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Ethnomedicinal plants uses of tehsil Khall, district Lower Dir, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan

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Abstract

An ethnomedicinal study of 65 plants taxa having 56 genera and 36 families were carried out from different localities of tehsil Khall, district Lower Dir, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. There is a huge diversity and floristic composition of ethnomedicinal pants taxa in the studied area. Amongst them 48 taxa were herbs 7 taxa were shrubs and 10 taxa were trees. Asteraceae and Lamiaceae were the largest families having 7 taxa each while brassicaceae was the second largest family having 5 taxa followed by rosaceae having 4 taxa and rananculaceae and solonaceae having 3 taxa each and berberidaceae, chenopodiaceae, scrophulariaceae, polygonaceae, verbinaceae and violaceae having 2 taxa each while the remaining all families having 1 taxa each. Residents of hilly areas frequently used these taxa. Knowledge wise older people have more awareness regarding these taxa. Mostly the plant taxa were commonly practiced against different diseases like hepatitis, diabetes, infertility, skin problems, hair care and general tonics. Keeping in view their sustainability, these taxa may be utilized for new drugs and commercial purpose. Cultivation of these taxa for food, medicine and ornamental purpose is highly needed.

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Introduction

Tehsil Khall is located in district Lower Dir, Malakand division of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, Pakistan. Its geographical coordinates are 34° - 37 / to 35° - 7/ N Latitudes and 71° -31/ to 72° - 14/ E longitudes. Tehsil Khall of district lower Dir is located in the north-west of Khyber pakhtunkhwa and bounded by huge chain of Koh-e-Hindu kush. The climate of district lower Dir is cold and moist. The high peaks of mountains receive snowfall usually in the months of December, January and February. The summer is the favorable season for the tourists. The average rainfall is 700 mm. The important sources of production and economy are forest and Agriculture. A huge population depends upon Crops grown are Triticum aestivum, Zea mays, Hordeum vulgare, Avena sativa, Solanum melongena, Solanum tuberosum, Lycopersicon esculentum, Alium cepa and Alium sativa etc. Fruits produced are juglens regia, Diosporus kaki, Malus pumila, Vitus vinifera etc (Anon, 1998). The forests of the area are covered with gymnosperms species. There is greater fluctuation of seasonal temperature the summer is extremely hot and winter extremely cold. Now Government of Pakistan and Forest department has banned over grazing and deforestation to recover the natural resources which are Cedrus, pinus, herbs and grasses which have great medicinal value (Irfan et al., 2018). The plants which contains active bio chemicals constituent and having some response in the curing of disorders in living organisms are known as medicinal plants (Ali et al., 2017). Since the creations of mankind the use of medicinal and other plants have run parallel, from ancient times plants have been in use to heal wounds and to cure various diseases. Establishment of herbal gardens by ancient man was the initial step towards the cultivation of medicinal plants commonly used by the tribal communities and herbalists to cure different disease. It is fact that synthetic and chemical drugs have caused much harm to the human body. Therefore man is now forced to consult natural methods of treatment (Ajaib et al., 2010). Medicines which are extracted from plants are best for healthier life. Plants plays an important role in our life because they have more biochemical's that are best against different diseases (Haq *et al.*, 2012). Medicinal plants have been observed to be very effective in the treatment of ailments that defile orthodox medicine. Despite this only few people know the location and uses of most of the plants around them due to inadequate knowledge of their usefulness (Islam *et al.*, 2006).

People have been using these plants to cure disease and ease patients from long time suffering. They acquired this knowledge as a result of trial and error but not documented properly to avoid endorsement and competition in the field. This knowledge is still alive and several hundred species are being used by a large number of herbal doctors as a remedy to practice and promote their indigenous system of medicine. The mountain ranges of Pakistan are known for their rich biodiversity of flora and fauna. Those regions have been regarded as a natural reservoir for the collection of different wild medicinal plants. Some of which has pharmacopcial importance while the local use many others in traditional systems as well as in folk medicines.

