ETHNO-MEDICINAL SURVEY IN EDALAKUDY, NAGERCOIL, KANYAKUMARI DISTRICT, TAMILNADU, INDIA

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ABSTRACT

India has rich sources of traditional medicine and there is a need to document the medicinal plant wealth. The present ethno botanical study of medicinal plants is focused in Edalakudy area of Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu. The information gathered from the old aged people of the traditional medicinal practitioners and local faith healers by interview and semi structural questionnaire method. Taxonomically a total of 65 plant species belonging to 37 families were recorded. Of these 29 were herbs, 10 were shrubs, 17 were trees and 9 were climbers. Leguminosae family is the most dominant family consisting of about 9 species. This is followed by Amaranthaceae, Solanaceae which are represented by 5 species each. Leaves from 22 plant species were used to curing various diseases. Root from 21 plant species was used to cure diseases. The whole plant out of 22 plant species was used to treat diseases. The medicinal plants contain chemical compounds such as Fructose, galactose, vanillic acid, tannin etc., Most of the plants contain tannin. The therapeutic plants present in the examination territory should have been investigated for phytochemical and pharmacological examinations. Simultaneously reasonable measures ought to be taken for the protection of these significant plants.

Key words – Traditional medicine, Edalakudy, Tannin, Phytochemical.

INTRODUCTION

Biodiversity plays an inevitable role in the development of such healthcare practices (Uma et al. 2021). People living in developing countries rely quite effectively on traditional medicine for primary healthcare (Singh 2002). India is very rich in its plant wealth. It is estimated that over 18,000 species of higher plants occur in different phyto-geological/ecological regions of the country, in which about one-third are medicinally and economically important species are recorded (Revathi et al. 2013).

Plant medicines are widely used by the human population either as folk remedies or directly from the codified medicinal systems for modern herbal preparations. Indigenous herbal treatment is a part of the culture and predominant mode of therapy in most developing countries. These traditional herbal remedies, with a considerable extent of effectiveness, are socially accepted, economically viable also. One-third of modern pharmaceutical preparations have plant origin (Padal et al. 2021). Medicinal plants are now more focused than ever because they have the innumerable benefits to society indeed to mankind, especially in the line of medicine (Hussain et al. 2011).

It is an urgent need for documenting these plant species before such valuable knowledge becomes out-of-the-way and extinct. Moreover, this study helps to conserve these plants and represent the preliminary information required for future phytochemical and pharmacological investigation (Gritto et al. 2015).

The ethno medicinal survey of medicinal plants recommended by traditional healers for the treatment of various diseases and disorders is a new area of research for the antihypertensive effect of medicinal plants. In the case of safety and effectiveness, they can

be redefined, advanced and processed to produce natural drugs (Loganathan and Selvam, 2011).

The present study aims to document data about the indigenous uses of plants in healthcare trainers among the local peoples of areas in Edalakudy under Nagercoil down municipality in Kanyakumari district which may show the way to natural drug invention. There is a need recording such data for ethnobotanical studies using many statistical calculations were applied (Rajalakshmi et al. 2015).

Study of medicinal plants in Edalakudy under Nagercoil down municipality in Kanyakumari district. Detailed about local name botanical name and families to the collected medicinal plants from the study area. Details information of the medicinal aspects of plants from the study area. Morphological useful parts of the medicinal plants for curing diseases. It provides the name of chemical compounds occurring in the collected medicinal plants. The use of traditional medicinal plants for the cure of human and animal disease.

STUDY AREA

Edalakudy area is selected as a study area which comes under Nagercoil town. It is situated just about 10 km from Nagercoil municipality occupies total area of 70 acres. These areas have nearly 1500 to 1600 people. These people mainly depend on construction works and agriculture for jobs and income. But, now days their vegetation is destroyed by human activities for building houses, schools, temples, ponds, railways station, mandapam, parks, etc. In recent days these are affected by different climate factors (i.e.) low rainfall, high temperature, and seasonal variation, etc., so naturally, the vegetation is slowly destroyed. In the present days, medicinal plants gained a lot of importance, so it is necessary to analyse and save the medicinal plants. This study shows the latest survey of these ethno medicinal plants.

Figure 1: Map showing Kanyakumari District

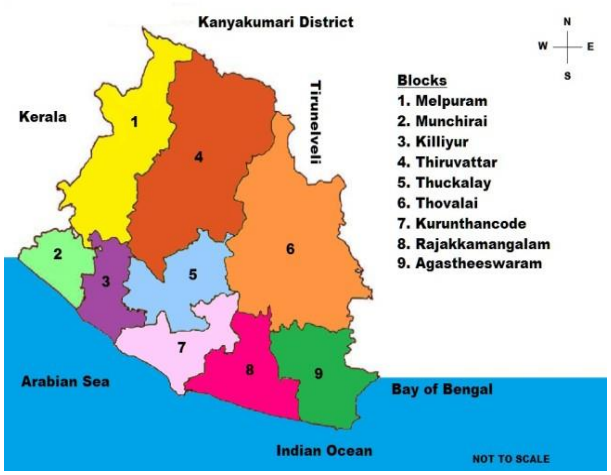


Figure 2: Map showing Edalakudy study area under Nagercoil

MATERIALS AND METHODS

During survey, it has been put in mind that no place should be missed out, because every place, (whether it is xerophytic, mesophytic or hydrophytic) is highly useful to collect and record new plant species. The plant specimens were collected at various seasons and that different reproductive stages (flower either fruit or both) from their natural habitats. When floristic documentation of study area Edalakudy region, interviews were conducted with local people, medicine men and elderly settlers nearby the medicinal plants for documenting indigenous knowledge of the local people and utilization value of the plant species (Jain 1991).

