

ETHNOBOTANICAL USES OF FLORA OF SATHAN GALLI DISTRICT MANSEHRA, KP, PAKISTAN

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This study was designed keeping in view the greatest importance of the study area in context of its plant biodiversity and location. The study area falls in Western Himalaya show rich floristic diversity. This is first ever ethnomedicinal exploration from the investigated area. Area was visited frequently during 2014 to 2015 to collect medicinal flora of the study area. Semi-structured questionnaire method was used to gather ethnobotanical information from each site. Information about the local uses of the plants such as medicinal, timber, fodder and fuel wood etc. were got through random sampling by interviewing 300 individuals including nomads, local inhabitants from different age group and gender. Separate questionnaire was completed from plant harvester, retailers, seniors, plant merchants and local therapists (Hakims). The data was gathered and analysed by using MS Excel, 2013. The study revealed that the indigenous peoples of the area exploited 86(51.19%) species as traditional medicinal plants, 136(80.95%) species for fodder, 48(28.57%) for fuel wood, 28(16.66%) for timber woods, 07(4.16%) for wild vegetable and 02(1.19%) for ethno-veterinary therapies. Similarly, 17(10.11%) species are for wild edible fruits, 2(1.19%) species for making agricultural tools, 1(0.59%) species for fencing field borders. It was observed that local peoples used plant species for curing different ailments such as toothache, backache, headache, body pain, abdominal pain, rheumatism, indigestion, wound healer, cough, expectorant and tonic. These plants species as a whole or its parts are used to make remedy for treatment of diseases at home. Community of the study area is poor and those living in the isolated partition depend on the use of therapeutic plants and prepared crude drugs in form of juice, paste, infusion, decoction, water extract and powder pills.

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