

**Research Article****Traditional Knowledge on few Medicinal Plants of Biligirirangana Hill, Karnataka, India****Sushma M, Jayashankar M and Vinu A K***Department of Studies and Research in Microbiology, Jnana Kaveri, Mangalore University, PG Centre Chikka Aluvara, Kodagu, Karnataka India***ARTICLE INFO:****Article history:**

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Abstract

Biligirirangana hills (BR Hills) is located in Yelandur taluk, Chamarajanagar District, Western Ghats towards Tamilnadu. The ethno botanical plant survey was executed for the documentation of therapeutic plants. The tribal people have the inborn knowledge about the medicinal plants and their use. In this present study, we have selected 90 plant species belonging to 48 families out of which 38 plant species are herbs, 16 shrubs, 27 trees and 9 climbers were identified with their appropriate information and reported in this paper with their medicinal uses according to tribal communities to cure different ailments. The most common illness treated by the traditional healers are jaundice, diabetes, asthma, fever, cold, cough, digestive problems, piles, paralysis, skin problems, diarrhoea, haemorrhage, kidney problem, gastrointestinal disorders etc.

Introduction

Traditional medicines are the part of human culture. Plant varieties have been used as traditional medicines since ancient days from our ancestor's. Herbal therapies are deliberated as the oldest form of health care known to mankind on this earth. The information of medicinal plants and their uses have been increasing in different parts of the world. The knowledge of medicinal plants have been accumulated in the course of many centuries based on different medicinal systems such as Ayurveda, Homeopathy, Unani and siddha. India is one of the 17 mega biodiversity country in the world. It has 45,000 plant species, out of which 15,000-20,000 plants have primitive medicinal values[1]. The World Health Organisation has estimated that 80% of the populations of developing countries being unable to afford pharmaceutical drugs rarely on the plant based traditional medicines to sustain their primary health care needs[2]. The traditional knowledge of the indigenous people not only comprises the information about the ecosystem, but also they have vast knowledge about the use of specific plants used as food, medicine, and building materials[3]. In India, it is reported that traditional practitioners use 2,500 plant species and 100 plant species serve as a regular source of medicine[4]. The traditional knowledge and the use of medicinal plants is very common from variety of perspectives, like in the development and shows the relationship between a culture and its environment[5]. Prior to the development of modern medicine,

the traditional systems of medicine that have evolved over the centuries within various communities, are still maintained as a great traditional knowledge base in herbal medicines[6]. Several bioactive compounds have been discovered from plants on the basis of ethno-botanical survey and it is used in the form of drugs. In 2001, researchers identified 122 compounds used in modern medicine which were derived from traditional plant sources 80% of these have a traditional use identical or related to the current use of active elements of the plant. Documenting the indigenous knowledge on traditional medicinal plants and their uses is important for the conservation and their sustainable utilization of biological sources[7].

Madegowda in 2009 reported about the indigenous traditional knowledge and conservation of BR Hills. There are many sacred groves in BR Hills which are commonly protected, and which usually have a significant religious connotation for protecting the community. Medicinal plants have a wide range of bioactive molecules and also have lot of antimicrobial properties such as anti-diabetics, anticancer agents and immune suppressive compounds. Medicinal plants are rich in producing secondary metabolites like Terpenes, Flavonoids, Steroids, Phenolic acids and Tannins. Documenting the traditional knowledge is important for the conservation of medicinal plants as well as their therapeutic uses. Since, it is not explored much, medicinal plants are highly under threat

due to over exploitation. In this point of view, we have made an attempt to collect the information on traditional medicinal plants in BR Hills, Karnataka.

