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Traditional knowledge on ethno-medicinal uses prevailing in tribal pockets of Seoni and Narsinghpur district (M.P.)

Krishna Datta Singh and Dr. RP Mishra

Abstract
The current paper discusses the traditional knowledge of traditional healers in the Seoni and Narsinghpur districts of Madhya Pradesh, India about the use of herbs in the treatment of various diseases that are common in tribal pockets. The herbal healers of these region use plant/plant parts of their suitable preparation for treating various ailment. Information collected from traditional tribal healers, medicine men etc has revealed that plant/plant parts of 76 species from Seoni district and 50 species from Narsinghpur district of forest origin are utilized as paste, powder, juice, decoction and extract for the treatment of various diseases of local people of the area. Out of 126 plant species of study area 33.33% species of herbaceous plant, 15.87% species of shrubs, 29.37% species of trees and 21.43% species of climbers are used in preparation of traditional medicines. Knowledge of plants used by traditional healers can be very helpful in replacing synthetic drugs.

Keywords: Traditional knowledge, herbal healers, medicinal plants, disease

Introductions
Plants and plants based medicaments have been employed since the dawn of civilization for prolonging life of man by combating various ailments. Ancient ethnic communities around the world have learnt to utilize their neighbourhood herbal wealth for curative purpose. Indian subcontinent is being inhabited by over 54 million tribal people dwelling in about 5000 forest dominated villages spreading across the country comprising 15% of the total geographical area, their knowledge of plants developed often at the cost of their life in their natural dwellings through centuries old experience could not be perfectly documented due to the lack of literacy and it had rather descended from one generation to another as a domestic practice. They comprises of one of the unique treasure and rich source of diversified ethno-botanical wealth.

In remote tribal villages of Seoni and Narsinghpur districts, traditional medicines are of great importance in the primary healthcare of indigenous people due to their strong faith on these systems and up to some extent the lack of sufficient and reliable health facilities and modern medicines. The local plant resources are the principal source of medicine and are used by the traditional herbal healers. Hundreds of plants growing in forests are used as source of medicines throughout the world. Some of the plants have pharmacological properties while the others are used in indigenous medicine. Most of these plants has occupied an important place in the past and shall continue in the coming days in traditional as well as in modern medicine system. Ayurveda is the basis and foundation of ancient medicinal system of drugs derived from plant species. The system like Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy have been utilizing about more than 200 plant species for medicinal purposes.

These medicinal systems have attained a great importance these days owing to side effects caused by synthetic drugs. In Indian Materia Medica, 2000 drugs have been extracted from 1800 plants of forest origin. The active principles found in medicinal plants are alkaloids, glucosides and other complex compounds. The active ingredients are found in one or more parts of the plants in varying proportions. It may be found in root, bark, stem, leaf, fruit, flower or seeds.

In Madhya Pradesh tribes and forest dwellers from a considerable part of the population. The state is strategically located and occupies a place almost in the heart of the country. A large number of tribal communities live in remote and inaccessible parts of the forests. Most of these tribal communities are largely dependent on plant species for curing their ailments.

Living close to the nature, these tribals have acquired unique knowledge about the use of wild flora.

Various contributors have worked on medicinal plants of Central India (Jain, 1963 a, b and c; Jain and Tarafdar, 1970; Bhatnagar *et al.*, 1973; Sahu, 1982, 1983; Mishra and Sahu, 1984; Saxena, 1986; Rai, 1987, 1989; Oommachan *et al.*, 1990; Shah and Singh, 1990; Pandey *et al.*, 1991; Jain, 1992; Maheshwari, 1996; Kumar and Jain, 1998; Dubey *et al.*, 2001) [1-18]. Few ethno-botanical works have been done in Patalkot valley (Rai, 1987a; Rai *et al.*, 1999) [19-20]. Ethno-botanical studies have also been done in Central India and Chhattisgarh (Rai and Nath, 2005; Rai *et al.*, 2002) [21-22] but there are some tribal pockets in Seoni and Narsinghpur district where indigenous knowledge of herbal healer could not be properly documented due to lack of scientific manpower in such remote areas for the search of traditional medicines. Therefore, the study has been taken up in Seoni and Narsinghpur districts of Madhya Pradesh, India.

