



Medicinal importance of some weeds of Aurangabad district, Maharashtra, India

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Abstract

The species which grow on their own, without human efforts can be termed as weeds. They are in general harmful to the crops and can dominate the vegetation if not cared for. Many of the weeds are useful for various purposes. Indigenous medical practices have identified the usefulness of about 28 weed species of Aurangabad District as source of medicine. Present paper deals with studies on some medicinal weeds of Aurangabad District in form of botanical name, family, local name, parts used and medicinal uses.

INTRODUCTION

Aurangabad is one of the district of Maharashtra state of India. It is the headquarter and principal city of Marathwada region. The district covers an area of 10,100 km², out of which 141.1 km² is urban area and 9,958.9 km² is rural. Aurangabad district is a major tourism region in Marathwada. The district is located between 19^o 18' and 20^o 40' North latitudes and 74^o 40' and 76^o 40' East longitude on world map. The average rainfall of Aurangabad district is 734 mm, and the temperature range is about 9–46 degrees Celsius.

The species which grow on their own, without human efforts can be termed as weeds. They are in general harmful to the crops and can dominate the vegetation if not cared for. The weeds are of no use as they are harmful to crop. They are generally controlled from crop fields and destroyed. Many of the weeds are found to be medicinally important. Such weeds can be collected from crop fields and used for curing the diseases. The present paper deals with studies on some medicinal weeds of Aurangabad District in form of botanical name, family, local name, parts used and medicinal uses. Similar studies on medicinal plants of a particular

area were carried by different workers in different areas like Naik (1998), Mali and Bhadane (2011), Mohmmad Nafees Iqbal and Suradkar (2011), Lal and Singh (2012), Nag and Hasan (2013), Muley and Sharma (2013) but medicinal importance of weeds as a special was not found to be attempted in general. Present study is an attempt to study weeds in respect to their medicinal importance. Indigenous medical practices have identified the usefulness of about 28 weed species of Aurangabad District as source of medicine. Among these 28 species *Argemone mexicana*, *Corchorus olitorius*, *Euphorbia hirta*, *Solanum nigrum*, *Tridax procumbens* are most common in use.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present study is based on survey study of weed plants in different crop plants of Aurangabad District located between 19^o 18' and 20^o 40' North latitudes and 74^o 40' and 76^o 40' East longitude on world map during 2013-2015. The weed plants were collected from fields and brought to the laboratory. The plants were identified with the help of Flora of Marathwada- V. N. Naik (1998).

The medicinal value of weeds was verified with the knowledge of local people, aged rural folks, traditional ayurvedic practitioners, local herbal drug sellers and referring literature of Naik (1998), Trivedi (2003-2008), Mali and Bhadane (2011), Mohmmad Nafees Iqbal and Suradkar (2011), Lal and Singh (2012), Bhogaonkar and Ahmad (2012),

Nag and Hasan (2013), Muley and Sharma (2013), Biradar (2013).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Study revealed that 28 weed species of Aurangabad District are useful as source of medicine. The results are tabulated in the form of botanical name, family, local name, parts used and medicinal uses of weeds.

