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Certain aromatic plants of Sivasagar district and their present status

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ABSTRACT

Sivasagar district of North east India is one of the biologically hot spot areas, which comprised with seven reserve forest and more than 35 grazing land. These forest areas are still less explore systematically. Therefore an attempt has been made to study the aromatic plant species of the area and their systematic census. Aromatic plants are used in various aspects of in our day to day life especially in natural deodorant and ethno medicine. During the study 44 aromatic plants were recorded, out of which 12 referred as endangered, 10 threatened and 12 rare. Deforestation and industrial extension are major threat to the biodiversity of this area. This is the high time to conserve these aromatic medicinal plant species either *in-situ* or neither *ex-situ* condition.

Key words : Aromatic plant, Sivasagar district, Present status

INTRODUCTION

Sivasagar district one of the biologically worm area of upper Assam comprised with three subdivisions *viz.*, Sivasagar, Nazira and Charideo. It lies between 94°8' and 95°4' East longitude and 26°7' and 27°2' North latitude. There are seven reserve forests and more than 25 grazing land in the district. Due to undulating and elevated topography receives the highest rainfall of the area, average rainfall 400 mm and altitude 105 m 130 m above sea level. Ecofriendly adaptation and geographical significance is unique feature of the district. Tea and rice cultivation is primary cultivation of the local inhabitants of the district. Hilly area of the district dominated by tribal people *viz.*, Namtula, Singlo, Abhoypur, Charaiqeo, Naginimora, Slapothar and Sapekhati etc. Number of ethnic people inhabits in these area *viz.* Tai-Ahom, Tai-Khamyang, TaiFake, Tai-Shyam Borahi, Moran, Motok, Sonowal Kachari, Mishing, Naga, Miri, including Ex-Tea garden and Indian Nepalese. These ethnic people of the area use different types of plant species in different aspect of their day-to-day life such as food, fodder, medicine, wild vegetables, fibre and domestic purposes. Aromatic plant diversity are available in this area and the people use in various aspect of their day today life. Ethnic communities have a historical continuity of resource use practices. They have a broad knowledge base of the behavior of complex ecological system in their localities. This knowledge has

accumulated through a long series of observations, transmitted from generation to generation

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The survey was conducted during the period 2005-2006. The information were collected from (112) persons 26 traditional parishioners, 11 village heads 21 women 30 elderly persons in 73 villages including 5 (Khamti and Kanyak) 2 (Monipuri) and 2 (Mising) villages. Most of the interviews (45) were more than 60 years old, belonging to the different families. Moreover, informations were collected through personal interactions, discussions, during the field trip in the different season's *viz.*, winter, spring, summer and autumn with knowledgeable and experience ethno-medicinal practitioners and local healers. The plant species were collected from the forest and rural areas during the field trips with the help of locals peoples to prepare herbarium. The interviews were registered on field note books immediately.

Additional information was collected from published literature (Hooker, 1872-1879; Kanjilal *et al.*, 1934-1940; Gogoi, 1988; Islam, 1984; Borthakur, 2003; Gogoi and Islam, 2006).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Enumeration of plants with scientific name, family in

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