Material and Methods

The Seoni District came into existence in its present form on 1st November 1956. It lies in the Southern part of Madhya Pradesh state between the parallels of latitude 21°36′ to 22°57′ and 79°19′ to 80°17′ East Longitude falling in Survey of India toposheets Nos. 55N, 0 and 64B.

Narsinghpur district, spanning over an area of about 5126 km², lies in the south central part of the state of Madhya Pradesh. There are five tehsils fall under this district namely Narsinghpur, Gotegaon, Gadarwara, Tendukheda & Kareli and the district further divided into six administrative blocks namely Saikhera, Babai Chichali, Chawarpatha, Kareli, Narsinghpur & Gotegaon. The district lies between North latitude 22°36' and 23°16' and east longitude 78°27' and 79°40', falling in Survey of India topo sheet No. 55/I, 55/J, 55M & 55/N.

The study was carried out in the district of Seoni and Narsinghpur of Madhya Pradesh state of India. The survey was conducted to collect the information regarding tribal pockets of Seoni and Narsinghpur district from Tribal Welfare Office and Divisional Forest Office. Five tribal villages in each site were visited through periodical tour. Special attention was paid to record information from local traditional herbal healer (Vaidya). The information on home – remedies using the preventive and curative values of different plant species documented involving the ethical guidelines adopted by the International Society of Ethno-biology.

Ex-Post Facto Research, Rapid Rural Appraisal method were adapted for collection of data from primary and secondary sources. Ex-Post Facto Research (Chapin, 1955) [23]. The design is a systematic empirical enquiry in which scientist has a direct control on independent variables. Here the variables were tribals, traditional herbal healers, vaidyas, ojhas and guniuas from whom the information were collected. The techniques of RRA included interview and question design techniques for individual, household and key informant interviews, methods of cross-checking information from different sources, sampling techniques that can be adapted to a particular objective, methods of obtaining quantitative data in a short time frame group interview techniques, including focus-group interviewing methods of direct observation at site level and use of secondary data sources.

Random and snowball sampling techniques were employed to identify potential participants and interviewed with herbal healers. The study area covers selection of tribal blocks of the district. The details of tribal blocks and tribal herbal healers were collected from Tribal Welfare Office and Forest Office of the districts. The tribal villages are selected from tribal blocks by random sampling method. Rapid Rural Appraisal Method for collection of data has been applied. A questionnaire / schedule have been developed to document the information prevailing in the community over a period of time in periodical visits. The guidelines mentioned in the CBD have been followed for survey and documentation work. During the field trips, local guide, villagers, traditional herbal healers (Vaidyas, Ojhas and Guniyas), tribal heads and tribal persons are contacted and enquired to gather related information. Identification of plants has been made through the local name of plant with the help of existing literature. The directory of Indian folk medicines and Indian Materia Medica were consulted to confirm the identification and the medicinal use of plants mentioned in the paper.

Results and Discussion

Surveys in tribal villages of five tribal pockets (Dhanora, Ghansour, Kurai, Lakhanadoun and Chhapara blocks) of Seoni and five tribal pockets (Chichli, Gotegaon, Kareli, Saikheda and Chawarpatha blocks) of Narsinghpur districts have been conducted. The details are as follows: the enumeration of 76 medicinal plants being used by the traditional herbal healers (Vaidyas, Ojhas, Guniyas) have been documented from Seoni district. The tribal uses different parts of plants which are locally available, in curing various types of diseases (Table 2). In case of any illness, village people contact their local medicine practitioner to whom they call vaidhya (traditional herbal healer). Vaidhya is a person who has inherited the knowledge of curing various diseases from his fore fathers and others by using only plants. There is one or two such type of person in the village community. Traditionally, local knowledge is transferred from one generation to other generation within family of the vaidhya and in this way vaidhya system survives.

