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ETHNOMEDICINAL PLANTS USED FOR WOUNDS AND SNAKE-BITES BY TRIBALS OF KINNERASANI REGION, A.P., INDIA

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Abstract- Kinnerasani region of A.P., India is rich in ethno botanical plants. The tribal population existing in and around the area depend on ethno medicinal plants in the area and near by forest for various diseases. They use more than two hundred plants for various purposes. The present study deals with 56 plant species used by them for wounds, boils, snake, scorpion and dog bites. These plant species are listed alphabetically with their botanical names, vernacular names, families and ethno medicinal uses.
Keywords- Ethno medicinal plants, Kinnerasani region, wounds and snakebites

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Introduction

Local health traditions are gradually declining and there is a possibility of the traditions being lost completely. Hence an attempt was made to document the ethno-medicinal plants of the Kinnerasani area. Kinnerasani is a part of the famous Dandakaranya in Khammam dt. 12 km from paloncha lying on the right bank of Godavari. It was declared as Wild life sanctuary in 1977. It has several villages around it. 10 villages were selected for the study and the elderly people were interviewed. The tribals mostly belong to lambadas. More than 200 plants are documented during the survey of which ethnomedicinal plants used for wounds and poisonous bites are presented in the paper [9].

Materials and Methods

Field trips were made during 2002 to 2010 for collection and documentation of ethnomedicinal plants of Kinnerasani bioregion. The information was collected by personal interviews with local people, village head accompanied by forest staff, ayurvedic doctor and NGOs. The herbarium was collected and preserved as per standard procedures. They were preserved and deposited in the college herbarium.

Results and Discussion

The plants used for wounds and poisonous bites are listed alphabetically with vernacular names, family and ethno medicinal uses (Table 1). In Kinnerasani area, 56 plants are reported for wounds and poisonous bites. They belong to 36 families. Among them 9 are weak stemmed, 16 are herbs, 10 are shrubs and 21 are trees. (Fig. 1) Annuals are 21, 35 are bi or perennials (Fig. 2). Leguminosae (of B&H) is the dominant family followed by Asteraceae and Acanthaceae. Malvaceae, Rubiaceae, Moraceae, Combretaceae, Rutaceae, Euphorbiaceae family members are equal in numbers. Three species are used as whole plants, two as underground portions, two as stems, 23 as leaves, one as flowers, three as fruits and seeds and 22 as bark (Fig. 3). Among them 34 are common, 15 are vulnerable, 2 are rare, 4 are cultivated and one is exotic (Fig. 4). The majority of tribes in the area lambadas. As Kinnerasani has industries in the viscinity, they are mostly employed as industrial workers. Some collect forest produce like tuniki (beedi leaves), chilla seeds, modugu leaves, honey etc. ITDA extend several schemes to help them. Some are agricultural labourers. Hospitals are available in the neighbourhood. So, they depend on allopathy medicine for different ailments. However, for

first aid purpose and less dangerous problems like wounds they still depend on traditional medicine. Further, most of the plants used by them for these wounds and poisonous bites are only external and available in their vicinity. The traditional ethnomedicinal knowledge is to be conserved by documentation for future usage. Otherwise, there is danger of loss of valuable indigenous knowledge. Around one-third plants used are vunerable, conservation steps are to be initiated by *ex-situ* as well as *in situ* methods.

