

Plants used in agriculture implements and house hold instruments by the tribals of R.D.F. Poshina forest range of Sabarkantha district, North Gujarat, India

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SUMMARY

Agriculture implements and house hold instruments are used by the tribals in R.D.F. Poshina forest range of Sabarkantha district, north Gujarat, India. About 14 plant species belonging to 12 families were observed during the research work. The adivasi dwelling in the forest have good knowledge of different plants. Certain plants like Umph (*Miliusa tomentosa* (Roxb.)), Shan-Jute (*Corchorus capsularis* (L.)), Bordi (*Zizyphus nummularia* (Burm.f.) W. and A.), Limdo (*Azadirachta indica* (A.Juss.)), Sandesro (*Delonix elata*), Baval (*Acacia nilotica* (L.) Del.), Dhao (*Anogeissus pendula* (Edgew.)), Runchalo Dudhalo (*Wrightia tinctoria* (R.Br.)), Sag (*Tectona grandis* (L.f.)), Charal (*Holoptelea integrifolia* (Roxb.) Planch.), Khajuri (*Phoenix sylvestris* (L.)), Vans (*Bambusa bambos* (L.) Voss.), Vans (*Dendrocalamus strictus* (Nees.)), Ghaun/Wheat (*Triticum sativum* (Lam.)) etc. were observed as a commonly useful plants in the R.D.F. Poshina Forest during the year 2010-2011.

Key Words : Agriculture implements, House hold instruments, Tribals, Sabarkantha district, R.D.F. Poshina forest range

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As ethnobotanical studies have emphasized the use of plants by hunter gathered and agricultural societies, it is often assumed that it is restricted to those societies only. Ethnobotany encompasses many field including botany, biochemistry, pharmacognosy, toxicology, medicine, nutrition, agriculture, ecology, evolution, sociology, anthropology, linguistic, history and archeology (Balik *et al.*, 1995; Black and Cutler 2001; Cook, 1995; Cotton, 1996; Gliessman, 1990; Rindos, 1984; Rival, Laura, 1998; Saucer, 1994; Etkin, 1993).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Sabarkantha district having hilly forest area in the range

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of Arvalli hills. Sabarkantha district is the backward district of Gujarat state. The total population according to 2001 census is 1027 million. The rural population is 15,75,918 (86.48%) and tribal population is 18.41 per cent. The rural commonly are Brahmin, Patel, Vania, Rajput and Muslims etc. The adivasi commonly are Bhils, Parmar, Pardhi, Sarar, Dabhi, Angari, Kher, Kapedia, Rohisa, Bangadia, Lakhumada, Chunara, Damors and many more. Their principal means of livelihood is agriculture and live stalk. The main crops raised are maize, wheat, chana, peddy, tuvar, bajra, and rajko.

Poshina range is divided into two ranges, Poshina forest range and R.D.F. Poshina forest ranges. The R.D.F. Poshina forest range is a tribal area located in Khedbrahma taluka of Sabarkantha district of North Gujarat, India. The R.D.F. Poshina forest range belongs to Sabarkantha forest division of Gujarat state. The total area of R.D.F. Poshina forest range is 8156.03 H.A., of which reserve forest under section-20 is 921.43 H.A. and un-classed forest under section-4 is 7234.60 H.A.

Extensive field trips were organized during the year 2010-