

MEDICINAL WEALTH OF DINDORI FOREST DIVISION OF MADHYA PRADESH INDIA NEED CONSERVATION AND SYSTEMIC COLLECTION

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ABSTRACT

Dindori forest Division is one of the richest source of medicinal plants in Madhya Pradesh state. Present paper deals with the medico-botanical survey work of all the 7 forest ranges of Dindori forest division which describes 116 medicinal plants which are commonly used in Ayurvedic pharmacies/drug industries and are also used by local inhabitants. The plants are arranged in alphabetical order of their botanical names followed by Botanical description, parts used and their action etc.

KEYWORDS: Medicinal Wealth of Dindori, Rich source of Medicinal plants, Important for Ayurvedic pharmacies.

INTRODUCTION

Geographically Madhya Pradesh state is situated in the central part of India between latitudes 21.2°N-26.87°N and longitude 74°02'-82°49' E Out of which Dindori distt. lies between latitudes 22° 57' N and longitudes 81° 04.48' E. The district (area 6,128 Km²) is located on the eastern part of Madhya Pradesh bounded with the district of Jabalpur in the East, district Umaria and Anuppur in the North and North West, Mandala in South east, and Mungeli district of Chhattisgarh in the South.

The forest cover is about 60% of the entire area of the district. Dindori forest division is divided into total 7 ranges namely Shahpur, Dindori, Mahadwani, Amarpur, Samnapur, Bajang and Karanjiya with its respective beats. About 64% of the population belongs to tribal communities like Koel, Gond, Korwa, Baiga, and others.

Physiographically Dindori Forest Division falls under Satpura Range of hills. Mixed red and black soil usually alternates in this area. The red soils are light textured and usually devoid of lime concretions and free carbonates. The commonest form is sandy clay. They are usually deficient in nitrogen, phosphorus, organic matter and lime. Narmada and Silgi are major rivers as source of water flow in the district. Study was made to assess the potential of pharmaceutically important medicinal plants with the view to establish conservational aspect of high valued medicinal plants in the areas of study.

The studies on Flora, medicinal plants and ethnobotanically used medicinal plants in the treatment of various ailments by different tribal communities of Madhya Pradesh has been described by Maheshwari, 1964; Saxena 1986, Brijlal and Dubey, 1992, Varma *et al.*, 1993; Singh and Sharma, 2011; Ahirwar, 2011, 2015; Soni *et al.*, 2012; Ahirwar *et al.*, 2011; Prana and Ahirwar, 2013 and others. Use of medicinal plants were described in texts (Kirtikar and Basu, 1935; Jain, 1991 and Chopra *et al.*, 1956).

Forest

The vegetation of this division varies mostly on the influence of biotic factors like cultivation, fires, grazing, lopping, industrial development, construction of dams, road buildings and other human activities. Generally the forest present in Dindori division is gradually degrading. Almost four types of forest are found in Madhya Pradesh state namely (i) Northern tropical semi- evergreen forests, (ii) Tropical moist deciduous forest, (iii) Tropical dry deciduous forests, (iv) Tropical thorn forests. Main forest of Dindori forest division may be categorized as follows.



Source of Map: Google map.

Location of Dindori in Madhya Pradesh (India).



Map of Dindori Forest Division (M.P.) showing surveyed areas in various ranges.

Tropical dry deciduous forests

It is dominated by entirely deciduous and lower storey trees and shrubs consisting of several deciduous species giving the whole forest a look of dryness. The common tree species growing in this forest are *Ailanthus excels*, *Anogeissus latifolia*, *Boswellia serrata*, *Buchanania lanzan*, *Carissa* sp. *Cordia mecleodii*, *Careya arborea*, *Dalbergia latifolia*, *Diospyros melanoxylon*, , *Embllica officinalis* *Grewia* sp., *Gmelina arborea*, *Haldinia cordifolia*, *Mitragyna parviflora*, *Pterocarpus marsupium*, *Sterculia urens*, *Terminalia* sp. and a variety of smaller tree and shrubs like *Butea monosperma*, *Helicteres isora*, *Lagerstroemia parviflora*, *Wrightia* sp. *Ziziphus* sp., *Flacourtia* sp., and *Woodfordia fruticosa* etc. There are several climber species like, *Asparagus racemosus*, *Bauhinia vahal*, *Bryonopsis laceniosa*, *Celastrus paniculatus*, *Cissampelos pareira*, *Cryptolepis buchananii*, *Echnocarpus frutiscens*, *Smilax zeylanica*, and *Tinospora cordifolia*.

Tropical thorn forests

It is dominated by low thorny hard leaved evergreen trees and xerophytes. The common species of this forest are *Acacia catechu*, *A. nilotica*, *Aegle marmelos*, *Catunaregam spinosa*, *Carissa carandens* *Euphorbia nerifolia*, *Flaccortia indica*, *Mimosa pudica*. *Randia uliginosa*, *Ziziphus jujube*, *Z. xylopora*. The degraded stages present a picture of scrub or even dry grassland which is mostly found in most of the forest areas.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Medico-botanical survey of Dindori Forest Division covering Dindori district of Madhya Pradesh was conducted during December 2012. Plant materials were collected with mature plants having flowers and fruits and specific size of plant parts for standard herbarium

preparation. Characteristic features of the collected plant materials like, habit, habitat, flower colour, distribution and occurrence were recorded in field book. Collected plant materials were pressed under blotting sheets which were regularly changed at an interval of 2-3 days which depends upon the moisture content of the collected samples. Change of blotting sheet was usually made up to 6-7 times or till complete drying of the collected specimens. Poisoning of collected sample was done in 1% solution of Mercuric chloride in 90% alcohol. After poisoning, plant materials were shade dried and mounted on the standard herbarium sheet. Identification of mounted specimen was done with the consultation of different floras, followed by matching of the specimens with the standard pre-identified specimens kept in the Herbarium of the Institute. The herbarium vouchers and herbarium sheets are deposited in the Herbaria of National Vrakshayurveda Research Institute, Jhansi (Acronym-JHS).

While describing the concept of distribution i.e. abundant, common, sporadic and rare the study was conducted by the use of quadrat at least at 5 frequent spots in varying beats of different ranges of the study areas wherein for herbs quadrat sizing 5m², for shrubs 100 m² and for tree species a line transect with 500 meter line was used then density of the plants per unit area (herbs and shrubs) or line per 100 unit (tree species). Where in following distributional criteria were adapted

Distribution	Frequency herb	Frequency shrub	Frequency per 100 unit tree
Abundant	< 50	<20	< 25
Common	25-50	10-20	15-20
Sporadic	15-25	5-10	10-15
Rare	>15	>5	>10

Enumeration of medicinal plants

Enumerations of medicinal plants are arranged alphabetically with botanical names (Latin name) with Scientist name followed by Family name, Ayurvedic name (Ay. N.) and or Local name (L.N.), salient features of the plant and distribution with field number, occurrence and various uses of different parts in various systems of medicines are being given.

