



## Traditional use of medicinal plants of Kelwandi area of Ahmednagar district, Maharashtra

R.M. KADAM, SUMIA FATIMA, MUMTAZ BAIG AND A.P. SALVE

### ABSTRACT

Kelwandi is a hilly landscape found in Pathardi taluka of Ahmednagar district (M.S) India. This area is inhabited by Bhill's community which has been constantly relied partly on neighboring wild ethnoflora for certain uses and also for cure of specific ailments. Collected tribal knowledge was documented, stored and spread in nearby areas in order to understand the role and importance of the ethnobotanical knowledge in the life of inhabiting Bhill populace. This research paper focuses on the traditional importance of the ethnobotanical information in routine life of residing bhills populace Kelwandi areas. In all total, 24 plant species belonging to 24 genera, 24 species having 17 families, used by the tribals in the treatment of various human ailments are reported.

**Key words :** Ethnomedicine, Medicinal plants, Traditional knowledge

**How to cite this paper :** Kadam, R.M., Fatima, Sumia, Baig, Mumtaz and Salve, A.P. (2012). Traditional use of medicinal plants of Kelwandi area of Ahmednagar district, Maharashtra, *Ann. Pharm. & Pharm. Sci.*, **3** (1) : 42-44.

**Article chronicle :** Received : 10.11.2011; Revised : 28.02.2012; Accepted : 10.03.2012

In recent years, interest in ethnobotanical explorations has been increased enormously. Ancient ethnobotanical literature on global level suggests that the tribal aboriginal people have been using wild plants from hundreds of years for various purposes viz., food, medicinal, fodder, healthcare needs etc. It has been found that almost all the plants were in use by the traditional healers and ethnic societies of world either as a food or as a plant based drug. Therefore, all these wild plants should be scientifically investigated. From last three to four decades considerable progress has been made in the field of ethnobotany and Ethnomedicine due to recent ethnobotanical explorations.

This field survey was carried out from pre-monsoon of 2006 to post-monsoon of 2007. During field surveys, the people

from bhills community were communicated, motivated. They were informally interviewed for collection of their ethnobotanical knowledge. Local name of each and every plant species has been identified with the help of them.

The collected plant specimens were identified by using standard floras, such as flora of Maharashtra (Singh *et al.*, 2000 and Karthikeyan, 2000), flora of Ahmednagar district (Pradhan and Singh, 1999) and flora of Marathwada (Naik, 1998).

The plant specimens were arranged alphabetically according to their scientific names, synonyms, plant family, local or vernacular names, plant parts used and ethnobotanical uses have been enumerated. Finally the herbarium specimens were deposited in the Herbarium room of Botany Department, P.V.P College Pravaranagar (Loni) Dist Ahmednagar and Botanical Survey of Pune for future reference.

The findings of the present study have been discussed in detail as under:

### Enumeration:

Botanical name: *Achyranthes aspera* Linn.  
Family: Amaranthaceae,  
Local name: Aghada  
Plant part used: Leaf

### MEMBERS OF THE RESEARCH FORUM

#### Address for correspondence :

**R.M. KADAM**, Department of Botany, Mahatma Gandhi Mahavidyala, Ahmedpur, LATUR (M.S.) INDIA  
E-mail : rmk76@rediffmail.com

#### Coopted auhors :

**SUMIA FATIMA AND MUMTAZ BAIG**, Department of Botany, Dr. Rafiq Zakaria College for Women, AURANGABAD (M.S.) INDIA

**A.P. SALVE**, Department of Botany, Shri Dnyaneshwar Mahavidyala, Newasa, AHMEDNAGAR (M.S.) INDIA