



Traditional Knowledge Of Valmiki Tribes Of G. Madugula Mandalam, Visakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh.

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Abstract:

G. Madugula Mandalam, Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh is known for Valmiki tribe. Frequent field trips were conducted in Valmiki rich areas to collect the Traditional Botanical Knowledge and Ethno-medicinal plants used by the Valmiki tribes. Because of modernization, all the ethno-botanical knowledge is declining day by day, so there is an urgent need to document the knowledge of ethnic people. Here 30 plant species belong to 28 genus of ethno- medicinal value were recorded from G. Madugula Mandalam, Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh, India.

Key words: Traditional knowledge, Valmiki tribe, G. Madugula Mandalam, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

1.Introduction

The term Ethnobotany was first used by Hershberger (1895) and its scope was much elaborated later by Ford (1978) and Faulks (1958). In India it was Dr. S.K. Jain (1986) from NBRI, Luck now, affectionately known as 'Father of Indian Ethnobotany' who made pioneering investigations. Ethnobotany has assumed new significance and a new dimension today when the modern civilization realized that all those plant products they are using today either as a food or as a medicine are the gift of those early men who used those plants to satisfy their hunger and heal their wounds and to know and evaluate the utility of those plants often experimented on their own body, sometimes also accidentally suffering due to their use, such as in case of some poisonous plants. Rao (1958) made observations on the vegetation of the Rampa and Gudem agency tracts of Eastern Ghats. Rao (1964) made observations on the vegetation of the Rampa and Gudem agency tract of Eastern Ghats. Pal and Banerjee (1971) reported less-known plant foods among the tribals of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa. Rama Rao and Henry (1996) reported the ethnomedicinal practices of tribal communities in Srikakulam district. Upadhyay and Chauhan (2000) noted the ethnobotany of Koya tribe of Gundala mandal, Khammam district. Muralidhar Rao and Pullaiah (2001) reported 50 plant species used as medicine by tribals of Guntur district.

2.Study Area

Gangaraju Madugula with an area of 544 sq. km. (4.8% of the area of the district) is one of the mandals of the Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh. It lies between 18⁰¹' N latitude and 82³⁰'E longitude. According to 2001 census the total population in the mandal is 50685. Of these 47625 are scheduled tribes (% of ST is 93.96). From centuries the forests of G. Madugula mandal have been inhabited by a number of tribes who have been maintaining distinct ways of life, beliefs, traditions cultures, customs and myths. Valmiki living in the Agency tracts of G. Madugula are only notified as Scheduled Tribes. They claim that they are descendants of the famous sage Valmiki, the author of Ramayana.

The Valmiki tribe is divided into following Gotrams in order regulate the marriage institution among them in Visakhapatnam tribal areas. Naga Bowse (Snake), Mastya Bowse (fish), Pangi Bowse (kite), Jilla Bowse (tiger), Vantala Bowse (Monkey), Korra Bowse (sun), Bhallu Bowse (bear), Poolu Bowse (flower) and Chilli Bowse (goat). But these clan names are absent in tribal areas of East Godavari district.

Valmiki are agriculturists and forest labourers. Some of them became traders and petty money lenders. They sell the earthen pots also in the shandies. They practice podu cultivation on the slopes of hills.

3. Material and Methods

The approaches and methodologies for ethnobotanical work, suggested by Jones (1941), Schultes (1960, 1962), Croom (1983), Jain (1987, 1989), Bellany (1993), Chadwick and Marsh (1994) and Cotton (1996) were followed. Emphasis was given mainly on intensive field work in selected Valmiki tribal habitations. The focus of the present study is to record the ethnobotanical knowledge with special reference to medicinal plants possessed by the tribal people.

Plant identifications were made with the help of Flora of the Presidency of Madras (Gamble, 1915-1935) using the field observations. The identifications were later confirmed with the help of Flora of Visakhapatnam District (Rao and Kumari (2002) and by comparison with authentic specimens in the Andhra University Herbarium.