***Acacia catechu* (L.f.) Willd. (Mimosaceae)** Ay. N. Khadir, L.N. Khair Medium sized deciduous tree with hooked spines and flowers white in axillary pedunculate spikes, 7030, Pitari Beat, Samanapur, Range, sporadic.

Stem Bark: astringent.

***Acacia nilotica* (L.) Willd. (Mimosaceae)** Ay. N. Babbool, L.N. Babool. Medium sized tree with paired spines with yellow inflorescence and lomentum fruits, 7062, Mohanjira Beat, Amarpur Range, abundant.

Gum: Used in diarrhoea, dysentery, useful in diabetes mellitus.

Stem Bark: astringent, demulcent.

***Achyranthes aspera* L. (Amaranthaceae)** Ay. N. Apamarga, L.N. Chirchira, Chichdi. Perennial herb with terminal spikes, 6972, kandha Tola Beat, Karanjiya Range, common.

Plant: pungent, purgative, diuretic, dropsy, piles, boils, skin eruptions, colic and snake bite.

Seeds: emetic.

***Achyranthes bidentata* Blume. (Amaranthaceae)** Ay. N. Apamarga Bhed. Herb with fruites on spike, 6972, Kandha Tola Beat, Karanjyia Range, common.

Plant : diuretic, astringent.

***Acorus calamus* L. (Araceae)** Ay. N. Vacha, L. N. Vacha. Annual herb with aromatic creeping rhizomes. Leaves glabrous linear, 6970, Kandha Tola Beat, Karanjiya Range, rare.

Rhizomes: emetic, stomachic, in dyspepsia, colic, remittent fevers, nerve tonic, bronchitis, dysentery of children, insectifuge, in snake bite.

***Adhatoda zeylanica* Medik. (Acanthaceae)** Ay. N. Vasa, L. N. Adusa, Arusa. Bushy shrub with foetid smell, flower white, 7003, Chanda Beat, Bajang Range sporadic.

Leaves: used as antispasmodic, cough, chronic bronchitis, asthma, insecticidal.

***Adiantum lunulatum* Burm. (Adiantaceae)** Ay. N. Hanspadi, L. N. Mohini. Annual diffuse herb, 6926, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.

Whole plant: used in fever and erysipelas.

***Aegle marmelos* Corr. (Rutaceae)** Ay. N. Bilva, L. N. Bel. A medium sized thorny tree with trifoliolate leaves, flower small white, 6944, Dharay Gaon Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.

Ripe fruits: aromatic, cooling, laxative.

Unripe fruits: astringent, digestive, stomachic, in diarrhoea. Root bark: In intermittent fevers.

***Ageratum conyzoides* L. (Asteraceae)** Ay N. Sahadevi Bhed, Herb with blue/ white flower, 6998, Chanda Beat, Bajang Range, abundant.

Leaves: applied to cuts and sores and externally in ague.

Juice of root: antilithic.

***Ailanthus excelsa* Roxb. (Simaroubaceae)** Ay. N. Arlu, L. N. Maharukha. Tall tree with dense crown of leaves, flowers in axillary panicles, 7059, Mohanjira Beat, Amarpur Range, sporadic.

Bark: used in dyspepsia, tonic, febrifuge, expectorant, antispasmodic, chronic bronchitis and asthma, as astringent in diarrhoea and dysentery.

***Alternanthera sessilis* (L.) R.Br. (Amaranthaceae)** Ay. N. Matyakshi. Herb with white flower, 6964, Matiya Beat, Mehadbani Range, common.

Plant: galactagogue, cholagogue, febrifuge.

Stem and Leaves: Used in snake-bite.

***Amaranthus spinosus* L. (Amaranthaceae)** Ay. N. Tanduliya. Herb with greenish flower, 7021, Mohiti Beat, Samanapur Range, common.

Root: Menorrhagia, Gonorrhoea, eczema, Colic & lactagogue. Leaves & roots: Boiled given to children as laxative.

Plant: Snake bite.

***Anogeissus latifolia* (Roxb. ex. DC.) Wall. ex. Guill and Pers (Combretaceae)** Ay. N. Dhav, L. N. Dhawda, Safed Dhawda. Large tree with grayish white stem bark, 6919, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, abundant.

Bark: Bitter, astringent.

Plant: In scorpion sting and snake bite.

***Argemone mexicana* L. (Papaveraceae)** Ay. N. Swarnkshiri, L. N. Bharbhanda. Erect annual prickly herb with yellow latex, 7007, Chanda Beat, Bajang Range, common.

Root: used as alterative, in chronic skin diseases.

Seeds: laxative, emetic, expectorant and demulcent.

Seed oil: purgative, used in cutaneous affection.

Plant latex: used in dropsy, jaundice and cutaneous affection.

***Artocarpus lakoocha* Lam. (Moraceae)** Ay. N. Lakuch, L. N. Barahal. Tree, flowers yellow, 6987, Burgaon Beat, Karanjiya Range, rare.

Root: used in diarrhoea.

Fruits: laxative, tonic.

Plant: galactagogue, cholagogue, febrifuge, and in snake bite.

***Asparagus racemosus* Willd. (Asparagaceae)** Ay. N. Satmuli. Climber with creamy white flower, 6927, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.

Root: refrigerant, diuretic, aphrodisiac, antiseptic, antidysenteric, galactagogue and as demulcent in veterinary medicine.

***Bauhinia vahlii* Wt. & Arn. (Caesalpiniaceae)** Ay. N. Lata Kanchnar, L. N. Mahul, Mohlain. Gigantic climber with white or buff flowers, 6937, Sangrampur Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.

Seeds: tonic, aphrodisiac.

Leaves: demulcent.

***Bidens pilosa* L. (Asteraceae)** Herb with yellow flower, 6980, Pandri Pani Beat, Karanjiya Range, common.

Leaves: In Brazil leaves used as styptic and as vulnerary, applied to foul ulcers and swollen glands. In Gold Coast leaf Juice is squeezed into eyes or ears to cure eye or ear complaints.

***Boswellia serrata* Roxb. ex. Colebr. (Burseraceae)** Ay. N. Shallaki, L. N. Salai, Saliha. Large tree with pinnately compound leaves margin serrate, fruits trilobed capsule, 6953, Khuderi Beat, Mehadbani Range, sporadic.

Gum: diaphoretic, diuretic, astringent, in rheumatism, nervous and skin diseases.

***Bridelia retusa* Spreng. (Euphorbiaceae)** H. Khoja; Herb, L.N. Kasai. Tree with small globose fruits, 6913, Mohitara Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.

Roots and Bark: astringent, Bark with Gingili oil used as liniment in rheumatism.

***Bryonopsis laciniosa* (L.) Naud. (Cucurbitaceae)** Ay.N. Bahupatra. Climber with red fruit, 7033, Pitari Beat, Samanapur Range, common.

Plant: bitter, aperients, tonic, used in bilious attack, in fever with flatulence

Leaves: applied to inflammation.

