



## ETHNOMEDICINAL PLANTS USED FOR HAIR TREATMENT BY TRIBALS OF DHARAMPUR TALUKA, GUJARAT

A. P. Raut and N. S. Suryawanshi\*

Research Laboratory, Department of Botany, K. V. Pendharkar College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Dombivli-E 421203 Maharashtra, India.

Article Received on  
17 Nov. 2020,

Revised on 08 Dec. 2020,  
Accepted on 29 Dec. 2020

DOI: 10.20959/wjpps20211-18127

### \*Corresponding Author

N. S. Suryawanshi

Research Laboratory,  
Department of Botany, K.  
V. Pendharkar College of  
Arts, Science and  
Commerce, Dombivli-E  
421203 Maharashtra, India.

### ABSTRACT

Since time immemorial, Man has started using the plants to diminish sufferings and diseases. The present study attempts to investigate and document the medicinal plants used against hair care by the tribal and rural community of Dharampur area of district Valsad. During the survey from March to September 2019, a total of 24 different plant species belonging to equal number of genera and 20 different families were found to be used as effective remedies. The information regarding the treatment of hair ailments and hair care along with its formulation are recorded. In this paper, the botanical name, local name and family of these plant species along with their parts used and mode of its formulation are presented.

**KEYWORDS:** Ethnomedicine, Hair care, Dharampur, Valsad.

### INTRODUCTION

In human care system, Ethnomedicine has been playing a very important role since time immemorial. This practice of health care is based on belief and experience of the ethnic people, which is a part of their tradition and culture. In modern era, the traditional system of medicines and ethnobotanical studies has become a worldwide tendency in the different parts of globe. This application of health care is based on faith and knowledge of the ethnic inhabitants, which is a part of their ritual and traditions. There has been an increased requirement of herbal remedy in international trade because herbal drugs are cheap, more efficient, easily obtainable and without any side effects.

As hygienic necessity of hair care should be done as it protects the scalp and enhance the beauty of scalp and enhance the beauty of human. Due to inheritance, older age, deficiency in diet, cancer drugs (Chemotherapy), contagious (such as worms, lice, scabies, eczema, dandruff, etc.), using of synthetic products (soaps, shampoos and hair oils), etc. caused Hair disorder. Therefore, the utilization of herbal products is considered secure and free from allergic reaction. Thus, sources of natural plant drugs are required to be studied in detail.

Many workers have gathered and compiled data on the plant uses including medicinal properties. Silori & Rana have reported on indigenous medicinal plants from the tribal areas of Narayan Sarovar Sanctuary (NSS) district of Gujarat. Nirmal Kumar et al had mentioned the infectious diseases from tribal areas of Dangs forest, South Gujarat. Gavali & Diwakar studied most of the plants from the forests and agro-ecosystems of Gujarat, which is rich in biodiversity. Punjani & Kumar has laid more emphasis on certain less known and unrecorded uses of plants from Banaskantha and Sabarkantha districts, Gujarat state, India. Patil & Patil studied the ethnomedicinal plant species of Nashik district, Maharashtra.

To document the ethnomedicinal information from different talukas of Valsad district have been carried out from time to time, but the perusal of literature shows that no systematic study of locally available plants from ethno-medicinal point of view has been carried out in the area of investigation. Therefore, in the present study, an attempt has been made to document some medicinal plants used by the tribal and rural community of Dharampur area of Valsad district, Gujarat for curing various hair disorders.

## STUDY AREA

Dharampur taluka is situated in Valsad district in Gujarat state. Dharampur is located at 20.53°N 73.180E. It is sited on the bank of Swargavahiniriver and is bounded by the Sahyadri or Western Ghats range on the east, west and south. In these areas the tribal like Kholcha, Bhel, Nayakas, Koknas and Chaudhari are isolated in small pockets and they exclusively depend on ethnomedicines for the healing of different diseases. The tribal population is estimated around 91.92% in Dharampur region.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

The study was conducted in the year 2018-2019. Many field trips were conducted in rural and tribal pockets of Dharampur area. The gathered the information on ethnomedicinal plants through interviews with local tribal women (15- 50 years old) having knowledge of herbal

medicine for hair disorders were recorded in the field book. The information was documented for ethnomedicinal species regarding the local names, mode of preparation and mixtures of other plants used as ingredients along with their vernacular names. The photographs were taken along with their natural habitats during the field work. By using the floristic literature pertained to Gujarat (Shah, 1978; Patel, 1971) and the neighboring Maharashtra State (Almeida, 2003), the collected plants samples were identified.

## EXXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

Owing to the side effects and toxicity of synthetic drugs, Natural product sources plays a major part in the human hair care system. The utilization of natural plant resources for hair care was gathered from tribal informants as well as from women community from different villages of Dharampur taluka. The information regarding the treatment of hair ailments and hair care along with its formulation are recorded. After survey and critical screening 24 plant species belonging to 20 families of ethnomedicinal interest are documented.

In the present investigation 24 species of medicinal plants belongs to 20 families, total 24 genera were used for the treatment of different diseases of hair problems. Out of the 24 families 2 were belongs to monocotyledons and 20 families were dicotyledons. The major plant families used by the tribals for their hair care are Fabaceae, Liliaceae, Asteraceae, and Euphorbiaceae (02species) followed by Malvaceae, Plantaginaceae, Apiaceae, Lamiaceae, Amaranthaceae, Meliaceae, Asclepiadaceae, Lythraceae, Sapotaceae, Sapindaceae, Verbenaceae, Anacardiaceae, Annonaceae, Caesalpiniaceae, Dioscoraceae and Solanaceae. The plant species used by the tribals are mentioned in (Table .1) with their botanical & local names, family and plant parts used in various hair disorder.

**Table 1: Medicinal Plants used by tribal's for hair disorders.**

Sr.No.	Botanical Name/Family	Local name	Parts used	Mode of administration
1	<i>Abrus precatorius</i> L. /Fabaceae	Chanothi	Seeds	To promote hair growth which is loss due to alopecia, the paste of seeds is applied on bare scalp.
2	<i>Achyranthes aspera</i> L.. /Amaranthaceae	Anghedi	Roots	To cure dandruff and promotes hair growth, the paste of fresh roots is applied on scalp overnight.
3	<i>Allium cepa</i> L. / Liliaceae	Dungli	Bulb	To eradicate dandruff and kill lice, juice of bulb is applied on scalp.
4	<i>Aloe barbadensis</i> Mill. /Liliaceae	Kunwar	Leaves	To make hair silky and soft, the pulp from leaves is applied on hair for 3-4

				hours.
5	<i>Annona squamosa</i> L.. /Annonaceae	Seetaphal	Seeds	To eradicate lice and to dandruff from hair, paste of seeds is applied on scalp for six hours.
6	<i>Azadirachta indica</i> A.Juss/ Meliaceae	Limbo	Seeds, Leaves	To cure dandruff and remove lice, the crushed seeds and leaves are applied on the head.
7	<i>Bacopa nniari</i> /Plantaginaceae	Brahmi	Leaves	The leaves extract promotes hair growth as it activates protein.
8	<i>Centella asiatica</i> L.. /Apiaceae	Moti Brahmi	Leaves	Powder of leaves is soaked in oil and then boiled. This preparation is massaged well on head to prevent hair fall.
9	<i>Datura stramonium</i> L./ Solanaceae	Dhaturo	Seeds & Leaves	To stimulate hair on baldness, the extracted oil from seeds is applied on scalp. The leaf extract is used to control the dandruff.
10	<i>Delonix elata</i> L./ Caesalpiniaceae	Sandesaro	Leaves	To cure falling of hair, the leaves paste is applied on scalp.
11	<i>Dioscorea bulbifera</i> L.. /Dioscoraceae	Arithi	Tuber	To powder is used as a hair wash. enhance hair growth and remove dirt, the dried
12	<i>Eclipta prostrata</i> L. . /Asteraceae	Bhangro	Leaves	To prevent hair, fall and blacken hairs, the leaves extract is mixed with oil and applied on scalp.
13	<i>Emblica officinalis</i> Gaertn. /Euphorbiaceae	Ambla	Fruit	To prevent hair, fall and promotes hair growth, the fruit powder is mixed with sesame oil and apply on scalp.
14	<i>Hibiscus sinensis</i> Linn. /Malvaceae	Jasud	Flowers	To stimulate hair follicles and increase hair growth, paste of flowers along with coconut oil is massaged on head.
15	<i>Hemidesmus indicus</i> L./ Asclepiadaceae	Upalsari	Entire herb	For good hair growth, the herb is powdered and is used in the preparation of hair oil as hair tonic.
16	<i>Lawsonia inermis</i> L. / Lythraceae	Mendi	Leaves	To cure dandruff, the paste of the fresh leaves is spread in the form of thick layer and also used in preparation of hair oil and hair dyes.
17	<i>Madhucal longifolia</i> (Koenig) Macb.n/Sapotaceae	Mahudo	Petals	To promote hair growth, dried extract petal is massaged on head.
18	<i>Mangifera indica</i> L. / Anacardiaceae	Keri	Seeds	For dyeing the hair, Mango seed powder is mixed with henna powder in 500 ml of water (in iron pot)
19	<i>Ocimum sanctum</i> L.. /Lamiaceae	Tulsi	Leaves	The leaves extract is used to prevent hair loss caused by dandruff and itching as it has antifungal properties.
20	<i>Ricinus communis</i> Linn.	Arandi	Seeds	The oil extracted from seed is