Each trip and survey was made to explore and found out the plant species in the area of a survey the attempts have been made to collect both cultivated and wild rare and new plant species in their flowering, fruiting and fully mature stage. Attempts have made to note down plant size, flowers, colour, fruit type, petals condition, ephemerals, fruiting period, rate,

abundance, bark colour, and other characters. Their records as far as could be possible to have been recorded immediately after the collection of plant specimen soon after the collection was numbered, in appropriate fields, labelled and paced in the polyethene bags. Every time 4-5 specimens were collected.

Each specimen was identified and critically examined with the help of written floras, (Gamble and Fisher, 1915-1935). Diagnostic characters of all the plants are given in a very simple and scientific way as the description of species suggested with the date of collection, size, flowering and fruiting periods, the scent of flowers, local names, local uses, the colour of the flowers, type of fruits morphological size and shape of the fruit, leaves, dimension of leaves, character, place of collection, field notes. Ecology of soil and adjacent plants, associations, common and abundant in the last collection number is cited everywhere. A Metric system has been produced for the measurements of plant parts.

List of medicinal plants in photos

Acalypha indica L

Aloe vera (L.) Burm.f.

Tamarindus indica L.

Achyranthes aspera L.

Cardiospermum halicacabum

Catharanthus roseus L.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In the present study, 65 medicinal plants were collected from the study area. The botanical names, family, vernacular name and their habits are tabulated. Among the identified

medicinal plants, 29 were herbs, 10 were shrubs, 17 were trees and 9 were climbers are mentioned in (Table-1). 38 families were recorded from the present study, out of these Leguminosae was the dominant family while, Amaranthaceae, Apocynaceae, and Solanaceae are the sub-dominant families (Table-2).

Out of 65 medicinal plants, five medicinal plants are used to cure fever (Table-3), 3 are used to cure ulcers (Table-4), 7 plants were used to treat asthma, leprosy and piles (Table-5, 6, 7) respectively. Chemical constituents present in the plants are provided in (Table-8).

These plant species are known to have medicinal properties to cure more than 100 ailments. It has been indicated that different numbers of plant species are used for the treatment of the variable number of health problems in different regions. It has been also noted that a single species can cure a number of diseases or conversely a large number of species are suitable for the treatment of a single disease. For instance, 16 species are suitable for the treatment of a single disease followed by 15 species to provide relief from urinary problems.

In the present study, among the 65 plant species and 37 families recorded. 29 were herbs, 10 were shrubs, 17 were trees and 9 were climbers. This finding is contradictory with several studies. In Kanyakumari district, a total of 76 plant species (Kumar et al. 2019); 54 plant species (Santhiya et al. 2021); 59 species (Kumaresubitha and Kolar, 2021); 44 plants (Sheeja and Lohidas, 2020); 30 plants (Kingsten et al. 2009); 25 plant species (Kingston et al. 2007); A total of 82 plant species (Loganathan and Selvam, 2018); A total of 35 angiosperm species, (Kannan and Jeeva, 2008); 55 plant species (Jhoncy et al. 2011);Total 54 plant species (Kensa et al. 2018); 106 plants (Divya et al. 2013); 81 plants (Vizhi and Lohidas, 2020); 48 medicinal plants (Pradeesh et al. 2020); 89 plant species (Jeeva and Femila, 2012); 138 plant species (Sukumaran et al. 2020) are reported.

Table-1 List of medicinal plant collected from Edalakudy under Nagercoil Town.

