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Preliminary Survey of Ethnomedicinal Plants of Dabhadi & Aheralli Region in Zari-Jamni Taluka of Yavatmal District, Maharashtra

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Abstract

Ethnobotany is the study of the use of plants by primitive and aboriginal peoples. The present study was undertaken from July 2022 to December 2022 in which ethnomedicinal information of 26 plants belonging to 21 families collected from 4 informants (Vaidu) of Dabhadi and Aheralli region of Zari-Jamni taluka and their uses for 38 diseases were enlisted. This research is an effort to explore ethnomedicinal plants and also the hidden knowledge about rare ethnomedicinal plants must come out as these plants have the power to cure even non-curable diseases such as Cancer, problems like infertility in women's, heart diseases, diabetic disorders etc.

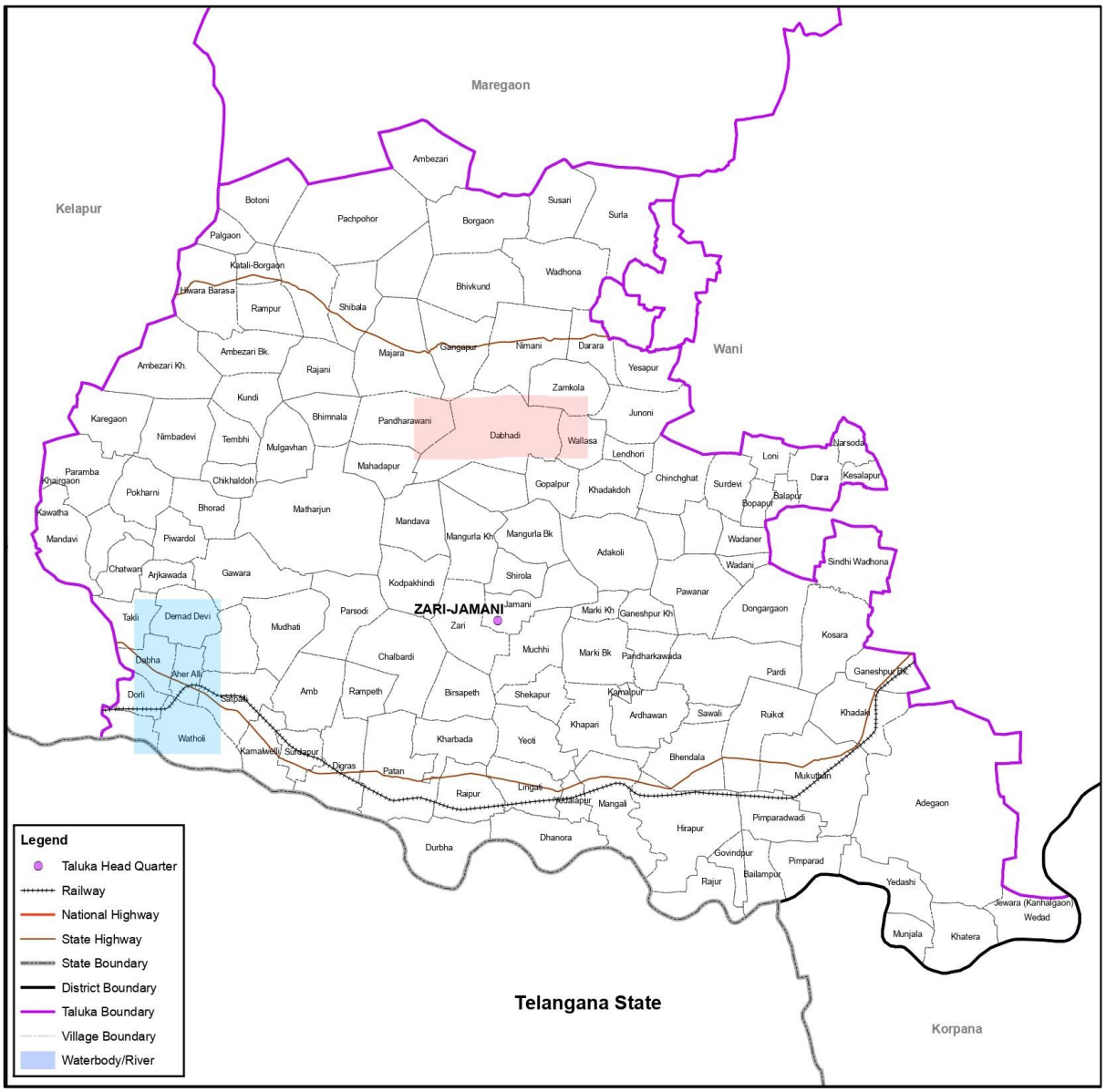
Key words : Ethnobotany, Ethnomedicinal, Zari-Jamni tahsil.

