



## FOLKLORE MEDICINAL PLANT IN CURE OF PILES

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### ABSTRACT:

The present study was conducted in the region of Nagbhid tehsil of Chandrapur district, Maharashtra during two consecutive years (August 2012 to Sept.2014) for documentation of ethnomedicinal importance of plants in cure of piles. Twenty three villages were visited and information was documented by contacting and interviewing traditional healers and patients during field work in this region. The information was documented involving field study by contacting and interviewing traditional healers for plants used in cure of piles. The medicinal plant *Moringa oleifera* Lam. was selected for the study. The patients who had used the medicines prepared by healers were also interviewed to document information of age group 18 to 78 years. To establish identity, the plants were collected for making herbarium record.

**Keywords:** *Traditional Medicinal Plant, Nagbhid tehsil, Piles.*

### INTRODUCTION:

A medicinal plants used by people for medicinal purposes and to maintain health or promote recovery from illness . Traditions of healthcare must always been features of human societies and from the available evidences it is found that plants are playing a lead role in the therapy (Srivastava, 2000). Even today the traditional medicines are supporting the primary healthcare of majority of people globally more than the conventional or allopathic medicines (Farnsworth et al., 1985). The plants have been used as medicines since the beginning of human civilizations (Hill, 1952) and have been a source of treatment of the common day ailments. People use their indigenous flora for negotiating their multidimensional requirements. Medicinal herbs make an effective source for the traditional and modern medicine (Abatan et al., 1986).

Folklore medicine is the mixture of traditional healing practices. It is a belief that involves herbal medicinal spirituality and manual therapies in ordered to



diagnose, treat or to prevent different ailments. It has been estimated that about 80% of the raw materials for drugs used in the Indian systems of medicine are based on plant products. In order to authenticate such drugs it is important to look for the ancient writings, scientific interpretations of folklore and field work among the aboriginals who are living in close association with plant wealth of the nation.

The objective of this study was to interact with local traditional healers and document their knowledge on medicinal plants, their usage and the types of diseases treated etc. Especially in this survey, documentation of use of *Moringa oleifera* plant or parts in cure of piles has been carried out and this is particular enticement of our field study.

#### **Study Area:Nagbhid Tehsil.**

Nagbhid is a town and tahsil in Chandrapur district of Maharashtra. The tribals invaded and localized in the Nagbhid Tahsil are Mana, Gond, Pardhan, Halba, Gond-Gowariand Paradhi. The survey includes all the tribal ranges of the study area. It also includes a major forest range which reveals the maximum diversity of the ethnomedicinal plants.