4. Enumeration

- *Acacia leucophloea* (Roxb.) Willd.
 - Syn.: *A. alba* Willd, *A. arcuata* Decaisne Herb., *Mimosa alba* Rottl. M.
 - *Leucophloea* Roxb.
 - Family: Mimosaceae.
 - Tel.: Tella-tuma.
 - Description: A medium-sized, deciduous tree with yellowish bark. Leaves bipinnate, leaflets 12-30 pairs. Flowers in terminal, head creamy to pale yellow. Pods flat, linear-oblong. Seeds spherical, pale-brown.
 - Flowering: Sept.-Nov. Fruiting: Nov.-Mar.
 - Folk Uses: 20g root paste is given on empty stomach as an abortifacient. Branches are used to prepare fencing surrounding the cropland.

- *Adhatoda zeylanica* Medic.
 - Syn.: *Justicia adhatoda* Linn. *Adhatoda vasica* Nees.
 - Family: Acanthaceae.
 - Tel: Adasara, Addasaram

- Description : Tall, strong-smelling, glabrous shrubs with 2-lipped, irregular, white streaked pink dotted flowers in short spikes having overlapping bracts, capsule hairy 4-seeded. Seeds glabrous.
- Flowering: Dec.-Feb. Fruiting: Dec.-Feb.
- Folk Uses:- 2-3 drops leaf extract is given orally to children in cough. It is grown as fence surrounding human settlement.

- *Ailanthus excelsa* Roxb.
 - Family: Simaroubaceae.
 - Tel.: Peddamanu.
 - Description: Large deciduous foetid smelling trees with grayish stem and prominent leaf scars. Leaves long petioled, pinnate, leaflets coarsely toothed. Flowers in large lax panicles, unisexual, greenish in colour, samaras 4-6 cm long, red.
 - Flowering: Jan.-Feb. Fruiting: Feb.-Mar.
 - Folk Uses: - Stem bark is crushed and soaked in the fresh liquor for 2 days. One glass of filtrate is administered once a day for three days to cure leucorrhoea.

- *Anogeissus latifolia* (Roxb. ex. Dc.) Wall. ex Guill & Perr.
 - Syn: *A. latifolia* var. *glabra*.
 - Family: Combretaceae.
 - Tel.: Erimanu.
 - Description: A small tree. Leaves alternate or sub opposite, midrib prominent pink. Flowers in small dense heads, pendulous branched, axillary, 1-2 together. Fruit small, packed in small heads. Seed solitary.
 - Flowering: May-June. Fruiting: June-July.
 - Folk Uses:- Ten g of gum is ground with 20 g of root of *Desmodium gangeticum*. Paste is applied on the affected areas only once for snake bite.

- *Asparagus racemosus* Willd. Med.
 - Syn: *A. acerosus* Wall. *A. decaisnei* Kunth, *A. dubius* Decne. *A. fasciculatus*
 - Br., *A. floribunda* Kunth, *A. sarmentosus* Heyne, *A. volubilis* Ham.
 - Family: Liliaceae.

- Tel.: Challa, Challa-gaddu, Pilli-pichara.
- Description: Deciduous spinous climber; stem straggling or climbing. Leaves linear with a stout conical spinous spur. Flowers white, fragrant in simple racemes. Berry globose red.
- Flowering: Oct.-Jan. Fruiting: Oct.-Jan.
- Folk Uses: - Roots are eaten raw. Root is ground in water and half cup of the extract is mixed with one cup of cow milk and given to increase lactation in nursing mother once a day for one month.

- *Boerhavia diffusa* Linn.
 - Syn: *B.repens* Linn.
 - Family: Nyctaginaceae.
 - Tel.: Punarnava.
 - Description: A small, decumbent or climbing among bushes. Leaves thick, broadly. Ovate, obtuse, mucronate, cordate. Flowers in long-peduncles, raceme, few-flowered pale-pink or white. Fruit clavate furnished with large semiglobose glands round the crown.
 - Flowering: Aug.-Feb. Fruiting: Sept.-Mar.
 - Folk Uses: - Root and leaf juice is administered on empty stomach for jaundice. Leaves are boiled in water and applied on boils.

