

# **MEDICINAL UTILITY OF SOME HERBS IN VETERINARY PRACTICES FOR THE TREATMENT OF WOUNDS AND INFECTIONS**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Animals have had very significant role in human civilization and culture. They have been domestic for agriculture, milk, flesh, transport, recreation etc. Over a long period of time and through trial and error, the ethnic and rural folk have developed a wealth of domestic healthcare practices. Such indigenous knowledge is based on experience. In the past, great importance was given to the use of indigenous medicine for the treatment of animal diseases. Present paper aims to enumerate the herbs which are used by the village farmers of Satna district of Madhya Pradesh in the treatment of various infections of animals.

**Key-words:** Infections, Animals, Medicinal plants, Madhya Pradesh

## **INTRODUCTION**

The dependence of natives on plant based medicine for treating animals is mainly because of the limited access to the modern medicine system, cheaper and easy availability of the herbal drugs and simplicity of their applications.<sup>1</sup> Moreover, herbal medicine does not have any negative side effects or build up resistant for associated with pharmaceutical drugs.<sup>2</sup> With the increased recognition of such traditional wisdom of medication in animal healthcare, the process of documentation of related traditional wisdom is gaining a momentum all over the world. However, the initiatives to recognize such knowledge, its documentation and dissemination need further boost, which turn has made the veterinary scientists pay greater attention to use the herbal medicine for remedial purpose.<sup>3</sup> Numerous allopathic medicines have so far been formulated for the treatment but none of them is 100% free from side effect. Therefore, the natives are in search of plant based medicines which have minimal or no adverse effect, cheaper and are easily available.

## **METHODOLOGY**

Thirty two study sites scattered over entire district were selected on the basis of floristic pattern and population. During the course of present investigation all the study sites were visited after carefully planned field trip during Jan 2009 to May 2009 as per plan developed.<sup>4</sup> Emphasis was given to trace out the veterinary medicine from the old medicine men, village farmers, schedule castes and schedule tribes. The author had also interacted with them to obtain their herbal secrets. Data regarding to veterinary medicine were collected as per plan suggested.<sup>5</sup>

## **OBSREVATIONS**

During the course of present investigation authors have collected 19 plants which have been used for the treatment of various infections of animals and have veterinary utility. For each species the following enumeration are given:

- Botanical name
- Local name
- Family
- Mode of usage

## **ENUMERATION**

### **1. *Acorus calamus* Linn.**

Bach

Araceae

Leaf paste is applied on wounds to destroy maggots.

About 20 ml rhizome extract mixed with lukewarm water and given once daily for 5 days) to infants to remove intestinal worms.

### **2. *Ageratum conyzoides* Linn.**

Shehdai

Asteraceae

Leaves are used as antiseptic and externally applied on cut, wounds and injuries to avoid from microbial infection.

### **3. *Annona squamosa* Linn.**

Sitaphal

Annonaceae

The leaf extract is used to kill the worms in sores and wounds and used as a valuable bio-insecticide.

Seed powder destroys the maggots and ectoparasites.

### **4. *Argemone mexicana* Linn.**

Pilikateli , Ghamoya

Papavaraceae

Yellow latex of whole plant is antiseptic and externally applied to prevent the bacterial infections

Seed oil is used to arrest the growth of fungal infection, viz., eczema, ringworm etc.

### **5. *Azadirachta indica* A. Juss.**

Neem

Meliaceae

Leaves are appetizer and expel the intestinal worm in cattles.

### **6. *Basella alba* Linn.**

Poi

Basellaceae

Paste of fleshy stem externally applied on wounds.

### **7. *Buchanania lanzan* Sprengel**

Char

Anacardiaceae

Bark extract is used for washing sores and wounds.

**8. *Butea monosperma* (Lamk.) Taub.**

Palaas

Fabaceae

Seed powder (10 gm once daily) given as anthelmintic to expel the intestinal worms in infants.

**9. *Carica papaya* Linn.**

Papita

Caraceae

Seed powder (10 gm twice daily) prescribed to expel the intestinal worms

**10. *Centella asiatica* (L.) Urban.**

Brahmi

Apiaceae

A fine powder of dried leaves is an excellent remedy for skin eruptions like chronic eczema, ulcers and sores.

**11. *Chenopodium album* Linn.**

Bathua

Chenopodiaceae

Leaf poultice is applied on sore and wounds.

**12. *Desmodium trifolium* (L.) DC.**

Tinpatia

Fabaceae

Fresh leaves are used for the healing of wounds.

**13. *Gloriosa superba* Linn.**

Kalihari

Liliaceae

Tuber poultice is externally applied on wounds to avoid from microbial infection

**15. *Jatropha curcas* Linn.**

Ratanjoth

Euphorbiaceae

The juice of the plant is to be efficacious in scabies, eczema and ringworm.

**16. *Mimosa pudica* L.**

Lajwanti

Mimosaceae

Leaf paste externally applied on wounds to kill the maggots.

**17. *Nicotiana tabacum* Linn.**

Tambakhu  
Solanaceae

The infusion of leaf and stem is germicidal and externally used to kill the ectoparasites  
The seeds are anathematic and are useful to expel the intestinal worms in infants.

**18. *Plumbago zeyianica* Linn.**

Chitrak  
Plumbaginaceae

A paste of whole plant is used in the treatment of chronic skin diseases viz., ulcers, scabies and ringworm.

**19. *Syzygium cumini* (L.) Skeels.**

Jamun  
Myrtaceae

The juice of fresh leaves is useful to cure wounds.

**CONCLUSION**

The present work carries the results of “medicinal utility of some herbs in veterinary practices for the treatment of wounds and infections” indicates the utilization of plants for the treatment of various infections (bacterial, fungal and wounds infections) of animals and emphasizes the veterinary utility of the plants from various study sites of Satna district of Madhya Pradesh. During the course of present investigation authors have collected 19 plants of veterinary importance after a thoroughly conversation with the informants of the selected study sites and it was realized that they are using these herbs from a long time in the treatment of various infections of animals. Also, the part used and mode of usage of these herbs were gathered and are presented in the paper.

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