#### **MATERIAL AND METHODS:**

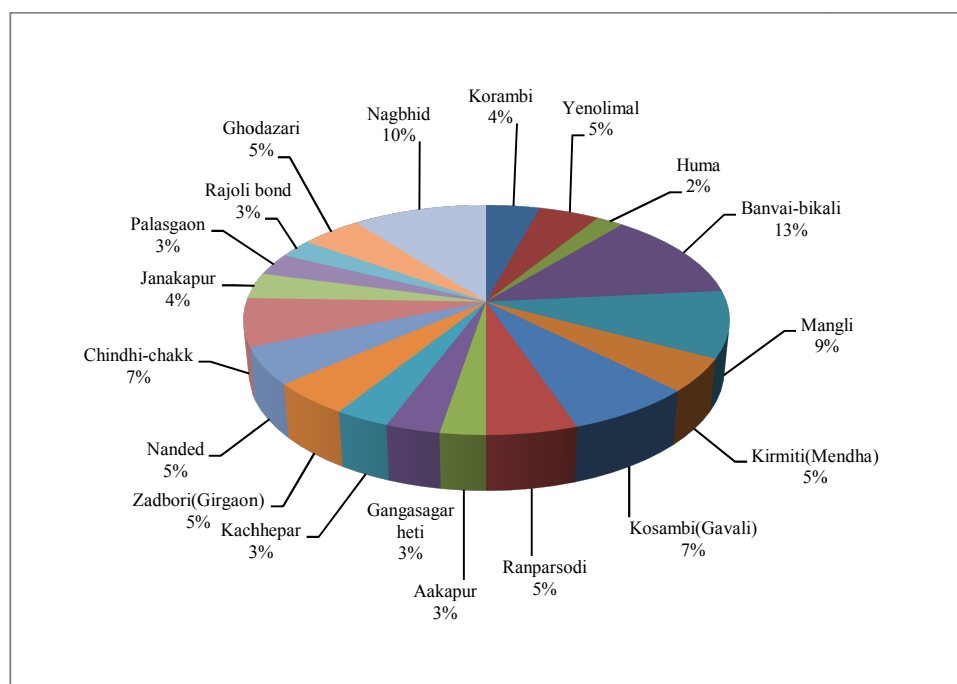
The study was carried out in the tribal region of Nagbhid tahsil during the period (August 2012 to Sept.2014). A large number of places were visited in tribal localities of Nagbhid tehsil. The 23 tribal villages were surveyed through periodical tours in tribal localities. The information was documented involving field study by contacting and interviewing Vaidu, Hakims and traditional and local herbal healers for plants used to cure piles. The tribals and other villagers who had used these medicines prepared by local ethnic medicine-men were also interviewed to document ethnobotanical information of age group from 18 to 78 years and were resident of tribal pocket in the tehsil. The botanical names, vernacular names, family and method of treatment and mode of preparation of drug have been documented.

The present documentation was not earlier reported. Voucher specimens of medicinal plants were collected, prepared and identified. All the preserved specimens were deposited at the Department of Botany, R. M. Gandhi Arts & Science College, Nagbhid, Dist. Chandrapur (M.S.).

**OBSERVATIONS:**

The tribals invaded and localized in the Nagbhid tahsil are Mana, Gond, Parashran, Halba, Gond-Gowari and Paradhi. These tribes as per socio religious rituals worship nature. The wealth of medicinal plant knowledge among the people of this tehsil is based on hundreds of years of beliefs and observations. This knowledge has been transmitted orally from generation to generation. Tribals collect different parts of plant for medicinal purposes. The tribals and peoples of adjoining areas were observed suffering from piles. The medicinal plant *Moringa oleifera* Lam. is the most commonly used herbal drug in the treatment of piles in this region. The dosages for control of this disease are described as below.

The patients suffering from piles are cured by oral administration of 10 ml inner stem bark extract of *Moringa oleifera* with 100 ml curd once a day for 3-7 days. The patients cured by using this treatment in different villages are shown in Fig. 1.



**Fig.- 1. % of Patients cured suffering from piles in different villages**

**DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION:**

The Folklore plants healing certain ailments is long term process. Proper utilization and applications of these formulations are highly effective and early curable. (Rama Shankar and Rawat, 2012). These plants have adequate curative



properties, due to the presence of various complex secondary metabolites of different chemical composition found in one or more parts of the plants. The ethnobotanical survey can bring out many different clues for the development of drugs to treat human diseases. Safe, effective, and inexpensive indigenous remedies are gaining popularity equally among the people of both the urban and rural areas, especially in India and China (Katewa et al., 2004). Silja et al, (2008) reported the oral administration of leaf juice or bark paste in cure of piles and constipation by Mullu kuruma tribe of Wayanad district from Kerala. (Rahmatullah et al, 2010) reported the use of fruits of *M. oleifera* in the treatment of haemorrhoids by FMPs of three areas of Pirojpur district in Bangladesh. The tribal community depends for their medical aid on local and traditional healer existing near habitat. The number of the patients interviewed in 23 villages for using these herbal medicines in cure of piles or haemorrhoids.

The information as a outcome of study will serve as a useful tool to botanists, pharmacologists, practitioner of herbal medicine, foresters, planners and administrators in the preparation of action and development plans for the conservation.

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