This region is prime center for evolutionary development of a number of endemic medicinal and economic plants viz. Artemizia, vibernum, Rhododendron, Saxifraga, Lonicera, Sophora, Picrorhiza, Aconites, Seabuck thorn (Khan et al., 2010). There are different kinds of hormones used by the local communities for the rapid growth and better yield of medicinal plants (Irfan et al., 2017: Irfan et al., 2018). Disease resistant medicinal plants are also grown by the local inhibitants of the area (Irfan & Imran, 2018). Due to the uses of these medicinal plants by the local communities various pharmaceutical companies are interested to isolate certain active compounds from them in making of various modern medicines (Tareen et al., 2010).

Materials and method

Field trips were made to the different villages of tehsil Khaal viz luqman banda, adokey, galkor, kandow, shalkani, shalfalam, barkali, koz kali, kandaro, malak abad, gomagat, sair, razagram and ajdari were visited

at different seasons of the year from June 2016 to May 2017. Plants specimens were collected properly, dried in blotting papers, tagged, pressed in a presser and mounted on standard herbarium sheets. Plants were identified with the help of flora of Pakistan Nasir and Ali, 1970-89). A questionnaire was prepared for ethno medicinal survey including different information's viz. local names, part/s used against different remedies. Multistage sampling technique was adopted for collection of data. For the purpose of collection of primary data questionnaire was used.

The responses received in the field during structured questionnaire and interviews of the respondents were coded and analyzed.

Results and discussion

Results of the study reveals that a total of 65 ethnomedicinal plant taxa having 56 genera and distributed in 36 families were reported from different localities of tehsil Khall, district Lower Dir, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (fig.1 & table 1).

Table 1. Ethnomedicinal Uses of the Plants in Tehsil Khall, District Lower Dir, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan.

Sr.N	Botanical name	Local name	Habit	Family	Part/s used	Ethnomedicinal uses
0						
1	Achillea millifolium	Ashaan	Herb	Asteraceae	Young leaves	Young leaves used in loose motion, hardenings of
						bowels & constipation.
2	Aconite hetrophylum	Atis	Herb	Rannanculaceae	Roots	Alkaloid viz. aconitine used as stimulant, relive
						cardiac disorders and rheumatism.
3	Adhatoda vasica Gees.	Beakar	Shrub	Acanthaceae	Leaves	Leaves used in chest infections viz. cough,
						bronchitis, emphysema, antiallergic & prevents
						loose motion.
4	Adiantum capillus veneris	Bishusha	Herb	Pteridaceae	Leaves	Leaves used in relieving pain from facial areas,
	D. Don.					asthma and diarrhea & is highly aromatic.
5	Allium sativum L.	Ooga	Herb	Alliaceae	Bulb	Its bulb is antimicrobial, relieves pain and
						removes mucous from the trachea.
6	Artemisia cinna	Kirmala	Herb	Asteraceae	Leaves	Leaves used as anthelmintics for children's.
7	Artemisia kuramensis	Kirmala	Herb	Asteraceae	Leaves	Leaves used as anthelmintics to remove worms
						from intestinal tract.
8	Artemisia rutifolia Spreng.	Afsanteen	Herb	Asteraceae	Flowers	Flowers used to remove worms from intestinal
						tract.
9	Berberis calliobotrys Aitch.	Chowenj	Shrub	Berberidaceae	Rhizome	Rhizome used to regulate fever, relieve pain of
						vertebral column.
10	Berberis nerosa	Kashml	Shrub	Berberidaceae	Rhizome,	Rhizome is tonic, leaves used in jaundice, chronic
					leaves	diarrhea, ulcer and ophthalmic disorders.
11	Boerhaavia diffusa L.	Insut	Herb	Nyctaginaceae	Roots	Roots increase the passage of
						urine from urinary bladder.
12	Cannabis sativa L.	Bhang	Herb	Canabanaceae	Leaves	Leaves used as narcotic which is stimulant for
						addict persons.
13	Cedrus deodara	Diyar	Tree	Pinnaceae	Oil	Oils are harmless mosquito repellents and
	(Roxb. ex D.Don) G.Don					applied on the exposed body parts of children's.
14	Chenopodium foliosum	Chalware	Herb	Chenopodiaceae	Fruit	Fruits used to cure eye disorders.
	Asch.					
15	Chenopodium murale L.	Chalwai	Herb	Chenopodiaceae	Leaves	Leaves used in stomach pains, increase the
						passage of urine.
16	Chrysanthemum	Guledaawoode	Herb	Asteraceae	Leaves	Leaves are boiled in water and used as a cooling
	cinerariinefolium Trev.					agent.
17	Citrus aurentum	Malta	Tree	Rutaceae	Fruit	Rich in vitamin C, prevents bleeding of gums,