Table 1: Plants with local name, parts used in medicine by the traditional herbal healers of Seoni district

S. No.	Family	Botanical name	Local name	Habit	Diseases	Plant part used/formulation
1.	Acanthaceae	*Adhatoda vasica* Nees.	Adusa	Shrub	Asthma	Bark (Powder)
2.	Anacardiaceae	*Mangifera indica* Linn.	Am	Tree	Skin disease	Flower (Paste)
3.	Apocynaceae	*Holarrhena antidysentrica* (Linn.) Wall.	Kuda	Tree	Fever	Bark (Powder)
4.	Araceae	*Sauromatum guttatum* var.	Bhasam kand	Herb	Piles	Tuber part (Paste)
5.	Araceae	*Acorus calamus* L.	Buch	Herb	Throat problem	Root (Paste)
6.	Asclepiadaceae	*Gymnema sylvestre* R.Br.	Gurmar	Climbing shrub	Diabetes	Leaf (Powder)
7.	Aspargaceae	*Aspargus racemosus* Willd.	Satawar	Under shrub	Weakness	Root (Powder)

8.	Asteraceae	*Spilanthes acmella* murr.	Akarkara	Herb	Throat problem	Root (Paste)
9.	Asteraceae	*Sphaeranthus indicus* L.	Gorakhmundi	Herb	Weakness	Whole plant (powder)
10.	Bignoniaceae	*Stereospermum chelonoides* DC	Paral	Tree	Migraine	Seed (Powder)
11.	Cactaceae	*Opuntia dilleniid* Ker Gawl.	Thour	Under shrub	Pneumonia	Stem (extract)
14.	Caesalpiniaceae	*Caesalpinia crista* Linn	Gataran	Climbing shrub	Intestinal worms	Seed (Powder)
12.	Caesalpiniaceae	*Cassia tora* Linn.	Charonta	Herb	Rheumatism	New leaves (Paste)
16.	Caesalpiniaceae	*Cassia occidentalis* Linn.	Kasondi	Shrub	Snake bite	Root (Powder)
13.	Caesalpiniaceae	*Cassia fistula* Linn.	Amaltas	Tree	Rheumatism	Flower (Paste)
15.	Caesalpiniaceae	*Cassia senna* L.	Sannay	Under shrub	Bowel problem	Leaf (Powder)
17.	Celastraceae	*Celastrus paniculatus* Willd	Malkangni	Shrub	Rheumatism	Seed (Decoction)
18.	Chenopodiaceae	*Salsola kali* L.	Sajji	Herb	Cough	Whole plant (Powder)
19.	Combretaceae	*Terminallia arjuna* (Roxb.) Wgt. & Arn.	Arjun	Tree	Heart ailment	Fruit (Powder)
20.	Combretaceae	*Terminallia bellirica* Roxb.	Kali musli	Tree	Cough and Cold	Fruit (Powder)
21.	Combretaceae	*Terminalia chebula* Retz.	Harra	Tree	Cough	Fruit (Powder)
22.	Combretaceae	*Anogeissus pendula* Edgew.	Kardhai	Tree	Dysentery	Bark (Decoction)
23.	Convolvulaceae	*Argyreia nervosa* Burm.f.	Budhwara	Climber	Weakness	Root (Powder)
24.	Convolvulaceae	*Ipomoea mauritiana* Jacq	Badari karnd	Climber	Fit	Tuber part (Paste)
25.	Convolvulaceae	*Ipomoea pestigridis* Jacq.	Ghutla	Climbing shrub	Stones	Leaf (Chiew)
26.	Costaceae	*Costus specious* (Koening) Sm.	Kaukand	Herb	Rheumatism	Tuber part (Paste)
28.	Cucurbitaceae	*Benincasa hispida* Thunb.	Bhoora Kumhda	Climber	Urinary trouble	Seed (Powder)
29.	Cucurbitaceae	*Coccinia grandis* L.	Sonpataruka	Climber	Throat problem	Seed (powder)
30.	Cucurbitaceae	*Bryonopsis laciniosa* Linn	Shivlingi	Climber	Pregnancy	Seed (Paste)
27.	Cucurbitaceae	*Citrullus colocynthis* Schrad.	Indrayan	Shrub	Diabetes	Seed (Powder)
31.	Dioscorneaceae	*Dioscorea bulbifera* Linn.	Barahi kand	Climber	Weakness	Tuber part (Powder)
34.	Euphorbiaceae	*Euphorbia hirta* Linn	Bari dudhi	Herb	Rheumatism	Whole plant (Extract)
35.	Euphorbiaceae	*Euphorbia thymifolia* Linn.	Chhoti dudhi	Herb	Gastric problem	Whole plant (extract)
36.	Euphorbiaceae	*Phyllanthus fraternus* Webster	Bhui-amla	Herb	Swelling	Whole plant (Decoction)