***Buchanania lanzan* Spreng. (Anacardiaceae)** Ay. N. Priyal, L. N. Char, Chironji. Large tree with tomentose elliptic oblong leaves. 7014, Mohiti Beat, Samanapur Range, sporadic.

Gum: used in diarrhoea.

Kernel: used as ointment in skin diseases. Oil used as substitute for almond oil in native medicinal preparation.

***Butea monosperma* (Lamk.) Taub. (Fabaceae)** Ay. N. Palasha, L. N. Chheula. A middle sized tree with crooked trunk, trifoliate leaves and red flowers, 7052, Jaitpuri Beat, Amarpur Range, abundant.

Leaves: astringent, tonic.

Seeds: anthelmintic.

Flowers: astringent, diuretic, depurative and aphrodisiac.

Gum: astringent, used in diarrhoea and dysentery.

***Butea superba* Roxb. (Fabaceae)** Ay. N. Lata-Palash. Palash Lata. Climber with milky white flower, 7042, Jaitpuri Beat, Amarpur Range, common.

Leaves: juice given with curds and yellow zedoary in heat- eruptions of children.

***Caesalpinia decapetala* (Roth) Alston (Caesalpiniaceae)** Shrub with bright yellow flower, 6952, Shahpura Beat, Shahpur Range, abundant.

Leaf: Used in Vietnam as immunomodulator and antiinflammatory. In Japan it is used in neuralgia.

***Calotropis gigantea* (L.) R.Br. ex. Ait. (Asclepiadaceae)** Ay. N. Shwetark. L.N. Akaua. Shrub with white flower, 6901, Karopani Range, common.

Root Bark: used in dysentery, substitute for Ipecacuanha, diaphoretic, expectorant, emetic, in form of a paste applied to elephantiasis.

Tincture of leaf used in intermittent fever.

Latex: Irritant, in combination with *Euphorbia neriifolia* used as purgative.

Flowers: powder used in colds, cough, asthma and indigestion.

***Careya arborea* Roxb. (Lecythidaceae)** Ay. N. Kumbhi, L. N. Khumbi. Medium sized tree with large white flowers and globose fruit, 6959, Dhobi Beat, Mehadbani Range, sporadic.

Bark: astringent, demulcent, antipyretic and antipyretic in eruptive fevers particularly in small pox and snake bite.

Flowers: given with honey as demulcent in coughs and colds.

***Carissa carandas* L. (Apocynaceae)** Ay. N. Karmard, L. N. Karonda. Profusely branched spiny shrub, leaves oblong or subcordate, flower white, 6941, Sangrampur Beat, Shahpur Range, abundant.

Fruits: antiscorbutic, unripe fruits astringent.

Root: bitter, stomachic, anthelmintic.

Leaves: decoction given in remittent fevers.

***Cassia fistula* L. (Caesalpiniaceae)** Ay. N. Aragwadh, L. N. Sonari, Shonalu. Middle sized tree with yellow flower and cylindrical fruits, 6935, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, common.

Root: astringent, tonic, febrifuge, purgative.

Leaves: juice used in skin diseases.

Fruits: cathartic, antirheumatic.

Seeds: emetic.

***Cassia occidentalis* L. (Caesalpiniaceae)** Ay. N. Kasmarda. Herb with yellow flower, 6966, Matiya Beat, Mehadbani Range, sporadic.

Plant: febrifuge, purgative, diuretic and tonic.

Leaves roots and seeds: purgative.

Seeds & leaves: used externally in skin diseases, antipyretic.

***Cassia tora* L. (Caesalpiniaceae)** Ay. N. Chakramarda. Annual foetid herb with yellow flowers, 6920, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, abundant.

Leaves: laxative.

Seeds: in skin diseases like ringworm and itch.

Root: in snake bite.

***Catunaregam spinosa* Thunb. Triveng (Rubiaceae)** Ay. N. Madana, H. Mainphal. Tree with small globose fruit, 6955, Khudari Beat, Mehadbani Range, sporadic.

Fruit: irritating, emetic, used as fish poison. Fruit pulp: in dysentery, anthelmintic, abortifacient, Ground to coarse powder applied to tongue and palate for fever and incidental ailments of children during teething.

Bark: astringent, given internally and also applied externally when bone ache during fever, externally applied during anodyne in rheumatism.

***Ceiba pentandra* (L.) Gaertn. (Bombacaceae)** S.N. Swet Salmili. H. Swet Simul, L.N. Bilayati Semal. Tree with white flower, 7008, Chanda Beat, Bajang Range, cultivated.

Gum: tonic, alterative, astringent, laxative in bowel complaints,

Tender leaf: emollient, root: diuretic, in scorpion sting, unripe fruit: astringent, demulcent, root juice cures diabetes.

***Celastrus paniculatus* Willd. (Celastraceae)** Ay. N. Jyotishmati, L. N. Malkangani. Large shrub with simple leaves and small globose fruits, 7057, Mohanjira Beat, Amarpur Range, common.

Stem bark: abortifacient.

Seeds: bitter, laxative, emetic, stimulant, aphrodisiac, in rheumatism, leprosy, gout, fevers and paralysis.

Oil used in beriberi and powerful stimulant.

***Centella asiatica* (L.) Urban. (Apiaceae)** Ay. N. Mandukparni, L. N. Brahmi. Herb with reniform leaves and greenish flower and fruit, 6981, Pandri pani Beat, Karanjiya Range, common.

Whole plant: alterative, tonic, skin diseases and blood purifier.

Leaves: tonic, for improving memory, useful in syphilitic skin diseases.

***Chicorium intibus* L. (Asteraceae)** H. Kasni. Herb with blue flower, 6899, Dindori Range, sporadic.

Plant used as tonic, in fever, vomiting, diarrhea, and spleen enlargement, root: as stomachic and diuretic.

***Cissampelos pareira* L. (Menispermaceae)** Ay. N. Patha, L. N. Akandi. Annual climber with glabrous reniform leaves, flowers in spikes, 6962, Matiyari Beat, Mehadbani Range, sporadic.

Root: Bitter, antiperiodic, diuretic, purgative, stomachic, in dyspepsia, diarrhoea, dropsy, cough and urinary troubles.

Leaves: External application for itch.

***Coix lachryma-jobi* L. (Poaceae)** S. N. Gavedhuka, H.N. Gurlu. Herb with white grey fruit, 7015, Mohiti Beat, Samanapur Range, sporadic.

Seed: tonic, diuretic, root: menstrual disorder In Tongking grain: considered blood purifier and diuretic.

***Colebrookia oppositifolia* Sm. (Lamiaceae)** H. N. Binda. Pansra. Shrub, flower white like squirrel tail, 6910 Mohitari Beat, Shahpur Range, common.

Root: Preparation used in epilepsy.

Leaf: applied to wound, and bruises

***Convolvulus numularius* L. (Convolvulaceae)** Herb, flower white, 6922, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.

