Research Article

A PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE ON ANIMAL HEALTH CARE PRACTICES IN BARGARH DISTRICT OF ODISHA, INDIA

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ABSTRACT

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Ethno veterinary, livestock, medicinal plant, traditional medicine

ARTICLE INFO Received on: 19.05.2017 **Revised on:** 02.08.2017 **Accepted on:** 04.08.2017 of plant resources used in ethnoveterinary practices in Bargarh district of Odisha, India. Survey was carried out in the interior of the district, to explore the therapeutic uses of plants by local inhabitants. Information was gathered from traditional healers, elderly people and farmers by using participant observation, open-ended conversations and semi-structured questionnaires. The investigation was conducted during 2015 to 2017 in order to generate ethno veterinary data. Domestication of animals brings cash income to the rural families, bringing protection against the social depressions in addition to providing milk products like rabidi, chena, paneer, ghee, etc. of high nutritional value. In present study we have discussed the Ethnobotanical uses of 50 plants belonging to 33 families have been documented in the present study for their interesting therapeutic properties for various veterinary ailments such as diarrhoea, injury, fever, digestive disorders and maternity complications etc. The family Fabaceae had the largest number of reported species. Leaves were more commonly utilized for the preparation of ethnoveterinary medicine than other plant parts. Documentation of traditional knowledge related ethnoveterinary information

and identification of potential species for prioritization of conservation through sustainable

The objective of the present work was to register and document the traditional knowledge

management is essential for the benefit of future generations. The present study contributed to the construction of an inventory of ethnoveterinary plants, which might provides a better database for future scientific validation studies.

INTRODUCTION

India is a huge storage area of medicinal plants that are used in traditional medical treatments. The various indigenous systems such as Siddha, Ayurveda, Unani and Allopathy use several plant species to treat different ailments. It is a well-established fact that plants play an essential role to treat various disease and disorders of common people. Medicinal plants are the valuable gift of our mother nature for natural healthcare. A huge number of modern drugs have been isolated from natural sources mostly from the plant world. The plant based traditional medicine systems persist to play a vital role in health care, with about 80% of the world's farmers and animal growers relying mainly on traditional medicines for treating routine maladies for their livestock (Sahu et al., 2016; Sahu and Sahu, 2017). The science that completely deals with treating their livestock and other domestic animals with traditional medicine is known as 'ethnoveterinary medicine'. Mc Corkle (1986) coined the term Ethno-Veterinary. Though, there is no authentic evidence of when and how

plants came into usage for curing the domestic animals, the rural people seems to be aware of it through generations. It has been reported that many rural peoples use local herbal medicines for treatment of their domestic animals and the role of ethnoveterinary medicine in livestock development is beyond dispute (Misha and Patro, 2010; Mallik et al., 2012; Galav et al., 2013; Yadav et al., 2014; Sahu et al., 2016). Odisha being an agricultural state with predominance of rural population and hence animals, particularly cattle, play an important role in economy and social welfare. Farmers of Odisha have to treat their domestic animals with traditional medicines in spite of the availability of a large number of veterinary dispensaries and veterinary hospitals, primarily because of high cost of allopathic medicines and their associated side effects, cultural preferences and unavailability of required medicines in veterinary dispensaries and hospitals. So far some authors (Misha and Patro, 2010; Mallik et al., 2012) reported the ethnoveterinary practices and gathered information in the field of ethnoveterinary medicine has

been focusing on the folk knowledge for Odisha in general, and Bargarh district in particular (Sahu et al., 2016). People of this district generally depend upon agriculture and animal husbandry. The tribal usually domesticate buffalo and ox for ploughing, cow for milk and goat for milk purposes. They also rear poultry for their own use, as well as for sale in the market to earn their livelihood. Though they are not very much aware of the health care of domestic animals with modern allopathic medicines because of the remoteness of the area, they treat these animals with traditional herbal medicines. Even the people in urban areas also treat their domestic animals with the herbal medicines, which are safe to use without any side effect (Sahu et al., 2016). Further, proper research in ethnoveterinary medicine will no doubt help to confirm the claims made by ethno-veterinarians with respect to the efficacy of ethnoveterinary treatments by ethno-veterinarians. Hence, there is need to standardize ethnoveterinary medicines to fully integrate it into traditional medicine. Many countries have documented ethnoveterinary practices with special emphasis on use of medicinal plants and some countries have already developed databases on botanical resources and using them in their research studies and development. Basing upon these backgrounds, the present study was conducted in different Blocks of Bargarh district to identify, collect and document the ethnoveterinary medicinal plants used by people of this area and their utilization for primary

health care of animals in treatments of different ailments.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study area

