

# Traditional Ethnomedicinal Plants used for Skin Diseases by Dharampur Taluka of Gujarat State, India

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## ABSTRACT

The present study deals with ethnomedicinal uses of plants with respect to skin diseases, utilized by tribal inhabitants of Dharampur taluka of Gujarat state, India, which is one of the tribal area. The local people depends on the plant species for curing various diseases by taking the help of medicine healers. The paper discuss about overall 42 plant species which has used in protecting and enhancing the beauty of the skin. Among which Leguminosae (05) family is found to be dominant among the rest of the family followed by Asteraceae, Solanaceae, Asclepiadaceae, Acanthaceae, Moraceae and Euphorbiaceae (02) with Sapindaceae, Puniaceae, Apocynaceae, Araceae, Papaveraceae, Bombaceae, Cruciferae, Anacardiaceae, Cariaceae, Amaranthaceae, Apiaceae, Verbenaceae, Cuscutaceae, Liliaceae, Balsaminaceae, Oleaceae, Boraginaceae, Rhamnaceae, Burseraceae, Combretaceae, Meliaceae, Nyctaginaceae, Rubiaceae and Nymphaeaceae.

**Key Words:** Ethnomedicinal, Dharampur, Gujarat, Leguminosae.

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## INTRODUCTION

Since time immemorial medicinal plants have been used as source medicines in virtually all cultures. From the ancient time an immense range of medicinal plants plays an important role in human life as our country is rich in vegetation. In India, 2500 medicinal plants and their products are used in curing, treating various ailments have been documented.

The traditional drug adapted from plants or animals were used by local peoples in many areas of India in their region. But the herbal plants were used to cure various diseases from the past. Due to the expanding awareness, among the rural as well as urban people of India has developed an increasing appeal for traditional medicines like Ayurvedic, Homeopathic, Unani& Siddha.

The relationship of past and present between plants and the traditional system can provide an

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information regarding the ethnobotanical knowledge. The existence of local knowledge enable to investigate about traditional use and management of local flora but also its phonological and ecological features in case of indigenous species. The ethnobotany contributes as natural medicines to the society along with beneficial things such as food, fodder, shelter, fibre, dyes, etc.

Dharampur is a taluka located in Valsad district of Gujarat. Many plant species found in this region are abundance in the Ethnobotanical heritage. So, the study area is selected for the research work. It acts as an important source of ethnobotanical knowledge as this traditional knowledge system is fast eroding from the people. That's the reason it needs to investigate and record all ethnobotanical information among the ethnic communities before the traditional cultures are completely vanished. In view of the above reference the ultimate aim is to collect the ethnobotanical knowledge from the tribal in the form of survey.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present study was conducted in Dharampur area during 2019-2020. The data collection was done by personal interviews and observations among local people, traditional healers or medicine men. The information regarding the species have been documented in the form of photographs were further

confirmed using demonstration of photographs from standard published books or web-site.

## RESULTS & OBSERVATIONS

The present study reveals 42 plant species of plants which were found to be abundantly used by the tribals of Dharampur area. Among which Leguminosae (05) family is mostly utilized in compared to the total recorded plant species followed by Asteraceae, Solanaceae, Acanthaceae, Euphorbiaceae, Moraceae (02) with Sapindaceae, Puniaceae, Apocynaceae, Araceae, Papaveraceae, Bombaceae, Cruciferae, Anacardiaceae, Cariaceae, Amaranthaceae, Apiaceae, Verbenaceae, Cuscutaceae, Liliaceae, Balsaminaceae, Oleaceae, Boraginaceae, Rhamnaceae, Burseraceae, Combretaceae, Meliaceae, Nyctaginaceae, Rubiaceae and Nymphaeaceae has been used as medicine in curing skin diseases. 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:** Plants used for Skin disorders

Sr.No.	Botanical Name	Family	Local Name	Uses
1.	<i>Acorus calamus</i> Linn.	Araceae	Ghoda punch	The root paste is used as therapy for skin disorders.
2.	<i>Argemone mexicana</i> L.	Papaveraceae	Darudi	The root decoction is apply in curing skin diseases.
3.	<i>Artocarpus heterophyllus</i> Lamk.	Moraceae	Phanas	The leaves paste are used in treating skin diseases
4.	<i>Bombax ceiba</i> L.	Bombaceae	Simalo	The bark spines powdered mixed with milk and apply to remove black spots on the skin.
5.	<i>Brassica juncea</i> (L.) Czern.	Cruciferae	Rai	The seed oil is used as a remedy in skin eruptions
6.	<i>Buchanania lanzan</i> Spreng	Anacardiaceae	Charoli	The leaves pulp is applied in curing skin diseases.
7.	<i>Calotropis gigantea</i> (L.) R.Br.	Asclepiadaceae	Sakedakdo	Root bark is used to cure skin diseases
8.	<i>Carica papaya</i> Linn.	Cariaceae	Papaiya	The pulp apply externally on face, it improves the beauty of the skin.
9.	<i>Cassia fistula</i> L.	Caesalpiniaceae	Garmalo	The seed paste is used in curing skin disorders.
10.	<i>Celosia argentea</i> Linn.	Amaranthaceae	Lepadi	The leaves extract is remedy in skin eruptions.
11.	<i>Centella asiatica</i> (L.) Urb.	Apiaceae	Brahmi	The leaves extract is used to cure skin diseases such as leprosy.