						strengthen teeth and healing of wounds.
18	Clematis orientalis	L. Ashand	Herb	Rannanculaceae	Flowers, fruits	Flowers and fruits are used to prevent loose
						motion and relieve the passage of blood in
						bowels.
19	Convolvulus arvensis L.	Pirwathia	Herb	Convolulaceae	Leaves, roots	Leaves used in asthma and carminative in action.
20	Daphne oleoides Schreb.	Anaghonai	Herb	Thymeliaceae	Roots, fruits	The fruits and roots used to prevent loose
	D 1 1	" al 1	TT 1	D 1	D + 0	motion, diarrhea and nausea.
21	Delphinium nordhage Wendelbo.	nii Cheyychag	Herb	Rannanculaceae	Roots, flowers	Flowers and roots used for healthy growth of hairs.
22	Digitalis purprea	Berg-e life	Herb	Scrophulariaceae	Logyog	Leaves used as stimulant, tonic and diuretic.
23	Ephedra gerrardiana	Parwate	Herb	Ephedraceae	Stem, tubers	Used in chest infections viz. asthma, bronchitis,
23	<i>Ернеага ден анана</i>	1 ai wate	Herb	Epileuraceae	Stelli, tubers	emphysema, antiallergenic & relives hay fever.
	Emica catina Millon	Ioma oma o	Houle	Dungainana	Coods	Coods are stimulant and present inflammation of
24	Eruca sativa Miller.	Jamama	Herb	Brassicaceae	Seeds	Seeds are stimulant and prevent inflammation of
25	Eucalyptus globules	Laache	Tree	Myrtaceae	Leaves	eyes. Oil obtained from leaves is used in chest
25	Eucutyptus gioonies	Laaciie	1166	Myrtaceae	Leaves	infections, dry cough and is antiseptic.
26	Euphorbia prostrata Ait.	Lewane botey	Herb	Euphorbiaceae	Latex	Latex used in skin infections viz. ring worm.
27	Ferula asefoetida	Hing	Herb	Scrophulariaceae		Stimulant, antispasmodic, carminative. Used in
-/	1 or alla abbjection	8	11010	Serophanariaeeae	Jums	asthma as laxative and to treat hysteria.
28	Hyoscyamus niger L.	Treeh bootey	Herb	Solanaceae	Leaves	Leaves have alkaloids used as anodyne to relieve
						pain.
29	Iberis amara	Halim	Herb	Brassicaceae	Seeds, leaves	Used in asthma, emphysema and bronchitis.
30	Lepidium sativum L.	Karhon	Herb	Brassicaceae	Leaves	Leaves used to prevent abdominal pain and make
						the stools soft in children's to relieve pain.
31	Malva neglecta Wall.	Panerak	Herb	Malvaceae	Seeds	Seeds used in respiratory infections viz. asthma,
						dry cough.
32	Marrubium vulgare L.	IstoreZokho	Herb	Lamiaceae	Leaves	Leaves used to prevent asthma and bronchial
	Malia and Jamak I	QL 1-:	Т	M-1:	I	disorders.
33	Melia azeddarach L.	Shandai	Tree	Meliaceae	Leaves, Seeds	Leaves used in diabetes and seeds used in chest infections.
24	Montha ninorata	Poodina	Horb	Lamiacaaa	Leaves	Contains volatile oils used as carminative.
34	Mentha piperata Mentha royleana Benth.	Bain	Herb	Lamiaceae Lamiaceae	Leaves	Leaves having volatile oils used as carminative
33	Mentina rogicana Bentin.	Dam	пстр	Lamiaccac	Leaves	and flavoring agent.
36	Mentha viridus L.	Podina	Herb	Lamiaceae	Leaves	Leaves boiled in green tea mixed
50	manufacture of the base of the	1 outility	11010	Zamaceae	200.00	with lemon grass used for nausea.
37	Micromeria perviviflora	Naray bootay	Herb	Lamiaceae	Leaves	Leaves used for relieving pain from facial organs.
38	Morus alba L.	Spen toot	Tree	Moraceae	Bark	Bark used for the removing worms and other
		•				intestinal parasites from the intestine.
39	Nasturtium officinale R. I	Br. Tarmira	Herb	Brassicaceae	Leaves	Leaves used as tonic, anthelmenthic, removes
						mucous from respiratory tract.
40	Oxalis corniculata L.	Threwakay	Herb	Oxalidaceae	Leaves	The juice of fresh leaves used in digestive
						troubles and diarrhea.
41	Papaver somnifferum	L. Doda	Herb	Papavaraceae	Seeds	Before the discovery of chloroform it was used as
						anesthetic as a surgery. But now days they are
						used to relive severe pain.
42	Pinus roxberghii Roxb.	Nakhtar	Tree	Pinaceae	Resins	Resins increase the efficiency of digestive
			<u>.</u>		~ 1	system.
43	Plantago major L.	Aspaghol	Herb	Plantaginaceae	Seeds	Seeds used to remove pain in the removal of bowl