Sr No	Botanical name	Family	Local Name	Parts Used	Medicinal Uses
01	<i>Argemone mexicana</i> L.	Papaveraceae	Pivla Dhotra	Roots, Latex, Seeds	Jaundice, Expectorant, Stomachache, Skin diseases, Blood purifier
02	<i>Biophytum sensitivum</i> (Linn.) DC.	Oxalidaceae	Lajri	Entire plant	Biles, Wounds, Insect bites, Vaginal disorders, Piles, Cough, Kidney stones, Skin disorders
03	<i>Cadaba fruticosa</i> (L.) Druce	Capparidaceae	Habab	Leaves, Roots	Stomach disorders, Vermicide
04	<i>Celosia argentea</i> L.	Amaranthaceae	Kurdu	Leaves, Roots, Seeds	Diarrhea, Dysentery, Cooling, Diuretic, Sedative
05	<i>Cleome viscosa</i> L.	Cleomaceae	Pivli Tilvan	Leaves, seeds	Fever, Dysentery, Headache, Earache
06	<i>Corchorus olerarius</i> L.	Tiliaceae	Mothe Chonche	Leaves, Seeds	Fever, Dysentery, Appetiser, Digestive, Skin disorders
07	<i>Cressa cretica</i> L.	Convolvulaceae	Khardi	Entire plant	Cough, Expectorant
08	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i> (L.) Pers.	Poaceae	Durva	Entire plant	Piles, Dysentery, wounds, Coolant, Pain reliever, Skin disorders
09	<i>Cyperus scariosus</i> R.Br.	Cyperaceae	Nagarm- otha	Roots	Indigestion, Fever, Lactation, Vermicide
10	<i>Desmodium gangeticum</i> (L.) DC	Fabaceae	Salwan	Entire plant	Fever, Digestive, Diuretic, Urinary disorders
11	<i>Emilia sonchifolia</i> (L.) DC	Asteraceae	Hirenk- urni	Entire plant	Cut and Wound, Fever, Asthma, Liver disorders, Night blindness
12	<i>Enicostema axillare</i> (Lamk.) Raynal	Gentianaceae	Mamijwa	Entire plant	Bitter and aromatic tonic, Rheumatism, Typhoid, Indigestion
13	<i>Erigeron asteroides</i> Roxb.	Asteraceae	Sonsali	Entire plant	Diuretic, Fever
14	<i>Euphorbia hirta</i> Linn.	Euphorbiaceae	Dudhani	Entire plant	Wound healer, Cold, Asthma, Omitting Stomachache, Skin disorders
15	<i>Euphorbia thymifolia</i> L.	Euphorbiaceae	Dhakti Dudhi	Entire plant	Cough, Acidity, Baldness, Purgative, Skin disorders
16	<i>Hybanthus enneaspermus</i> (L.)F.Muell	Violaceae	Ratan Purush	Entire plant	Coolant, Diuretic, Demulcent and Emollient, Cough, Gonorrhoea, Headache
17	<i>Kyllinga bulbosa</i> Beau.	Cyperaceae	Nirvishi	Roots	Fever, Diabetes, Omitting, Skin disorders
18	<i>Launaea procumbens</i> (Roxb.) Ram. et Raj.	Asteraceae	Pathri	Entire plant	Bitter, Coolant, Demulcent and Emollient, Astringent, Skin diseases, Jaundice, Liver disorders

19	<i>Leucas cephalotes</i> (Roth.) Spreng.	Lamiaceae	Tumba	Entire plant	Prevent Abortion, Anhydrotic, Cough, Stimulant, Cold, Stomachache, Rheumatism, Swellings, Skin disorders
20	<i>Physalis angulata</i> L.	Solanaceae	Chirbutle	Entire plant	Diuretic, Skin disorder, Tonic, Asthma, Constipation
21	<i>Psoralea corylifolia</i> L.	Fabaceae	Bawchi	Seeds	Stimulant, Skin disorders, Intestinal worms, Leucoderma, Itches
22	<i>Solanum nigrum</i> L.	Solanaceae	Kamoni	Entire plant	Heart disorders, Digestive, Diuretic, Fever, Diarrhoea, Cough, Skin diseases, Inflammation,
23	<i>Solanum virginianum</i> L.	Solanaceae	Bhui ringani	Entire plant	Stomachache, Rheumatism, Body ache, Fever, Diuretic, Cough, Diaphoretic, Asthma, Toothache, Piles, Omitting, Gout, Headache, Kidney stone, Gonorrhoea, Vermicide
24	<i>Trigonella occulta</i> Del.	Fabaceae	Ranmethi	Leaves	Digestive, Wound healer, Indigestion, Convulsions, Dysentery
25	<i>Tridax procumbens</i> L.	Asteraceae	Ekdandi/ Jakhamjudi	Leaves	Kidney stones, Bronchial disorders, Wound healer, Vermicide, Astringent,
26	<i>Vernonia cineria</i> (L.) Less.	Asteraceae	Sahdevi	Entire plant	Fever, Urinary disorders, Eye disorders
27	<i>Vigna trilobata</i> (L.) Verdc.	Fabaceae	Ranmug	Leaves	Chronic fever, Eye irritation
28	<i>Xanthium strumarium</i> L.	Asteraceae	Landga	Leaves	Fever, Malarial fever, Chronic fever, Diuretic, Diaphoretic, Skin diseases, Blood purifier, anthelmintic, Cooling, Laxative, Tonic, digestive

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