



**ORIGINAL RESEARCH PAPER**

**Botany**

**PLANTS USED AS MEDICINES FOR LIVESTOCK IN BUNDELKHAND REGION OF INDIA**

**KEY WORDS:** Plant, Medicines, Livestocks, Bundelkhand

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**ABSTRACT** This paper deals with the survey of some important plants used as medicines for cattle or livestock in Bundelkhand region of India. During the course of this study 20 plant species of angiosperms were enumerated which are used or being used in different ailments of livestock. The taxonomic details and modes of utilization of these plant species are being presented through this paper.

**INTRODUCTION**

Bundelkhand is a well-known region of India located in the central part of the country. It is spanned over the southern region of Uttar Pradesh and the northern part of Madhya Pradesh. The area lies between 23°10' and 26°30' north latitude and 78°20' and 81°40' east longitude. The total geographical area of Bundelkhand is approximately 70,000 square kilometers, covering seven districts in Uttar Pradesh and seven districts in Madhya Pradesh. The region is divided into fourteen districts: Jhansi, Lalitpur, Jalaun, Hamirpur, Mahoba, Banda, and Chitrakoot, which are all in Uttar Pradesh, and Datia, Tikamgarh, Niwari, Chhatarpur, Panna, Sagar, and Damoh, which are located in Madhya Pradesh. Approximately 60,000 hectares of the region are covered by forests, which is about 8% of the total area of Bundelkhand region. The plant diversity of Bundelkhand region encompasses several medicinal plants (Ahirwar; 2012, 2013).

The relationship between man and plant communities is as old as hunger and long before science was born (Pandey and Verma; 2005). Plants are the main sources of food, flowers, fruits, fragrance, fibers, fodders, fuel wood, medicines, gum, resin, timber, rubber, oil, spices, dyes and other useful things (Ahirwar; 2013). The people of village community mostly depend on the plant resources for their basic needs and cannot survive without using plants (Ahirwar; 2015). The plants are used as shelter, clothing, medicines and many socio-religious traditions by the people of village communities (Ahirwar; 2013, 2017). The medicinal plants play very important role in the healthcare of human being as well as animals. The several plants are being used as medicines by native of Bundelkhand region to control the different ailments of their livestock. The traditional knowledge regarding such

plants is not available in the written form and remainder folk knowledge is going to be lost gradually. In this situation, it is an urgent need to record such folk knowledge regarding these medicinal plants. Therefore, an attempt has been made to study and documents the indigenous knowledge about such plant species.

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

The regular trips have been organized to enumerate the plants used as medicine in the treatment of animal diseases. The rural area and forest area of Bundelkhand region have been surveyed extensively to collect the information regarding the medicinal plants. The information gathered about medicinal plants on the basis of oral interviews and discussions with villagers, herbal doctors and farmers. All the plant species have been identified by using cited literatures (Ahirwar; 2010, 2016, Bhatt et al.; 2001, Bisht and Pundir; 2008, Hotwani and Mukherjee; 2005, Lahri; 2007, Mudgal et al.; 1997, Nigam and Kumar; 2005, Roy et al.; 1992, Saxena and Ahirwar; 2017, Sharma et al.; 2007, Singh and Pundir; 2004, Singh and Agrawal; 2005, Singh et al.; 2001, and Verma et al.; 1993). A list of medicinal plants was alphabetically prepared along with their botanical name, local name, family and mode of administration.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

During the survey 20 plant species were recorded from the Bundelkhand region of India. All these plant species are being used against the various diseases of animals. The information regarding the utilization of these plants is collected on basis of oral interview with villagers and farmers. The detail informations about the medicinal plants have been documented in Table-1.

**Table - 1**

S.N.	Botanical Name	Local Name	Family	Uses
01	Acacia nilotica	Babool	Mimosaceae	The tender twigs are directly given as fodder for animals to cure diarrhoea and dysentery.
02	Andrographis paniculata	Kalmegh	Acanthaceae	Extract of plant is given to cattle for one week to control intestinal worms and fever.
03	Artimisia indica	Nagdamni	Asteraceae	Extract of leaves given to cattle for one week to relief from fever and intestinal worms.
04	Azadirachta indica	Neem	Meliaceae	Oil of Neem seeds externally used on the cattle to remove the parasites. The bark of Neem and Babool mixed together and grinded along with water to make a paste. This paste is applied over wounds for wound healing.
05	Calotropus procera	Aak	Asclepiadaceae	Approximate 100 gram of flower paste mixed with equal amount of jaggery (Gud) given to animal for easy delivery.
06	Cassia fistula	Kilwara	Fabaceae	Pulp of five pods is given to the cattle suffering from indigestion twice a day along with bread (Roti) until their complete recovery.
07	Cissus quadrangularis	Hadjod	Vitaceae	Approximate 500 gram of stem is crushed and given along with kneaded dough for one month to the cattle to treat the bone fracture.
08	Eclipta prostrata	Kala Ghamra	Asteraceae	About 50 gram leaves are crushed and warmed with mustard oil. This paste is applied over the wound for 2 weeks for wound healing.

09	Enicostema axillare	Chirayta	Gentianaceae	Whole plants are uprooted and mixed with jaggery (Gud) is given to cattle for 2 week to cure from intestinal worms.
10	Feronia elephantum	Kaitha	Rutaceae	About 500 gram leaves are grinded and mixed along with water given to cattle in the morning for 3 week to cure intestinal worms.
11	Ficus benghalensis	Bargad	Moraceae	About 100 gram of hanging roots are grinded and mixed with 1/2 kg of curd is given to pregnant cattle for 07 days to control the cervix or vaginal prolapsed.
12	Gymnema sylvestre	Gurmar	Apocynaceae	Leaves are crushed by rubbing with hands and extract of leaves directly applied in the eyes of cattle to cure corneal dystrophy.
13	Madhuca indica	Mahua	Sapotaceae	The decoction of bark is used in bleeding of gum. Warmed paste of dried corolla is used in hurt and sprain. About 250 gram of dried flower mixed with jaggery and warmed
14	Mimosa pudica	Lajwanti	Fabaceae	About 100 gram leaves grinded along with water given to pregnant cattle for 7 days used to cure prolapsed cervix or vagina.
15	Musa paradisiaca	Kela	Musaceae	Leaves and flowers of Banana given as fodder to cure prolapsed cervix or vagina. One liter of extracted water from leaves of banana is given to cattle for 3 days to relief from prolapsed cervix or vagina.
16	Ricinus communis	Arandi	Euphorbiaceae	The oil of seed is given along with fodder of cattle for one week to relief from constipation.
17	Sterculia urens	Kullu	Sterculiaceae	The gum of this plant is very useful in dysentery and prolapsed cervix and vagina.
18	Swertia chirata	Chirayta	Gentianaceae	Extract of chirayta given to cattle for one week to relief from fever and intestinal worms.
19	Tinospora cordifolia	Giloy	Menispermaceae	Approximate 250 gram of stem boiled with water and given twice a day to control the animal fever.
20	Tridax procumbens	Ghamra	Asteraceae	About 50 gram leaves are crushed and warmed with mustard oil. This paste is applied over the wound for 2 weeks for wound healing.

**CONCLUSION**

On the basis of above discussion it can be concluded that 20 plants species of angiosperms play very important medicinal role to the farmers of Bundelkhand region of India. The farmers of this region directly use the various plants parts as medicines to control the various ailments of animals. Hence, traditional knowledge regarding the medicinal uses of these plants has been recorded, so that people could be aware about these medicinal plants.

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