Whole plant: used as antioxidant and antibacterial.

***Cordia macleodii* (Griff.) Hk.f. (Boraginaceae)** L. N. Dahiman. Large tree with oblong to oblanceolate leaves fruit ovoid drupe, 6908, Kudwari Beat, Shahpur Range, abundant.

Stem bark: used in jaundice.

***Cryptolepis buchanani* Roem. & Schult. (Asclepiadaceae)** Ay. N. Krishna Sariva, L. N. Nagbel, Dudhibel. Climber with oblong elliptic leaves, 6933, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.

Leaves: toxic.

Plant: used in a preparation given to children as a cure for rickets.

***Curculigo orchioides* Gaertn (Hypoxidaceae)** S. name: Tala Muli, H. Kali Musali. Herb with white flower, 6905, Kudwari Beat, Shahpur Range, rare.

Rhizome: prescribed in piles, jaundice, asthma, diuretic, tonic, aphrodisiac, used as poultice for itch and skin diseases.

***Cuscuta reflexa* Roxb. (Convolvulaceae)** Ay. N. Akashvalli, L. N. Akashbel. Parasitic twinner, yellowish green colour, 7010, Mohiti Beat, Samanapur Range, sporadic.

Plant: purgative, used externally against itch, internally in protracted fever, infusion for washing of sores.

Seeds: carminative, anthelmintic, and alterative.

***Dalbergia latifolia* Roxb. (Fabaceae)** S. Shishapa, LN. Sisama. Tree with greenish pod, 6965, Matiyari Beat, Mehadbani Range, sporadic.

Plant: bitter tonic, stomachic, used in dyspepsia, diarrhoea, leprosy, obesity and worms.

***Dioscorea bulbifera* L. (Dioscoreaceae)** Ay. N. Varahikand. Climber, twinning to the left with cordate leaves and greenish flowers, 6925, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.

Tuber: used in piles, dysentery, syphilis and applied to ulcers.

***Diospyros melanoxylon* Roxb. (Ebenaceae)** Ay. N. Tenduka, L. N. Biripatta, Tendu. Middle sized evergreen tree with ovate elliptic leaves, fruits globose berry, 6940, Sangrampur Beat, Shahpur Range, abundant.

Stem bark: astringent. decoction used in diarrhoea, dyspepsia and as tonic.

Leaves: diuretic, carminative, laxative and styptic.

Dried flowers: useful in urinary, skin and blood diseases.

Elaeodendrum glaucum Pers (Celastraceae) H.N. Bakra, L.N. Kaikar. Evergreen tree, with white greenish yellow flower, 6945, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.

Leaf: Powdered leaf used for fumigation to relieve hysterical syncope.

Root: Fresh root bark rubbed into water to make paste and applied to swellings.

Elephantopus scaber L. (Asteraceae) Ay. N. Gojihva. Annual herb with dichotomously branched aerial stem, leaves cauline, inflorescence heads, 6934, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.

Plant: astringent, cardiac tonic, alterative, febrifuge and in snake bite.

Root: given to arrest vomiting, powdered with peeper applied to toothache.

Leaves: bruised and boiled in coconut oil applied to ulcers and eczema.

Root and leaves: in decoction form used as emollient, given in dysuria, diarrhoea, dysentery and swellings or pains in stomach.

Embelia robusta CB Clark. (Myrsinaceae) H.N. Vay bidang Bhed. L.N. Bidang. Shrub with small fruit, 6928, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, rare.

Fruit: antiseptic, carminative, anthelmintic.

Dried root bark" toothache.

Emblica officinalis Gaertn. (Euphorbiaceae) Ay. N. Amlaki, L. N. Anwla, Aola. Small tree with feathery branches and distichous leaves, flowers yellow, fruit globose berry, 6939, Sangrampur Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.

Fruits: considered as acrid, cooling, refrigerant, diuretic, laxative, diarrhoea and dysentery, jaundice, dyspepsia and cough.

Eugenia heyneana sensu Duthie (Myrtaceae) Ay. N. Kath Jamun. Tree flowers yellowish, fruit small in size, 7029, Pitari Beat, Samanapur Range, common.

Stem bark: astringent,

Leaf juice: used in dysentery,

Fruit juice: made into vinegar for stomachache, carminative and diuretic.

Seeds: used in diabetes.

***Euphorbia hirta* L. (Euphorbiaceae)** Ay. N. Brihatdugdhika, L. N. Bara dudhi, Dudhiya. Annual hispid prostrate herb with yellowish crisped hairs 6898, Dindori Range, sporadic. Plant: used in worms in children, bowel complaints and cough, juice in dysentery and colic, decoction in bronchial affections and asthma.

Latex: applied for warts.

***Euphorbia nerifolia* L. (Euphorbiaceae)** Ay. N. Snuhi, H. Senhur. Shrub, spiny with milky latex, 7031, Pitari Beat, Samanapur Range, sporadic.

Milky juice: used as purgative and expectorant, to remove warts and coetaneous eruption.

Root: used in scorpion sting and snake bite, antiseptic, fish poison.

***Evolvulus alsinoides* (L.) L. (Convolvulaceae)** Ay. N. Neel Shankhapushpi, L. N. Shankhapushpi. Erect or prostrate annual herb covered with silky hairs, flowers on peduncle with blue petal, 6951, Shahpura Beat, Shahapur Range, common.

Plant: bitter, tonic, febrifuge, vermifuge and in dysentery.

Leaves: made into cigarettes smoked in chronic bronchitis and asthma.

***Ficus benghalensis* L. (Moraceae)** Ay. N. Vat, L. N. Bad, Bargad. Large tree with aerial prop root, elliptic ovate leaves with subglobose orange red coloured receptacle, 7044, Jaitpuri Beat, Amarpur Range, sporadic.

Milky juice: applied externally for pains, in rheumatism and lumbago.

Stem bark: infusion given as tonic, astringent, used in dysentery, diarrhoea and diabetes.

Leaves: applied as poultice to abscesses.

***Ficus hispida* L. f. (Moraceae)** Ay. N. Kasth udumber, L. N. Bhuin Gular, Daduri. Medium sized tree with obovate hispid leaves, with sub-globose green coloured receptacle, 7040, Jhamul Beat, Samanapur Range, sporadic.

Fruits, seeds, and stem bark: used as purgative and emetic.

***Ficus racemosa* L. (Moraceae)** Ay. N. Udumbara, L. N. Umar, Gular. Large deciduous tree with subglobose or pyriform red coloured receptacles, 7012, Mohiti Beat, Samanapur Range, abundant.

Bark: astringent.

Root: in dysentery. Sap in diabetes.

Leaves: powdered and mixed with honey given in bilious affections.

Fruits: astringent, stomachic.

***Flacourtia indica* (Burm. f.) Merr. (Flacourtiaceae)** Ay. N. Vikankat. Small spinous tree with subglobose black fruit, 7046, Jaitpuri Beat, Amarpur Range, sporadic.