- *Caesalpinia bonduc* (Linn.) Roxb.
 - Syn: *C. crista* Linn. *C. bonducella* Fleming, *Guilandina bonducella* Linn.
 - Family: Caesalpinaceae.
 - Tel.: Gatchakaya.
 - Description: An extensive climber armed with hooked prickles. Leaves paripinnate, petioles prickly, stipules a pair of reduced pinnae at the base, leaflets 6-9 pairs, elliptic-oblong, obtuse, mucronate. Flowers in terminal and supra-axillary racemes, bracts linear, hairy. Pods oblong, covered with wiry prickles. Seeds 1-2 oblong, lead covered.
 - Flowering: Aug.-Oct. Fruiting: Sept.-Nov.
 - Folk Uses:- 5 to 10g crushed seeds are given internally to children to remove worms in digestive canal.

- *Calotropis gigantea* (Linn.) R. Br.
 - Syn: *Asclepias gigantea* Willd.
 - Family: Asclepiadaceae.
 - Tel: Jilledu
 - Description: A small shrub, much branched, gregarious, young branches covered with white, cottony hairs. Leaves decussate, obovate or elliptic-oblong, shortly acute, sessile, cordate or often amplexical at the base. Flowers large white not scented, in umbellate cymes, peduncles arising, between the petioles, flower-buds ovoid, angled. Fruit a pair of follicies.
 - Flowering: All months. Fruiting: All months.
 - Folk Uses: - Dried flower powder mixed with jaggery is made into soap nut seed sized pills. One pill is administered daily once to cure asthma.
- *Calotropis procera* (Ait.) Ait. f.
 - subsp. *hamiltonii* (w) Ali.
 - Syn: *C. hamiltoni* Wall. *C. wallichii* Wight. *C. heterophylla* Wall.
 - Family: Asclepiadaceae
 - Tel.: Tellajilledu
 - Description: A small shrub. Leaves decussate, smaller, ovate-oblong, elliptic or obovate, abruptly acuminate, cottony-hairy when young only. Flowers pale purplish smaller, buds hemispherical not angled, in umbellate cymes. Strongly scented. Fruit a pair of follicies.
 - Flowering: All months. Fruiting: All months.
 - Folk Uses: - Leaves crushed with stem barks of *Strychnos nux-vomica*, *Cassia auriculata* and small quantities of roots of *Rauvolfia serpentina* and *Tinospora cordifolia* are made into soap nut seed sized tablets. One tablet is administered twice a day till cure for snake bite.
- *Cieba pentandra* (Linn.) Gaertn.
 - Syn: *Bombax pentandrum* Linn. *Eriodendron anfractuosum* DC.
 - Family: Bombacaceae.
 - Tel.: Tella buruga.
 - Description: A tall tree with far reaching branches horizontal in whorls of 3, verticillate. Leaves deciduous, compound, long-petiole, leaflets 5-8, lanceolate,

entire or serrate, stipules small, and caduceus. Flowers tufted at the ends of branches or axillary, white or rose-coloured. Capsules ovoid, oblong many seeded. Seeds enclosed in separate woolly balls.

- Flowering: Feb.-Mar. Fruiting: Mar.-May.
- Folk Uses:- Young flowers are dried and powdered. One spoon of it is administered daily with water for kidney stones.

- *Clitoria ternatea* Linn.

- Family: Fabaceae.
- Tel.: Sankupuspi
- Description: A twining herb. Leaves imparipinnate, stipules linear, leaflets 5-7, elliptic, oblong, obtuse. Flowers blue or white axillary, bracts and bracteoles present. Pods flattened, sharply beaked, 6-10 seeded.
- Flowering: Aug.-Nov. Fruiting: Aug.-Jan.
- Folk Uses: - One spoon of root paste is administered with water daily twice for 3-4 days. In serious conditions it is used for 10 days to cure anemia.

- *Curculigo orchioides* Gaertn.

- Family: Hypoxidaceae.
- Tel.: Nelatigadda.
- Description: A Perennial herbs. Tubers sub-cylindric. Leaves radical, plicate. Linear-lanceolate, narrowed into short petiole. Inflorescence racemes. Flowers appearing almost at ground level. Few, yellow hairy outside, upper male with tepals, lowest usually female or bisexual with long tepals. Capsule oblong seed glossy.
- Flowering: Aug.-Sept. Fruiting: Aug.-Oct.
- Folk Uses:- Tuberos root is ground with that of *Asparagus racemosus* and *Emilia sonchifolia* and made into paste. One spoon of it is administered with half glass of water to relief pain.