32.	Euphorbiaceae	*Jatropha curcas* Linn.	Ratanjot	Shrub	Rheumatism	Seed (Decoction)
33.	Euphorbiaceae	*Ricinus communis* Linn	Arandi	Small tree	Rheumatism	Leaf (Decoction)
38.	Fabaceae	*Cirtoria lematea* Linn.	Aparajita	Climber	Sciatica	Leaf (Decoction)
37.	Fabaceae	*Pueraria tuberosa* DC	Patal kumhda	Herb	Weakness	Tuber part (Powder)
39.	Fabaceae	*Pongamia pinnata* Pierre.	Karanj	Tree	Piles	Seed (Powder)
40.	Flacourtiaceae	*Flacourtia indica* Merr.	Kevti	Shrub	Dysentery	Bark (Paste)
41.	Fumariaceae	*Fumaria officinalis* L.	Pitt-papra	Herb	Cold, Cough and fever	Whole plant (Decoction)
42.	Gentianaceae	*Swertia chirayita* Buch. Ham. Ex. C.B. Clarke	Chirayata	Herb	Diabetes	Whole plant (Decoction)
43.	Lamiaceae	*Coleus amboinicus* Lour; CA	Paather chur	Herb	Stones	Leaf (Paste)
44.	Lamiaceae	*Ocimum sanctum* Linn	Tulsi	Herb	Skin diseases	Leaf (Extract)
45.	Laurnaceae	*Litsea monopetala* Roxb.	Meda	Tree	Dysentery	Bark (Paste)
47.	Liliaceae	*Gloriosa superb* Linn	Kalihari	Climber	Pregnancy	Root (Paste)
48.	Liliaceae	*Smilex perfoliate* Lour.	Ram datun	Climber	Leucorrhoea	Root (Paste)
49.	Liliaceae	*Allium porum* L.	Jangli Lahsun	Herb	Rheumatism	Bulb (Paste)
50.	Liliaceae	*Drimia indica* Roxb.	Jangli piyaz	Herb	Scorpion sting	Bulb (Paste)
46.	Liliaceae	*Aloe barbadensis* Mill.	Gvar pada	Rosettes herb	Diabetes	Leaf pulp (Paste)
51.	Malvaceae	*Hibiscus rosasinensis* L.	Gurhal	Small tree	Vertigo	Leaf (Paste)
52.	Meliaceae	*Azadirachta indica* A. Juss.	Neem	Tree	Cold, Cough and fever	Bark (Decoction)
53.	Meliaceae	*Melia azedarach* Linn.	Maha neem	Tree	Piles	Bark (Paste)
54.	Menispermaceae	*Tinospora cordifolia* Willd.	Gurvel	Climber	Anemia	Root (Decoction)
55.	Mimosaceae	*Acacia nilotica* Linn.	Babul	Tree	Cough and Cold	Bark (Decoction)
56.	Momosaceae	*Acacia catechu* Willd.	Khair	Tree	Cough and Cold	Bark (Decoction)
57.	Moraceae	*Ficus bengalensis* Linn.	Bad	Tree	Weakness	Latex (Juice)
58.	Moraceae	*Ficus religiosa* Linn.	Pipal	Tree	Weakness	Latex (Juice)
59.	Myrtaceae	*Syzygium cumini* Linn.	Jamun	Tree	Diabetes	Seed (powder)
60.	Nyctaginaceae	*Boerhaavia diffusa* L.	Punarnava	Herb	Swelling	Whole plant (Decoction)
61.	Oleaceae	*Nyctanthes arbortristis* Linn	Harshingar	Small tree	Rheumatism	Leaf (Decoction)
62.	Piperaceae	*Piper longum* L.	Ledi piper	Climber	Throat problem	Root (Paste)
63.	Piperaceae	*Piper betel* Linn.	Kuramdan	Climber	Throat problem	Root (Paste)
64.	Plumbaginaceae	*Plumbago indica* L.	Raktbirad	Shrub	Skin disease	Root (Paste)
65.	Sapotaceae	*Manilkara hexandra* Roxb.	Khirni	Tree	Weakness	Latex (Juice)
69.	Solanaceae	*Solanum nigrum* L	Mak	Herb	Swelling	Whole plant (Decoction)
66.	Solanaceae	*Withania somnifera* Dunal.	Ashwgandha	Shrub	Weakness	Root (Powder)
67.	Solanaceae	*Datura innoxia* Mill.	Pila dhatura	Shrub	Skin diseases	Root (extract)
68.	Solanaceae	*Datura stramonium* Linn.	Safed dhatura	Shrub	Body pain	Fruit (oil)
70.	Trapaceae	*Trapa natans* L.	Singhara	Herb	Intestinal ulcer	Fruit (Powder)
73.	Verbenaceae	*Lippia nodiflora* L.	Jalpipali	Herb	Pneumonia	Whole plant (paste)
71.	Verbenaceae	*Vitex negundo* Linn.	Nirgundi	Shrub	Rheumatism	Leaf (Decoction)