Fruits: used in jaundice and enlarged spleen.

Gum: given in cholera.

***Gmelina arborea* Roxb. (Verbenaceae)** Ay. N. Gambhari, L.N. Gamair. Middle sized tree with yellow flower, 6914, Mohitari Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.

Leaves: juice demulcent, used in gonorrhea, cough and to remove foetid discharges and worms from ulcers.

Plant: used in snake bite and scorpion sting.

***Grevia hirsuta* Vahl. (Tiliaceae)** Ay. N. Nagbala, H. N: Kukurbichha, Shrub with greenish fruit, 7038, Jhamul Beat, Samanapur Range, sporadic.

Fruit and root: used in diarrhea and dysentery,

Root: pounded in water and applied externally to hasten suppression and as dressing of wounds.

***Haldina cordifolia* (Roxb.) Ridsd. (Rubiaceae)** Ay. N. Haridru, L. N. Haldu. Large tree with cordate leaves, flowers in globose yellowish green head, 6963, Matiyari Beat, Mehadbani Range, sporadic.

Stem bark: febrifuge, antiseptic.

Plant: juice used to kill worms in sores.

***Hedychium coronarium* J. Koeing (Zingiberaceae)** Ay. N. Shati Bhed, L. N. Gulbakholi. Erect herb, flower white, 6988, Burgaon Beat, Karanjiya Range, sporadic.

Rhizome: used as carminative tonic stimulant, liver disorders, diarrhea, inflammation and pains.

Flower: used in eye complaints.

***Helicteres isora* L. (Sterculiaceae)** Ay. N. Avartani, L. N. Ainthi. Large shrub, with cordate leaves, fruit twisted capsule, 7047, Jaitpuri Beat, Amarpur Range, common.

Fruits: demulcent, astringent, useful in the gripping of bowels and flatulence of children.

Stem Bark: used in dysentery and diarrhoea.

Root: juice used in diabetes.

Root and root bark: expectorant, demulcent, astringent and antilactagogue.

***Hygrophylla auriculata* Sch. (Acanthaceae)** Ay. N. Kakilakshyam Talmakhana. Spiny herb with blue flower, 6947, Shahpura Beat, Shahpur Range, common.

Root decoction: diuretic,

Seeds: gonorrhoea and spermatorrhoea with milk sugar.

Leaf root and seeds: diuretic, applicable in jaundice, rheumatism, anasarca and urino-genital track diseases.

***Ichnocarpus frutescens* (L.) W. T. Aiton (Apocynaceae)** Ay. N. Sariva bhed, L. N. Dudhi. Climbing evergreen shrub lanceolate leaves with paired follicle, 6917, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.

Root: Substitute for Sarasparilla, demulcent, alterative, diaphoretic, diuretic, tonic, loss of appetite, fever, skin diseases, as blood purifier in leucorrhoea, syphilis and rheumatism.

Leaves: Decoction used in fevers.

***Imperata cylindrica* Beauv. (Poaceae)** H. N. Dub, Perennial herb with white flower, 6992, Jagatpur Beat, Karanjiya Range, abundant.

Root: as emollient, in Cambodia, mostly for fumigation of piles in china appreciated for restorative haemostatic and antifebrile properties.

***Jatropha curcas* L. (Euphorbiaceae)** S. Kananeranda. Shrub with greenish fruit, 7000, Chanda Beat, Bajang Range, sporadic.

Roasted nuts purgative, seeds: purgative

Plant juice: useful in scabies, eczema and ring worm.

Twigs: used as tooth brush for swollen gums,

Leaves: used as decoction and cataplasm to the mammae as a lactagogue,

Plant: fish poisoning.

***Kydia calycina* Roxb. (Malvaceae)** S. N. Pola, Pula. Tree with greenish fruit, 7049, Jaitpuri, Beat, Amarpur Range, common.

Leaves: pounded and made into paste applied in rheumatism and lumbago.

***Lagerstroemia parviflora* Roxb. (Lythraceae)** L. N. Lendia, Jarul, Senha. Small tree with white flower and trilobed fruit, 6912, Mohitari Beat, Shahpur Range, common.

Stem bark and leaves: purgative.

Root: astringent, stimulant and febrifuge.

***Lathyrus sativus* L. (Fabaceae)** S. N. Sandika, Triputi, H. Khesari. Creeping herb with violet flower, 7018, Mohit Beat, Samanapur Range, cultivated.

Seed oil: powerful and dangerous cathartic.

***Leonotis nepetifolia* (L.) R.Br. (Lamiaceae)** Ay. N. Granthiparni, L. N. Gathora Sankh. Annual herb flowers in axillary heads, corolla orange red, 6949, Shahpura Beat, Shahpur Range. Sporadic.

Root: crushed and applied on the breast when it swells and milk does not pass through the nipples.

Leaves: decoction used as tonic.

Flower heads: ashes applied to burns and scalds.

***Linum usitatissimum* L. (Linaceae)** S. Alasi; Herb, with blue flower, seeds brown shiny, 6931, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, cultivated

Dried seeds: used as demulcent, and in form of poultice in gout and stomachic swelling.

Stem bark and leaves: used in gonorrhea.

Flowers: nervine and cardiac tonic.

Oil: mixed with lime water used in burns.

***Madhuca longifolia* (J. Konig) J.F. Macbr (Sapotaceae)** Ay. N. Madhuk, L. N. Mahua. Large tree with white latex, leaves glabrous obovate to ovate, fruit berry, 6938, Sangrampur Beat, Shahpur Range, abundant.

Flowers: yield a distilled spirit which is astringent, tonic, appetizing, regarded as cooling tonic, used in cough in forms of decoction.

Bark: used in decoction as astringent and tonic.

***Mallotus philippinensis* (Lam.) Muell.- Arg. (Euphorbiaceae)** Ay. N. Kampillak, L. N. Sinduri. Small tree with young parts rusty pubescent, flowers in spikes, fruits tricuspid, covered with bright red granules, 6900, Karopani, Range, rare.

Fruits: glands and hairs on the fruits, bitter, anthelmintic, cathartic and styptic.

***Marsilia minuta* L. (Marsiliaceae)** S. Sunisannaka. Herb, aquatic fern, sporocarp green, 6989, Burgaon Beat, Karanjiya Range, sporadic.

Whole plant: used in epilepsy.

***Melia azadirach* L. (Meliaceae)** Ay. N. Mahanimb, H. Bakain, Tree with blue flowers, fruit yellow, 7036, Jhamul Beat, samanapur Range, sporadic.

Root bark: fruit, flower and leaves: deobstruent, resolvent, alexipharmic,

Flower and leaves: applied as poultice to relieve nervous headache,

Leaf juice: used internally as anthelmintic, diuretic,

***Mentha arvensis* L. (Lamiaceae)** Ay. N. Pudina herb, aromatic, 7016, Mohiti Beat, Samanapur Range, cultivated.

Dried plant: antiseptic, carminative, stomachic, refrigerant, stimulant, diuretic.