- *Curcuma longa* Linn.

- Syn: *C. domestica* Valetton.
- Family: Zingiberaceae.
- Tel.: Pasupu.

- Description: A tall herb with fleshy rhizomes of yellow-orange colour. Leaves large, oblong-lanceolate, base in curved. Flowers in large spikes, bracts green tinged red, ovate, flowers pale yellow.
- Flowering: Aug.-Oct. Fruiting: Aug.-Oct.
- Folk Uses: - A small quantity of turmeric is ground, slightly heated and mixed with jaggery. Made into small tablets and 1 tablet given morning and evening for three days to cure whooping cough.

- *Gmelina arborea* Roxb.
 - Syn: *G. rheedii* Hook. *Premna arborea* Roth. *P. tomentosa* Miq.
 - Family: Verbenaceae.
 - Tel.: Gumar-tek, Gumudu, Peddu gomru.
 - Description: A moderate-size, deciduous, unarmed tree. Leaves large, broadly ovate, acuminate, and cordate at base hairy below. Flowers yellowish arranged in hairy panicles. Drupe ovoid orange yellow
 - Flowering: Feb.-Apr. Fruiting: Feb.-Apr.
 - Folk Uses: - Root decoction with honey is given once a day for nourishing mothers for galactogauge.

- *Holarrhena antidysenterica* (Buch.-Ham.) Wall
 - Syn: *H. codaga* G. Don, *H. pubescens* Wall. & ex Don, *Echites antidysenterica* Roxb. *E. pubescens* Buch.-Ham., *Wrightia antidysenterica* Grah.
 - Family: Apocynaceae.
 - Tel.: Amkudu, Kakakodise.
 - Description: A small deciduous tree nearly 2-6 m tall with sweet scented, white flowers in terminal corymbose cymes, bark pale brown. Follicles white dotted. Seeds tipped with brown hair.
 - Flowering: July-Oct. Fruiting: Sept.-Jan.
 - Folk Uses: - Made decoction of 100-400 ml water with leaves and root of *Andrographis paniculata*, drink this decoction twice a day for a week to cure fever.

- *Manilkara hexandra* (Roxb.) Dubard.
 - Syn: *Mimusops hexandra* (Roxb.) Dubard.

- Family: Sapotaceae.
- Tel.: Pala.
- Description: A large evergreen, slow growing tree. Leaves obovate, oblong emarginated, dark green, coriaceous, petioles grooved. Flowers white, solitary or in fascicles. Berry yellow, fleshy, 1-2 seeded.
- Flowering: Nov.-Feb. Fruiting: Dec.-Mar.
- Folk Uses: - Juice of stem bark is given daily once for 3-5 days. It is also given to the lactating mothers daily once for 3-5 days for galactagogue.

- *Martynia annua* Linn.
 - Syn: *M. diandra* Linn.
 - Family: Martyniaceae.
 - Tel.: Garudamukku.
 - Description: An erect, widely branched, glandular hairy herbs, stem thick, subterete, fistular. Leaves broadly ovate-orbicular, cordate at base, sub obtuse at apex. Inflorescence in axillary racemes, flowers pale pink or purple. Capsule 1 seeded long horned.
 - Flowering: Aug.-Dec. Fruiting: Aug.-Dec.
 - Folk Uses: - Seeds are used as an antidote for scorpion sting. Water boiled with leaves is gargled to cure shore throat.

- *Maytenus emarginata* (Willd.) Ding.
 - Syn: *M. senegalensis* (Lam.) Exell.
 - Family: Celastraceae.
 - Tel.: Danti
 - Description: A small compact tree. Young branches purple, often spine, with leaves and flowers on the spines. Leaves coriaceous, much variable in size and shape elliptic or obovate. Flowers prolific in di or tri-chotomous, axillary cymes or fascicles, white. Fruits purple or nearly black when ripe, coriaceous. Seeds 1-2, rarely 3.
 - Flowering: Oct.-Dec. Fruiting: Nov.-Jan.
 - Folk Uses: - The fresh root bark is ground into paste and mixed with water. One teaspoon of the decoction is taken daily for 5 days to expel worm from the human

body. 10 to 15 Leaves with sugar cube taken orally two times for 7days to cure jaundice.