Introduction

Ethnobotany is a branch of science which is defined as the interaction between plants and humans. The relationship between plants and humans is not only for food, clothing and shelter but also includes the traditional uses of plants for medicines and health treatment. The term ethnobotany was used for first time by an American botanist John. W. Harsh, but the indigenous knowledge of plants is as old as human communities. the ethnomedicine is the single, easily reached and affordable therapy available, having no side-effects, hence, ethnomedicines have increasing demand in both developed and developing countries.

The current study aimed to report the indigenous medicinal knowledge of plants and herbal remedies used as medicines in Dabhadi and Aheralli region of Zari-Jamni taluka of Yavatmal District, Maharashtra. Plant wealth is renewable resource and has substantially contributed to our economic development. It provides goods and services to the people and industry. Plants are interwoven with our culture. The vital role that plants play in the life and economy of all forest dwelling tribes, rural and urban population is well known. Medicinal plants provide health security to millions of rural people all over the world. according to WHO, over 80% of people in developing countries depend on traditional medicines for their primary health needs.

Dabhadi and Aheralli region of Zari Jamni tahsil in Yavatmal district of Maharashtra. Zari is surrounded by **Bela Taluka towards South, Jainad Taluka towards west, Kelapur Taluka towards west and Wani Taluka towards East**. Total area of Zari-Jamni tahsil 751 sq. kms. It has a population of 72155 peoples in which 36606 are males and 35549 are females. There are about 128 villages in Zari-Jamni Taluka.



Review of Literature

Acharya, (1984) in his flora of Wardha district reported 967 plant species, they were represented by 416 genera belonging to 124 families and various plants were used by local people for alleviating pain and cure diseases around 200 plants were of medicinal importance. Bahekar, *et al*., (2012) enlisted a review on medicinal plants used in scorpion bite treatment from Wardha district. Shende, *et al*., (2012) enlisted 108 plant species belonging to 49 families used in Medicines and have been recorded from 71 Villages of Hinganghat tehsil of Wardha District. Shende, *et al*., (2014) reported 71 plant species belonging to 38 families used by the villagers of Samudrapur tehsil of Wardha District. Mhaiskar, *et al*., (2014) enlisted 20 plant species documented and used as vegetables from Hinganghat tehsil of Wardha district M. S.

Cherian, K.J. and Ramteke D.D. (2010) in their "Ethnomedicinal ferns species used by tribals of Gondia district, Vidarbha region of Maharashtra" conclude about the study which enumerates the Pteridophytes widely used by the local people and tribes in the treatment of various diseases in Gondia district of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra State. They grow in terrestrial, epiphytic or lithophytic habitats. The present study deals with the ethnomedicinal uses of available Pteridophytic plants which are prevalent in the study area, along with botanical name, family, habitat, plant part used and mode of uses. The present study focus specifically on the ethnomedicinal importance of 13 species of Pteridophytes, used by Gond, Gowari, Halba, Gawali, Pradhan and other aboriginal tribes occurring in the region. The botanical name, family name,

vernacular name, and their ethno-medicinal uses are provided. A field survey of the study area was carried out to document the medicinal utility of plants occurring in the area by tribe.

Dhore, M., Dabhadkar, D., and Zade, V. (2012) in their "Documentation of Fertility Regulatory Ethnomedicinal Plants used by Tribals of Yavatmal District, Maharashtra, India" mentioned about the Ethnomedicinal uses of plant and their parts, particularly the fertility regulatory plants used by *Gond , Kolam, Andh, Korku* and *banjara* tribes of Yavatmal range forest of Yavatmal district. The Yavatmal forest range was selected for investigation, as tribals of this area are mainly dependent upon the forest flora for their livelihood and use herbal medicines for curing the ailments and diseases.

Kadam, V and Deosthale, S. (2015) in their "Documentation of Traditional Ethnomedicinal Plants Used by Tribals from Painganga Forest Range in Umarkhed Region of Yavatmal District of Maharashtra State" conclude that Painganga forest is a rich store house of medicinal plants. Tribals in Painganga forest have great faith in effectiveness of medicinal plants. The present study was carried out to explore traditional medicinal knowledge of plants of Painganga forest in Yavatmal district. This information were based on exhaustive survey, interviews during the year 2014 -15 in the tribal inhabited area. The present study was carried out to explore traditional medicinal knowledge of plants of Painganga forest in Umarkhed taluka. It was found that 20 different plants belonging to 15 families are used to treat various diseases.