***Mentha piperata* L. (Lamiaceae)** L. N. Peppermint. Herb, aromatic with menthol, 7001, Chanda Beat, Bajang Range, cultivated.

Essential oil from plant: antiseptic, stimulant and carminative.

Whole plant: stimulant, stomachache, carminative, vomiting and as infants cordial.

***Mimosa pudica* L. (Mimosaceae)** Ay. N. Lajjalu, L.N. Chhui-mui. Under shrub with sensitive leaves and pink flower on heads, 7002, Chanda Beat, Bajang Range, sporadic.

Root: decoction used in piles and fistula.

Leaves: applied to hydrocoele.

***Mitragyna parvifolia* (Roxb.) Korth. (Rubiaceae)** Ay. N. Kadamb bhed, L. N. Mundi. Large tree with ovate leaves and glabrous stipules, flower heads globose creamy white, 6936, Sangrampur Beat, Shahpur Range, common.

Stem bark and root: given in fever and colic.

Stem bark: ground and made into a paste applied for muscular pains.

***Moringa concensis* Nimmo (Moringaceae)** Ay. N. Sigrū Bheda, Tree flowers red, 7023, Mohiti Beat, Samanapur Range, cultivated.

Root: used as stimulant in paralytic affections and intermittent fever, used in epilepsy and chronic rheumatism, carminative, stomachic, cardiac tonic.

Fruit: in liver and spleen diseases and paralysis.

Flowers: stimulant and aphrodisiac.

Seed oil: used externally in rheumatism.

Gum: used for dental caries.

***Murraya paniculata* (L.) Jack. (Rutaceae)** LN. Hotil, Shrub with yellowish green flower, 6986, Burgaon Beat, Karanjiya Range, sporadic.

Root bark: Ground root bark is rubbed and used on body swellings,

Leaves: Powdered leaf is used as application to fresh cuts.

***Nicotiana tabacum* L. (Solanaceae)** Ay. Name: Tambaku. Herb, flower pinkish white, 7011, Mohiti Beat, Samanapur Range, cultivated.

Leaves: sedative, narcotic, emetic, antiseptic used in rheumatic swelling, skin diseases, scorpion sting and fish poison.

***Nyctanthus arborescens* L. (Nyctaginaceae)** Ay. N. Shephalika, Harsringar. Small tree, with creamy white flower fragrant, 7055, Jaitpuri Beat, Amarpur Range, common.

Leaves: used in fever and rheumatism, fresh juice with honey used in chronic fever.

Leaf decoction: is also useful in sciatica.

Expressed leaf juice is used for intestinal worms.

***Nymphaea rubra* Roxb. ex. Andr. (Nymphaeaceae)** Ay. N. Raktakumudini, L.N. Kamal. Aquatic herb with perennating root stock, leaves orbicular, flowers pinkish, 6886, Karopani Range, abundant.

Rootstock: Powder given in dyspepsia, diarrhoea and piles.

Flowers: Decoction prescribed in palpitation of heart.

***Oroxylum indicum* Vent. (Bignoniaceae)** Ay. N. Shyonaka. Tree, flowers yellowish with brown streaks, 7017, Mohiti Beat, Samanapur Range, rare.

Root bark: astringent, tonic, useful in diarrhea and dysentery.

Stem bark: powdered with turmeric and cures sore backs of horses.

Tender fruits: carminative, stomachache

Seeds: purgative.

***Oxalis corniculata* L. (Oxalidaceae)** Ay. N. Amlika, LN. Changeri. Herb with yellow flowers, fruit capsule 7032, Pitari Beat, Samanapur Range, sporadic.

Leaves: cooling, refrigerant, stomachache, antiscorbutic.

Whole plant: used in scurvy diseases.

***Physalis minima* L. (Solanaceae)** Ay. N. Tankari, Herb with greenish fruit, 6997, Khannath Beat, Karanjiya Range, common.

Fruit: Tonic, diuretic, aperients.

Leaf: Leaf juice mixed with mustard oil and used in earache.

***Plumbago zeylanica* L. (Plumbaginaceae)** Ay. N. Chitraka, H. N. Chita. Herb, root brownish, flowers white, 6911, Mohitara Beat, Shahpur Range, common.

Root: appetizer, used in skin diseases, diarrhea, dyspepsia, piles.

***Pongamia pinnata* (L.) Pierre. (Fabaceae)** Ay. N. Karanj, L.N. Karanj. Small tree with pinnately compound leaves, white flowers with 1-2 seeded flattened pod, 7060, Mohanjira Beat, Amarpur Range, abundant.

Stem bark: In bleeding piles.

Seeds: Used in skin diseases like herpes and scabies. Oil used in rheumatism.

***Psoralea corylifolia* L. (Fabaceae)** Ay. N. Bakuchi, h. Babchi. Herb, flower pinkish, seed black, 7063, Mohanjira Beat, Amarpur Range, common.

Seeds: used as stomachic, anthelmintic, diuretic, leprosy, leucoderma and other skin diseases.

***Pterocarpus marsupium* Roxb. (Fabaceae)** Ay. N. Bijak, L. N. Bija. Large tree with pinnately compound leaves, fruit compressed pod, 6892, Karopani Range, rare.

Gum: Used as astringent, in diarrhoea and pyrosis, used for toothache.

Stem bark: Astringent.

Leaves: Useful in external application for boils, sores and skin diseases.

***Radermachera xylocarpa* (Roxb.) Roxb. ex K.Schum. (Bignoniaceae)** L.N. Jaymangal.

Tree, fruits like

Snake up to 3 feet length, 6957, Khudari Beat, Mehadbani Range, common.

Stem: wood oil used in cutaneous affections.

***Randia uliginosa* (Retz) Poir (Rubiaceae)** Ay. N. Gangati, H. N. Pindalu Tree with greenish fruit, 7053, Jaitpuri Beat, Amarpur Range, common.

Unripe fruit: Roasted in wood ashes and used in dysentery.

Root: Boiled in ghee used in dysentery.

***Rauwolfia serpentina* Benth. ex Kurz. (Apocynaceae)** Ay. N. Sarpagandha. Herb with white flower, fruit brownish black, 6991, Burgaon Beat, Karanjiya Range, cultivated.

Root: sedative, reduces blood pressure,

Leaves: decoction used in labours to increase uterine contraction, removal of opacities of the cornea of eyes.

***Ricinus communis* L. (Euphorbiaceae)** Ay. N. Erand, H. N. Arandi. Shrub with yellowish white flower, 6929, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.

Seeds: purgative, scorpion sting, fish poisoning.

Seed oil: purgative.

Leaves: applied to the head in headache and as poultice for boils.

***Rubia manjith* (Rubiaceae)** Ay. N. Manjishtha, H. N. Manjit. Climbing herb with yellow flowers, fruits brownish black, 6983, Pandripani Beat, Karanjiya Range, rare.

Root: tonic, astringent, blood purifier.

