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Indigenous Knowledge on Medicinal Plants

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Abstract: ***An ethnobotanical survey was conducted in some villages of Kanakapura taluk of Ramanagara district of Karnataka state from September 2019 to January 2020.The study was mainly focussed on the medicinal plants used by the Eruliga, Lambani tribes and rural for treating various ailments including for their domestic animals and also to ward off evil spirit. Information was gathered from seniors of knowledgeable traditional healers through the personal consultation. Periodic visit was conducted to confirm the botanical and usage for ailments. A total of 110 plant species belonging to 50 families were identified as medicinally important plants, 56 Plants species are herbs, 21 are shrubs and 33 are trees. Botanical names, vernacular name, family, habit, officinal parts and usage are documented. Statistical analysis was done and documented in the table and graphs. The investigation unfold the potency of traditional knowledge of tribes about the medicinal plants to cure various ailments and it opens an avenue for a scientific community to discover new drug to the society.***

Keywords: Ethnobotany, Traditional Knowledge, Medicinal plants

1. Introduction

Rural Indians have rich traditional knowledge about the botanicals which are used as a medicine to treat various ailments as a curative and preventive purposes. They were used not only for treating human beings; they were also used to treat their domestic animals and to ward off evil spirit. In addition to that they were used to prepare some essential tools for their daily life like baskets, rope, for thatching their house, hedges, bio fencing, agricultural tools for sowing seeds, for water pipe line, plough etc,. Plants have been utilized in folklore as a traditional system of medicine from several thousand years (Abu-Rabia, 2005). From the past few decades, there is an interest in the study of medicinal botanicals and their indigenous use in different parts of the world (Lev, 2006;Gazzaneo*et al*., 2005;Al-Qura'n, 2005; Hanazaki, 2000;Rossato*et al*., 1999). Documenting indigenous knowledge through ethno botanical studies is an important for the utilization and conservation of botanical natural resources. A report from WHO stated that nearly 80% of the world's population in developed and developing countries depends directly or indirectly on traditional medicine for their health care (Azaizeh*et al*., 2003;Prabhu*et al*., 2010). There are many reports on the use of botanical in traditional healing by either tribal people or indigenous communities of India (Chhetri*et al*., 2005; Harsha *et al*., 2002; Natarajan *et al*., 2000; Maruthi *et al*., 2000; Samvatsars *et al*., 2000; Hebbar *et al*., 2004). Apart from the tribal groups, many other forest dwellers and rural people also possess unique indigenous knowledge about botanicals (Jain, 1991). The tribal peoples were economically backward ethnic group and constitute separate socio-cultural group (Nagda, 2004) due to lack of education, ignorance, poverty and other socio-economic problems, this knowledge is still undocumented in different parts of India and globally also.

The present study was carried out on the usage of botanicals, which are being used by the Lambani, Eruliga and rural population in some villages of the Kanakapura taluk of Ramanagara district of Karnataka. Kanakapura is located 12.55^0N and 77.42^0E latitude and longitude. It has an elevation of 2093 ft, above the sea level. It is situated 55 km south to Bangalore in National Highway 209 on bank of the river Arkavati. Total geographical are of the taluk is 1590 square km, annual rain fall is 805.2 mm. Vegetation including scrub and dry deciduous forest with interspersed agricultural land. The tribal peoples resided in this taluk are belonging to Lambani, Eruliga and other communities. The senior citizens and few middle age peoples of these tribes have vast knowledge of plants which are used as a medicine. So this treasure of indigenous knowledge about herbal plants is endangered due to modernisation of society.This traditional knowledge continues to decline through passages of time. This indigenous knowledge is an important resource. The present study is an attempt and it is essential for systematic documentation of indigenous traditional knowledge before it is extinct.

