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Weeds- As Medicinal Knowledge of Chitrakoot, Madhya Pradesh

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Abstract

In this paper the author presents medicinal weeds and information of weed species with details of family, vernacular name and its medicinal utility from Chitrakoot has been given information. On other general beneficial consequence of medicinal weeds is also explained here.

Keywords: Weeds, Medicinal, Chitrakoot, Madhya Pradesh

1. Introduction

Chitrakoot region is rich in floral diversity. Many endemic elements and a number of species, which have become rare threatened or endangered. The weeds are a serious and major problem in crop. They reduced the productivity of agricultural trends by competing with seasonal crop plants for light, mineral nutrients, space and water. Weeds are now widely regarded as pests of crop because they lower the yield, increase the cost of production in different ways.

The weeds are suppose to be the great precarious to the cultivated crops like vegetables and the losses due to these are more than either diseases or insects. The eradication of these weeds is necessary to get a maximum yield from the crops. Earlier studies on weed control have largely shown that there is no substitute for chemicalisation to control weeds however the increasing uses of chemical weed control in vegetable crops, effect the nutritive value of vegetables.

The vegetation has not yet been surveyed fully for weeds and there medicinal aspects therefore, a survey was undertaken during **May 2014- May 2015** to explore the weed vegetation from crop fields of **Chitrakoot** area. The present work included studies of weed plants belonging to 23 families embracing 42 genera and 45 species collected from different fields of **Chitrakoot**. The information on the collected species were recorded for their medicinal uses ^[1-4, 6-12, 14-17].

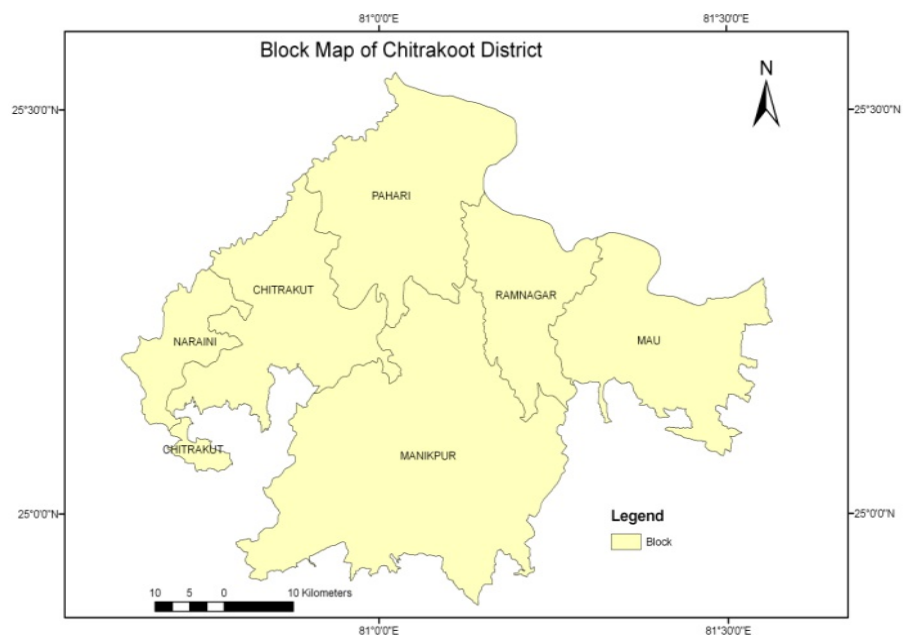


Fig 1: Map of Chitrakoot

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Methodology

In order to get information regarding weed plants and their medicinal uses. The study area was explored regularly during monsoon period for **2013-2015**. The authenticity of information was verified by free discussion with tribal's and local informants. The plants were identified with the help of local flora [5, 13].

Result and discussion

Enlisting follows the pattern of binomial, family name, vernacular name, mode of preparation of drug and the diseases cured. The plants are arranged alphabetically.

Abutilon indicum (L.) Sweet (Malvaceae). Tapari. Infusion of roots is used orally in chronic fever. A poultice of leaves is applied on boils and ulcers. The leaf decoction is given in bronchitis, diarrhea, gonorrhoea, arthritis and fever.

Achyranthes aspera (L.) (Amaranthaceae) Adhajhara. The root paste is given for easy delivery and with cold water to stop bleeding after abortion. Root paste is applied externally in scorpion sting. Extract of leaves is externally massed in sciatica. Crushed leaves externally applied on old boils and over insect bite.