Stem: used in snake bite and scorpion sting.

***Schleichera oleosa* (Lour.) Oken. (Sapindaceae)** Ay. N. Koshamra, L. N. Kusum. Medium sized tree with brown colour young leaves, pinnately compound leaves 7043, jaitpuri Beat, Amarpur Range, common.

Stem bark: Astringent, rubbed up with oil as a cure for itch.

Seeds: Powder applied to ulcers of animals for removing maggots. Oil used for cure of itch and acne, efficient and stimulating agent for the scalp.

***Semicarpus anacardium* L.f. (Anacardiaceae):** Ay. N. Bhallatak, H. N. Bhilwa. Tree with black fruit, 6961, Matiyari Beat, Mehadbani Range, sporadic.

Nut: bruised and applied to osuteri to procure abortion, wormifuge.

Gum: used in scrofulous venereal and leprous affection and nervous debility.

***Shorea robusta* Gaertn. f. (Dipterocarpaceae)** Ay. N. Shal, L. N. Sal, Sarai. Large evergreen tree with simple leaves, inflorescence axillary or terminal panicle, 6918, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, abundant.

Resin: Astringent, detergent, in dysentery, aphrodisiac, gonorrhoea, weak digestion and also for fumigation.

***Sida acuta* Burm f. (Malvaceae)** L. N. Bariar. Undershrub with ovate acute leaves, yellow flowers, 6893, Karopani Range, common.

Root: Astringent, cooling, tonic, useful in nervous and urinary diseases and blood disorders.

***Smilax zeylanica* L. (Smilacaceae)** Ay. N. Chobchini Bhed. Climber with black fruits, 7025, Pitari Beat, Samanapur Range, common.

Root: used as substitute for Sarsaparilla in the treatment of venereal diseases, applied for rheumatism and pains in the lower extremities, used in blood less dysentery.

***Spilanthes calva* DC. (Asteraceae)** L. N. Akarkarha. Herb with yellow heads on terminal peduncles, 6896, Dindori Range, abundant.

Flower heads: Tincture used to relieve toothache and mosquito larvicide.

Seeds: Chewed for salivation during dryness of mouth.

***Sterculia urens* Roxb. (Sterculiaceae)** L.N. Kulloo. Tree with palmately lobed leaves, flowers yellow, 6943, Dharayagaon Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.

Gum: Used as substitute for tragacanth and in throat affection.

Leaves and tender branches: when steeped in water yield a mucilaginous extract which is useful in pleuro- pneumonia in cattle.

***Syzygium cumini* (L.) Skeels (Myrtaceae)** Ay. N. Jambu, LN. Jamun, Tree with jamuni colour fruit, 7020, Mohiti Beat, Samanapur Range, sporadic.

Bark: astringent.

Leaves: Boiled and used for sour eyes.

Fruit: used in liver diseases.

Seeds: Diabetes.

***Tephrosia purpurea* (L.) Pers. (Fabaceae)** Ay. N. Sharpunkha. Profusely branched undershrub with pinkish red flower, 6924, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, rare.

Plant: Tonic, laxative, used as anthelmintic for children, used internally as a purifier of the blood and considered as cordial.

Root: Bitter, given in tympanitis, dyspepsia and chronic diarrhoea.

***Terminalia bellirica* (Gaertn.) Roxb. (Combretaceae)** Ay. N. Bibhitaka, L. N. Bahera. Large deciduous tree with globose fruit, 7061, Mohanjira Beat, Amarpur Range, abundant.

Fruits: Bitter, astringent, tonic, laxative, antipyretic, used in piles, dropsy, diarrhoea, leprosy, biliousness, dyspepsia and headache.

Kernel: Narcotic.

***Terminalia tomentosa* W. & A. (Combretaceae)** Ay. N. Saradru, H. N. Asan. Tree, flowers greenish yellow in spike, 6942, Dharayagaon Beat, Shahpur Range, common.

Stem: bark decoction astringent used in diarrhea applied locally to ulcer, bark diuretic, cardiotonic.

***Thalictrum foliolosum* DC. (Ranunculaceae)** Ay. N. Peetamulika, H. N. Mameera. Herb, flower greenish, 6976, Pandripani Beat, Karanjiya Range, rare.

Root: tonic, purgative, diuretic, febrifuge, ophthalmic.

***Ventilago denticulata* Willd. (Rhamnaceae)** H. N. Rai Dhani. Climber with yellowish winged fruit, 6954, Khudari Beat, Mehadbani Range, rare.

Bark and Young Shoot: Juice of bark and young shoot applied over body during pain.

***Vernonia cinerea* (L.) Less. (Asteraceae)** Ay. N. Sahadevi. Annual erect or decumbent herb with flowers in heads on umbellate cyme, 7013, Mohiti Beat, Samanapur Range, sporadic.

Plant: Considered as diaphoretic, decoction used to promote perspiration in febrile conditions, used as a remedy for spasm of the bladder and strangury. Juice given in piles.

Root: Given in dropsy.

Flowers: Administered for conjunctivitis.

Seeds: Used as anthelmintic and alexipharmac.

***Vitex negundo* L. (Verbenaceae)** Ay. N. Nirgundi, L. N. Negar, Shivari. Small tree with trifoliate leaves, flowers blue, 6932, Surkhi Beat, Shahpur Range, sporadic.

Leaves: Aromatic, tonic, vermifuge, dried one smoked for relief of headache and catarrh, used in rheumatism, decoction with long peeper given in fever.

Root: Expectorant, febrifuge, tonic.

Dried fruits: Vermifuge.

Flower tops: Astringent, leucorrhoea and chronic diarrhoea.

***Woodfordia fruticosa* (L.) Kurz. (Lythraceae)** Ay. N. Dhataki, L. N. Dhai. Much branched shrub with spreading branches, flowers numerous bright red in dense axillary clusters, 6904, Kudwari Beat, Shahpur Range, common.

Dried flowers: Used as astringent, in dysentery, derangements of liver, disorders of mucous membrane and in haemorrhoids.

***Ziziphus mauritiana* Lamk. (Rhamnaceae)** Ay. N. Badar, L. N. Ber. Deciduous tree with spines and greenish yellow flowers, 7026, Pitari Beat, Samanapur Range, common.

Leaves: Form a plaster in strangury.

Fruits: Mucilaginous, styptic, purify blood, and aid digestion.

Root: Decoction used in fever and powder applied to wounds and ulcers.