The current study was carried out in Bargarh district of Odisha, India (Fig. 1.). The Bargarh district is situated in western zone of the Odisha at 20° 43' - 20° 41' N and 82° 39' - 83° 58' E with an area of 5837 Sq km (Sahu et al., 2010; Sahu et al., 2013; Sahu et al., 2016, Sahu and Sahu, 2017). Bargarh is the 12th district in terms of size and 13th in terms of population. Bargarh is the 17th urbanized district in state having only 10.13% of its population live in urban areas as against 16.69% of state's population living in urban areas. Bargarh district is bounded on the north by the state of Chhatisgarh and on the east by the district of Nawapara. The physiography of the Bargarh district gives a perfect platform for the tribal in sustaining their ethno cultural identity. The soil is red, red black and alluvium type. The district enjoys a tropical monsoon. The forests are dry deciduous and moist type. The district is inhabited by tribes like Sahara, Binjhal, Kondh, Gond, Munda, Kuli, Oran, Kisan, Mirdha, Kharia and Parja. Out of these, Sahara, Binjhal, Kondh and Gond are the predominant tribes (Sahu et al., 2010; Sahu et al., 2013; Sahu et al., 2016). Even though modern system of medicine has influenced the people, still these people not only earn their livelihood from the forest but also go on forest for medicines for the treatment of different diseases.



Fig. 1. Location of the Odisha state in the eastern region of India (A), map of the Odisha state (B), and area showing different blocks of Bargarh district (C).

Data Collection

The rural peoples are dependent on forest and natural vegetation for their daily requirements. Therefore present research was focused in different villages nearby forest areas of Bargarh district of Odisha. Data collection on the study area was carried out during 2015 to 2017, following established and standard procedures (Sahu et al., 2010, Sahu et al., 2013; Sahu et al., 2016). The study area was visited frequently and close interaction were made with the senior tribal people practicing herbal medicines. During field work, interviews were conducted with local knowledgeable villagers, the herbal healer called 'Vaidyas', 'Kabiraj' (local physicians in Indian System of Medicine), old woman and medicinal plant vendors. Plant specimens were collected and identified with local flora (Saxena and Brahmam, 1996). Some of the elderly people practicing such medicines did not easily reveal the truth directly, so indirect methods adopted to extract directly or indirectly. Moreover common tribal people were also contacted to know about their common ailments and healing methods. All information thus collected were scrutinized and compiled in a tabular form.

RESULTS

In the present study ethnoveterinary uses of 50 medicinal plant species belong to 48 genus and 33 families are documented. The genus Ficus (includes Ficus racemosa L. and Ficus religiosa L.) and Terminalia (includes Terminalia arjuna (Roxb. ex DC.) and Terminalia chebula Retz.) have two species in each, respectively. The routine maladies of livestock viz. diarrhoea, injury, fever, digestive disorders and maternity complications etc. are treated with these medicinal plants. Detailed information pertaining to these medicinal plants used in ethnoveterinary medicine viz. their botanical name, vernacular names, name of the family, part used, mode of preparation, administration, doses and duration for each plant is given below (Table 1.). Few photograph of plant parts that were used for ethnoveterinary purpose by the natives of Bargarh district was shown in Fig. 2. Among plant parts, leaf (38%) is more commonly used, followed by seed (20%), fruit (12%), whole plant (10%), bark (8%), rhizome (4%) and 2% each of bulb, root, seed oil and latex respectively (Fig. 3).