72.	Verbenaceae	*Tectrona grandis* L.	Sagun	Tree	Skin disease	Leaf (smoke)
74.	Vitaceae	*Ampelocissus amottiana* Planch.	Jangli Angur	Climber	Weakness	Root (Powder)
75.	Vitaceae	*Cissus quadrangularis* Linn.	Haadjod	Climber	Bone fracture	Stem (Paste)
76.	Vitaceae	*Leea macrophylia* Roxb.	Hatkan	Herb	Cur, swelling, pain	Root (Paste)

Table 2: Plants with local name, parts used in medicine by the traditional herbal healers of Narsinghpur district

S. No.	Family	Botanical name	Local name	Habit	Diseases	Plant part used/formulation
1.	Acanthaceae	*Andrographis paniculata* Wall. Ex. Nees.	Kalmegh	Herb	Snake bite	Whole plant (Decoction)
2.	Amaranthaceae	*Achyranthes aspera* L.	Chirchita	Herb	Tuberculosis	Root (Powder)
3.	Anacardiaceae	*Mangifera indica* L.	Aam	Tree	Diabetes	Leaf (powder)
4.	Anacardiaceae	*Semecarpus anacardium* L.F.	Bhilwa	Tree	Diabetes	Fruit (Powder)
5.	Apiaceae	*Coriandrum sativum* L.	Dhania	Herb	Blood pressure	Leaf (powder)
6.	Apocynaceae	*Wrightia tinctoria* R.Br.	Indraj	Tree	Bone fracture	Bark (Powder)
7.	Apocynaceae	*Vallaris solanaceae* O. Ktze	Chodhari bela	Climber	Hanthi paon	Stem part (Paste)
8.	Araceae	*Pistia stratiotes* L.	Jalkumbhi	Water	Snake bite	Climber (Decoction)
9.	Araceae	*Acorus calamus* (Raf.) Raf.	Buch	Herb	Fit	Rhizome (Paste)
10.	Asclepiadaceae	*Tylophora indica* Burm. F.	Dam bel	Climber	Asthma	Leaf (Powder)
11.	Asclepiadaceae	*Gymnema sylvestre* R.Br.	Gudmar	Bel	Diabetes	Leaf (powder)
12.	Asteraceae	*Centratherum anthelminticum* Willd.	Kadu jira	Herb	Tuberculosis	Seed (Powder)
13.	Bombacaceae	*Bombax ceiba* L.	Semal	Tree	Leucorrhea	Bark (Powder)
14.	Celastraceae	*Cassine glauca* Rottb.	Jamrasi	Tree	Rheumatism	Bark (Powder)
15.	Celastraceae	*Celastrus paniculatus* Willd.	Malkangni	Herb	Rheumatism	Root (Powder)
16.	Celastraceae	*Maytenus senegalensis* Lam.	Khakholi	Shrub	Swelling	Root (Paste)
17.	Combretaceae	*Terminalia arjuna* Bedd.	Arjun	Tree	Diabetes	Bark (powder)
18.	Cucurbitaceae	*Lagenaria siceraria* Molina.	Kadvi lauki	Climber	Asthma	Fruit (Powder)
19.	Cucurbitaceae	*Terminallia chebula* (Gaertn.) Retz.	Bal harr	Tree	Asthma	Fruit (Powder)
20.	Cucurbitaceae	*Cassia occidentalis* L.	Kasondi	Tree	Rheumatism	Seed (Powder)
21.	Cucurbitaceae	*Momordica charantia* L.	Karela	Climber	Diabetes	Leaf (powder)
22.	Cucurbitaceae	*Citrullus colocynthis* L.	Indrayan	Herb	Sunstroke	Root (Powder)
