21.	<u>Hemidesmus indicus</u> L.	Anantamul	Asclepiadaceae	Roots	Asthma, skin disease
22.	<u>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</u> L.	Jaba	Malveceae	Leaves and flowers	Menstrual disorder
23.	<u>Jatropha gossypifolia</u> L.	Varanda	Euphorbiaceae	Leaves	Eczema, carbuncle
24.	<u>Lantana camara</u> L.	Putus	Verbenaceae	Leaves, root	Eczema, dysentery
25.	<u>Leucas cephalotes</u> L.	Gouthi	Lamiaceae	Leaves	Inflammatory, fever
26.	<u>Mangifera indica</u> L.	Aam	Anacardiaceae	Leaves, stem bark	Vomiting, blood dysentery
27.	<u>Marsilea quadrifolia</u> L.	Shusuni	Marsileaceae	Leaves	High blood pressure
28.	<u>Melia azadirachta</u> L.	Neem	Meliaceae	Leaves, root, stem bark,	Skin diseases, dysentery

29.	<u>Moringa concanensis</u> L.	Sojne	Moringaceae	flower Leaves, fruit, seeds, bark	High blood pressure, rheumatism
30.	<u>Nyctanthes arbor-tristis</u> L.	Shiuli	Oleaceae	Leaves	Malaria, gout
31.	<u>Ocimum sanctum</u> L.	Tulsi	Lamiaceae	Whole plant	Cough
32.	<u>Oxalis corniculata</u> L.	Aamrul	Oxalidaceae	Mainly leaves	Cough, diarrhoea
33.	<u>Piper betle</u> L.	Paan	Piperaceae	Leaves and roots	Rheumatism
34.	<u>Psidium guajava</u> L.	Peyara	Myrtaceae	Leaves, fruit, roots	Diarrhoea, dysentery
35.	<u>Tagetes patula</u> L.	Ganda	Asteraceae	Leaves, flowers	Antiseptic, blood dysentery

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