Sachin D. Kuvar and R. D. Shinde (2019) in their "Ethnobotanical studies on Kokni tribe of Maharashtra" mentioned about The Kokni tribe residing in Nasik, Dhule, Thane and Nandurbar district of Maharashtra depends on plant wealth for their livelihood. The ethnobotanical study revealed that plants species belonging to different families were used by the tribal as medicine for curing different ailments. Tribal system of medicine is an age-old system like other traditional systems. It is transmitted through verbal means only. But about the origin of the large number of medicines, practically nothing is known. The remedies resorted to in various diseases are quite startling. The tribal people found efficacy of herbs on their empiric knowledge.

Materials and Methods

Survey of Dabhadi and Aheralli region of Zari-Jamni tahsil of Yavatmal district is to be conducted at regular intervals and information of the plants regarding their medicinal use are to be recorded from 'Vaidus' (medicine-man), however the uses of plants in specific rituals and the customs traditions are to be recorded and images of known plants is to be taken from July 2022 to December 2022.

The questionnaires for ethnobotanical studies is prepared and information will be obtained by interviewing informants. The ethnobotanical surveys will be conducted in different villages of Dabhadi and Aheralli region of Zari-Jamni tahsil of Yavatmal district. During surveys the enquiry is to be done for local names, their part used as medicine. The information is noted, photos were taken and samples were collected for herbarium preparation while conducting the survey with informants.

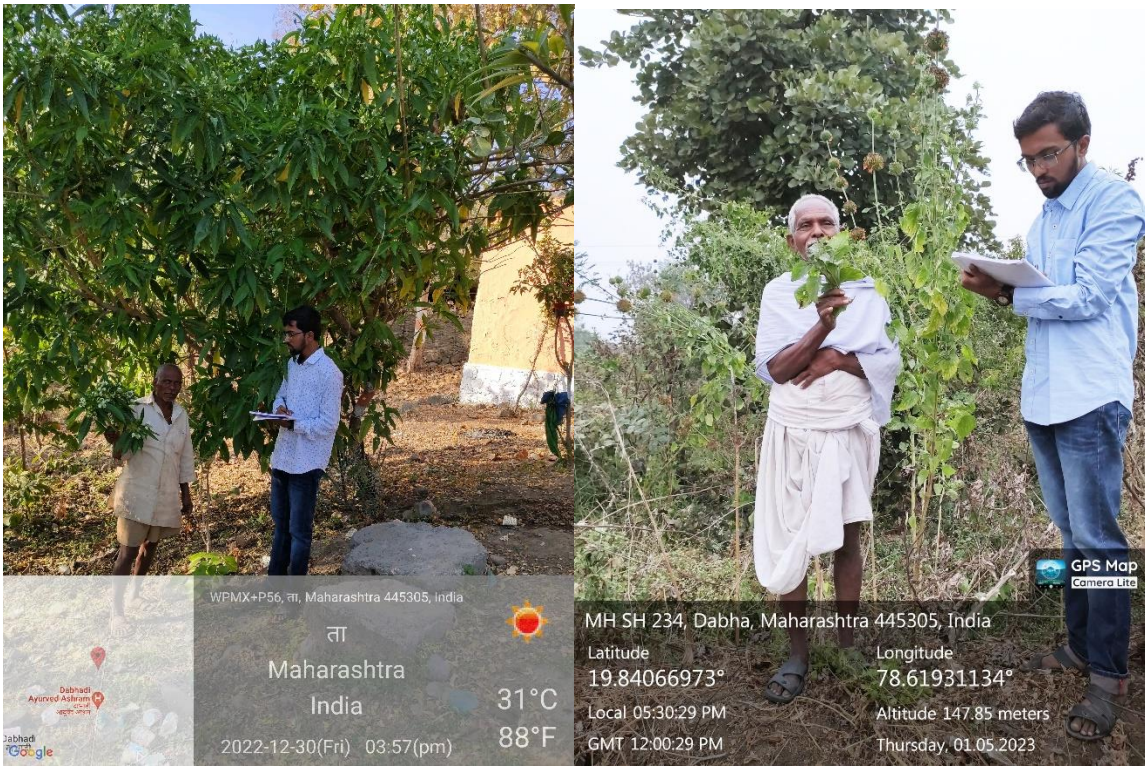
Observation and Result

The detailed information of plants collected from Dabhadi and Aheralli region of Zari-Jamni tahsil of Yavatmal district is given in the table below.