- *Merremia gangetica* (Linn.) Cufod.
 - Syn: *M. emargianata* (N. Burm.) H. Hallier., *Ipomoea reniformis* Choisy,
 - *Convolvulus gangeticus* Linn.
 - Family: Convolvulaceae.
 - Tel.: Elika jimudu.
 - Description: A prostrate herb, rooting at nodes. Leaves broader than long, reniform, margins crenate-dentate, obtuse. Flowers yellow, axillary solitary or 2-3 in clusters. Capsule 4-5 mm across sub-globose, enclosed in calyx.
 - Flowering: Aug.-Nov. Fruiting: Aug.-Dec.
 - Folk Uses: - Plant decoction taken internally to cure rheumatic pain. Use as a fodder.

- *Mirabilis jalapa* Linn.
 - Family: Nyctaginaceae.
 - Tel.: Bhadrakshi.
 - Distribution: North America, India, Brazil.
 - Description: Erect leafy herb, 30-75 cm tall with cordate leaves and long tubular fragrant flowers. Fruits elliptical leathery, black.
 - Flowering: Aug.-Feb. Fruiting: Aug.-Feb.
 - Folk Uses:- Five seeds are crushed with water and given orally to children in hydrocele.

- *Mitragyna parvifolia* (Roxb.) Korth.
 - Syn: *Nauclea parvifolia* Roxb. *Stephegyne parvifolia* (Roxb.) Korth.
 - Family: Rubiaceae.
 - Tel. Nerkadamba.
 - Description: A big, deciduous tree. Leaves opposite, elliptic, obovate, apex rounded or acute, stipules large, interpetiolar, pink, caducous. Flowers greenish yellow, fragrant, in globose heads, peduncle with 2 small leaves at the base. Fruit

capsular, close together in heads, of 2 dehiscent cocci, bluntly 10-ribbed, seeds many, winged.

- Flowering: Apr.-May. Fruiting: May-July.
- Folk Uses: - Paste of bark is smeared on infected area as effective remedy in rheumatism.

- *Nyctanthes arbor-tristis* Linn.
 - Family: Oleaceae.
 - Tel.: Parjatamu.
 - Description: A small tree with drooping branches and quadrangular branchlets. Leaves opposite, ovate rough with stiff white hairs, entire or coarsely toothed. Flowers fragrant orange coloured stalkless, in clusters of 3-7 forming terminal cymes. Capsule flat, roundish 2-seeded. Seed erect, round and flattened.
 - Flowering: Aug.-Oct. Fruiting: Sept.-Nov.
 - Folk Uses:- Ten to fifteen leaves are made into pieces and boiled in two cups of water till it gets reduced to half cup glass of water. It is mixed with quarter spoon of pepper powder and taken orally daily in the early morning to cure sciatica.

- *Oldenlandia corymbosa* Linn.
 - Family: Rubiaceae.
 - Tel. : Verinellavemu.
 - Description: A small herb. Leaves subsessile, linear-lanceolate acute recurved and hairy margins, stipules membranous, truncate, with a few bristles. Flowers white, small peduncles axillary, solitary. Capsule globose, seeds many.
 - Flowering: Sept.-Nov. Fruiting: Oct.-Dec.
 - Folk Uses: - Decoction of leaves is given in jaundice, two tsp thrice a day. Decoction of plant is given orally of chronic liver enlargement.

- *Oroxylum indicum* (Linn.) Vent.
 - Syn: *Calosanthes indica* Blume.
 - Family: Bignoniaceae.
 - Tel.: Dondlup, Dundillam, Pamania, Pampana.