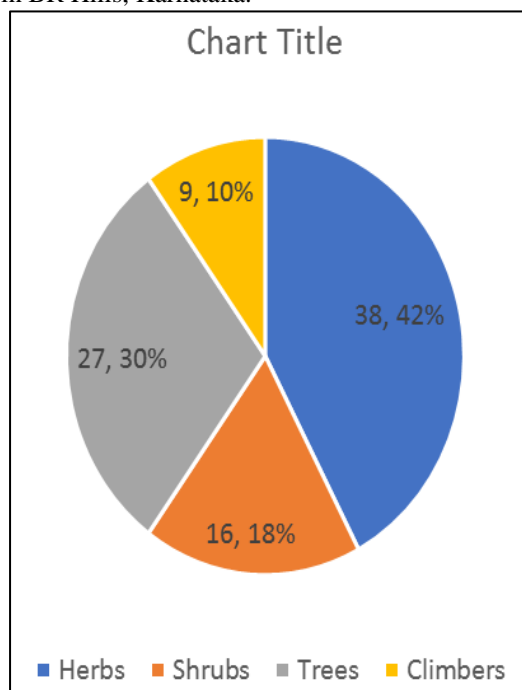
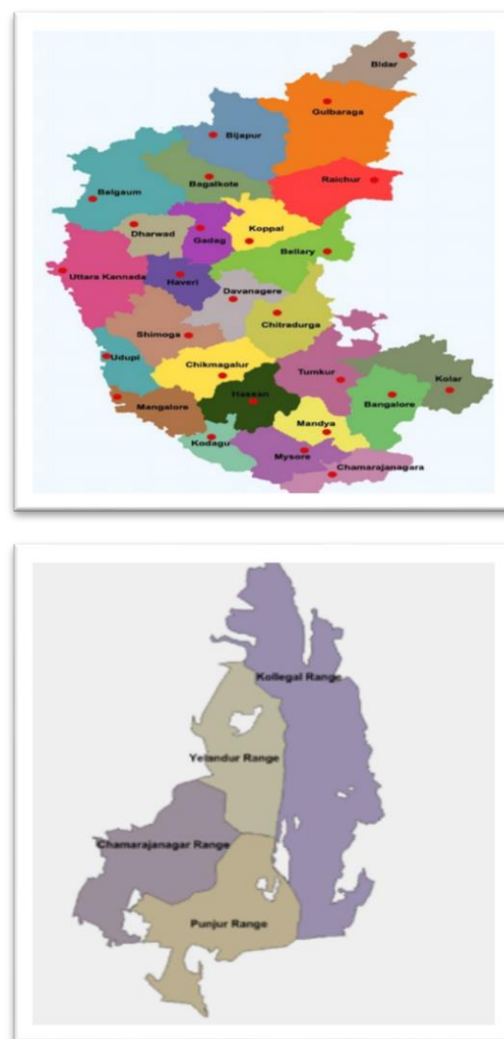


Fig 1: Percentage of selected Medicinal plant species in the study area

Materials and methods

Study Area

The Biligirirangana hills commonly called as BR Hills, is a hill range situated in Eastern part of Western Ghat towards Tamilnadu [7]. It is protected under the Wildlife Protection Act on 1972 and declared as Tiger Reserve in December 2010. This region has been the home for the soliga tribes for hundreds of years. Vivekananda Girijana Kalyana Kendra (VGKK) has been working in BR hills for the past 30 years for the integrated development of Soligas, BR hills lies in the elevation range of 1200mm in Western Ghats of Karnataka. It is located in north latitudinal range 77-77°16'E and between 11°47'-12°09'N. The total land area of the forest is 540 sq.km. The mean temperature of the hill has a huge variation minimum 9°C to 16°C and maximum reaches around 20°C to 38°C. The annual average rainfall recorded at the base is around 600mm in the periphery and 3000mm in the higher elevations(Aravind 2001). The major habitat type of BR Hills are moist and dry deciduous forest. The soliga tribes are commonly known to use more than 300 herbs for the treatment of various traditional ailments and this forest area has almost 800 plant species. "Doddasampige" is one of the several sacred groves of BR Hills of the Soliga people. The tree is on the banks of a river, Bhargavi [8] This topography leads to thick vegetation of BRHills Wildlife Sanctuary (Fig.2).



Range of BRT Wild Life Sanctuary
Fig 2: Figure showing the Range of the study area

Selection of Plant Sample

Medicinal plants were documented from BR Hills. From the survey we have selected 90 different medicinal plant species based on their medicinal values. The information towards the usage of medicinal plants were collected from the local tribal practitioners in their local language. Detailed information relevant to medicinal plants particularly use of medicinal plants to cure various diseases, frequency of visiting to forest area, collection of plant species, method of collection, method of processing, methods of formulation, and extent of cultivation of medicinal plants were collected from the literature review, tribes, local Soligas, Vivekananda Girijana Kalyana Kendra employees, nursery and Forest department employees and also from Grampanchayat members and documented[9]. Standard methods were followed for the collection of plant species, identification and preservation and their uses in curing different ailments.

