

**Ethnobotanical Survey Of Medicinal Plants Used To Cure Skin Diseases**

Priyanka Ingle<sup>1</sup> Madhuri Pawar<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1,2</sup>Botanical Survey of India, Western Regional Centre, Pune 411 001.

Corresponding Author- Priyanka Ingle

Email: [priyaingalkar@gmail.com](mailto:priyaingalkar@gmail.com)

**Abstract**

The Wan Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in Akot Wildlife Division, Akot of Akola district, Maharashtra which contributes 211 sq. km area of Melghat Tiger Reserve. An area of 205.86 sq km is actual forest area and 5.14 sq km area is of cultivation and 'Gaothan' area of seven ex-forest villages called as 'Medow'. Present survey work has been undertaken during 2016 – 2018. During the survey period the only village present in the wildlife sanctuary area was 'Talai'. During this survey work ethno-botanical data of 13 medicinal plants used to cure skin disease have been collected which belongs to 10 families. This data have been collected from 'Rathi' & 'Korku' communities which are the major communities residing, either working as Forest Department staff in Wildlife Sanctuary area during the survey period.

**Key words:** Melghat Tiger Reserve, Wan Wildlife Sanctuary, Medicinal plants, Ethnobotany, Rathi, Korku, Skin diseases.

**Introduction:**

The Wan Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in Akot Wildlife Division, Akot of Akola district, Maharashtra which contributes 211 sq. km area of Melghat Tiger Reserve. An area of 205.86 sq km is actual forest area and 5.14 sq km area is of cultivation and 'Gaothan' area of seven ex-forest villages called as 'Medow'. Present survey work has been undertaken during 2016 – 2018. During survey period only village present in the wildlife sanctuary area was 'Talai'. In survey work ethno-botanical data of 13 medicinal plants which is used to cure skin disease have been collected which belongs to 10 families. This data have been collected in five survey and field visits from 'Rathi' & 'Korku' communities which are the major communities residing, either working as Forest Department staff in wildlife sanctuary area. After survey period the village 'Talai' has been rehabilitated at outskirts area of wildlife sanctuary and named as 'Navi Talai'.

**Enumeration:**

1) *Andrographis paniculata* (Burm.f.) Nees

Family – Acanthaceae

Parts used – Leaves

Uses - Leaf powder mixed in coconut oil and applied on the infected areas of skin for two days to cure lesions.

2) *Eranthemum roseum* (Vahl) R.Br.

Family – Acanthaceae

Parts used – Leaf

Uses - Leaf pest is externally applied on the infected areas of skin to cure skin diseases.

3) *Achyranthes aspera* L.

Family – Amaranthaceae

Parts used – Root

Uses - The root powder is sprinkled over the lesion twice in a day in skin diseases.

4) *Lannea coromandelica* (Houtt.) Merr.

Family – Anacardiaceae

Parts used - Gum

Uses – Gum mixed with coconut oil used for topical application on infected area twice in a day to cure skin diseases.

5) *Buchanania cochinchinensis* (Lour.)

M.R. Almeida

Family – Anacardiaceae

Parts used – Leaves

Uses – Topical application of leaf paste on infected area twice in a day to cure skin diseases.

6) *Wrightia tinctoria* R.Br.

Family – Apocynaceae

Parts used - Leaves

Uses – Hot water mixed with leaf powder used to take bath to cure skin infections.

7) *Mallotus philippensis* (Lam.) Müll.

Arg.

Family – Euphorbiaceae

Parts used – Fruit

Uses – The power obtain from pericarp of the fruit is applied externally to treat parasitic infections of the skin.

8) *Ricinus cummunis* L.

Family – Euphorbiaceae

Parts used - Leaves

## *Agriculture Development towards Sustainability*

Uses – The leaves are heated and applied on infected areas of skin to cure a contagious skin diseases.

9) *Lavandula bipinnata* (Roth) Kuntze

Family – Lamiaceae

Parts used – Leaves

Uses – Leaf pest applied on infected areas of skin to cure skin infections.

10) *Piper betel* L.

Family – Piperaceae

Parts used – Leaves

Uses – Leaf pest along with salt and oil applied on infected areas thrice in a day to cure Shingles.

11) *Azadirachta indica* A. Juss.

Family – Meliaceae

Parts used – Leaves

Uses – Hot water mixed with leaf powder used to take bath to cure skin infections.

12) *Haldina cordifolia* (Roxb.) Ridsdale

Family – Rubiaceae

Parts used – Leaves

Uses – Leaves crushed in water and applied on infected areas twice a day to cure skin infections.

13) *Balanites aegyptiaca* (L.) Delile

Family – Zygophyllaceae

Parts used – Fruit

Uses – Topical application of fruit pulp on infected areas of skin twice a day to cure skin diseases.

### **References:**

1. Anonymous. (1968). Maharashtra State Gazetteers (Government of Maharashtra) Amravati District (Revsd. Ed.) Directorate of Government Printing Stationery and Publications, Maharashtra.
2. Dhore, M.A. and Joshi, P.A. (1988). Flora of Melghat Tiger Reserve. Directorate, Project Tiger, Melghat, Paratwada, Dist. Amravati, Maharashtra.
3. Patel, R.I. (1968). Forest Flora of Melghat. Prabhat Press, Meerut.
4. Singh BD, Karthikeyan S. and Singh N.P. (2000). Flora of Maharashtra State-Dicotyledons, Botanical Survey of India, Calcutta.