						from the large intestine.
44	Platanus orientalis L.	Chinar	Tree	Platanaceae	Bark	Bark used in joint ache and prevents loose
						motion.
45	Punica granatum L.	Anaar	Tree	Punicaceae	Fruit, seeds	Pulp used in constipation and dry seeds used in
						condiments.
46	Quercus incana Roxb.	Sarray	Tree	Fagaceae	Bark	Bark used as antiallergic and in urinary
						infections.
47	Rosa indica	Gulab	Shrub	Rosaceae	Flowers	Used to make guleqand for digestive troubles.
						Extract of petals mixed with honey used to treat
						ophthalmic diseases.
48	Rosa webbiana L.	Throni	Shrub	Rosaceae	Flowers	Used to make gul-e- qand and extract of petals
						mixed with honey for the treatment of eye
						diseases.
49	Rubus anatolicus L.	Karwara	Shrub	Rosaceae	Fruits	Fruits are tonic, stimulant, carminative and used
						in diarrhea.
50	Rumex dentatus D.Don	Thoraki	Herb	Polygonaceae	Leaves	Leaves are purgative.
51	Rumex hastatus D. Don.	Tarukai	Herb	Polygonaceae	Leaves	Leaves are used to regulate systolic and diastolic
						blood pressure.
52	Salvia moorcroftiana Wall.	Kwarghug	Shrub	Lamiaceae	Seeds	Seeds are used to prevent dysentery.
53	Silene conoidea L.	Mangooti	Herb	Caryophyllaceae	Seeds	A paste is prepared by grinding of seeds and is
						applied on skin diseases due to fungal attack.
54	Sisymbrium irio L.	Seesana	Herb	Brassicaceae	Seeds	Seeds are used in the skin infections.
55	Solanum nigrum L.	Kachmacho	Herb	Solanaceae	Leaves, fruits	Herb is sedative, appetizer, purgative, diuretic
	v					and expectorant. Berries are tonic and also
						effective in hepatitis.
56	Solanum suuattense	Marghona	Herb	Solanaceae	Roots, seeds	Roots are used to remove mucous from
		Ü				respiratory tract and also used in cough, asthma
						and chest pain.
57	Sonchus aspera (L.) Hill	Shoda pai	Herb	Asteraceae	Roots, leaves	Roots are used in the treatment of malaria.
58	Spirea canescense D.Don.	Gul botey	Herb	Rosaceae	Young leaves	It is found on high mountains and honey bees
	•	•			Ü	prepares honey from their nectars which is the
						most expensive honey used for the curing of eye
						infections and digestive troubles.
59	Taraxum officinale	Brangansif	Herb	Asteraceae	Roots, leaves	Roots and leaf decoction is used in the disorders
		Ü				of bowels, kidneys and livers.
60	Teucrium stocksianum Boss	Spara Botay	Herb	Lamiaceae	Leaves	Decoction used in diabetes.
	(Airtch & Hemsl.)					
61	Verbena officinais L	. Shamakay	Herb	Verbanaceae	Roots	Roots used against harmful microbes and
		·				pathogens.
62	Viola indica Bkr.	Banafsha	Herb	Violaceae	Leaves, flowers	Extract of leaves are used in wounds and
					ŕ	joints disorders.
63	Viola rupestris Sehm.	Banafsha	Herb	Violaceae	Leaves	Leaves powder used in fever, headache and
						constipation.
64	Vitex negundo L.	Marwan	Herb	Verbanaceae	Leaves	Leaves are used to remove worms and other
~ 6						intestinal parasites and removes mucous from
						respiratory tract.
65	Ziziphus jujuba Lam. Non	ı Beera	Tree	Rhamnaceae	Leaves, fruits	Leaves are used to regulate body temperature,
	Mill.				,	prevents blood and mucous along with stools.

