



SOME IMPORTANT MEDICINAL PLANTS OF DEHRADUN ZOO, UTTARAKHAND

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ABSTRACT

Medicinal plants are commonly used in treating and preventing specific ailments, diseases and considered to play significant role in health care. The present study provides information about some (23 species) important medicinal plants belonging to 15 families from Dehradun Zoo, formerly known as Malsi Deer Park, Dehradun Uttarakhand.

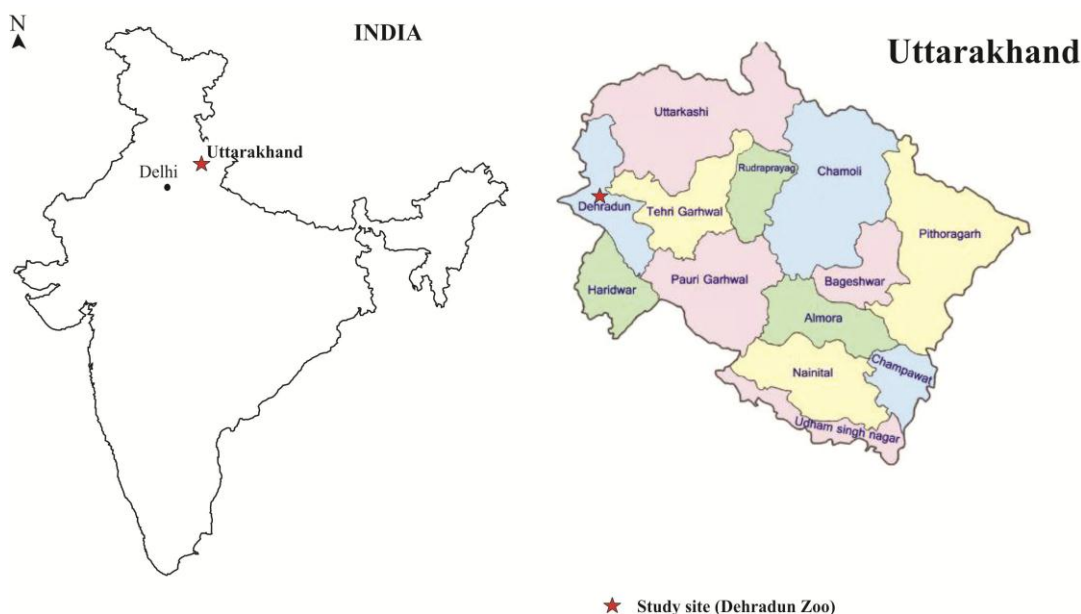
KEY WORDS: Medicinal plants, ailments, species, Dehradun Zoo.

INTRODUCTION

Medicinal plants have played an essential role in the development of human culture. In ancient period when allopathic treatments were not known, in search for rescue for their diseases, the people looked for drugs in nature. Even till now these practices are continue in the form of ayurvedic treatment.^[1] Here we are presenting some important medicinal plants of Malsi Deer Park (Dehradun Zoo), Dehradun Uttarakhand.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The plant materials were surveyed in Dehradun Zoo, Dehradun Uttarakhand (Fig. 1) mainly in the winter season. The study site (78°07'43'' E longitude & 30°39'02'' N latitude) is about 10 kms away from the city and is situated in the foot of famous hill station Mussoorie. The plants were identified on the basis of relevant literatures.^[2-5]



★ Study site (Dehradun Zoo)

Fig. 1: Location map of the study site.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

On the basis of our study following observations and results have been made which are summarized in the following table:

Table 1: Medicinal plants recorded from Dehradun Zoo (formerly known as Malsi Deer Park), Dehradun Uttarakhand.