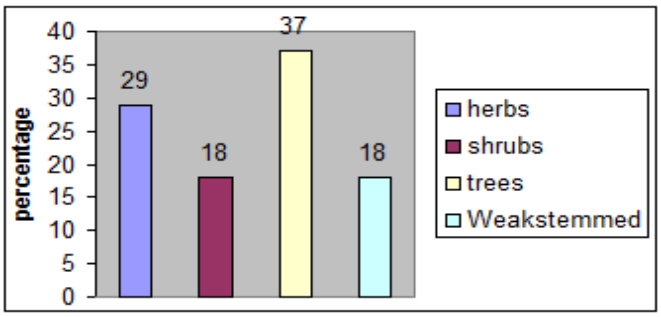

Fig. 1- Habitat wise Distribution

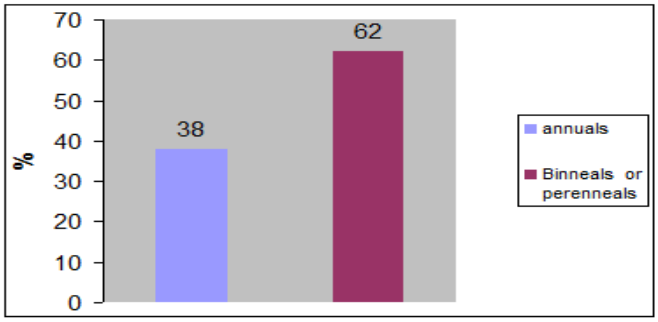

Fig. 2- Lifespan wise Distribution

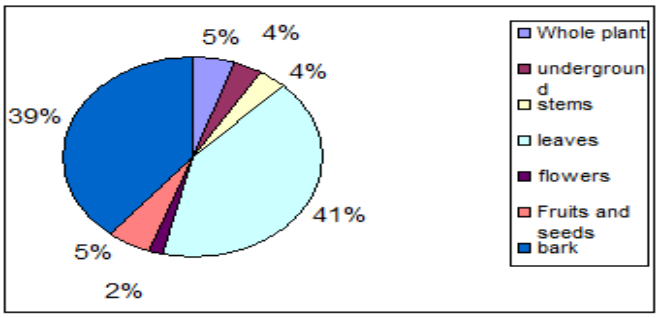

Fig. 3- Useful Part wise Distribution

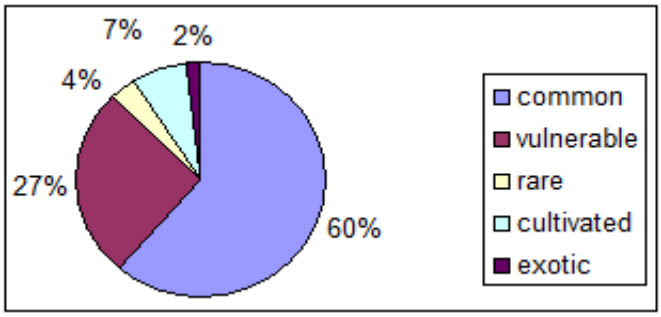

Fig. 4- Status wise Distribution

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Table 1- List of plants used for snakebites and wounds in Kinnersani area