Amongst them 48 taxa were herbs 7 taxa were shrubs and 10 taxa were trees (fig. 2 & table 1). Asteraceae and Lamiaceae were the largest families having 7 taxa each while brassicaceae was the second largest family having 5 taxa followed by rosaceae having 4 taxa and

rananculaceae and solonaceae having 3 taxa each and berberidaceae, chenopodiaceae, scrophulariaceae, polygonaceae, verbinaceae and violaceae having 2 taxa each while the remaining all families having 1 taxa each.

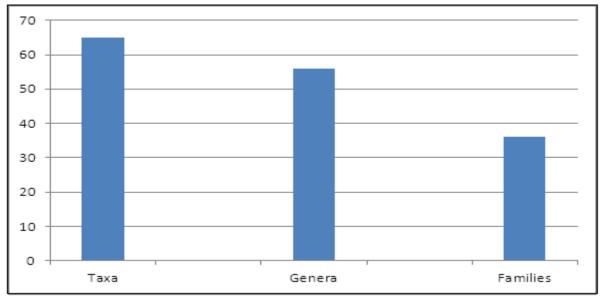


Fig. 1. Representation of ethnomedicinal uses of taxa, genera and families in tehsil Khall, District Lower Dir, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan.

Amongst the part/s used leaves of thirty four taxa, seeds of eleven taxa, roots of nine taxa, fruits of eight taxa, flowers of six taxa, bark of three taxa, rhizome of two taxa were used while the stem, gum, rhizome, oil, bulb and latex of one txa each were used for different remedies and disorders (fig. 3 & table 1). Knowledge

wise older people of rural areas have more awareness regarding these taxa and were collected for their own uses. Mostly the plant taxa were commonly practiced against different diseases viz. hepatitis, diabetes, infertility, skin problems, hair care and general tonics.

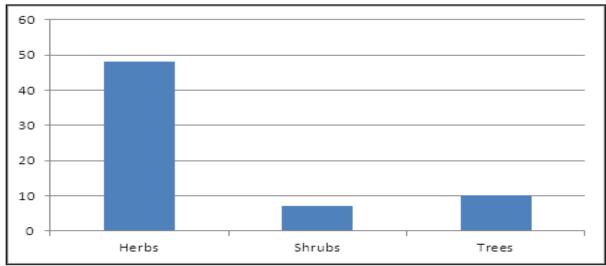


Fig. 2. Representation of ethnomedicinal uses of herbs, shrubs and trees in tehsil Khall, District Lower Dir, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan.

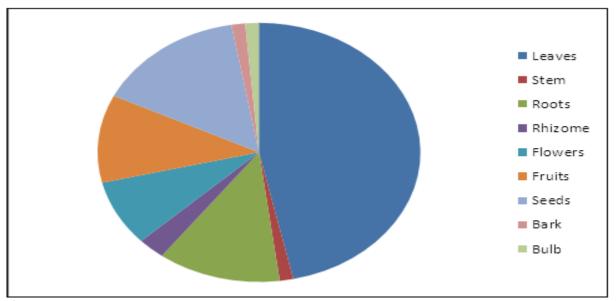


Fig. 3. Representation of ethnomedicinal uses of part/s used in tehsil Khall, District Lower Dir, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan.

