Paris polyphylla Smith in Sikkim Himalayan Region: Threats, Conservation and Prospects

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Abstract—Paris polyphylla Smith an important, endangered, highly medicinal plant that grows in Sikkim Himalaya. Its medicinal value is declared in Chinese Traditional medicinal system, Ayurveda and many other traditional indigenous medicinal systems of Indian Himalayan region for treatment of varied human ailments. After Tibet, Nepal, Bhutan and Darjeeling, Sikkim considered to be the latest hub for illegal trading of dried rhizome for Paris polyphylla. After several field survey in all the four district of Sikkim it has been found that there is a poor population density where five species of genus Paris has been found. Comparative yield analysis, seed viability and several other lab analysis has been conducted on both the Paris polyphylla samples available in High and low altitude areas of Sikkim. It has been observed that the number of population has been decrease tremendously since four year of my studies. Macro propagation from rhizome seems to be an effective method for regeneration but propagation from seed has also been undertaken by few private cultivars. Hence it's an utmost need of an hour to conserve and enlightened the importance of this herb as how it would be beneficial to mankind if we use it in a sustainable manner before it paved way towards extinction. This article attempts to compile and document the information about this vulnerable category(IUCN) herb on its threats, population status and conservation status and try to highlight the need for further research to be carried out.