

Biodiversity of Minor Fruits of Arunachal Pradesh and Their Uses

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Abstract—*Arunachal Pradesh is one of the most fascinating state with lot of climatic variations because of its unique position in the Indian subcontinent. It has been blessed by nature with one of the richest flora and fauna on the earth and regarded as one of the 'Biodiversity Hot Spot' areas in the world. Its unique phyto-geographical positions, topography and high degree of precipitation are some of the important factors which are mainly responsible for its enormous biological diversity. Arunachal Pradesh has rich diversity minor fruits in wild and semi wild condition. As the state of Arunachal Pradesh has the wide range of climatic condition ranging from tropical to alpine, the diversity of fruit resources is also more. These fruits play a major role in meeting the need nutritional and ethno medicinal uses of the rural tribal people of Arunachal Pradesh since time immemorial. Many of these fruits are eaten locally to meet their nutritional requirement; many of them are used for their ethno- medicinal properties, colour, flavour and other health benefits. However, there is yet to explore the potentialities of some minor fruits of the state and also many of such valuable resources remain unexploited due to lack of awareness of their potential. The minor and wild fruits are mostly used to cure various gastrointestinal disorders, respiratory problems, cardiovascular compliance, muscular illness, bone diseases, gynaecological problem, cancers, snake bite, allergy and malaria etc. by local people of Arunachal Pradesh. The diversity of minor fruits and their uses will be presented.*