The same results agrees with the earlier work viz. common medicinal plants from Chapursan valley, Gojal, Gilgit Baltistan, Pakistan (Wazir et al., 2004), ethnobotanical profile of plants from Shawer Valley, District; Swat, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Hussain et al., 2006), medicinal value of Ranunculaceae from Dir valley, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Hazrat et al., 2007), ethnobotanical study of common weeds from Dir Kohistan valley, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Jan et al., 2010), ethnobotanical study from Kahuta, District Rawalpidni, Punjab, Pakistan (Qureshi & Khan, 2001), diversity of medicinal plants from Wari, district Upper Dir, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Manan et al., 2007), ethnobotanical study from tehsil Kabal, Swat District, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Ahmad et al., 2011), ethnobotanical survey of plants from Neelum valley, Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Pakistan (Mahmood et al., 2011), Indigenous knowledge and folk use of medicinal plants by the tribal communities of Hazar Nao Forest, Malakand District, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Murad et al., 2011), the ethnobotany of Chitral Valley, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Ali & Qaiser, 2009), traditional medicinal plant knowledge of some spermatophytes of Samar Bagh Valley, Lower Dir district, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Irfan et al., 2017), checklist of some medicinal plants of district Lower Dir, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Ahmad et al., 2016), an updated checklist of Pteridophytes of district Mansehra, Pukhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Gul et al., 2016), Indigenous medicinal plants used by local women in southern Himalayan regions of Pakistan (Qureshi et al., 2009), check list of medicinal Plants from Siran Valley, district Mansehra, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Shah & Khan, 2006), economically and ecologically important plant communities in high altitude coniferous forest of Malam Jabba, district Swat, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Sher & Alyemeni, 2011), ethnobotanical study of some elite plants belonging to Dir Kohistan valley, district Dir upper, Khyber Pukhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Hazrat et al., 2011), ethnobotanical studies of plants of Charkotli Hills, Batkhela District, Malakand, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Barakat et al., 2009), traditionnal resource evaluation of some plants of Mastuj, District Chitral, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Husain et al., 2007), ethnobotanical survey of the flora of Maidan Valley, Lower Dir District, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Irfan et al., 2018), first Floristic Checklist of Dilbori, District Mansehra, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Ahmed et al., 2017), Preliminary Checklist of Upper Tanawal, District Mansehra, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Farooq et al., 2017), Floristic List and Indigenous Uses of

Poaceae Family in District Tor Ghar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Mehmood *et al.*, 2017), ethnomedicinal Uses of Plants from tehsil Laalqilla District Lower Dir, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Irfan *et al.*, 2018), ethnomedicinal Plants used for gastrointestinal ailments by the rural communities of Kaghan Valley, district Mansehra, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Jamal *et al.*, 2017), and ethnobotanical Survey of the Flora of tehsil Balakot, district Mansehra, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Irfan *et al.*, 2018).

Author's contribution

MI, N, & MK conducted the experiment and NAK, HK & SK carried out the statistical analysis SU & MS designed the experiment and GJ & WM structured and wrote the manuscript.

Conflict of interest

The authors declared that there is no conflict of interest.

Acknowledgment

We are really thankful to local communities of tehsil Khall, district lower Dir, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan for sharing their precious knowledge with us.

Conclusion

Inhibitants of tehsil Khal, district lower Dir, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan the aged and rural areas peoples has tremendous knowledge for identification of plant taxa including their method of collection, local names and uses of medicinal plants. Traditional knowledge regarding medicinal plants is gradually decreasing and the new generation has no knowledge about the valuable plants found in the area. Most of the taxa were collected by locals sell them in the local market collecting from the wild. Residents of hilly and rural areas frequently used these taxa. Knowledge wise older people have more awareness regarding these taxa. Mostly the plant taxa were commonly practiced against different disorders viz. hepatitis, diabetes, infertility, skin problems, hair care and general tonics. Keeping in view their

sustainability these taxa may be utilized for new drugs and commercial purpose so their cultivation for medicinal purpose is highly needed.

Recommendations

Keeping in view the sustainability of these plants taxa they should be practiced for new drug discovery. Cultivation of these plants taxa for food, medicine and ornamental purpose is highly recommended at national level.

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