Botanical name, Family &	Parts used	Dosage and mode of application
Local Name Abrus precatorius L. (Fabaceae), 'Kaincha'	Leaf, seed	About 5-10g powdered seed with water is given to cure cardiac problems. Further leaf paste is applied on gall neck and breast swellings.
Acacia nilotica (L.) Del. (Mimosaceae), 'Ghuhuria'	Pod, Twigs	Tender pods are given every morning and evening to enhancing the lactation. Further about 500g tender twigs are given as feedstuff for two to three days to buffaloes for curing diarrhoea.
Achyranthes aspera L. (Amaranthaceae), 'Latkana'	Leaf	Leaves pounded into a paste is applied on genital part and allowed to inhale the same for easy delivery and retained placenta
Aegle marmelos Correa ex Roxb. (Rutaceae), 'Bel'	Fruit	Paste of 500g unripe fruit mixed with 50g dried ginger fed orally once a day, for two to three days to treat dysentery and diarrhoea.
Allium sativum L. (Liliaceae), 'Lesun'	Bulb	 About 100 g bulb fried with 100 ml of mustard oil. After cooling it is messaged on neck of cattle for treatment of cold and cough, swollen throat and haemorrhagic septicaemiasis. Decoction prepared by boiling 20g bulbs with 20g of fruits of <i>Piper longum</i> and 20g leaves of <i>Ocimum sanctum</i>, with 2000ml water until it becomes 500 ml. After cooling it is given twice a day for three days for cure of haemorrhagic, cough cold, swollen throat.
Andrographis paniculata Nees. (Acanthaceae), 'Bhuinlim'	Leaf	About 100 g of leaf, 100 g fruits of <i>Coriandrum sativum</i> and 10g of <i>Piper nigrum</i> together pounded with water, and the filtrate is given orally to cattle thrice a day as a cure for fever.
Anona squamosa L. (Annonaceae), 'Sitabadhal'	Leaf	Leaf paste is topically applied on wounds for healing.
Asparagus recemosus Wild. (Liliaceae), 'Satabari'	Root	About 5-10g of root, 8-10 tender leaves of lemon grass, rice curd, and black salt are crushed and given to cure fever.
Azadirachta indica Juss. (Meliaceae), 'Lim'	Leaf	About 100g leaves given as feed stuff twice daily to treat urinary problem in cattle.

Table 1. Plant species used for Animal Health Care Practices in Bargarh District of Odisha, India

Bambusa arundinacea	Leaf	Tender leaf is fed daily to cattle for better lactation.
(Retz.)Willd. (Poaceae),		
'Baunsa'		
Boerhaavia diffusa L	Whole plant	About 1500g whole plant is fed twice a day for removal of
(Nyctaginaceae), 'Gadaha	, in noise prairie	retained placenta in cows and buffaloes.
nurnui'		realized placental in cows and curratees.
Calotronis procara (Aiton)	Loof	About 250g green leaves are given as feedstuff daily to kill the
Dryand (Asclaniadacasa)	Leai	intestinal worm in sheep
'A rakh'		intestinar worm in sneep.
AldKii Caasia fistula I	Emit	Chas obtained from some mills is applied on fruit and warmed up
Cassia Jisiula L.	Fruit	in flame and there after it is applied on that and warned up
(Caesalpiniaceae), Sunari		in frame and there after it is applied frequently on cold affected
	XX 71 1	swollen throat of cattle for cure.
Cartharanthus roseus (L.)	Whole	Whole plant extract is applied topically to cure wounds.
G. Don. (Apocynaceae),	plant	
'Baramasi'		
Cicer arietinum L.	Seed	Soaked seeds are given as feedstuff to increase the milk quantity
(Fabaceae), 'Chana'		in case of mulching cattle.
Cleistanthus collinus	Leaf	Leaves are crushed and spread on floor of cattle shed to cure foot
(Roxb.) Benth. & Hk.		diseases locally called Khura.
(Euphorbiaceae), 'Karla'		
Clitoria ternatea L.	Leaf	Leaf extract along with salt is applied over eve to cure eve
(Fabaceae), 'Aparajita'		swelling.
Coriandrum sativum L	Leaf	About 10g each of leaf of the plant, seeds of <i>Trachispemum</i>
(Apiaceae) 'Dhania'	Loui	<i>ammi</i> (Juani) are crushed to paste and given with salt twice daily
(ripideede), Bilania		to cure dyspensia
Curcuma longa I	Phizome	About 15 20 g rhizome mixed with 100 mango nickle is given
(Zingiharaaaaa) 'Haldi'	KIIIZOIIIE	About 15-20 g finzonie mixed with 100 mango pickle is given
(Ziligiberaceae), Haldi	W/h als also	Twice a day for two days to treat general gastic problems.
<i>Cuscuta reflexa</i> Roxb.	whole plant	Decoction of the <i>Cuscuta</i> is applied on the infected site bitten by
(Convolvulaceae), Nirmuli	XX 71 1	the poisonous worm to relive the pain in domestic animals.
Dalbergia sisso Roxb.	whole	Leaf paste of the plant mixed with water is given to animal to
(Fabaceae), 'Sisu'	plant	cure blisters and leg sore.
Ficus racemosa L.	Latex	The fresh latex is applied on wounds of cattle as a cure.
(Moraceae), 'Dumer'		
Ficus religiosa L.	Bark	About 500 g fresh barks are boiled in 2000ml water for one hour
(Moraceae), 'Pipal'		and decoction is given orally for removal of retained placenta in
		buffaloes.
Foeniculum vulgare Mill.	Seed	Equal amount of fried and normal seeds are crushed and 100g
(Apiaceae), 'Panmuhuri'		powder is given twice a day for two to three days to treat
		diarrhoea.
Gossypium herbaceum L.	Leaf	The leaf juice is given orally as a cure for suppuration of waist
(Malvaceae), 'Kapa'		after delivery.
Helianthus annuus L.	Seed	About 50 ml seed oil is given daily during pregnancy to cattle for
(Asteraceae), 'Survamukhi'		smooth delivery.
Hibiscus cannabinus L	Seed	Seeds fed to lactating cows to enhance lactation
(Malvaceae) 'Kanria'	Beed	beeds fed to heading cows to enhance heading.
Inomea aquatica Foresk	Leaf	Leaves are given once daily for two weeks against blood urine
(Convolvulaceae)	Loui	Leaves are given once daily for two weeks against blood utilit.
(Convorvulaceae),		
Instinia a dhata da I	Loof	About 250g of loof mosts mixed with 250g and 100g of
Justicia aanatoaa. L.	Lean	 About 250g of real paster mixed with 250g curd, 100g of main nominal plating 1 from St
(Acanthaceae), 'Basang'		resin powder obtained from <i>Shorea robusta</i> and given to
		cows for easy derivery.
		► Again, Suomi juice obtained from pounded leaves boiled
		with 2g of <i>Piper nigrum</i> and 1000 ml of water. This
		decoction after cooling is given orally to cattle twice a day
		for bronchial problem.