Adhatoda vasica Nees (Acanthaceae) Adulsa. Juice of the leaves is an expectorant. It softens the thick sputum and thus brings about quick relief in bronchitis.

Ageratum conyzoides L. (Asteraceae) Ajganda. The leaf paste acts as an antiseptic and is applied in fresh cuts to stop bleeding. The leaf juice with the 'Neem oil' is externally applied in skin diseases. An infusion of the seeds is given as a tonic in diarrhea flatulent colic. The juice is used in prolapsed of the anus.

Alternanthera sessilis DC (Amaranthaceae). Whole plants is externally used in snake bite. Extract of plant is taken in dysentery.

Alternanthera tenella Colla. (Amaranthaceae) Reshimkatat. The whole plant is used in silage to increase milk. Extract of plant is taken in dysentery.

Andrographis paniculara (Burm. f.) Wall ex. Nees (Acanthaceae) Chiretta. Extract of whole plant is useful in curing fever, worms, dysentery, dyspepsia and liver disorders. Extract of leaves is taken in stomach trouble.

Amaranthus spinosus L. (Amaranthaceae) Kateli Chourai. Extract of root is externally used for ripening of boils. Root is externally used in eczema.

Argemone Mexicana L. (Papaveraceae) Pelikateli. A decoction of the root is an eye wash, a mouth wash and a lotion for inflammatory swelling. Yellow sap from the stem is used in conjunctivitis. Juice of the leaves is given in dropsy, jaundice, skin disease and gonorrhoea. The oil cake is useful as a fertilizer.

Bacopa monnieri (L.) Pennell (Scrophulariaceae) Jalneem. Leaves are taken in chronic fever and also to improve memory and as a tonic for nervous disorder. A poultice made of the boiled plant is placed on the chest of children suffering from cough.

Biophytum sensitivum (L.) DC. (Oxalidaceae) A paste of about 20-30 plants is given twice or thrice daily with milk to allay body heat caused by some excitement.

Blumea lacera DC. (Asteraceae) Burando. Crushed leaves are externally used on boils, wounds and blisters. Juice of the plant mixed with sugar is taken in cold.

Boerhaavia diffusa L. (Nyctaginaceae) Patharchata. The paste of root made after boiling it with soap and salt is externally used for ripening of boils. It is used in gonorrhoea, to promote urination in dropsy for extracting 'Guinea-worms' and in

heart and kidney diseases. The leaves are cooked without salt and given to the liver complaints particularly to patients suffering from jaundice.

Bryophyllum pinnatum (Lamk.) Oken (Crassulaceae) Panphuti. The plant paste is applied to forehead to relieve headache and against kidney stone.

Calotropis procera (Ait.) R. Br. (Asclepiadaceae) Madar. Root bark paste is applied on elephantiasis. The latex of plant is used in dropsy, tachia, leprosy etc. powdered flowers with black pepper and ash of barley seeds are mixed together and given orally in rose water during cholera.

Cannabis sativa L. (Cannabinaceae) Ganja. Leaves and seeds are crushed and mixed with, sugar are taken in stomach trouble and indigestion. The dried leaves and flowers are given in dyspepsia, gonorrhoea and also in nervier stimulants.





Fig 2: *Amaranthus spinosus*, *Ageratum conyzoides*, *Cannabis sativa*, *Jatropha curcas*, *Euphorbia hirta*, *Cassia tora*, *Cassia absus*, *Ocimum sanctum*, *Calotropis procera*, *Vitex negundo*, *Solanum nigrum*, *Sida cordifolia*, *Argemone mexicana*

Cassia absus L. (Caesalpiniaceae). Part of the stem are woven and tied around the opposite ear to remove migraine.

Cassia occidentalis L. (Caesalpiniaceae) Rantakla. The leaves are externally used in cutaneous diseases especially ring worms. Roasted seeds are sometimes used in place of coffee.

Cassia tora L. (Caesalpiniaceae) Chakora. A paste of the root made with lime juice is used for extracting ring worms. The leaves are used during intestinal disorders amongst children.

Convolvulus microphyllus Sieb. Ex. Spreng (Convolvulaceae). Leaves are used as a cooling agent during summer. Extract of a whole plant taken with sugar in diarrhea and dysentery.

Cryptolepis buchnanii Roem & Schult. (Asclepiadaceae) Dudhia. Powdered roots given to expecting mothers for promoting lactation. Leaf juice is put into nose drop by drop to cure intermittent fever.