Botanical Name	Family	Common Name	Habit	Part Use	Medicinal Value
<i>Achyranthus aspera</i>	Amaranthaceae	Latjira	Herb	Flowers	In rheumatism, dysuria, itching, heart diseases
<i>Aerva sanguinolenta</i>	Amaranthaceae	Safed Phulia	Herb	Specially leaves. Roots and flowers are also used	In medicines to cure dysentery
<i>Ageratum conyzoids</i>	Asteraceae	Fulnia	Herb	Whole plant	In piles, wounds, skin diseases, burns, swelling etc.
<i>Alternanthera sessilis</i>	Amaranthaceae	Gudrisag	Herb	Leaves, stem and root	In burning sensation, diarrhea, skin diseases and fever
<i>Amaranthus spinosus</i>	Amaranthaceae	Cholai	Herb	Leaves, seed and root	In eczema, leucorrhoea, nausea, colic etc.
<i>Anisomeles ovate</i>	Lamiaceae	Gobara/ Kalabangra	Herb	Whole plant	Root powder is mix with milk to avoid nocturnal

					emissions, oil is used for uterine infections
<i>Asparagus racemosus</i>	Liliaceae	Satmuli	Shrub	Roots and leaves	In constipation, stomach ulcers, pain, cancer, diabetes etc.
<i>Bacopa procumbens</i>	Scrophulariaceae	Brahmi	Herb	Root, stem and leaves	In indigestion, asthma, infertility etc.
<i>Bidens biternata</i>	Asteraceae	Chirchitta	Herb	Whole plant	In cuts and wounds, roots chewed in dysentery
<i>Cannabis sativa</i>	Cannabaceae	Bhang	Herb	Flower	In cough, Bark is used in piles, leaves in eczema
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Brassicaceae	Tuntkya/Botlya	Herb	Whole plant	In blood pressure, diarrhea, vomiting, cuts and wounds etc.
<i>Chenopodium ambrosioides</i>	Chenopodiaceae	Bathua	Herb	Dried leaves, flower and seeds	In cough, asthma and piles
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	Poaceae	Doob	Shrub	Stem and leaves	In dysuria, ulcer, burning sensation, vomiting, abortion, bone fracture etc.
<i>Datura stramonium</i>	Solanaceae	Kala Dhatura	Herb	Seeds, flower and leaves	In asthma, headache, in itching, skin diseases etc.
<i>Euphorbia hirta</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Dudhi	Herb	Leaves	In cough, asthma, vomiting etc.
<i>Lantana camera</i>	Verbenaceae	Kuri- ghass	Shrub	Leaves and fruits	In skin disorders
<i>Lindenbergia indica</i>	Scrophulariaceae	Makria-jhar	Herb	Root, fruit and seeds	In chronic bronchitis, toothache, skin cuts and wounds
<i>Ocimum sanctum</i>	Lamiaceae	Tulsi	Herb	Whole plant	In heart and blood diseases, leucoderma, asthma, vomiting, mosquito bites
<i>Oxalis corniculata</i>	Oxalidaceae	Chalmori	Herb	Flowers and leaves	In piles, fever, healing of fracture bones etc.
<i>Papaver somniferum</i>	Papavaraceae	Afim	Herb	Ripe seeds	In dysentery, cough, fever, anaemia, diarrhea

					etc.
<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>	Asteraceae	Gajarghass	Herb	Whole plant	In malaria fever, dysentery, ringing in the ears etc.
<i>Solanum nigrum</i>	Solanaceae	Makoi	Herb	Whole plant	In swelling, cough, headache, disease of nose etc.
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Caryophyllaceae	Chickweed	Herb	Leaves, stem and flower	In irritation of skin, painful liver, ulcer, eye diseases, burns, respiratory problems etc.

Among the families, Amaranthaceae is dominant (4 plant species) followed by Asteraceae (3 plant species), Lamiaceae, Scrophulariaceae and Solanaceae (2 plant species) and remaining families represented by single species each. The present vegetative structure of the study area is 95.6% herbs followed by 4.4% shrubs. The modern civilization is at high pedestals in the field of medicine and treatment of various ailments, these facilities have not reached to the people who live far away from the towns, these societies still completely depends on the traditional methods of treatment. These people believe that these are easily available and have no side effects as compared to modern medicine. So, it is very necessary to conserve such wealth and Dehradun zoo is proving a milestone in this regard. In a survey conducted for 181 zoos in the world regarding to their conservation practices, the Dehradun Zoo secured tenth position amongst them.^[6]

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