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SOME ETHNO-MEDICINAL PLANTS USED BY THE NATIVE PRACTITIONERS OF CHANDEL DISTRICT, MANIPUR, INDIA

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ABSTRACT
This article highlights some ethno-medicinal plants used by the traditional practitioners of Naga community in khangshim bio – region of Chandel district for the treatment of various ailments. A field survey revealed number of plants growing in bio – region at the position 24^{0}29'41.3" N, 94^{0}00'58.9" E and altitude 779msl are important folklore medicines for various ailments. Among them some important plants were identified viz *Zingiber officinale* (IBSD/M-1007) as anticough, antifever, antidiabetic, anticancer, *Zingiber cassumuar* (IBSD/M-1005) as anticough, antidiabetic, *Zingiber zerumbet* Smith Fam. Zingiberaceae (IBSD/M-1006) as anti cough, anti fever, *Clerodendrum colebrookianum* Walp. Fam. Verbenaceae (IBSD/M/1014) as antihypertensive, *Oroxylum indicum* Vent Fam. Bignoniaceae (IBSD/M/1015) as anti piles, *Eupatorium nodiflorum* Wallich (IBSD/M/1016) as anti-diarrheal, *Anneslea fragrans* Wallich Fam. Theaceae (IBSD/M/1017) for treatment of Kidney stone , *Prunus persica* (L.) Batsch (IBSD/M/1019) as antihypertensive etc. about 6 species of plants and their mode of usages are detailed here. With the advent of the western culture and the concurrent modern or allopathic medicines, the rich Indian heritage of TSM (Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Tribal) and also the Homeopathic System were sidelined and neglected. Resultantly, the village-based wisdom of traditional system of treatment has not been seriously followed, not well documented and passed on properly over generations. In this context our survey on medicinal plants may help in discovery of safe natural remedy for such dreaded ailments and also in sustainable development of ethno-medicinal bioresources. Our further work is initiated on all those plants to confirm traditional claims.
KEYWORDS: ethno-medicinal plants, *Zingiber officinales*, *Oroxylum indicum*, *Anneslea fragrans*, *Eupatorium nodiflorum*, *Clerodendrum colebrookianum*, Kidney stone

INTRODUCTION

Evolution of mankind is integrated with development of indigenous technology to meet their needs by informal experimentations[1]. Ethnomedicobotany is one of the tools that help to deal with the direct relationship of plants and man to prevent and cure ailments[2]. Manipur is in Indo-Burma biodiversity hotspot (rank – 12 among 44) in world map, moreover the indigenous medicinal plants grown in the North – East India are useful folk medicines used by the people of this region[3]. However with the advent of the western culture and the concurrent modern or allopathic medicines, the rich Indian heritage of TSM (Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Tribal) and also the Homeopathic System were sidelined and neglected. Resultantly, the village-based wisdom of traditional system of treatment has not been seriously followed, not well documented and passed on properly over generations. In this context we conducted a field survey in khangshim bio – region of Chandel district and revealed number of plants growing in bio – region at the position 24^{0}29'41.3" **N** latitude, 94^{0}00'58.9" **E** longitude and 779 msl are important folklore medicines used by the traditional practitioners of Naga community in khangshim bio – region of Chandel district for the treatment of various ailments. Among those 6 important species of plants and 2 species of fish were identified. All identified species were detailed here along with their mode of usages.

METHODOLOGY

During ethnobotanical survey in khangshim bio – region of Chandel district, Manipur, India, a four members team including one scientist – Pharmacology, two researcher from plant taxonomy laboratory and one field assistant, was gathered information from local men, women and elderly people regarding traditional medicine using for different ailments as well as traditional practitioners of the region. The information obtained was further verified by cross checking with traditional practitioners of the region. A questioner prepared for that survey in following format:

1. Name and address of traditional practitioners
2. Ethno-pharmacological Information

SL NO	Ailments treating	Natural resources using	Mode of uses	Doses

As part of the verification, actual uses were observed and the feedbacks from the patients were taken. Samples and its photographs were collected from the forest and hilltops of region with the help of traditional practitioners. Latitude, longitude and elevation from sea level were also identified of the region during survey with GPS system of IBSD, Imphal. After completion of survey compile all collected information, where all identified unique bioresources were enlist together and herbarium specimens were prepared that deposited in Plant taxonomy laboratory, medicinal & horticultural plant resources division, IBSD, Imphal. Unidentified species are given to the plant taxonomy laboratory for further study.

