

HITHERTO UNREPORTED MEDICINAL USES OF PLANTS OF LUCKNOW DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT: *The medicinal uses of thirteen plants from Lucknow District are reported in this paper.*

While working on the flora of district Lucknow, one of the authors (SCS) also collected some folk medicinal uses of plants from the old folks, herbal practitioners and headmen. Total 70 plants were found to be medicinal but after screening the information with the published literature, (Kirtikar & Basu 1933; Nadkarni 1954; Chopra **et al.** 1956, 1969) it was found that thirteen folk uses were such, which are hitherto unreported and are given as under:-

Achyranthes aspera L. (Amaranthaceae)
LATJIRA, CHIRCHITA.

Sciatica: Extract of leaf is massaged on affected part in sciatica pain. Singh 3849.

Fever: Decoction of crushed root with the leaves of **Cymbopogon jwarancusa** Schult. (Poaceae) (**JARAKUSH**) and black pepper is taken in old fever.

Abortion: Extract of 10 leaf is taken twice a day for four days to bring about abortion in ladies.

Argemone Mexicana L. (Papaveraceae)
BHARBHARH.

Eye trouble : Yellow sap of the plant is used in eye inflammation during summer. Singh 4229.

Crateve murvala : Buch – Ham. (Capparidaceae) **BARUN.**

Stem bark (Powder) is taken to remove stone from kidney and urinary bladder. Singh 6396.

Enicostema hyssopifolium (Willd.)
Verdoom (Gentianaceae) **GUCHHI.**

Fever : Decoction of the plant is taken thrice a day in chronic fever, Singh 6181.

Ficus benghalensis L. (Moraceae)
BARGAD.

Eye trouble: Latex of the plant is used in eye inflammation during summer. Singh 6116.

Galactagogue: Aerial roots boiled with jiggery (**gur**) in water and given to cattle just after delivery for yielding more milk.

Leucas cephalotes Spreng. (Lamiaceae)
GUMA.

Fever: Extract of the leaf is taken twice a day in fever.

Solanum nigrum L. (Solanaceae) **MAKOI**.

Scurvy: Leaves of the plant with the leaves of **Achyranthes aspera** L. (Amaranthaceae) (**LATJIRA**) and **Piper betel** L. (Piperaceae) (**PAN**) are crushed and massaged on back in the case of scurvy (Sukha rog). Singh. 5875.

Stereospermum personatum (Hassk) Chatt. (Bignoniaceae) **ADHASISI**.

Headache in half portion of head (Migrain): Fruit pulp is pounded and taken in the case of migraine. Singh 5407.

Trianthema portulacastrum L. (Ficoidaceae) **PATHARI**.

Bladder – stone: Leaves of the plant with fruit of **Kigelia pinnata** DC. (Bignoniaceae) (**BALAMKHIRA**) is crushed and taken to remove stone from urinary bladder. Singh 6051.

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Zizyphus nummularia W. et A. (Rhamnaceae) **JHARBER**

Flatulence: Leaves mixed with equal quantities of the leaves of the **Dalbergia sissoo** Roxb. (Papilionaceae) (**SHISHAM**) and **Albizia lebbek** Benth. (Mimosaceae) (**SIRIS**) are pounded and pounded mixture is taken twice a day in flatulence. Singh 3794.

DISCUSSION:

Despite modern medicine being available in district Lucknow, the inhabitants still use some of the common traditional uses of plants and in the present paper three folk uses for removing bladder stone, two each for fever and eye trouble and one each for flatulence, migraine, abortion, sciatica, galactagogue and scurvy have been reported showing their importance in daily use.

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