

Traditional Knowledge of Resource Use in Context to Ethno-Medicinal & Ethno-Veterinary Practices in Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve, Uttarakhand, India

Archana Sharma and Jayati Rawat

Doon University, Dehradun, Uttarakhand India

Abstract—*The Himalayas have a great wealth of medicinal plants and associated traditional knowledge on health care. The Indian Himalayas alone endorse over 18000 species of plants out of which nearly 45% are considered to have medicinal properties. Our knowledge of medicinal plants has mostly been inherited traditionally. Use of plants for curing various ailments are not only confined to the doctors but is known to several households as well. Disseminating and upholding this knowledge on medicinal plants and their uses has become important for human existence. Thus, this paper explores the range and distribution of traditional knowledge of the local people in context to the use of wild edibles and other medicinally important plants species for ethno-medicinal as well as ethno-veterinary purposes. Information of about 55 species belonging to 32 families having medicinal, cultural and religious relevance was collected from the local people. The study documents the traditional knowledge, utilization aspects and distribution of ethno-botanical knowledge of the local people of 8 villages under NDBR region, as a step towards sustainable utilization and conservation of medicinal plant species. Information given by the people about the medicinal plants can provide an interesting ethno-botanical data and the distribution of ethno-botanical knowledge indicated that much of the germane ethno-botanical and utilization information was held by more aged members of the society. Hence, there is an absolved need to capture this knowledge before it is bewildered such that it can contribute to the knowledge of younger generation regarding the importance and need of preservation of the resource use.*

Keywords: *Traditional Knowledge, Ethno-medicinal, Ethno-Vetmeiary, NDBR, Biodiversity*