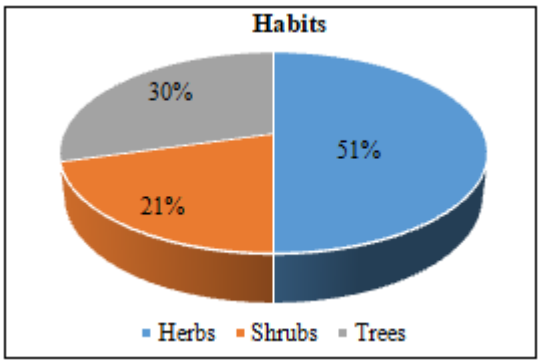
2. Materials and Methods

The field survey was conducted in prominent villages where the tribal were habituated in Kanakapura taluk from September 2019 to January 2020.Information was collected about indigenous knowledge of medicinal plants to treat various diseases or disorder. Data was recorded by personal interviews with tribal and old experienced villagers who had an indigenous knowledge under study area.The collected plant species were identified by their vernacular names with the help of healer and other local peoples. Plant specimens were collected and tagged in the field itself. Morphological features are entered in the field note book. Then specimen was scientifically identified with the help of local and regional floras (17-23 Ramaswany *et al*., 1973 & 2001; Saldana *et al*., 1975, 1982, 1996; Seetharam *et al*., 2000; Gamble, 1967).Finally herbarium has been prepared and deposited in AIISR Bangalore. Botanical Specimens were arranged alphabetically according to their scientific name and classified based on class, family, habit, parts used, usage were documented and statistical analysis was done and documented in tables and graphs.

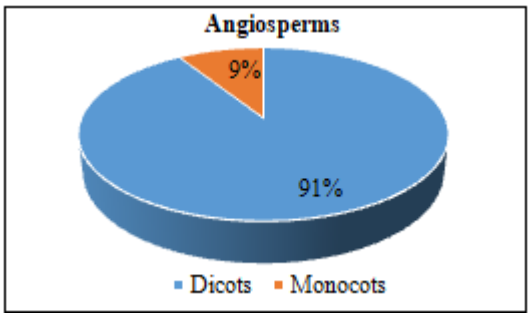
3. Results

Botanical species were documented with their scientific names, vernacular name, family, part used and uses. Total

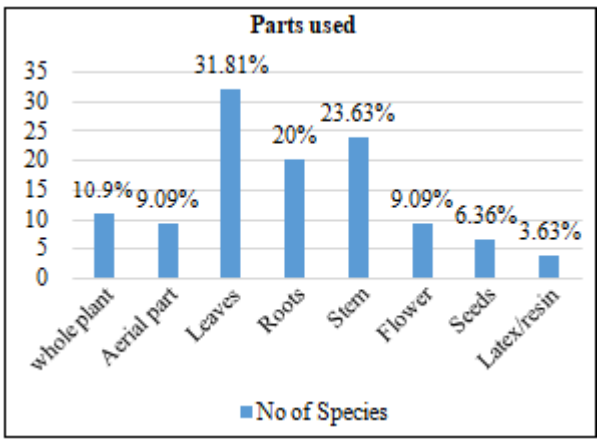
110 specimens have been arranged based on their botanical names alphabetically (Table-1). Based on habit of botanicals, 56 plants are herbs, 21 plants are shrubs and 33 plants aretrees. Percentages of documented species are represented in the (Graph-1). All documented species are belonging to angiosperm, 100 botanicals are belonging to dicots and 10 botanicals belonging to monocots and are represented in percentage in the (Graph-2). Species of plants belonging to their respective familiesare represented in the (Graph-3).Officinal parts of the plant body of documented botanical are represented in the (Graph- 4).