		> Further 500 ml of leaf juice mixed with 20g of fruit powder
		of <i>Piper longum</i> is prescribed twice a day for severe cough.
Lawsonia inermis L.	Bark	Decoction prepared by boiling 250 g bark with 2000 ml water is
(Lythraceae), 'Benjati'		prescribed for constipation in Luke warm condition with rock salt
		in 50 ml dose twice daily.
Madhuca indica J. F. Gmel.	Seed	Cake obtained after oil extraction form seeds is applied on
(Sapotaceae), 'Mahul'		chronic wounds to expel worms.
Mangifera indica L.	Fruit	About 10 ml juice of ripe mango mixed with 10 ml extract of
(Anacardiaceae), 'Amba'		<i>Centella asiatica</i> is given for constipation.
Mimusons elengi L.	Leaf, Fruit	About 100 g of leaves pounded and squeezed juice is given
(Sapotaceae) 'Baul'	2001,11010	orally twice a day to cows to cure suppuration of waist after
(Superaceac), Daar		delivery
		\sim Further 100 g of fruits pounded to a fine paste. It is mixed
		with 500 ml water and given orally twice a day as a cure for
		urinery problems
Mania da situitalia	Daula	Ctore hard dependence in a second bad for the treatment of intertional
Morinaa citrifolia	Bark	Stem bark decoction is prescribed for the treatment of intestinal
L.(Rubiaceae), Achhu		disease of domestic animals.
Musa paradisiaca L.	Fruit	Ripened banana is given as feedstuff to cows and buffaloes to
(Musaceae), 'Kadel'		treat mastitis.
Nyctanthes arbor-tristis L.	Leaf	About 500 ml of extracted leaf juice boiled with 20 g fruit of
(Oleaceae), 'Gangasiuli'		<i>Piper nigrum</i> and 1000 ml water until it becomes 500 ml. After
		cooling it is given orally to cure fever, for three days.
Piper nigrum L.	Seed	Fine powder of piper is mixed with butter and pasted to the site
(Piperaceae), 'Gol mircha'		bitten by poisonous worms in cattle.
Portulaca oleracea L.	Whole plant	Whole plant is given as feedstuff to prevent excessive bleeding to
(Portulaceae), Nuni sag		buffaloes during and after delivery.
Psidium guajava L.	Leaf	About 20 gm tender leaves of the plant, Syzigium cumini and
(Myrtaceae), 'Maya'		Mangifera indica are pounded together, and the Juice is given
(orally to cattle for the treatment of dysentery.
Raphanus sativus L	Leaf	Daily about 1 kg plant is given as fodder to cow daily for one
(Brassicaceae) 'Mula'	Loui	week to maintain pregnancy just after fertilization for one week
Ricinus communis I	Seed	About 50 ml seed oil is drenched twice for two to three days for
(Furtherbiaceae) 'Inda'	Secu	apparel gestric problems (to clean the stomach)
Bogg in diag L (Dasaaaaa)	Flower	Base notals and commercially evoluble meduat (Cullion d' is fed
<i>Kosa inalca</i> L. (Kosaceae),	Flower	to increase the mill quantity aspecially lastering across and
Gulab		to increase the mink quantity especially factating cows and
	0 1 1	
Syzygium aromaticum L.	Seed oil	Seed oil is applied over nipples to treat mastitis.
(Myrtaceae), 'Labang'		
Tagetes erecta L.	Leaf	Slightly warm mixture of leaf extract and mustard oil is poured
(Asteraceae), 'Ganja'		into the ears of the domestic animal to cure earache.
<i>Terminalia arjuna</i> (Roxb. ex	Bark	Paste of fresh bark is given orally for removal of retained
DC.)		placenta in cows and buffaloes.
Wight & Arn.		
(Combretaceae), 'Kau'		
Terminalia chebula Retz.	Fruit	About 20g fruits mixed with 200g methi are boiled in 2.5 litre
(Combretaceae), 'Harda'		water for half an hour and allowed to cool. 50 ml cooled
		decoction is given orally for two to three days for better
		digestion.
Triticum aestivum L.	Seed	300g seed are crushed and mixed with 20g tea leaves and 100g
(Poaceae), 'Gaham'		Ashwagandha, the mixture is given to cow to treat cold for two
		days to treat cold.
Vigna mungo (L.) Hepper.	Seed	Seeds of the plant, rhizome of Zingiber officinale and leaf of
(Fabaceae), 'Mug'		Bambusa arundinacea are together fed to the cow three times
		daily to cure liquid purging.
Vitex negundo L.	Leaf	Leaf paste (5-10g) of the plant is given along with cow ghee and