Result and Discussion

The present study was carried out in BR Hills Western Ghats, Karnataka, from July 2017 to December 2017 about the

traditional knowledge on medicinal plants and their uses. The BR Hills is known for its diverse species of Flora and Fauna. BR Hills forest range has further classified into 5 types viz., dry deciduous, moist deciduous, scrub, evergreen and shola. Tribes use medicinal plants for to cure various fatal diseases such as fever, diabetes, malaria, cholera, dysentery, hepatitis, jaundice, leukemia, herpes, cut, wounds, uterus problem, eye diseases, bronchitis, tuberculosis, asthma, diarrhea, epilepsy etc. The result on the survey of traditional medicinal plants are listed in the below table. A total of 90 selected medicinal plant species belonging to 48 families were identified for the treatment of human ailments in the study area. All these plant species are arranged in alphabetical order. For each plant species, scientific name, family, local name, part used, habitat and medicinal uses are provided. The most dominating families were Fabaceae consists 7 species, Euphorbiaceae consists 6 species, Rutaceae consists 6 species, Lamiaceae consists 5 species, Amaranthaceae consists 4 species, Caesalpinaceae consists 4 species and Solanaceae consists 4

species followed by Moraceae, Asclepiadaceae and Malvaceae consists 3 species each followed by Lecythidaceae, Combretaceae, Liliaceae, Plumbaginaceae, Apiaceae, Menispermaceae, Zingiberaceae and Piperaceae consists 2 species each. Out of which 38 species are herbs, 16 shrubs, 27 trees and 9 climbers. The plants with the highest fidelity level are *Andrographis paniculata* (Burm.f.) Wall, *Bryophyllum pinnatum* (Lam) Oken, *Gymnema sylvestre* R.Br, *Ocimum sanctum* L, *Rauvolfia serpentina* L Benth, *Tinospora cardifolia* (Thunb) and *Tylophora indica* (Burm.f.) Merr. According to the observation made, traditional healers use different part of the plants for the treatment to cure various diseases such as leaves, roots, stem, fruits, latex and twigs and in some cases whole plant can also be used. However, leaves are found most frequently used part. The common diseases treated by the traditional healers were diabetes, jaundice, asthma, fever, cold, cough, digestive problems, piles, paralysis, skin diseases, diarrhoea, haemorrhage, kidney problem, gastrointestinal disorders etc.