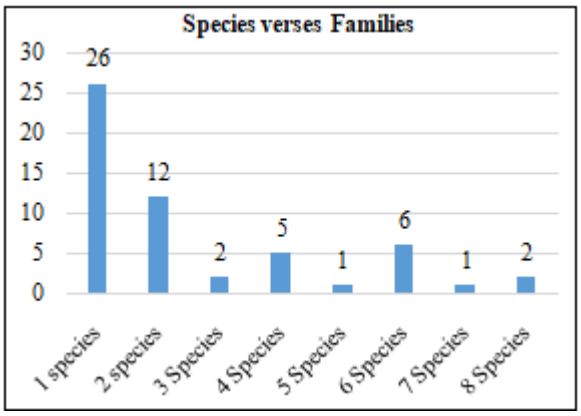
Graph 1



Graph 2



Graph 3



Graph 4

4. Discussion and Conclusions

A total documented botanicals are110 species, belonging to 50 family of angiosperms.91 percent of plants belonging to dicots and 9 percent belonging to monocots, 26 family possess single species, 12 family possess 2 species, 2 family (Mimocaeae and Rutaceae) possesseach 3 species,5 family (Acanthaceae, Asteraceae, Caesalpinaceae, Cucurbitaceae and Moraceae) possess each 4 species, One family(Liliaceae) possess 5 species, Verbinaceae possess 6 species, Euphorbiaceae possess 7 species, Asclepiadaceae and Papilionaceae possess each 8 species.51percent of documented botanicals are herbs, 21 percent are shrubs and thirty percent are trees. Officinal plants part used to treat for various ailments were concern, whole plants parts are 10.9 percent, aerial parts and flowers are 9.09 percent, leaves are 31.81 percent, roots are 20 percent, stems are 23.63 percent, seeds are 6.36 percent, latex &resin are 3.63 percent. Medicinal usage was concern 21 botanical are used for gastrointestinal diseases or disorders, 16 botanicals are used to treat dysentery and diarrhoea, 18 botanicals are used for gynaecological related problems, 16 botanical used for skin diseases and another13 botanicals are used as an antidotes. 13 botanicals are used for treating an arthritis, 5 botanicals are used as a pesticide and one as a rodenticide. Two botanicals are used to ward off evil spirit and two for treating domestic animals. Only 34 plants are used to treat for single ailments and others 66 plants have multiple uses to treat ailments. The investigation unfold the potency of traditional knowledge of tribes about the medicinal plants to cure various ailments and other uses. This research is an added advantage in documenting the herbal medicine of tribal community for sustainable utilization of bio-resources among the community in future and to the scientific community for novel discovery of new drug to the benefit of society.

5. Acknowledgements

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Author Profile

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Table 1: Enumeration of botanicals

S.No	Botanical name	Vernacular name	Family	Habit	Parts used	Uses
01	*Abrusprecatorius* Linn	Gulaganji	Papilionaceae	H	Leaves & seeds	Leucorrhoea menorrhagiaandabortifacient
02	*Acacia sinuate* (Lour) Merr	Seegekayi	Mimosaceae	S	Leaves	Laxative
03	*Acalyphaindica* L	Kuppigeda	Euphorbiaceae	H	Leaves	Laxative
04	*Achyranthesaspera* Lin	Utharanigeda	Amaranthaceae	H	Roots	Antidote, anaemia and jaundice
05	*Acorus calamus* Linn	Bajje	Araceae	H	Rhizomes	Epilepsyand reduces swelling of testis.
06	*Adhatodavasica*Nees	Adusoge	Acanthaceae	S	Leaves/root	Cures ulcers in mouth, cough and asthma
07	*Aeglemarmelos* (Lin)Corr	Bilwapatremara	Rutaceae	T	Fruit	Dysentery
08	*Ageratum conyzoides* Linn	Mugutigida	Asteraceae	H	Leaves/root	Diarrhoea and pesticide
09	*Alangiumsalvifolium* (Linn.f.) Wang	Ankolemara	Alangiaceae	T	Stem/Stem bark/leaves	Convolutions and ward off evil spirit
10	*Albizialebbeck*(L)Benth	Bagemara	Mimocaeae	T	Stem bark	Allergic skin rashes, antidote and curesasthma
11	*Allium cepa* Linn	Erulli	Liliaceae	H	Bulb	Nasal bleeding and treats bleeding piles
12	*Allium sativum* Linn.	Bellluli	Liliaceae	H	Bulb	Appetite,body pains, joint painsand obesity.
13	*Aloe vera*(L.) Burm.f.	Lolesara	Liliaceae	H	leaves	Ward off evil spirits and irregularmenstruation