(Verbenaceae), 'Nirguni'		honey to cure cough in cattle.
Zingiber officinale Rosc.	Rhizome	100g ginger are mixed with 100g seeds of Piper nigrum and
(Zingiberaceae), 'Ada'		given once or twice daily to the cattle to treat cough or throat
		problem.



Fig. 2. Few plant parts used for animal health care practices in Bargarh District of Odisha, India: Bulbs of *Allium sativum* L. (a), Leaves of *Azadirachta indica* Juss. (b), Stem bark of *Ficus religiosa* L. (c), Leaves of *Justicia adhatoda*. L. (d), Leaves of *Nyctanthes arbor-tristis* L. (e), Whole plant of *Portulaca oleracea* L. (f), Fruits of *Terminalia chebula* Retz. (g), Leaves of *Vitex negundo* L. (h) and Rhizome of *Zingiber officinale* Rosc. (i).

DISCUSSION

Native people throughout the world in different geographical regions utilize medicinal plants growing in their surrounding localities for treating different human ailments and their domestic animals. Ethnoveterinary is a holistic inter-disciplinary study of indigenous knowledge and associated skills, practices, beliefs and social structures pertaining to the healthcare husbandry income producing animals, has emerged as a fertile field for generation and transfer appropriate and sustainable veterinary alternatives to the stock raisers. Prolonged use of synthetic drugs commonly used in conventional system of medicine, their associated side effects as well as the uncertainty concerning their safety has paved a way towards an era of alternative system of medicine i.e. herbal medicine based on traditional knowledge. Some of the oldest known medicinal systems of the world such as Ayurveda of Indus civilization, Arabian medicine, Chinese and Tibetian medicine and Kempo of Japanese are all based on plants. The market for herbal drugs has grown at impressive rate and people rely on herbal drugs is rising not only in developing countries but in developed nations too. In this context WHO cites as strategic goals the rediscovery of traditional medicine and its rational use, in part because of its lower cost and higher acceptability (WHO, 2002-05).

The present paper enlisted 50 plant species belongs to 33 families. Out of which most of them were collected from the wild except few of which are cultivated species. Plants like *Abrus precatorius* L., *Acacia nilotica* (L.) Del., *Allium sativum* L., *Justicia adhatoda*. L., *Mimusops elengi* L. etc., were used for treatment of more than one diseases. The present report on the use of plants for ethnoveterinary medicinal purposes draws support from earlier studies in different parts of the Odisha (Misha and Patro, 2010; Mallik et al., 2012 and Sahu et al., 2016) and other state of India (Galav et al., 2013; Yadav et al., 2014).



Fig. 3. Plant parts used for Animal Health Care Practices in Bargarh District of Odisha, India

The domestic animals and cattle play an important role in day to day life of the tribals and rural people. The cattle provide milk, leather, manure, fuel and many other things useful to the people while goat and sheep provide meat. Furthermore, ox and buffalo are used to ploughing the crop fields. Hence health of domestic animal is more essential for the tribal people. The present investigation has brought to light some popular and frequently used medicinal plants available in the localities for treatment of indigestion, ear infection, sores, dysentery, cough, infection in between toes to name a few. A concise list of wild plant resources of the district and their utilization will provide basic data for further studies aimed at conservation, traditional medicine practice and economic welfare of the rural and tribal population of Bargarh district.

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