

# **Ethnomedicinal and Ethnoecological Evaluation of *Haematocarpus Validus*: A Threatened Medicinal Plant in Bangladesh**

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**Abstract**—*Medicinal plants are alternative source for the antioxidants which don't possess side effects and more potent than synthetic drug. Iron is one of the much talked dietary micronutrient for women and children health. Haematocarpus validus is very rich source of Iron. Pulp is found to be rich in iron contents (0.56 mg/100 g) and seeds contain 0.14 mg/100g which is comparatively higher than the fruit which we use in our daily life like mango (0.2mg/100g), apple (0.1mg/100g), guava and cherries (0.3mg/100g). It was first time reported in Krisnomohan para of Khagrachari sadar in Bangladesh and Diglipur area of NorthAndaman. An ethno-medicinal survey was conducted in various parts of Khagrachari districts in Bangladesh with the aim to document ethnecological and medicinal value of Haematocarpus validus. It has been used by ethnic communities since centuries in traditional system of medicine. Based on the results obtained, it was concluded that H. validus is a multipurpose plant. It is one of the commonly used plants for Fruit and medicinal purposes as well as due to its ethno-ecological importance. Various parts of Haematocarpus validus are used as: fruits, medicine and a source of resins. During the current study, it was also noticed that H. validus is distributed throughout the hilly ecosystem of CHT in Bangladesh . However, its population suffers from serious environmental problems such as deforestation, soil degradation, loss of biodiversity and unsustainable livelihoods. The study concluded that H. validus has high medicinal, economic and ecological values in hilly ecosystem of CHT. Nevertheless, its conservation status is highly threatened and detailed ecological study of H. validus is suggested to conserve its remaining population in Bangladesh.*