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# Ethanobotanical Study of Plant Species used by Tribal Communities around Ankai Fort of Yeola Tehsil of Maharashtra, India

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**Abstract:** An ethnobotanical survey was undertaken to collect information from traditional healers on the use of medicinal plants in the Ankai, Yeola Tehsil of Nashik District (M.S.) India. The investigation revealed that, the traditional healers used 45 species of plants distributed in 15 families to treat various diseases. The relevant information of plant documented in this paper with regard to their Botanical Name, Habit, Local Name, Family, Origin, Plant part use and utilization by the local people for the common ailments. The documented medicinal plants were mostly used to cure common diseases like cough, cold, piles, diabetes, skin disease, hepatitis, fever and toothache. This study showed that many people in the studied parts of Ankai region of Nashik district still continue to depend on medicinal plants at least for the treatment of primary healthcare. The traditional healers are dwindling in number and there is a grave danger of traditional knowledge disappearing soon since the younger generation is not interested to carry on this tradition.

**Key words:** Ethanobotanical Plants, skin disease, fever

## I. INTRODUCTION

Ethnobotany may be the Knowledge that Prehistoric Man had gained by observations and experimentation. It is the multidisciplinary science that brings to less known or unknown medicinal uses of plants. It is the traditional method to cure various diseases from tribal communities. Ankai Fort (19° 59' 50.8344" N, 73° 47' 23.2908" E) is a historic site found in the Satmala Range hills in western India. Ankai generally known as ANKAI-TANKAI, the strongest hill fort in the district, rises about 900 feet above the plain and 3200 feet above the sea, six miles north of Yeola and near the Manmad and Ahmadnagar road. The Brahmani (Muslim) caves on the fort and the Jain caves at the base of the fort depict that Ankai was constructed around 1000 years ago. The fort was built by Yadava of Devgiri. Mughals led by Shah Jahan's. The hill top commands a wide view of Khandesh and the Godavari valley. The objective of this study is to document the traditional medicinal plants used by people around Ankai fort of Yeola Tehsil of Nasik district (M.S) India.

## II. MATERIAL & METHODS

The traditional knowledge about the plant for treating the common disease was collected from peoples specially traditional medicine practitioners truly helped in gathering information on medicinal uses of indigenous plants. Survey is carried out were identified with the help of flora of Bombay (Cook, 1908), Flora of Maharashtra (Alameda, 1998) Flora of Ahmednagar District (Pradhan and Singh, 1950 ).

## III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The Botanical, Local and Family Name, Habit, Origin, Plant Part used, Ethanobotanical value of forty eight plants are enumerated in table No. 1. Forty eight plants having Ethanobotanical importance are reported. Such studies help to preserve and pass on the traditional ethanobotanical knowledge of the tribules and other ethnic communities to the next generations. The number of researcher work and studied on Ethnomedicinal plants in Maharashtra states of India by Faulk (1958), Petkaret.al. (2002), Kunwar and Dawadee (2003), Wabaleet.al.(2005), Iqbalet.al. (2010), Gaykar (2010), Salaveet.al. (2010), Ahiret. al. (2011), Waghchaureet.al.(2011), Dhoreet.al.(2012), Pocchi (2013), Shirame and Hiwale (2013)

Table No. 1 – Plant of Botanical, Local and Family Name, Habit, Origin, Plant Part used, Ethanobotanical value:

Sr. No	Botanical Name	Habit	Local Name	Family	Origin	Plant part used	Ethanobotanical Value
1	Abrus precatorius L.	Climber	Gunj	Fabaceae	India	Leaves	Appetizer and mouth ulcer.
2	Abutilon indicum (L.).	Shrub	Karandi / Mudra	Malvaceae	India	Leaves	Regularity in Menstrual Cycle and Piles.
3	<u>Acacia catechu</u> (L.) Willd	Tree	Khair	Leguminosae	southern Asia	Leaves, heartwood	Asthma, cough, leprosy And skin disorder.
4	Acacia nilotica(L) Willd. ex Del	Tree	Babhul	Mimosaceae	Africa	Leaves, Tender, shoot	Tooth pain and toothache
5	Acorus calamus	Herb	Vekhand	Araceae	Europe	Rhizome	Headache
6	Adhatoda vasica L.	Shrub	Adulsa	Acanthaceae	Asia	Leaves	Cough and asthma
7	Aegle marmelos L.	Tree	Bel	Rutaceae	India	Leaves	Knee joint pain
8	Agave americana	Succulent plant	Ghaypat	Agavaceae	Mexico	Leaves	Skin diseases
9	Allium sativum L.	Herb	Lahsun	Amariyllidaceae	Central Asia	Shoots, Bulbs	Heart attack, Diabetes and asthma
10	Aloe vera (L) Burm.f.	Succulent plant	Korphan	Liliaceae	Arabia	Leaves	Stomach ache and skin disease
11	Annona squamosa	Shrub	Sitaphal	Annonaceae	West Indies	Seed, Leaves and bark	diarrhea, dysentery, Rheumatism,
12	Butea monosperma L.	Tree	Palas	Fabaceae	Southeast Asia	Fruit, Leaves, Flower.	Intestinal Worms, Urine stone, Diabetes.
13	Calotropis procera (L) R. Br.	Shrub	Rui	Apocynaceae	North Africa	Latex, Leaves	Piles
14	Carica papaya L.	Shrub	Papai	Caricaceae	America	Leaves and Fruit	Skin diseases
15	<u>Cassia auriculata</u>	Shrub	Tarwad	Fabaceae	Asia	Tender shoot and Leaves	Diabetes, joint and muscular pain.
16	Cassia fistula	Tree	Bahava	Fabaceae	Southeast Asia	Leaves	Tooth Pain
17	Cassia tora L.	Tree	Kali Takali	Caesalpinaceae	South Asia	Tender shoot	Eheumatism
18	Curcuma longa L.	Herb	Halad	Zingiberaceae	India	Rhizome	Swelling or Oedema and edematous.