14	*Alstoniascholaris*(L)R.Br	Maddalemara	Apocynaceae	T	Stem bark/ Flowers	Cough,asthmaandrheumatoid pain
15	*Alternantherapungens* H	Police mullugeda	Amaranthaceae	H	Aerial part	Head-ache.
16	*Amorphophalluspaeonnifolim*(Den)Nic	Kadu soovarnagedde	Araceae	H	Corn	Appetizer and fever
17	*Anthocephaluscadamba* (Roxb.)Miq	Kadambamara	Rubiaceae	T	Stem bark	Ulcers and painful urination
18	*Argemonemaxicana* Linn	Arishinadatturi	Papaveraceae	H	Seeds	Eczema
19	*Aristolochiaindica* Linn	Eshwariballi	Aristolochiaceae	H	Whole plants	Antidote
20	*Artocarpusheterophyllus* Lam(Roxb)	Halasinamara	Moraceae	T	Stem bark	Eczema
21	*Asparagus racemosus*Willd	Majjegebeeru	Liliaceae	H	Tubers	Throatpain, Leucorrhoea and promotes breast milk.
22	*Azadirachtaindica*A.Juss.	Bevenamara	Meliaceae	T	Stem bark/leaves	Anthelmintic, indigestion, dental diseases and skin diseases
23	*Barleriaprionites* Linn.	Spatikadageda	Acanthaceae	H	Flower	Treat cracks on soles and skin disease
24	*Benincasahispida* Thunb.Cogn	Boodukumbala	Cucurbitaceae	H	Fruit	Jaundice
25	*Boerhaaviadiffusa* Linn	Adapudikesoppu	Nyctanginaceae	H	Aerial part	Diuretic and urinary disorders.
26	*Bombaxceiba* Linn	Kemboorgadamara	Bombacaceae	T	Root	Abscess and uterine diseases
27	BoswelliaserrataRoxb	Doopadamara	Burseraceae	T	Bark	Arthritis and asthma.
28	*Brassica campestris* L.	Saseve	Brassicaceae	H	Seed	Oil cures itching and skin diseases
29	*Bryophyllumpinnatum*(Lam) Oken	Kadubasalesoppu	Crassulaceae	H	Leaves	Abdominal pain
30	*Buchananialanzan* Sprengel	Murakalimara	Anacardiaceae	T	Stem bark	Wound healing
31	*Buteamonosperma* (Lamk) Taub	Muttugadamara	Papilionaceae	T	Seeds/stem bark/root	Contraceptive,diarrhoea and skin diseases
32	*Calophylluminophyllum* Linn	Surahonnemara	Clusiaceae	T	Seeds/resin	Diseases of external genital organs and ulcers
33	*Calotropis gigantea* (Linn) R.Br.	Kariekka	Asclepiadaceae	S	Leaves/roots	Antidote and migraine
34	*Calotropisprocera*Aiton	Beliekka	Asclepiadaceae	S	Leaves/roots	Filariasis and asthma
35	*Cappariszeylanica* Linn	Thottaluballi	Capparaceae	S	Leaves/roots	Mouth ulcer.
36	*Cardiospermumhalicacabum* L	Bekkinataradubalali	Sapindaceae	H	Aerial part	Antidote, rheumatism and otorrhea
37	*Cassia auriculata* L	Tangade gida	Caesalpinaceae	S	Leaves	Gastritis
38	*Cassia fistula* Linn	Kakkemara	Caesalpinaceae	T	Fruit	Laxative and allergic skin reactions
39	*Celastruspaniculatus*Willd.	Kangondiballi	Celastraceae	S	Seeds	Epilepsy and pain in abdomen
40	*Centellaasiatica*(L)Urb.	Odelaga	Apaiaceae	H	Whole plant	Epilepsy
41	*Chloroxylon swietenia* (Roxb.)DC	Hurugalu/	Rutaceae	T	Stem bark/leaves	Rheumatism
42	*Cipadessabaccifera* (Roth) Miq	Kaadubevu	Meliaceae	S	Leaves	Easy delivery
43	*Cissampelospereira* Linn	Padvaliballi	Menispermaceae	H	Root	Diarrhoea and piles
44	*Citrulluscolocynthis*(L). Schrad	Mekkekayiballi	Cucurbitaceae	H	Fruit	Antidote and bluetongue disease in cattle
45	*Cleome gynandra* L	Siriklugida	Capparaceae	H	Leaves/seeds	Intestinal worms and pain in ear
46	*Clerodendrumphlomidis*L.f	Husulangigida	Verbinaceae	S	Root/leaves	Arthritis, obesity and piles
47	*Clerodendrumserratum* Moon	Gantubarangi	Verbinaceae	S	Roots	Cough,asthma and epilepsy.
48	*Cocciniaindica* W& A	Thondekayiballi	Cucurbitaceae	H	Leaves/fruit	Ulcers and skin
49	*Cocculushirsutus*(L.)Diels	Dadiganaballi	Menispermaceae	H	Aerial part	Skin allergy
50	*Cochlospermumreligiosum* (L.) Alston	Haladi Boorugadamara	Bixaceae	T	Leaves/ flowers	Dysentery
51	*Coleus aboinicus* Lour.	Doddapatre	Lamiaceae	H	Leaves	Appetizer and dysentery.
52	*Crotalaria retusa* L	Gejjegeda	Papilionaceae	H	Leaves /seeds	Wound healing and Body pain
53	*Croton bonplandianus*Baill.	Seeme ennegeda	Euphorbiaceae	H	Aerial part	Antidote, rashes and scabies
54	*Cryptolepisbuchananii* Roemer &Schultes	Halballi	Asclepiadaceae	H	Leaves	Anaemia and galactagogue
55	*Curculigoorchioides* Gaertn	Nelatale	Hypoxidaceae	H	Root tuber	Diarrhoea, dysentery andasthma
56	*Cynodondactylon*C.Ficher	Gareke	Poaceae	H	Whole plant	Bleeding disorders. Skin rash and itching