Table No.1 Traditional Medicinal Herbs and their uses

Host	Family	Local name	Part used	Medicinal uses
<i>Acalypha indica</i> L	Euphorbiaceae	Kuppi	Leaves	Constipation, scabies, eczema, asthma, urinary problem
<i>Achyranthes aspera</i> L	Amaranthaceae	Uttarani	Whole plant	Asthma, itching, hysteria, skin diseases, ulcer, cancer, stone in bladder
<i>Acorus calamus</i> L	Acoraceae	Baje	Rhizome, root	Gastro intestinal problem, ulcer, inflammation, gastritis, sweating, rheumatoid, arthritis, stroke, obesity, sinus, musculoskeletal disorders
<i>Aerva lanata</i> JUSS	Amaranthaceae	Hittulka	Whole plant	Sexually transmitted diseases
<i>Aloe vera</i> (L) Burm.f	Aloeaceae	Loksara	Leaves, pulp, leaf juice	Protecting the skin, burns, sunburn, acne, abdominal tumors
<i>Alternanthera sessilis</i> (L) R.Br	Amaranthaceae	Honagone	Whole plant	Acne, asthma, bronchitis
<i>Amaranthus dubius</i> Mart	Amaranthaceae	Dantu	Leaves, flower, stem	Haemorrhage, kidney problem, anaemia, constipation
<i>Andrographis paniculata</i> (Burm.f) Wall	Acanthaceae	Nela bevu	Leaves, stem	Malaria, diarrhoea, dysentery, burns, cancer, diabetes, ulcer, leprosy
<i>Asparagus racemosus</i> Willd	Liliaceae	Shatavari	Whole plant	Infertility
<i>Bacopa monnieri</i> (L) Pennell	Plumbaginaceae	Neeru brahmi	Whole plant	Epilepsy, asthma, gastric, ulceration, promote hair growth, itching, dandruff, mental disorders
<i>Boerhavia diffusa</i> L	Nyetaginaceae	Komme	Leaves, roots, seeds	Renal disorders, kidney stones, nephritis, skin diseases, head ache, piles
<i>Bryophyllum pinnatum</i> (Lam.) Oken	Crassulaceae	Gandukalinga	Leaves, rhizome	Cardiac diseases, kidney stones, hypertension
<i>Cassia tora</i> L	Caesalpinaceae	Chagathe gida	Leaves, seeds	Burns, cuts, wounds, skin problem
<i>Chlorophytum laxum</i> R.Br	Liliaceae	Bicheti grass	Leaves, roots	Piles, diarrhoea, dysentery
<i>Centella asiatica</i> (L) Urban	Apiaceae	Ondelaga	Whole plant	Vitamin B, purifies blood, epilepsy, hysteria, agitation, insomnia, urinary tract, infection, asthma
<i>Cissampelos pareira</i> L	Menispermaceae	Kodupalli/ parera beru	Leaves, seed, bark, root	Heart problem, kidney stones, asthma, arthritis, stomach pain
<i>Cleome viscosa</i> L	Cleomaceae	Kadu sasive	Leaves, seeds	Stomach ache, urethral discharges, headache,

				tumors, inflammation, skin diseases, malaria, fever, cough, blistering, rheumatism
<i>Crotalaria juncea</i> L	Fabaceae	Sanna senabu	Leaves, seed	Obesity, blood disorders, skin diseases, gastritis, fever
<i>Curcuma longa</i> L	Zingiberaceae	Arisina	Roots, rhizome	Chronic wounds, skin problem, burns, cuts, arthritis, inflammation, injuries, cholesterol
<i>Curculingo orchoides</i> Gaertn	Hypoxidaceae	Nela tengu	Leaves, roots, rhizome	Piles, fatigue, bronchitis
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i> (L) Pers	Poaceae	Garike	Leaves, rhizome, whole plant	Bleeding, piles, skin diseases, wounds, scabies, ring worm, vomiting diarrhoea, leucoderma, allergy, anaemia
<i>Cynoglossum zeylanicum</i> (Vahl) Thunb	Boraginaceae	Armada soppu	Leaves, roots, flower, seeds	Dysentery, ring worm, rheumatism, swelling, inflammation
<i>Daucus carota</i> L	Apiaceae	Gajjari	Leaves, seeds	Improves digestion, eye sight, blood cholesterol, eczema
<i>Euphorbia antiquorum</i> L	Euphorbiaceae	Mudumula	Leaves, stem	Fistula, skin diseases
<i>Euphorbia Hirta</i> L	Euphorbiaceae	Kempu neneyakki soppu	Leaves, root	Gastro intestinal tract infection, dysentery, bleeding, piles
<i>Phyllanthus amarus</i> schum	Euphorbiaceae	Nela nelli	Leaves, fruits, roots	Eye diseases, jaundice, urinal disorders, diarrhoea, dysentery, stomach pain
<i>Plectranthus amboinicus</i> Spreng	Lamiaceae	Dodda patre	Whole plant	Cold, cough, fever, headache
<i>Plumbago zeylanica</i> L	Plumbaginaceae	Chitramula	Roots	Functioning of liver, digestive system, metabolism of body
<i>Portulaca oleracea</i> L	Portulacaceae	Doddagoni soppu	Leaves, stem, flower	Piles, wound, abdominal disorders, bronchitis, asthma, eye diseases
<i>Ruta chalepensis</i> L	Rutaceae	Naagadali	Leaves, flowers	Hysterical infections, cough
<i>Sida cardifolia</i> L	Malvaceae	Kisangi	Whole plant	Skin diseases, fever, head ache, herpes, wounds, vaginal discharges
<i>Solanum indicum</i> L	Solanaceae	Kirigulla	Root, fruit	Fever, dropsy, skin diseases, piles, eye diseases
<i>Solanum nigrum</i> L	Solanaceae	Ganike	Leaves, roots, berries, stem	Bronchitis, itching, asthma
<i>Solanum xanthocarpum</i> Schard & H. Wendl	Solanaceae	Nela gulla	Whole plant especially fruit	Bronchitis, asthma, chronic gastro intestinal problem, cough
<i>Sauropus androgynus</i> (L) Merr	Phyllanthaceae	Chakramuni	Leaves, stem	Anti-diabetes, cough, anti-inflammatory
<i>Tribulus terrestris</i> L	Zygophyllaceae	Neggilu	Leaves	Musculoskeletal disorders, fever
<i>Uraria picta</i> (Jacq.) DC	Fabaceae	Mur ele honne	Leaves, flowers	Anti-cancer, anti-inflammatory, cardio vascular diseases, bone fracture
<i>Zingiber officinale</i> Roscoe	Zingiberaceae	Shunti	Rhizome, roots	Fever, bronchitis, asthma, cough, digestion problem, diarrhoea, piles, stomach ache, cardiac diseases, anaemia