23.	Euphorbiaceae	*Phyllanthus niruri* L.	Bhui anola	Herb	Jaundice	Whole plant (Decoction)
24.	Euphorbiaceae	*Jatropha curcas* L.	Chandarjot	Shrub	Menstrual problem	Latex (Juice)
25.	Fabaceae	*Butea monosperma* (Lank.) Kutze	Palash	Tree	Eye diseases	Root (Juice)
26.	Fabaceae	*Abrus precatorius* Linn.	Gumchi	Herb	Eye diseases	Root (Juice)
27.	Fabaceae	*Trigonella foenum-graecum* L.	Methi	Herb	Diabetes	Seed (powder)
28.	Fabaceae	*Mucuna pruriens* L.	Kiwach	Climber	Impotency	Seed (Powder)
29.	Fabaceae	*Pongamia pinnata* L.	Karanj	Tree	Skin diseases	Leaf (Paste)
30.	Fabaceae	*Glycyrrhiza glabra* L.	Muledi	Herb	Fit	Root (Paste)
31.	Fabaceae	*Clitoria ternatea* L.	Aparajita	Tree	Sciatica	Root (Decoction)
32.	Liliaceae	*Smilax perfoliata* Linn.	Ramdatun	Herb	Blood pressure	Root (powder)
33.	Liliaceae	*Asparagus racemosus* Willd.	Satawar	Climber	Impotency	Root (Powder)
34.	Liliaceae	*Chlorophytum arundinaceum* Baker.	Safed musli	Climber	Impotency	Root (Powder)
35.	Liliaceae	*Gloriosa superb* L.	Kalihari	Herb	Leucorrhea	Tuber part (Paste)
36.	Liliaceae	*Allium sativum* L.	Lahsun	Herb	Fit	Bulb part (Paste)
37.	Martyniaceae	*Martynia annua* L.	Bagnakha	Shrub	Snake bite	Root (Decoction)
38.	Meliaceae	*Azadirachta indica* A. Juss.	Neem	Tree	Tuberculosis	Bark (Powder)
39.	Menispermaceae	*Tinospora cordifolia* (Willd.) Miers.	Giloy	Climber	Tuberculosis	Root (Powder)
40.	Myrtaceae	*Syzygium cumini* Linn.	Jamun	Tree	Diabetes	Fruit (powder)
41.	Oleaceae	*Jasminum officinale* L.	Chameli	Shrub	Eye disease	Root (Juice)
42.	Papaveraceae	*Argemone Mexicana* L.	Satayanasi	Shrub	Sunstroke	Root (Powder)
43.	Rutaceae	*Citrus medica* L.	Nimbu	Small tree	Rheumatism	Bark (Powder)
44.	Sapotaceae	*Madhuca indica* J.F. Gmel.	Mahua	Tree		Flower (Juice)
45.	Solanaceae	*Solanum anguivi* Lam.	Bhatkataiya	Herb	Asthma	Root (Powder)
46.	Solanaceae	*Atropa acuminata* Royle. ex Lindley.	Kardona	Small tree	Tonsillitis	Root (Paste)
47.	Sterculiaceae	*Helicteres isora* Linn.	Anthi	Climber	Dysentery	Root (Powder)
48.	Vitaceae	*Leea macrophylla* Roxb. ex Hornem.	Hathpan	Shrub	Dysentery	Root (Paste)
49.	Zingiberaceae	*Costus speciosus* (J. Koenig) Sm.	Keukand	Herb	Blood pressure	Tuber part (paste)
50.	Zingiberaceae	*Zingiber purpureum* (J. Koenig) Link ex A. Dietr.	Jangli adrak	Herb	Jaundice	Root (Paste)