	/Euphorbiaceae			massaged on scalp to prevent hair fall.
21	<i>Sapindusemarginatus</i> Vahl/ Sapindaceae	Aritha	Leaves, Stem, Fruits	The fruit powder is used in washing hair as it provides extra shine and removes lice from the hair.
22	<i>Tridaxprocumbens</i> Linn./Asteraceae	Pardeshibhangra	Leaves	Leaves crushed are applied on hair as it promotes hair growth.
23	<i>Trigonellafoenum-graecum</i> / Fabaceae	Methi	Seed	Seeds extract helps to increase hair volume and thickness as it enhances the hair growth.
24	<i>Vitexnegundo</i> L../Verbenaceae	Nargood	Leaves	The leaves are boiled in coconut oil and massage on scalp to prevent hair fall. The oil prepared from leaves is also used as a hair dye and kill the lice.

### SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

As the study area is rich in diversity of medicinal plants and it plays a significant role in enhancing the beauty of hair. The effects of allopathic medicines are severe; therefore, the tribals and rural community people prefer medicinal plants for therapeutic hair problems faced by them. More investigation and preservation efforts should be focused on these assets of the area so that the future generation could benefit from these valuable plants that are actual gift to mankind and may proceed to progress of commercial products.

### REFERENCES

1. Arjit Sinha babu& Arpita Banerjee, "Ethno-botanical study of Medicinal Plants Used by Tribals of Bankura Districts, West Bengal, India". Journal of Medicinal Plant Studies, 2013; 1(3): 98-104.
2. Bhasker L. Punjani&Vimal Kumar, "Plants used in traditional phytotherapy for hair care by tribals in Sabarkantha district, Gujarat, India". Indian Journal of Traditional Knowledge, 2003; 2(1): 74-78.
3. D M. Sakarkar, U M Sakarkar, NM Sakarkar, VN Shrikhande, JV Vyas and RS Kale, "Medicinal plants used by the tribals for hair disorders in Melghat forest of Amravati district, Maharashtra". Natural Product Radiance, 2004; 3(5): 351-355.
4. Gavali, Deepa Sharma, Diwakar, "Traditional Knowledge and Biodiversity conservation in Gujarat". Indian Journal of Traditional Knowledge, 2004; 3(1): 51-58.
5. Silori, CS; Rana, AR, "Indigenous knowledge on medicinal plants and their use in Narayan Sarovar sanctuary, Kachchh". Ethnobotany, 2000; 12: 1-7.

6. K.D.Mitaliya, DC Bhatt, NK Patel & SK Dodia, "Herbal remedies used for hair disorders by tribals and rural folk in Gujarat".Indian Journal of Traditional Knowledge", 2003; 2(4): 389-392.
7. Nirmal Kumar, JI, S.Hiren & Rita N. Kumar, "Ethnobotanical Values of Certain plant species of Dangs Forest, Extreme Northern part of Western Ghats, South Gujarat, India.International Journal of Biosciences Reporter, 2004; 2(1): 63-74.
8. M V Patil& D A Patil, "Ethnomedicinal practices of Nashik District, Maharashtra".Indian Journal of traditional Knowledge, 2005; 4(3): 287-290
9. Shah G L. "Flora of Gujarat state. Part I & II." (Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar), 1978.