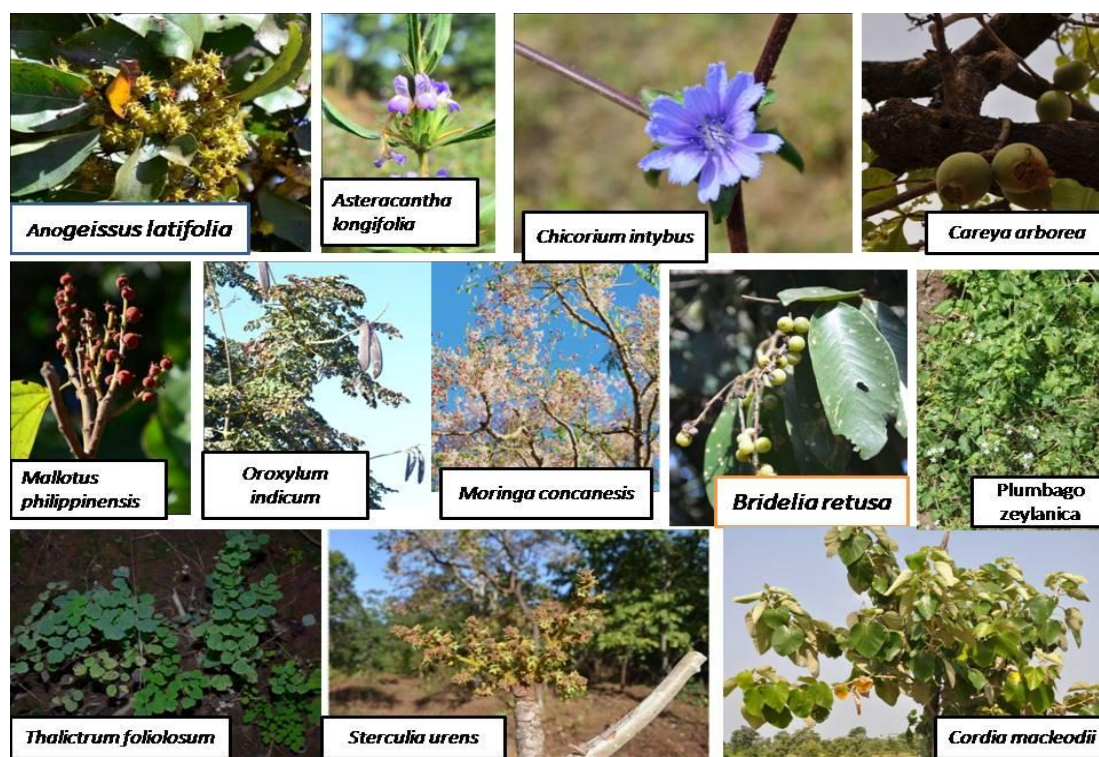
Bark: Considered to be a remedy in diarrhoea.

***Zizyphus xylopyrus* (Retz.) Willd. (Rhamnaceae)** Ay. N. Ghonta, L. N. Ghont. Small tree, greenish flowers with brown globose stony fruit, 7048, Jaitpuri Beat, Amarpur Range, sporadic.

Root bark: Decoction used to heal fresh wounds.

Fruits: Stomachic.

The paper is represented by photographs of selected medicinal plants (Photo plate-1.)



Photoplate-1. Photographs of some medicinal plants from Dindori Forest Division of Madhya Pradesh.

DISCUSSION

Dindori forest division falling under Dindori district of Madhya Pradesh is very rich in the above listed important medicinal plants as represented by over 100 species of medicinal

plants in a single Forest Division which is almost different from the medicinal plants wealth of adjoining divisions in the State like Satna (Maheshwari and Dwivedi, 1988; Jain, 1991; Prana and Ahirwar, 2013; Gaur and Lale, 2015). Soni et al. (2012) had described 34 ethnomedico botanical plants from Dindori district of Madhya Pradesh which are in use by tribal people of the areas.

The present account of herbal wealth of Dindori forest division highlights the information on important medicinal plants which are being exploited for their pharmaceutical use. The important medicinal plants used in Ayurveda and other system of medicines are *Acacia catechu*, *A. nilotica*, *Achyranthus aspera*, *Acorus calamus*, *Adhatoda zeylanica*, *Adiantum lunulatum*, *Aegle marmelos*, *Anogeisus latifolia*, *Centella asiatica*, *Celastrus paniculatus*, *Cissampelos pareira*, *Coix lachrymal-jobi*, *Embllica officinalis*, *Evolvulus alsenoides*, *Gmelina arborea*, *Hedychium coronarium*, *Helictera isora*, *Hygrophylla ariculata*, , *Madhuca indica*, *Mallotus philippensis* *Oroxylum indicum*, *Pterocarpus marsupium*, *Sida acuta*, *Sterculia urens*, *Tephrosia purpurea*, *Terminalia bellirica*, *Thalictrum foliolosum* and *Woodfordia fruticosa*, are most common in this division.

Maximum number of plants in Dindori Forest Division belongs to Fabaceae with 8 species, followed by Euphorbiaceae with 7 species and Asteraceae with 6 species, Families having four species are Amaranthaceae, Caesalpiniaceae, Rubiaceae however remaining families are represented by 3 species (Mimosaceae and Moraceae) with two species (Acanthaceae, Apocynaceae, Asclepiadaceae, Bignoniaceae, Celastraceae, Combretaceae, Convolvulaceae, Lamiaceae, Lythraceae, Malvaceae, Myrtaceae, Poaceae, , Sterculiaceae and Verbenaceae). Rest of the families like Anacardiaceae, Apiaceae, Araceae, Asparagaceae, Bombacaceae, Burseraceae, Cucurbitaceae, Dioscoreaceae, Dipterocarpaceae, Ebnaceae, Flaccortiaceae, Hypoxidaceae, Lacythridaceae, , Linaceae Marsiliaceae, Meliaceae, Moraceae, Moringaceae, Myrsinaceae, Nyctaginaceae, Oxalidaceae, , Papaveraceae, Plumbaginaceae, Ranunculaceae, Rhamnaceae, Rutaceae, Sapindaceae, Sapotaceae, Simarobalaceae, Smilacaceae, Solanaceae, Tiliaceae and Zingiberaceae are represented by only one species.

CONCLUSIONS

Dindori Forest Division is very rich in medicinal plants belonging to varying climatic zones from tropical to temperate. This information on the medicinal plant wealth of the area will serve as basic material for various research studies, besides being an important source of information for the pharmaceutical industries at large scale. After going through existing

position of distribution of medicinal plants in various forest areas of Dindori Forest Division it is concluded that the plants of *Acorus calamus*, *Adhatoda zeylanica*, *Adiantum lunulatum*, *Aegle marmelos*, *Anogeisus latifolia*, *Centella asiatica*, *Celastrus paniculatus*, *Cissampelos pareira*, *Evolvulus alsinoides*, *Helicteria isora*, *Mallotus philippensis*, *Thalictrum foliolosum* needs for mass cultivation whereas the plants of *Achyranthus aspera*, *Hygrophylla ariculata*, *Plumbago zeylanica*, *Sterculia urens*, *Tephrosia purpurea*, *Woodfordia fruticosa* and *Zizyphus mauritiana* have sufficient potential for systemic collection to avoid deficiency from natural habitat. Plants of *Caesalpinia decapetala* which is distributed in the areas of the Study areas is used in Japan (Kazunori Ogawa et al., 1992) and Vietnam.

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