Table 3: Plant species used habit wise as medicine

Plant used habit wise	District		Total
	Seoni	Narsinghpur	
Climber	17 (22.37%)	10 (20.00%)	27 (21.43%)
Herbs	24 (31.58%)	18 (36.00%)	42 (33.33%)
Shrubs	14 (18.42%)	6 (12.00%)	20 (15.87%)

Trees	21 (27.63%)	16 (32.00%)	37 (29.37%)
Total	76 (100.00%)	50 (100.00%)	126 (100.00%)

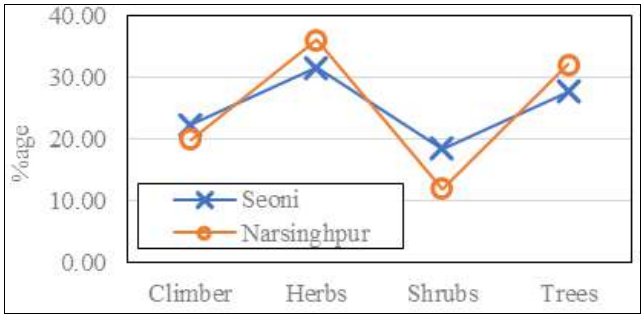

Fig 1: Percentage Plants species used habit wise as medicine at Seoni and Narsinghpur district

Traditional herbal remedies contain many remedies for a single disease in various medicines; one is selected by the pharmacist according to the symptoms and the second results. Several plants are used in the event of a single disease depending on their availability in the region. Some of the most commonly used plants by the nations of Central India for outstanding diseases were recorded during the current study. Corrective measures are recorded in the nations of the learning environment. It is interesting to note that rural communities still relied on herbal remedies and used to take herbal remedies from their local healers. The parts of the plants used and the formulation of the medicine for traditional healers are written down for the first time in these regions and presented in this paper. Out of 126 plant species of study area 33.33% species of herbaceous plant, 15.87% species of shrubs, 29.37% species of trees and 21.43% species of climbers are used in preparation of traditional medicines. These traditions are associated with use of wild plants. The use of medicinal herbs is still a tradition continued by ethnic communities who are living in undulating plains and at foot hills of dense forest. Shanker (1998) [24] has reported the traditional folk healers in India. Ethno-botanical studies in context to Bharia tribe of Madhya Pradesh, India include those by Jain (1963, 1975) [25-26], Rai and Nath (2005) [21]. The survey of literature shows these people have conducted studies on use of medicinal plants by Bharia tribes. The present study has been undertaken for documentation of information on ethno-medicinal uses prevalent in the region of study. Jain (1963, 1975) [25-26] has concluded similar study on the plants used in medicine by tribals of Mahakoushal region of Madhya Pradesh. Oomachan and Masih (1992) [27] have also studied the ethno-botany of Pachmarhi region of Madhya Pradesh. Traditional knowledge on ethno-medicinal uses prevailing in tribal pockets of Chhindwara and Betul districts, Madhya Pradesh, India (Nath and Khatri, 2010) [28]. Gowthami, *et al.* (2021) [29] Status and consolidated list of threatened medicinal plants of India and Radha, *et al.* (2021) [30] Documenting Traditional Knowledge before they are forgotten: A Study on the Ethnomedicinal uses of Wild Plants by Rural People of Jubbarhatti in District Shimla. However, such documentation work in Seoni and Narsinghpur district of Madhya Pradesh, India has so far not been published in detail.

Conclusion

Recorded information from pharmacists indicates that the tribes of these regions have good knowledge of medicine. Combined efforts of ethnobotanists, phytochemists, pharmacologists are required to document and evaluate the efficacy and safety of claims. Majority of plant species used are belonging to family Caesalpiniaceae, Euphorbiaceae and Liliaceae in district of Seoni. The preparations are made from leaves, bark and underground parts (like root, rhizome etc.). The percentage of method of preparation of various formulation includes plants applied as paste are 32.00%; those crushed in the form of powder and applied are 31.00%; applied as decoction are 23.00%; applied as extract and juice 10.00% and other applied as oil, smoke and chew are 4.00%. While in Narsinghpur district majority of plant species are used from family Fabaceae, Liliaceae and Celastraceae.

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