Table No.2: Traditional Medicinal Shrubs and their use

Host	Family	Local name	Part used	Medicinal uses
<i>Abutilon indicum</i> L. (SW)	Malvaceae	Srimudre	Whole plant	Tuberculosis, ulcer haemorrhage
<i>Calotropis gigantea</i> L	Asclepiadaceae	Ekkada gida	Leaves, roots, latex	Piles, spleen, disorders, antidote for snake poison, cough, skin diseases, diarrhoea, haemorrhage, respiratory problem
<i>Cassia auriculata</i> L	Caesalpinaceae	Avarike	Leaves, flower, root, seed	Diabetes
<i>Cassia occidentalis</i> L	Caesalpinaceae	Dodda	Leaves, root,	Rheumatism, dropsy, fever, venereal diseases

		Chagathe	seed	
<i>Epiphyllum oxypetalum</i> (DC) Haworth	Cactaceae	Brahma kamala	Flower, stem	Tuberculosis, uterine, haemorrhage, cough
<i>Hemidesmus indicus</i> (L) R.Br	Asclepiadaceae	Sogade beru	Root, latex	Musculoskeletal disorders, wound, sinus, urinary diseases, skin diseases, anaemia, jaundice, diabetes
<i>Manihot esculenta</i> Crantz	Euphorbiaceae	Maragenasu	Tubers	Hypertension, head ache
<i>Mentha arvensis</i> L	Lamiaceae	Pudina	Leaves, seeds	Cold, cough, fever, vomiting
<i>Mimosa pudica</i> L	Mimosaceae	Muttidare muni	Whole plant	Wounds, urinary tract infection, piles, sinus
<i>Ocimum tenuiflorum</i> L	Lamiaceae	Krishna tulsi	Leaves	Essential oil, herbal tea, antioxidant, cold, cough
<i>Ocimum sanctum</i> L	Lamiaceae	Sri tulsi	Leaves	Fever, wound, ulcer, epilepsy, digestive problems, skin diseases, cold, cough, antioxidant
<i>Ocimum basilicum</i> L	Lamiaceae	Kamakasturi	Leaves, seeds	Cough, cold, bleeding, piles, constipation
<i>Rauwolfia serpentina</i> L Benth.	Rutaceae	Sarpa ganda	Leaves, fruits	Bite of poisonous snake
<i>Toddalia asiatica</i> (L) Lam	Rutaceae	Kadumenasina gida	Leaves, fruit	Fever, cough, stomach ache, malaria, diarrhoea
<i>Vitex Negundo</i> L	Verbenaceae	Lakki	Whole plant	Anti-cancer, rheumatism
<i>Withania somnifera</i> (L) Dunal	Solanaceae	Ashwaganda	Leaves, roots	Inflammation, bronchitis, asthma, ulcer, hypertension