OBSERVATIONS

The observations, made during ethnobotanical survey were presented prescriptions for various ailments. Table - 1

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The work was the findings of intensive systematic ethnobotanical studies conducted in different areas of khangshim bio – region of Chandel district, Manipur, India, where a diverse use of medicinal plant has been identified for the treatment of various diseases, among these unique recorded species were *Clerodendrum colebrookianum* Walp. Fam. Verbenaceae (IBSD/M/1014), persica (L.) Batsch (IBSD/M/1019) for treatment of hypertension, *Anneslea fragrans* Wallich Fam. Theaceae (IBSD/M/1017) for treatment of Kidney stone. Each disease has specific or mixture of plant for treatment. Among the species listed, leaf is commonly used plant part having 7 families and 7 species followed by rhizome and aerial part with 2 families species each. These species are normally collected from wild, *Zingiber zerumbet* Smith, *Psidium guajava* L. cultivated in home garden.

The impact of modern amenities leads to slow and steady diminishing of ethnobotanical knowledge. Hence, there is an urgent need to document the knowledge that was built-up through tireless informal experimentation to cope up the challenging task of curing human sufferings. Documentation of species used and commercialization through cultivation will not only help to improve their socioeconomic status but will reduce the pressure on natural stand that will enhance the conservation activity among the community. The wealth of their traditional knowledge needs to be tapped and preserved for sustainable development. This can be exploited in appositive manner in pharmacology that in turn would boost the economy of the community and also help in saving a few valuable and potential drug yielding species.

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Table – 1: Prescriptions for various ailments by traditional practitioners.

SL NO	Ailments treating	Natural resources using	Mode of uses	Doses
		Plant species		
1	Hypertension	*Clerodendrum colebrookianum* Walp. Fam. Verbenaceae (IBSD/M/1014) *Prunus persica* Fam Rosaceae (IBSD/M/1019)	Decoction of dry leaves -Do-	10 gram in 1 litre water. Three time in a day. -Do-
2	Cough & Fever	*Zingiber zerumbet* Smith Fam. Zingiberaceae (IBSD/M-1006)	Decoction of rhizomes	25 gram in 1 litre water. Three time in a day.
3	Diarrheal	*Eupatorium nodiflorum* wallich Fam Asteraceae (IBSD/M/1016) *Psidium guajava* Linn Fam Mrytaceae (IBSD/M-1020)	Dry Aerial part decoction Dry or fresh leaves decoction	10 gram in 1 litre water. Three time in a day. -Do-
4	Kidney stone	*Anneslea fragrans* wallich Fam. Theaceae (IBSD/M/1017)	Decoction of dry leaves	10 gram in 1 litre water. Three time in a day.
5	Piles	*Oroxylum indicum* Vent Fam. Bignoniaceae (IBSD/M/1015)	Decoction of dry leaves	10 gram in 1 litre water. Three time in a day.
6	Diabetes Diabetes indicator	*Cassia alata* Roxb Fam. Caesalpinaceae (IBSD/M/1021) *Costus Pictus* D. Don Fam. Costaceae (Zingiberaceae) (IBSD/M/1018) *Zingiber zerumbet* Smith Fam. Zingiberaceae (IBSD/M-1006)	Decoction of dry leaves Chew leaf Sour taste means ***diabetes absent*** No taste means ***diabetes present*** Decoction of rhizomes	10 gram in 1 litre water. Three time in a day. Single leaf 25 gram in 1 litre water. Three time in a day.

Photos

Oroxylum indicum Vent

Anneslea fragrans Wall.

Psidium guajava Linn

Cassia alata Roxb

Clerodendrum colebrookianum walp.

Eupatorium nodiflorum wallich

Costus Pictus D. Don

Prunus persica (L.) Batsch

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