- Description: A small tree with green juice. Leaves 3-5 feet long bi or tri pinnate, pinnae opposite, leaflets 2-4 pairs, ovate or elliptic, acuminate, cordate. Flowers foetid, in large erect racemes, 1-2 feet long, whitish or bright purple. Capsules 2-valved, 2-3 feet long, sward-like, flat. Seeds many, flat and winged, thin with silvery wings.
- Flowering: May-Aug. Fruiting: May-Aug.
- Folk Uses: - Seeds are orally used in throat infection. Ten g of stem bark is ground with two g of turmeric. One spoon of paste is administered daily twice for five days to cure jaundice.

- *Plumeria rubra* Linn.
 - Syn: *P. acutifolia* Poir, *P. acuminata* R.Br.
 - Family: Apocynaceae.
 - Tel.: Adaviganneru, Vadaganneru.
 - Description: A small deciduous tree with milky latex, Leaves alternate, oblong, large acute at both ends, intramarginal vein present. Flowers large waxy white with a golden centre, fragrant in terminal cymose panicles. Follicle 2, rarely found.
 - Flowering: All months. Fruiting: Rarely found.
 - Folk Uses: - Milky juice is applied on rheumatic joints twice a day for a week.

- *Sida cordifolia* Linn.
 - Syn: *S. herbacia* Micans.
 - Family: Malvaceae.
 - Tel.: Antisa, Chirbendel.
 - Description: A small, softly hairy, much-branched, annual erect herb with linear stipules. Leaves cordate, obtuse, crenate, petioles long. Flowers pale yellow, solitary or few together. Fruit reticulated, seeds black.
 - Flowering: Sept.-Oct. Fruiting: Oct.-Nov.
 - Folk Uses: - 2 teaspoonful decoction of roots given orally twice a day for 5 days for urinary troubles.

- *Solanum surattense* Burm.

- Syn: *S. armatum* Br.
- Family: Solanaceae.
- Tel.: Nelamulaka, Pinnamulaka, Vankuda.
- Description: A prickly, procumbent perennial with many straight spines on leaves. Flowers blue, in few-flowered extra-axillary cymes. Berries globose, yellow when ripe.
- Flowering: Sept.-May. Fruiting: Sept.-May.
- Folk Uses: - Powdered fruits are boiled in mustard oil and cooked. This medicated oil is applied on skin eruptions on foot during winter.

- *Tinospora cordifolia* Miers.
 - Syn: *T. palmnervis* Miers.
 - Family: Menispermaceae.
 - Tel.: Duyutige, Guduchi, Jivtika, Somida.
 - Description: Glabrous climbing shrub with succulent stems and corky bark. Leaves membranous, cordate. Flowers unisexual: male fascicled, female solitary. Drupes very small, red.
 - Flowering: June-July. Fruiting: June-July.
 - Folk Uses: - 3-4 ml extract of stem is taken orally twice a day for a week to cure fever. For the cure of jaundice a necklace of small pieces of its stem is worn.

- *Withania somnifera* (Linn.) Dunal.
 - Syn: *Physalis somnifera* Linn.
 - Family: Solanaceae.
 - Tel.: Vajigandha, Pannirugadda, Pulivendramu.
 - Description: A small, hairy under shrub. Leaves ovate, acute, entire, and hairy. Flowers yellowish-green about 5 together in umbellate cyme. Berry red, enclosed in the inflated calyx. Seeds yellow.
 - Flowering: All months. Fruiting: All months.
 - Folk Uses:- One teaspoonful of leaf powder is mixed with equal quantity of root powder and taken with glass of milk twice a day on full stomach for one month for treatment of male sterility.

- Woodfordia fruticosa Kurz.
- Syn: W. floribunda Salisb.
- Family: Lythraceae.
- Tel.: Gaji-godari, Kusumamu.
- Description: A small much-branched shrub. Flowers red, in short panicle cymes. Capsule included.
- Flowering: Mar.-Apr. Fruiting: Apr.-May.
- Folk Uses: - 1 teaspoonful in fusion of flower is given 2 times a day in dysentery.