Sr.No.	Botanical Name	Family	Local Name	Uses
12.	<i>Clerodendron inermis</i> (L.) Gareth	Verbenaceae	Mahendi	The leaves & root extract are used in skin diseases.
13.	<i>Crossandra in fundibuliformis</i> (L.) Nees.	Acanthaceae	Aboli	Bark and turmeric paste is mixed and apply to skin disease of children.
14.	<i>Crotalaria spectabilis</i> Roth.	Papilionaceae	Rattlepod	The plant extract is used as a therapy in skin diseases..
15.	<i>Cuscuta chinensis</i> Lam.	Cuscutaceae	Naniamarvel	The whole plant boiled in water and this water is used to cure skin infections.
16.	<i>Datura metel</i> Linn.	Solanaceae	Dhanturo	Leaves are crushed along with sugar and apply on infected part.
17.	<i>Desmodium triflorum</i> (L.) DC.	Fabaceae	Jinopandariyo	Root extract is used externally in skin diseases.
18.	<i>Dyschoriste dalzellii</i> (T. Anders. ex Bedd.)	Acanthaceae	_____	The leaves mixture is used to cure skin diseases
19.	<i>Eupatorium odoratum</i> L. forma squarrosumKoster	Asteraceae	_____	Leaf pulp is used as a remedy in skin diseases.
20.	<i>Euphorbia antiquorum</i> L.	Euphorbiaceae	Tidhari	The stem pulp is used to cure skin diseases such as sores and scabies
21.	<i>Ficus religiosa</i> Linn.	Moraceae	Piplo	Bark is crushed with water and apply on boils and pimples.
22.	<i>Garuga pinnata</i> Roxb.	Burseraceae	Kakad	Fruit pulp is apply on skin eruptions.
23.	<i>Gloriosa superba</i>	Liliaceae	Kankasani	Corn juice is used to cure skin diseases such as leprosy.
24.	<i>Hemidesmus indicus</i> (Lin n.) R.Br.	Asclepiadaceae	Dudhvel	Root juice is preferable in skin infections.
25.	<i>Impatiens balsamina</i> L. var.rosea(Lindl.)Hook.f.	Balsaminaceae	_____	Leaf juice is taken in skin diseases.
26.	<i>Jasminum sambac</i> (Linn.) Ait	Oleaceae	_____	Leaves paste is applied in skin diseases.
27.	<i>Jatropha curcas</i> L.	Euphorbiaceae	Ratanjyot	Latex from young shoot is applied on skin diseases.
28.	<i>Melia azedarach</i> L.	Meliaceae	Limbdo	The seeds oil is used externally on skin infections.
29.	<i>Mirabilis jalapa</i> Linn.	Nyctaginaceae	Gulbas	The root paste is smeared in scabies and skin disorders
30.	<i>Morinda tomentosa</i> Hey ne ex. Roth	Rubiaceae	Alande	Leaves are crushed and apply a paste of it on skin diseases.
31.	<i>Nelumbo nucifera</i> Gaertn	Nymphaeaceae	Kamal	The flower paste is apply on face to increase the beauty of the skin
32.	<i>Parkia biglandulosa</i> Whi ght&Arn.	Mimosaceae	Chanduphal	The root decoction is used to cure different skin infections
33.	<i>Phyllanthus amarus</i> Schu m&Thonn.	Euphorbiaceae	Bhonyaamli	The leaf paste with turmeric is taken internally in skin problems.
34.	<i>Plumeira rubra</i> Linn.	Apocynaceae	Champo	Bark paste is apply to cure scabies and other skin disorders
35.	<i>Pongamia pinnata</i> (Linn.) Pierre	Fabaceae		The leaf oil is used as a remedy in skin diseases.

Sr.No.	Botanical Name	Family	Local Name	Uses
36.	<i>Punicagranatum</i> L.	Punicaceae	Dadam	The fresh fruit juice is taken to retain skin health.
37.	<i>Schleicheraoleosa</i> (Lour. ) Oken	Sapindaceae	Kusum	The oil is used externally in skin disorders.
38.	<i>Solanumtorvum</i> Sw.	Solanaceae	_____	The fresh fruit acts as booster the skin health.
39.	<i>Spharanthusindicus</i> Linn	Asteraceae	Gorakh	The leaves powder is used to treat in skin diseases.
40.	<i>Terminaliacatappa</i> L.	Combretaceae	Deshibadam	The young leaf paste is applied to cure the skin diseases such as scabies.
41.	<i>Trichodesmaindicum</i> (L.) Lehm.	Boraginaceae	Undha -Phuli	The root paste is used to treat skin infection.
42.	<i>Ziziphusrugosa</i> Lam.	Rhamnaceae	Toran	Leaf paste is used to treat externally on skin diseases.

## CONCLUSION

The present paper revealed the utilization of local plants and their widespread as well as meticulous uses by the tribal people of Dharampur area. According to the medicine men or healers says that the combination of plants parts gives more effective result rather than individual plant part. As the local tribals have a constant relationship with the surrounding areas, they have collected virtuous information regarding the utility of plants by their trial and error method. The generation to generation this knowledge is well preserved and kept as a secret of healing powers for curing various diseases.

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