S.no	Botanical Name	Common Name	Family	Habit	Status	Comments
1	*Abutilon indicum* G. Don.	Tutturu benda	Malvaceae	herb	common	Leaf juice is applied on the wound
2	*Acalypha indica* L.	Pippinta, Muripinda	Euphorbiaceae	herb	common	Three drops of leaf juice is poured into the nose for snake bite and also for epilepsy.
3	*Achyranthes aspera* L.	Uttareni	Amaranthaceae	herb	common	Leaf juice is applied to wounds. The whole plant is crushed into paste and used for snake bite. It is applied from top and rubbed down.
4	*Agave americana* L.	Kittanara	Agavaceae	herb	common	Leaf juice is applied on the wound
5	*Alangium salvifolia* Wang.	Udugu	Cornaceae	tree	vulnerable	The root is used for snakebite.
6	*Plumeria acutifolia* Poir	Devaganneru	Apocyanaceae	tree	common	The leaf paste and bark paste are applied on wounds
7	*Andrographis paniculata* Nees.	Nelavemu	Acanthaceae	herb	vulnerable	Leaf powder is made as pills and given for snakebite
8	*Anona squamosa* L.	Seethaphal	Anonaceae	tree	common	Leaf along with tobacco is made into paste and applied to wounds.
9	*Aristolochia indica* L.	Gadidagadapa	Aristolochiaceae	climber	vulnerable	whole plant is used for snake bite
10	*Blumea glomerata* Dc.	Adavi pogaku	Asteraceae	herb	common	leaf paste is applied on wounds
11	*Calotropis prosera* R. Br.	Tella jilledu	Asclepiadaceae	shrub	vulnerable	The paste of whole plant is applied at the site of wound for dog bite and root of janedu length and fleshy is pounded and given with curd three times a day for dog bite. The root is aragadeesi ?, the fumes are shown for scorpion bite and snakebite.
12	*Canthium didymum* Gaertn.	Balusu	Rubiaceae	tree	common	The bark and fruit are used for wounds
13	*Capparis zeylanica* L.	Aaredonda	Capparidaceae	tree	common	Fruit is used on the wound for cattle.
14	*Cardiospermum helicacabum* L.	Errakunkudu	Sapindaceae	climber	vulnerable	The leaves are grind and kept on boils as paste.
15	*Carea arborea* Roxb.	Buddadhermi	Lecythidaceae	tree	common	The bark powder is used for wounds
16	*Cassia auriculata* L.	Tangedu	Caesalpinaceae	shrub	common	Flowers are dried and applied as powder or paste on boils and burnt wounds.
17	*Cassia tora* L.	Pammadia	Caesalpinaceae	herb	common	Leaf juice is made a paste with tagirisa and tied as bandage for snake bite. For boils 100g of leaf juice is mixed with 50g of lime and applied as bandage to extract pus.
18	*Chrysanthemum*	Chamunthi	Asteraceae	herb	cultivated	leaf paste is applied on wounds
19	*Cissus quadrangularis* L.	Nalleru	Vitaceae	climber	vulnerable	it is used for snakebite stem
20	*Crossandra undulifolia* Salisb.	Kanakambram	Acanthaceae	herb	cultivated	Leaves as paste on boils. With sandalwood, vattiveru, thunga and sugar given for water snake bite.
21	*Cyperus rotundus* L.	Garika	Cyperaceae	herb	common	leaf paste is applied on wounds
22	*Daemia extensa* R. Br.	Juttupaka, Dushtaputeega	Asclepiadaceae	climber	common	Leaf is applied at the frontile region of head for snake bite as paste. Leaf is pounded with cloves and camphor and applied on gajji wounds
23	*Datura metal* L.	Nalla ummetta	Solanaceae	herb	vulnerable	The root is pounded and applied for scorpion bite.
24	*Desmodium heterophyllum* DC.	Tellausiri	Fabaceae	shrub	common	for snake bite.
25	*Dichrostachys cinera* W & A.	Eluturu	Mimosaceae	shrub	common	bark powder is used for wounds
26	*Eclipta alba* Hasak.	Guntagalijeru	Asteraceae	herb	vulnerable	Leaf juice is applied with jaggery for snake bite. It is also used for beri beri
27	*Erythrina indica* Lam.	Badida	Fabaceae	tree	vulnerable	bark powder is used for wounds
28	*Ficus infectoria* Roxb	Juvvi	Moraceae	tree	vulnerable	leaf is used for snakebite.
29	*Ficus religiosa* L.	Raavi	Moraceae	tree	common	bark powder is used for wounds
30	*Gardenia lucida* Roxb.	Karanga	Rubiaceae	tree	vulnerable	bark powder is used for wounds
31	*Garuga pinnata* Roxb.	Garugu	Burseraceae	tree	common	bark powder is used for wounds
32	*Grewia tilaefolia* Vahl.	Giginika	Tiliaceae	shrub	common	bark powder is used for wounds
33	*Hyptis saveolens* Poit.	Adavi tulasi	Labiatae	shrub	common	leaf paste is applied on wounds
34	*Jatropha gossypifolia* L.	Kotavaddipuvvu, Dundilam	Euphorbiaceae	shrub	common	Bark is mixed with borassus made as paste and applied at the bitten site for dog bite
35	*Limonia acidissima* W & A.	Tor-elga	Rutaceae	tree	common	it is used for snakebite. Leaf ?
36	*Lagenaria vulgaris* Ser.	Aanapa	Cucurbitaceae	climber	cultivated	leaf paste is applied on wounds
37	*Odina wodier* Roxb.	Gumpena	Anacardiaceae	tree	vulnerable	bark paste is applied to wounds
38	*Parkinsonia aculeata* L.	Australia tumma	Caesalpinaceae	shrub	exotic	Bark powder is applied on wounds.
39	*Polyalthia cerasoides* Hk. F & T.	Chilakadudi	Anonaceae	tree	common	Bark powder is applied on wounds.
40	*Pongamia glabra* Vent.	Kanuga	Fabaceae	tree	common	Leaf, fruit are used as antiseptic. Leaf juice is used with pepper for snake bite.
41	*Rivea hypocrateriformis* Choisy.	Pathalabhiravi	Convolvulaceae	climber	rare	The leaf powder is applied with Datura metal leaf powder and sonthi, pippallu miriyalu and camphor for cattle wounds.
42	*Ruellia tuberosa* L.	Chitamatalu	Acanthaceae	herb	common	Leaf juice is applied at the bitten site for scorpion bite
43	*Sacchopetalum tomentosum* Hk. F & T.	Barrededi	Anonaceae	tree	common	Bark powder is applied on wounds.
44	*Sesamum indicum* L.	Nuvvulu	Pedaliaceae	herb	cultivated	leaf paste is applied on wounds
45	*Sida cardifolia* L.	Gayapaku	Malvaceae	herb	common	Leaf paste with gum of Nallichettu (*Vitis quandrangularis*) for wound healing.
46	*Soymida febrifuga* A. Juss.	Somi	Meliaceae	tree	vulnerable	it is used for snake bite. leaf ?
47	*Strychnos nuxvomica* L.	Mushti	Loganiaceae	tree	vulnerable	Bark powder is made into capsules and given three times a day for snakebite
48	*Strychnos potatorum* L. f.	Chilla	Loganiaceae	tree	vulnerable	seed is rubbed on a rough surface and the paste is applied for scorpion bite.leaves and bark also are medicinal
49	*Tamarindus indicus* L.	Chinta	Caesalpinaceae	tree	common	The seeds are made into gandham and applied for scorpion bite.
50	*Tephrosea purpurea* Pers.	Vempali	Fabaceae	herb	common	whole plant is used for snakebite and scorpion bite
51	*Terminalia tomentosa* W & A.	Tellamaddi	Combretaceae	tree	common	Bark powder is applied to wounds of cattle.
52	*Tridax procumbens* L.	Gaddi chamanthi	Asteraceae	creeper	common	Leaf yuice is applied to cut wounds and poisonous bites
53	*Ventilago lanceolata* Gamb.	Kodanda, Errateega	Lentibulariaceae	climber	rare	The bark is used for wounds and leaf juice is poured into eyes for snakebite.
54	*Woodfordia floribunda* Salisb.	Yerrajaji	Combretaceae	shrub	common	Bark is pounded and made into powder and applied on wounds of cattle.
55	*Xylia dolabriformis* Taub.	Bojja	Caesalpinaceae	tree	common	Bark powder is applied on wounds.
56	*Zizyphus aenoplea* Mill.	Parika	Rhamnaceae	shrub	common	Bark powder is applied on wounds.