Table No.3: Traditional Medicinal Trees and their uses

Host	Family	Local name	Part used	Medicinal uses
<i>Acacia catechu</i> WILD	Fabaceae	Kaggali	Leaves, bark, gum	Skin diseases, fever, herpes, musculoskeletal disorders, dental diseases,
<i>Aegle marmelos</i> . L. Corr	Rutaceae	Bael patre/belwa	Leaves, fruit	Gastrointestinal disorders, skin diseases, cardiovascular system, constipation, menstrual irregularities
<i>Alangium salvifolium</i> (L.F) WANG	Alangiaceae	Ankola	Leaves, fruit, root	Urinary tract infections, sinus, wounds
<i>Azadirachta indica</i> A Juss	Meliaceae	Bevu	Leaves, bark	Skin problem, dental treatment
<i>Careya arborea</i> ROXB	Lecythidaceae	Dolli	Leaves	Fever, wound, sinus, cuts
<i>Cassia fistula</i> L	Caesalpinaceae	Kakke	Leaves, bark	Burns, skin problem
<i>Citrus medica</i> L	Rutaceae	Madala	Leaves, fruit, seeds, pulp	Abdominal colic, digestive problem, piles
<i>Couroupita guianensis</i> Aubl	Lecythidaceae	Lingada	Leaves, fruit	Common cold, malaria, stomach pain, tooth pain, hypertension, tumors, inflammation, wound
<i>Elaeocarpus ganitrus</i> Roxb	Elaeocarpaceae	Rudrasksha	Leaves, fruit, bark	Nervous system, high blood pressure, tuberculosis, small pox, chicken pox
<i>Emblica officinalis</i> L	Euphorbiaceae	Bettada nellikai	Leaves, fruit, seeds, roots, bark, flower	Alopecia, hair treatment, digestive system
<i>Ficus racemosa</i> L	Moraceae	Atti	Leaves, fruit, root, bark, latex	Leucorrhoea, anaemia, burns, fatigue, leprosy, urinary discharges
<i>Ficus religiosa</i> L	Moraceae	Arali	Bark	Fever, herpes, wounds, bone fracture, skin problem
<i>Ficus Benghalensis</i> L	Moraceae	Aalada	Bark, aerial root, tender leaf	Fever, fracture, skin diseases, wounds, sinus, diarrhea
<i>Gymnosporia montana</i> (Roth) Benth	Celastraceae	Kankada	Leaves, roots	Dysentery, menorrhoea
<i>Helicteres isora</i> L	Sterculiaceae	Peda muri	Fruits, Bark, roots,	Leucorrhoea, blood disorders, burning

(endangered)			latex	sensation fatigue, urinary discharges, leprosy
<i>Madhuca longifolia</i> J.F.Macbr	Sapotaceae	Hippe	Leaves	Skin diseases, nerve disorders, cough, burning sensation
<i>Magnolia champaka</i> (L) Baill	Magnoliaceae	Sampige	Leaves, flower, stem	Urge to urination, stomach ache, renal disorders, diabetes, wounds, malaria, fever, inflammation
<i>Moringa oleifera</i> Lam	Moringaceae	Nugge	Leaves, fruit, flower, roots	Worms in stomach, iron deficiency, diarrhea
<i>Murraya koenigii</i> L	Rutaceae	Kari bevu	Leaves, bark, root	High growth digestion problem, sickness, nausea
<i>Polyalthia longifolia</i> Sonn	Annonaceae	Ubbina / Kamboda	Leaves, bark	Fever, skin diseases, diabetes, hypertension, intestinal problems
<i>Pongamia pinnata</i> (L). PIERR	Fabaceae	Honge	Leaves, fruit, bark, twigs	Wounds, skin diseases, piles, musculoskeletal disorders
<i>Pterocarpus marsupium</i> ROXB	Fabaceae	Honne	Leaves, twigs, gum, latex	Fever, piles, skin diseases, musculoskeletal disorders, diabetes
<i>Saraca asoca</i> (Roxb) Willd	Fabaceae	Ashoka	Leaves, bark	Cancer, uterus problems
<i>Sesbania grandiflora</i> L	Fabaceae	Agasi	Leaves, bark, flower	Fever, night blindness, rhinitis, running nose, abdominal pain, liver, spleen disorders, diarrhoea, respiratory tract infection, epilepsy, oral infection, throat infection, rheumatism
<i>Syzygium cumini</i> L	Myrtaceae	Jamppu nerale	Fruit	Diabetes
<i>Terminalia arjuna</i> (Roxb) Wight & Arn	Combretaceae	Matti	Bark	Skin diseases, wounds, tumors, orchitis
<i>Terminalia chebula</i> Retz	Combretaceae	Alale kayi	Leaves, seeds	Fever, loss of appetite, cough, asthma, obesity, jaundice, digestion problem

