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Research Article

ETHNO MEDICINAL SURVEY OF MEDICINAL PLANTS USED TO CURE WOUNDS IN DARIKAL GAON OF TEZPUR IN ASSAM, NORTH EAST INDIA

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ABSTRACT
The people residing in Darikal gaon village in Tezpur of Assam mostly depend on the vegetation around them for the prevention as well as the treatment of diseases and ailments. The present ethnomedicinal survey was carried out in Darikal gaon village for the documentation of important medicinal plants used for wound healing. Ethnomedicinal information was gathered through questionnaire from the people of Darikal gaon (Tezpur) in Assam of North east India. We have reported 19 species of medicinally important plants belonging to 16 families.
Key words: Darikal gaon, wounds, Tezpur, Assam

INTRODUCTION

Assam is endowed with a rich wealth of medicinal plants. Since time immemorial man has used various parts of plants in the treatment and prevention of many ailments[1]. Traditional medical practice has been recognized by the World health Organization (WHO) as a building block of primary healthcare[2]. Many traditional practitioners across the world particularly in countries like India and China with age old traditional practices have valuable information of many lesser-known hitherto unknown wild plants used by the traditional healers for treating wounds and burns. Assam has a rich tradition of folk medicinal practices. Besides the established systems of Ayurvedic and Unani medicine, folk medicinal practitioners have dispensed for hundreds if not thousands of years medicinal plant preparations for treatment of a wounds[3,4]. But Rapid fragmentation of natural habitats is greatly narrowing the distribution of this plant and increasing the risk of losing genetic diversity[5]. As a result the medicinal quality of these plants remains unknown.

The objective of the present study was to conduct an ethnomedicinal Survey of medicinal plants used to cure wounds in village Darikal gaon of Tezpur in Assam, North east India.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Area of survey

The survey was conducted in a small village name Darikal gaon which is situated in Tezpur, Assam. Tezpur is an ancient city in Assam of North east India which falls roughly between 26° 38′ N and 92° 48′ E .



Methodology

The study area was surveyed randomly from December 2011 to January 2012. Interviews and detailed personal discussions were conducted with the local people who have unique knowledge about the medicinal uses of plants. The discussions contain the details of the plants, parts used, medicinal uses, mode of preparation. The collected plants were identified taxonomically using the Indian medicinal plant literature to ascertain the nomenclature[6-11].

RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS

The present survey revealed the ethnomedicinal knowledge of people in village Darikal gaon (Tezpur). The people of this village used 19 species of plants belonging to 16 families. Among different plant parts used by this people, the leaves are used most frequently to cure wounds and they applied mostly on the external surface of the body. Generally fresh part of the plant can be used for the preparation of medicine. When it is not in available condition the dried leaves or roots are also used. From this present survey it is clear that the people of Darikal gaon possess knowledge of medicinal plants and has ability to cure wounds with their knowledge. The list of the plants and their family, local name, parts used and mode of preparations were described given below;

Euphorbia hirta L
Family: Euphorbiaceae
Local name: Paal chedi
Parts used: whole plant
Mode of preparations: Plant is first grind into paste and then the paste is slightly heated and applied on the wounds.

Amaranthus tricolor **L.**
Family: Amaranthaceae
Local name: Bishalya karani
Parts used: leaves
Mode of preparations: Leaf paste is mixed with spit and applied to cuts and wounds for quick heal.

Eupatorium odoratum **L**
Family: Astraceae
Local name: Jarmani bon
Parts used: leaves, young shoots
Mode of preparations*:* Leaf paste is mixed with spit and applied to wounds for quick heal.

Hydrocotyle sibthorpioides **Lamk.**
Family:Apiaceae
Local name: Khoru manimuni
Parts used: leaves
Mode of preparations: Leaves are grind into paste and mixed with coconut oil and applied to wounds before going to bed at night.

Centella asiatica **L.**
Family: Apiaceae
Local name: Bor manimuni
Parts used: leaves
Mode of preparations: Leaf paste is applied to wounds.

Drymaria cordata **L .**
Family: Caryophyllaceae
Local name: Lai Jabor
Parts used: leaves
Mode of preparations: Leaves are crushed with spit and applied on the wounds.

Eclipta prostrata **L**
Family: Asteraceae
Local name: Keheraj
Parts used: roots
Mode of preparations: Roots are grind into paste and mixed with coconut oil and applied in wounds.

Oroxylum indicum L.
Family: Bignoniaceae
Local name: Bhatghila
Parts used: seeds
Mode of preparations: Dry the seeds in the shade powder it and Powder is applied in wounds.

Ageratum conyzoides L
Family: Asteraceae
Local name: Ghondva Bon
Parts used: Leaf, young shoot
Mode of preparations: Paste and juice is applied in injured portion of Cut and wounds.

Curcuma longa L
Family: Zingiberacea
Local name: Haladhi
Parts used: rhizome
Mode of preparations: Rhizome is grind into paste and mixed with mustard oil and applied on the wounds.

Aegle marmelos
Family: Rutaceae
Local name: Bel
Parts used: leaves
Mode of preparations: leaves are grind into paste along with black pepper, slightly heated and applied on the wounds.

Delonix regia
Family: Fabaceae
Local name: Krishnochura
Parts used: leaves
Mode of preparations: Leaves are crushed and applied on the wounds.

Dillenia indica L.
Family: Dilleniaceae
Local name: Otenga
Parts used: barks
Mode of preparations: Barks are dipped in water for overnight and then grind into paste and applied on the wounds.

Azadirachta indica
Family: Meliaceae
Local name: neempat
Parts used: leaves
Mode of preparations: Boiled leaves water are used for washing the wounds. And leaves paste mixed with mustard oil is also used for wound healing.

Clitonia ternatea
Family: Papilonaceae
Local name:Aparajita
Parts used: roots
Mode of preparations: Roots paste is applied on the wounds.

Mimosa pudica
Family: Mimosaceae
Local name: nilaj bon
Parts used: leaves
Mode of preparations: Leaves are crushed along with *Eupatorium odoratum* and applied on the wounds.

Argemone maxicana
Family: Papaveraceae
Local name: Siyal kata
Parts used: roots
Mode of preparations: Roots paste is applied on the wounds

Alocasia indica
Family: Araceae
Local name: kochu
Parts used: stems

Mode of preparations: Stems are cut and its juice is applied on the wounds.

Blechnum Orientae L.

Family: Blechnaceae

Local name: Bonoria dhekia

Parts used: Fronds

Mode of preparations: Fronds are crushed and is applied on the wounds.

CONCLUSION

In the North East India, plant species have been used luxuriantly by the people in their daily life. In recent years the number of plant species has been decreased due to rapid fragmentation of natural habitats. Hence further studies are required to exploit the medicinal importance of these plants, which can serve as a potential source of discovery of newer and efficacious drugs for wound healing. But proper care should be taken for their conservation by both in-situ as well as ex-situ conservation methods.

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