5.Result And Discussion

Ethno floristic exploration was made during the period 2012-2013 covering all the villages of G. Madugula Mandalam, Visakhapatnam District All Valmiki tribal villages. The total number of species is segregated according to the family. Thus the family-wise analysis of the ethnic species revealed that, 30 species belonging to 25 families. Among them, Nyctaginaceae, Rubiaceae and Solanaceae with 2 species followed by Mimosaceae, Acanthaceae, Simaroubaceae, Combretaceae, Liliaceae, Caesalpiniaceae, Bombacaceae, Fabaceae, Hypoxidaceae, Zingiberaceae, Verbenaceae, Apocynaceae, Sapotaceae, Martyniaceae, Celastraceae, Convolvulaceae, Olacaceae, Bignoniaceae, Malvaceae, menispermaceae and Lythraceae with single species. The drug yielding plants are statistically analysed based on their morphological habit and revealed that trees dominated with 12 species followed by herbs 9, shrubs 7 and climbers 2 (Fig. 1).

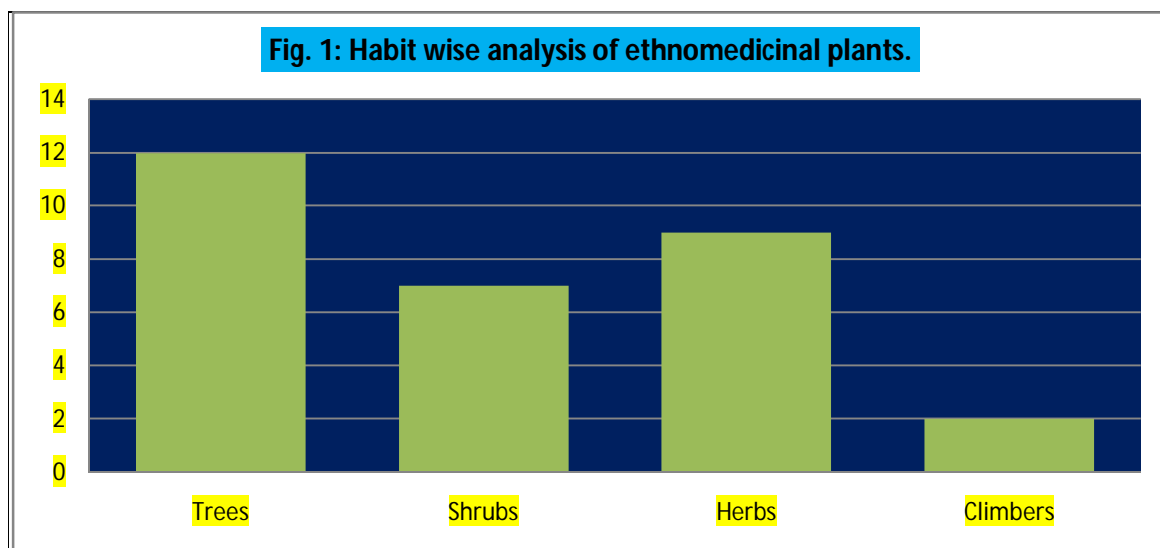


Figure 1

Different parts or products of medicinal plants are employed for ethnomedicinal purposes like root 8, stem and stem bark 5, rhizome 1, leaf 6, flower 3, fruit 2, seed 4, gum 1 in different formulations like decoctions, infusion, extract, paste, powder, etc. are in practice. It is probably that the whole herb/plant is thought worth more by the tribal medicine men than the sum total of its parts. Based on the study the different plant parts that are used in crude drug preparation to cure different type of diseases.

More prevalent diseases are Abortifacient, Leucorrhoea, Snake bite, Lactation, Jaundice, Boils, Intestinal worms, Asthma, Kidney stone, Anaemia, Pain, Whooping cough, Galactogauge, Fever, Scorpion sting, Shore throat, Rheumatic pain, Hydrocele, Sciatica, Urinary troubles, Skin eruption, Male sterility and Dysentery.

6. Conclusion

The medico-botanical survey of the area revealed that the people of the area possessing good knowledge of herbal drugs but as the people are in progressive exposure to modernization, their knowledge traditional uses of plants may be lost in due course. So it is important to study and record the uses of plants by different tribes and sub-tribes for futures study. Such studies may also provide some information to biochemists and pharmacologists in screening of individual species and in rapid assessing of phyto-constituents for the treatment of various diseases.

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