Medicinal Plant Samples Collected as informed by the Informants:-

Sr. No	Scientific Name of the Plant	Local Name of the Plant	Family	Parts Used	Disease cured
1.	*Calotropis gigantea* (L.)	White Rui	Apocynaceae	Flower	Cough
2.	*Ziziphus mauritiana* Lam.	Ber Tree	Rhamnaceae	Bark	Excess bleeding during Menstruation
3.	*Leonotis nepetifolia* (L.)	Zandumahavir	Lamiaceae	Leaves	Arthritis
4.	*Kalanchoe pinnnata* (Lam.) Pers.	Panfuti	Crassulaceae	Leaves	Urine Stone
5.	*Phylanthus emblica* (L.)	Amla	Phylanthaceae	Fruit, Leaves	Toothache
6.	*Mangifera indica* (L.)	Mango	Ancardiaceae	Bark	Excess bleeding during Menstruation, Semen loss syndrome
7.	*Adathoda vasica* (L.)	Adulsa	Acanthaceae	Leaves	Tuberculosis, Cough and weak liver
8.	*Dolichandrone falcata* (Wall.ex DC.)	Medshingi	Bignoniaceae	Leaves, Legumes & Bark of the plant	Piles, Fistula, Cough, Acidity etc.
9.	*Bauhinia racemosa* Lam.	Bidi leaf tree	Fabaceae	Leaves	Bleeding from urine
10.	*Aloe barbadensis* (L.) Burm.f.	Aloe vera	Asphodelaceae (Liliaceae)	Leaf	Skin problems
11.	*Murraya paniculata* (L.) Jacq	Kamuni plant	Rutaceae	Seeds	Jalpandu
12.	*Momordica charantia* (Wild.)	Bitter gourd	Cucurbitaceae	Leaves	Piles
13.	*Ricinus communis* (L.)	Castor plant	Euphorbiaceae	Leaves	Jaundice

14.	*Lawsonia inermis* (L.)	Henna plant	Lythraceae	Leaves	Piles
15.	*Azadirachta indica* A. Juss.	Neem tree	Meliaceae	Leaves, Seeds, Bark, Fruits & Flowers	Fever, Cough, Diabetes, Dental cavities, Acne, Astama, etc.
16.	*Bryonia laciniosa* (L.)	Shivlingi plant	Cucurbitaceae	Fruits	Infertility in womens
17.	*Gloriosa superba* (L.)	Karkari plant	Colchicaceae	Roots	Cancer
18.	*Dioscorea bulbifera* (L.)	Dukkar kand	Dioscoreaceae	Tuber, Leaf, Stem, Rhizome	Ulcer, Sinus and Diabetic disorders
19.	*Terminalia arjuna* (Roxb.) Wight & Arn.	Arjun tree	Combretaceae	Bark	Reduce risk of heart disease
20.	*Mallotus philippensis* (Lam.) Müll.Arg.	Rohini plant	Euphorbeaceae	Leaves, Fruits, Flowers, Seeds	Bronchitis, cancer, diabetes, Malaria
21.	*Abrus precatorius* (L.)	Rosary pea	Fabaceae	Leaves & Seeds	Conjunctivitis
22.	*Ehretia laevis* (Rottler ex G. Don) Roxb.	Khandu chakka	Boraginaceae	Bark	Arthritis, Joint pain
23.	*Vitex negundo* (L.)	Nirgundi plant	Lamiaceae	Leaves	Arthritis, Joint pain
24.	*Butea monosperma* (Lam.)Taub.	Sacred tree (Palas	Fabaceae	Flowers	Urine infection
25.	*Aegle marmelos* (L.) Correa	Bel plant	Rutaceae	Fruits, Root, Leaf & Branch	Diabetes, Constipation, diarrhoea
26.	*Acacia arabica* (L.) Del.ssp. indica (Benth.) Brenan	Babool tree	Fabaceae	Bark, Roots, Gum, Leaves, pods, seeds	Oral problems, Cough, Cold, Sore throat



Ethnomedicinal information was collected from the informants of Aheralli and Dabhadi

Discussion

The study of ethnomedicinal plants in Dabhadi and Aheralli region of Zari-Jamni taluka provides very useful and interesting results. The concept of plant uses differs among different people, ethanobotany has become a more important subject, as it provides traditional uses of the plant. The most interesting fact is that the medicine-man (Vaidu) have immense knowledge about the classification of plants and they can easily distinguish between herbs, shrubs and trees. From the study we got a list of ethnomedicinal plants such as *Adathoda vasica, Dolichandrone falcata, Calotropis gigantea, Ziziphus mauritiana, Leonotis nepetifolia, Kalanchoe pinnnata, Phylanthus emblica, Mangifera indica etc.*

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