57	*Dalbergiasissoo*Roxb.	Birademara	Papilionaceae	T	Stem	Sciatica and fevers
58	*Daturametal* Linn	Beledadura	Solanaceae	H	Leaves	Induces sleep, asthma and dog bite
59	*Daturastramonium* Linn	Karidattura	Solanaceae	H	Leaves/root/ seeds	Reduces pain of swelling in joints and alopecia.
60	*Delonixelata* (L.) Gamble	Vayunarayani	Caesalpinaceae	T	Leaves/stem bark	Stomach pain, constipation and rheumatism
61	*Desmodiumgangeticum*(L.)DC	Bennachegegida	Papilionaceae	H	Root	Diarrhoea, dyspepsia,Oedema, joint pains and body ache
62	*Dichrostachys Cinerea* Wight &Arn	Vadavardagida	Mimosaceae	T	Leaves/roots	Arthritis and ophthalmic disorder
63	*Dioscoreapentaphylla* L	Balligenasu	Dioscoriaceae	H	Tubers	Antidote
64	*Diospyrosmelanoxylon*Roxb	Tumari	Ebenaceae	T	Root/leaves	Stomach pain in women due to menstruation period and tribalused to prepare beedies as a wrapper.
65	*Dodonaeaviscosa*N.Jacq.	Semetangadi	Sapindaceae	S	Leaves	Wound healing and fever
66	*Dolichosbiflorus* Linn	Urali	Papilionaceae	H	Seeds	Urinarystones, piles and intestinal worms.
67	*Echinopsechinatus*Roxb.	Bramhadandegida	Asteraceae	H	Roots	Menstrual disorders and indigestion
68	*Emblicaofficinalis*Gaertn	Nallikayimara	Euphorbiaceae	T	Fruit	Hiccup, immunity against allergy, bleeding piles and Pesticide
69	*Emilia sonchifolia* (L.)DC.ex.Wight	Elikivigida	Asteraceae	H	Whole plant	Opthalmia, anthelmintic and cough
70	*Erythroxylummonogynum*Roxb	Semeganda	Erythroxylaceae	S	Roots/stem bark	Stomach pain,
71	*Eugenia jambolana* Lam	Nerale	Myrtaceae	T	Fruits/seeds	Urinary stones and ulcers
72	*Evolvulus alsinoides* Linn	Vishnukranthi	Convolvulaceae	H	Whole plant	Laxation, bleeding and blood vomiting.
73	*Ferroniaelephantum* Corr.	Beladamara	Rutaceae	T	Fruit	Piles,cure hiccup and reduces nausea.
74	*Ficusinfectoria*Miq	Basarimara	Moraceae	T	Stem bark	Woundshealing,vaginalsecretion and loose motion with blood
75	*Ficusracemosa* Linn	Attimara	Moraceae	T	Stem bark	Loose motion,bleeding and menorrhagia.
76	*Ficusreligiosa* Linn.	Aralimara	Moraceae	T	Stem bark	Cures gout,heals ulcers, burnsandreduces rash
77	*Gardenia gummifera*L.f	Dekkamali	Rubiaceae	S	Fruit	Diarrhoea and abdominal pain
78	*Gliricidiasepium* (Jaxq) Walp	Gobbaradamara	Papilionaceae	T	Leavves	Rodenticide
79	*Gloriosasuperba* L.	Gowrioovu	Liliaceae	H	Root tuber	Antidote, anthelmintic and pesticide
80	*Gmelinaarborea*Roxb	Seranegemara	Verbinaceae	T	Root	Wound healing, diarrhoea,dyspepsiaand oedema.
81	*Gmeliaasiatica* L	Kirishivanemara	Verbinaceae	T	Stem bark	Wound healing and impotency
82	*Gymnemasylvestre* (Retz).R.Br.ex.Schult	Kodasige	Asclepiadaceae	H	Leaves	General weakness
83	*Hardwickia binate* Roxb.	Onakemara	Caesalpinaceae	T	Stem bark	Dysentery and diabetes
84	*Hemidesmusindicus*(L.)R.Br	Namadabeeru	Asclepiadaceae	H	Whole plant	Gastritis and leucorrhoea
85	*Holarrhenaantidysenterica* (Roth) A.DC.	Halemara	Apocynaceae	T	Sem bark	Tonsillitis and dysentery
86	*Holopteleaintegrifolia*(Roxb.)Planch	Tapasimara	Ulmiaceae	T	Stem bark/latex	Arthritis and abscesses
87	*Hyptissuaveolens*(L)Poit	Nayitulasi	Lamiaceae	H	Aerial part	Antidote
88	*Ionidiumsuffruticosum*Ging	Ratnapurusha	Violaceae	H	Whole plant	Abdominal pain
89	*Jatrophacurcas*L	Dettadarulu	Euphorbiaceae	S	Leaves/latex	Wounds healing and piles
90	*Kirganelia reticulata* (Poir) Bail	Huligida	Euphorbiaceae	S	Sap/whole plant	Ophthalmic disorder
91	*Lantana camara* L	Rozalgeda	Verbinaceae	S	Leaves	Wound healing
92	*Lepidagathiscristata*Willd.	Norgudisoppu	Acanthaceae	H	Aerial part	Eczema
93	*Leptodenia reticulate* (Retz)Wt,&Arn	Sehihale	Asclepiadaceae	S	Leaves/ Roots	Galactogogue
94	*Mallotusphilippensis* (Lam) Mull.Arg	Kumkumadamara	Euphorbiaceae	T	Fruit	Anthelmintic
95	*Maytenusemarginata* (Willd.)Ding.Hou	Tanasimalegida	Celastraceae	S	Leaves/stem	Dysentery and pesticide
96	*Mirabilis jalapa* L	Sanjemallige	Nyctaginaceae	H	Leaves/roots	glandular swellings
97	*Nelumbonucifera*Gaertner	Kamala	Nelumbonaceae	H	Leaves/roots	Antidote for poisoning
98	*Opuntiadillenii* Haw	Papassskalli	Cactaceae	S	Fruit	Constipation
99	*Oxalis corniculata*DC	Hullisoppu	Oxalidaceae	H	Whole plant	Gastritis and post natal problem in women
100	*Pandanusfascicularis*Lamark	Tale geda	Pandanaceae	S	Flower/ leaves	Pesticide and rheumatism

