

Study of ethnomedicinal plants used on stomach complaints : diarrhoea and dysentery

A. P. VAIDYA, A. S. KADAM AND B. V. HALLALE

ABSTRACT

Today people are very particular about health hazards caused by the use of allopathic medicines because of its adverse side effects. The use of herbal medicines is becoming popular for treatment and control of several diseases without causing adverse side effects. Now a days stomach complaints may be due to appendicitis, diarrhoea, dysentery, gastroenteritis, indigestion and intestinal worms etc. Many times people could not diagnose the cause of abdominal pains but the use of herbal medicines. The present communication deals with the study of ethnomedicinal plants with special reference to the treatment of diarrhoea and dysentery. Out of the several plants used by the local indigenous people, only thirteen plants have been presently used for treating the diarrhoea and dysentery.

Vaidya, A.P., Kadam, A.S. and Hallale, B.V. (2011). Study of ethnomedicinal plants used on stomach complaints : diarrhoea and dysentery, *Ann. Pharm. & Pharm. Sci.*, 2 (1& 2) : 57 -58.

Key words : Ethnomedicinal plants, Ayurveda, Unani, Diarrhoea, Dysentery

INTRODUCTION

The use of plants for curing various human diseases is the oldest system of human health care. Almost all civilization and culture have employed plants in the treatment of human sickness. Practice of using plants as medicines is a common practice especially among poor indigenous and other marginalized people (Prasad, 2009). A large number of crude drugs are reported in Ayurvedic pharmacopoeia based on plant sources (Anonymous, 1986). Records of early civilization show that a considerable number of drugs used in modern medicines were in use even in ancient times (Chopra *et al.*, 1961). The present investigation has been carried out to explore the medicinal plants of Parbhani district in the treatment of diarrhoea and dysentery, which are major stomach complaints of modern age.

Address for correspondence :

A.S. KADAM, P.G. Department of Botany, D.S.M. College, Jintur, PARBHANI (M.S.) INDIA
E-mail : kadamambadas@rediffmail.com

Authors' affiliations :

A.P. VAIDYA AND B.V. HALLALE, P.G. Department of Botany, D.S.M. College, Jintur, PARBHANI (M.S.) INDIA

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Frequent field trips were carried out in different localities of Jintur forests for the collection of medicinal plants. The plants were identified with the help of related literature of Naik (1988), Chetty (2008), Sawant (2002), Garde (2000). Herbarium sheets were prepared and deposited at the research center, Department of Botany, D.S.M. College, Parbhani. Proper ethnomedicinal information was gathered by conducting interviews with tribal people, Vaidyas, Hakims and experienced rural medicine men practicing in indigenous medicines in the light of medicinal literature (Anonymous, 1986). The information was also gathered by medicinal application of plant parts as herbal medicine (Plant drug) to cure the diarrhoea and dysentery.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Out of the several plants, only thirteen medicinal plants have been reported which are commonly used for the treatment of diarrhoea and dysentery. These plants and their parts used have been presented in Table 1 and 2, in alphabetical order by its botanical name. During the course of ethnomedicinal study, plants in the field of indigenous