Table No.4 Traditional Medicinal climbers and their uses

Host	Family	Local name	Part used	Medicinal uses
<i>Basella alba</i> L	Basellaceae	Basale soppu	Leaves, stem	Blood cancer, bruises, burns, anticancer, antiviral
<i>Cissus quadrangularis</i> L	Vitaceae	Mangaravalli/ Narale	Leaves, pulp	Bone fracture, joint pain, periodontal diseases, haemorrhage
<i>Clematis gouriana</i> Roxb. ex DC	Ranunculaceae	Thalejadari	Leaves, stem	Fever, puerperal fever, bruises, musculoskeletal disorders
<i>Gymnema sylvestre</i> R.Br	Apocynaceae	Madunasini	Whole plant, especially leaves, seeds, roots	Diabetes, weight loss, stimulating digestive system, diuretic
<i>Piper betle</i> L	Piperaceae	Veeleyadele	Leaves, roots	Calcium deficiency, antiseptic, malaria
<i>Piper nigrum</i> L	Piperaceae	Kari menasu	Fruit	Spices, cold, cough, digestive system, low blood pressure, weight loss, antioxidants, cancer
<i>Rubia cardifolia</i> L	Rubiaceae	Chitravalli	Leaves, stem, roots, fruits	Skin diseases, arthritis, uric acid, diarrhoea, dysentery, chronic fever, renal infection, antiseptic diabetes
<i>Tinospora cardifolia</i> (Thunb)	Menispermaceae	Amruthaballi	Leaves, stem	Diabetes, high cholesterol, allergy, rhinitis, stomach pain, lymphoma, cancer, rheumatoid, arthritis, hepatitis, peptic ulcer, gonorrhea, syphilis
<i>Tylophora Indica</i> (Burm.f) Merr	Asclepiadaceae	Adu muttada balli	Leaves root	Asthma, bronchitis

Tribes were exclusively depend on medicinal plants for their health care practices so that they use these plants against various diseases by tentative trial and error method (Patil

2012). Some of the species of medicinal plants mentioned in this paper were already reported in some earlier works but the purpose and uses were different. *Euphorbia*

Hirta plant species was used to cure septic ulcer in the corne of nails and toes and increasing the mother's breast milk [10] A total of 38 medicinal plant species were already documented with their uses[11]. *Chlorophytum laxum* R.Br plant species was used to cure for piles and astringent but now it is totally vanished due to over exploitation[12] Aerial parts of *Ocimum* species from western Himalayas is a very good source of minerals and other phytochemicals which are having therapeutic potential [13]. *Asparagus racemosus* Willd is used for frigidity and sexual weakness[14]. All the plant species used by the traditional healers for the treatment of various diseases are still available in the study area. At present, the medicinal plants are highly threatened due to over exploitation. With this concern, an attempt was made to collect the information on traditional medicinal plants in BR Hills, Karnataka. Herbal medicines are less cost effective and have no side effects[15-17] Hence, documentation on traditional knowledge of medicinal plants is important for the conservation of forest as well as to sustain their medicinal value[18]

Conclusion

The present study reveals that people and tribes in BR Hills, Karnataka have immense knowledge on medicinal plants and their uses to cure various fatal diseases as a treatment, among the Indian Flora the south western part constitutes about 25,000 species. A total of 90 species of medicinal plants belongs to 49 families were obtained through the field survey and documented. Relevant information about the medicinal plants and uses are held by the tribes and local peoples of BR Hills. Hence, there is a need to motivate younger generation to acquire the knowledge on medicinal plants and their therapeutic uses. These medicinal plants associated with endophytes and they are the source of producing novel bioactive compounds which could have significant industrial, pharmaceutical and agricultural applications. The plants species having medicinal properties are disappearing due to unsustainable removal primary healthcare and the numbers of traditional healers are also decreasing. Hence, there is a need for documentation of traditional knowledge on medicinal plants.

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