101	*Passiflorafoetida* L.	Kukkeballi	Passifloraceae	H	Leaves	Head ache, giddiness and wound healing
102	*Pavoniazeylanica* (L) Cav	Antullegida	Malvaceae	H	Aerial part	Haemorrhage, cough, and fever
103	*Pergulariadaemia* (Forssic) Chiov.	Talavaranaballi/ uttuve	Asclepiadaceae	H	Aerial part	Menstrual disorders and facilitating parturition
104	*Peristrophebicalyculata* (Retz) Ness	Chibbegida	Acanthaceae	H	Aerial part	Antidote, indigestion and fever
105	*Phyla nodiflora* (L).Greene	Nelahippali	Verbinaceae	H	Whole plant	Cough and skin diseases
106	*Phyllanthusamarus* Schumsher & Thom	Nelanalli	Euphorbiaceae	H	Whole plant	Jaundice and fever
107	*Portulacaoleracea* L	Gonisoppu	Portulacaceae	H	Whole plant	Boils and abscess
108	*Pterocarpusmarsupium* Roxb	Honnemara	Papilionaceae	T	Stem bark	Diarrhoea and dysentery and destroy worms inwounds.
109	*Tridaxprocumbens* L	Pettigesoppu	Asteraceae	H	Aerial part	Wound healing
110	*Tylophoraastmatica* W.&A	Adumuttadaballi	Asclepiadaceae	H	Roots	Asthma