19	Cymbopogon citratus	Herb	Gavaticaha a	Poaceae	India	Leaves	Diarrhea, Fevers, and High blood pressure
20	Cynodon dactylon (L) Pers.	Herb	Haral/ Durva	Poaceae	Africa	Stem with Leaves	Herpes zoster
21	Derris scandens	climbing branched shrub	Gulvel	Fabaceae	Southeas t Asia	Leaves and stem	Protein and Blood purification
22	Eclipta alba	Herb	Kala maka	Asteraceae	Southeas t Asia	Leaves	Hair growth
23	Ficus racemosa L.	Tree	Umber	Moraceae	Southeas t Asia	Latex	Mumps
24	Hibiscus esculentus	Tree	Bhendi	Malavacea e	Africa	Fruits	Diabetes.
25	Hibiscus rosasinensis	Shrub	Jaswand	Malvaceae	Asia	Leaves and Flower	Diabetes, Hair Problems
26	Jatropha curcus L.	Shrub	MogaliEran d	Euphorbiac eae	tropical America	Tender shoot and Latex	Teeth problems
27	Lantana camara L.	Shrub	Ghaneri	Verbenacea e	America	Leaves	Stomach ache
28	Lawsonia inermis L.	Tree	Mehandi	Lythraceae	Arabian peninsula	Leaves	leg heat and heal cracks
29	Medicago sativa	Herb	Ghas	Fabaceae	south- central Asia	Leaves, Stems and Sprouts	Diabetes, diuretic, and ulcer.
30	Menth aarvensis L.	Herb	Pudina	Lamiaceae	Europe	Leaves	headaches, cough and vomiting.
31	Mimosa pudica	Herb	Lajalu	Fabaceae	Brazil	Leaves, Root and Seed.	Piles, Ulcers, Diarrhea.
32	Mirabilis jalapa L.	Shrub	Gulbaksha	Nyctagenac eae	tropical America	Root and Rhizome	Skin disease
33	Ocimum americanum L.	Shrub	Ran tulas	Lamiaceae	America	Leaves	Cough, cold and fever
34	Ocimumtenuiflorum L.	Shrub	Krishna tulas	Lamiaceae	north central India	Leaves	Cough, cold and fever
35	Piper betle L.	Climber	Khauche Pan	Piperaceae	South East Asia.	Leaves	Piles
36	Pongamia pinnata (L) Piperre.	Tree	Karanj	Ceaesalpin aceae	Asia	Root and Seed oil	Skin disease, Mice bite and hair problems.

37	Psidium guajava L.	Tree	Peru	Myretaceae	tropical America	Ripen Fruit	Piles
38	Santalum album L.	Tree	Chandan	Santalaceae	Southwest India	Leaves	Hepatitis A and fever
39	Semecarpus anacardium L.	Tree	Bibba	Anacardiaceae	Africa	Seed	Headache, diabetics, cough and stomach disease
40	Spilanthes oleracea L.	Herb	Akkalkara	Astraceae	Africa	Inflorescence	Increase brain power and cough
41	Syzygium cumini L.	Tree	Jambhul	Myrtaceae	Southeast Asia	Stem bark	Snake bite
42	Tamarindus indica L.	Tree	Chinch	Caesalpiniaceae	India	Stem bark	Just burned skin
43	Vitex nirgundo L.	Tree	Nirgudi	Verbenaceae	Southeast Asia.	Leaves	Cough, cold and fever.
44	<u>Withania somnifera</u> L.	Herb	Ashwagandha	<u>Solanaceae</u>	India	Leaves	cold and fever
45	Zingiber officinale L.	Herb	Aal/ aadrak	Zingiberaceae	Southern Asia	Rhizome	Skin diseases

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