Dentrophthoe falcata (L.) Etting (Loranthaceae). The powder of the stem is applied in wounds. It is believed to be useful as brain tonic or in impotency when growing on *Calotropis* and *Tamarindus* respectively.

Eclipta prostrata L. (Asteraceae) Bhingraj. A plant paste is used in skin diseases, headache and toothache. The juice from the fresh leaves when mixed with 'Neem oil' is applied to promote the growth of hairs.

Elephantopus scaber L. (Asteraceae). The decoction along with the roots of *Hemidesmus indicus* and *Piper nigrum* is given in gonorrhoea.

Erigeron canadensis L. (Asteraceae). Extract of plant is taken in diarrhoea and dysentery.

Eupatorium odoratum L. (Asteraceae). Juice of the green leaves is applied in fresh cuts.

Euphorbia hirta L. (Euphorbiaceae) Dugdhi. The latex is applied to eyes in children when the turn reddish. Extract is used in bowl complaints, cough and dysentery. The crushed plant is fried and applied to cuts.

Euphorbia thymifolia (Euphorbiaceae) Chhoti Dugdhi. Dried leaves and seeds are given to children in bowl complaints.

Evolvulus alsinoides L. (Convolvulaceae) Sankhpushi. Extract of plant with sugar is given in diarrhoea and dysentery.

Glinus lotodies L. (Molluginaceae). Dried plant used in diarrhoea and abdominal disorders.

Graphalium luteo - album L. (Asteraceae). The paste of the whole plant is applied for the lactation.

Jatropha curcas L. (Euphorbiaceae) Mogalieranda. The tender branches warmed in fire act as a formant in pain of joints.

Leonotes nepetaefolia (Lamiaceae). Smoke for calyx given in stomach pain. Seeds diuretic also given to cattle in dropsy.

Ocimum sanctum L. (Lamiaceae) Tulsi. Crushed leaves applied on forehead during headache. They are also used for wounds in animals.

Oxalis corniculata L. (Oxaladaceae) Khattibooti. The leaves are used for removing warts, corns and other excrescences on the skin and opacity of the cornea.

Phyllanthus fraternus L. (Euphorbiaceae). The fresh plant extracts is given in jaundice.

Sida cordifolia L. (Malvaceae) Bala. Leaves are externally used to healing sores.

Solanum nigrum L. (Solanaceae) Makoi. The leaf juice is given in inflammation of the kidney and bladder. The berries are given in fever diarrhoea and heart diseases. Hot leaves are applied over the swollen and painful scrotum and testicles. Plant juice is taken in enlargement of liver.

Sphaeranthus indicus L. (Asteraceae) Mundi. Decoction of the plant is diuretic and used in urethral discharges. Fruits are said to be digestive.

Spilanthus acmella (L.) Murr. (Asteraceae) Leaves and flowers are taken in summer as a tonic and blood purifier. The flowers are applied on teeth during toothache.

Tephrosia purpurea (Linn.) Pers. (Caesalpiniaceae) Unhali. Root is taken in diarrhoea. The leaves are useful in jaundice. A decoction of the dried plant is given in disease of liver, spleen, bronchitis, gonorrhoea, asthma, tumors, ulcers and piles. Seed is used in abortion and flavouring milk.

Tribulus terrestris L. (Zygophyllaceae) Gokhru. The fruits are taken in various types of urinary diseases. Infusion of fruits is also given in kidney diseases.

Tricodesma indicum R. Br. (Boraginaceae) Chhota -kalp. The roots are taken in stomach disorders.

Vetiveria zizaniodes (L.) Nash. (Poaceae) Vala. Anthelmintic for children.

Vitex negundo L. (Verbenaceae) Nirgudi. Roots are used as expectorant and tonic. Leaves are smoked in headache. Decoction is used in rheumatism.

Xanthium strumarium L. (Asteraceae) Landaga. The Roots are taken as a good tonic. Leaves are given in scrofula and herpes. The plant decoction is given in malarial fever and diseases of urinary system.

Conclusion

The diversity of this area increasingly under threat and extinction owing to deforestation for the purpose of cultivation of cereals and other crops. These plants may interact with the conventional medicines. Therefore a caution approach should be adopted before administering these drugs of course, this primary information is important in view that it may lead to serious pharmacological research as indicated by some authors and can provide great value in selecting plant material for drug discovery.

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