S.NO	BOTANICAL NAME	FAMILY	TAMIL NAME	HABIT
1.	*Abrus precatorius* L.	Leguminosae	Kundumani	Climber
2.	*Abutilon indicum* (L.) Sweet.	Malvaceae	Thuthi	Shrub
3.	*Acalypha indica* L.	Euphorbiaceae	Kuppaimeni	Herb
4.	*Achyranthes aspera* L.	Amaranthaceae	Naayuruvi	Herb
5.	*Aegle marmelos* (L.) Correa.	Rutaceae	Vilvam	Tree
6.	*Aerva lanata* (L.) Juss. ex Schult.	Amaranthaceae	Koola chedi	Herb
7.	*Aloe vera* (L.) Burm.f.	Xanthorrhoeaceae	Sothukatthalai	Herb
8.	*Alternanthera pungens* Kunth.	Amaranthaceae	Kuppaikeerai	Herb
9.	*Alternanthera sessilis* (L.) R.Br. ex DC.	Amaranthaceae	Ponnangannikeerai	Herb
10.	*Amaranthus spinosus*L.	Amaranthaceae	Mulkeerai	Herb
11.	*Andrographis paniculata* (Burm.f.) Nees.	Acanthaceae	Nilavembu	Herb
12.	*Annona squamosa* Delile.	Annonaceae	Sithapalam	Tree
13.	*Argemone mexicana* var. aculeatissima Moric. exPrain.	Papaveraceae	Prammathandu	Herb
14.	*Bambusa arundinacea* Willd.	Poaceae	Moongil	Tree
15.	*Boerhaavia diffusa* L.	Nyctaginaceae	Mukkirattai	Herb
16.	*Calotropis gigantea* (L.) Dryand.	Apocynaceae	Erukkalai	Shrub

17.	*Cardiospermum halicacabum* L.	Sapindaceae	Mudakkathan	Climber
18.	*Catharanthus roseus* (L.) G.Don.	Apocynaceae	Kasarali	Herb
19.	*Centella asiatica* (L.) Urb.	Apiaceae	Vallarai	Herb
20.	*Cissus quadrangularis* L.	Vitaceae	Pirandai	Climber
21.	*Coccinia grandis* (L.) Voigt	Cucurbitaceae	Kovai	Climber
22.	*Coriandrum sativum* L.	Apiaceae	Kothamalli	Herb
23.	*Curcuma longa* L.	Zingiberaceae	Manjal	Herb
24.	*Cynodon dactylon* (L.) Pers.	Poaceae	Arugampullu	Herb
25.	*Datura metel* L.	Solanaceae	Ummatham	Herb
26.	*Eclipta prostrate* (L.) L.	Asteraceae	Karisilanganni	Herb
27.	*Enicostema axillare* (Poir. ex Lam.) A. Raynal.	Gentianaceae	Vellarugu	Herb
28.	*Euphorbia hirta* L.	Euphorbiaceae	Amman pacharisi	Herb
29.	*Ficus benghalensis* L.	Moraceae	Allamaram	Tree
30.	*Gloriosa superba* L.	Colchicaceae	Kalapaikilangu	Climber
31.	*Gymnema sylvestre* (Retz.) Schult.	Apocynaceae	Sirukurichan	Climber
32.	*Hemidesmus indicus* (L.) R. Br. ex Schult.	Apocynaceae	Nannari	Herb
33.	*Hybanthus enneaspermus* (L.) F.Muell.	Violaceae	Orithalthamarai	Herb
34.	*Hygrophila auriculata* (Schumach.) *Heine.*	Acanthaceae	Neermulli	Herb
35.	*Jasminum angustifolium* (L.) Willd.	Oleaceae	Kattumalli	Climber
36.	*Justicia adhatoda* L.	Acanthaceae	Adadodai	Shrub

37.	*Lantana camara* L.	Verbenaceae	Unni	Shrub
38.	*Lawsonia inermis* L.	Lythraceae	Azhavanam	Tree
39.	*Mangifera indica* L.	Anacardiaceae	Maa	Tree
40.	*Mimosa pudica* L.	Leguminosae	MudanguThamarai	Herb
41.	*Mimusops elengi* L.	Sapotaceae	Magudam	Tree
42.	*Murraya koenigii* (L.) Spreng.	Rutaceae	Kariveppilai	Tree
43.	*Musa paradisiacal* L.	Musaceae	Vazhai	Herb
44.	*Passiflora foetida* L.	Passifloraceae	Ponnaippalam	Climber
45.	*Phyllanthus amarus* Schumach, and Thonn.	Phyllanthaceae	Keelanelli	Herb
46.	*Phyllanthus emblica* L.	Phyllanthaceae	Nelli	Tree
47.	*Physalis minima* L.	Solanaceae	Sudakkuthakkali	Herb
48.	*Pithecellobium dulce* (Roxb.) Benth.	Leguminosae	Kodukkapili	Tree
49.	*Plumbago zeylanica* L.	Plumbaginaceae	Chithiraimoolam	Herb
50.	*Pongamia pinnata* (L.) Pierre.	Leguminosae	Pungan	Tree
51.	*Ricinus communis* L.	Euphorbiaceae	Amanakku	Shrub
52.	*Senna alata* (L.) Roxb.	Leguminosae	SeemaiAgathi	Shrub
53.	*Senna auriculata* (L.) Roxb.	Leguminosae	Avaram	Shrub
54.	*Senna siamea* (Lam.) H.S.Irwin and Barneby.	Leguminosae	Pon Avaram	Tree
55.	*Sesamum indicum* L.	Pedaliaceae	Yellu	Herb
56.	*Sesbania grandiflora* (L.) Pers.	Leguminosae	Aagathi	Tree
57.	*Sida acuta* Burm.f.	Malvaceae	ArivalmanaiPoondu	Herb
58.	*Solanum nigrum* L	Solanaceae	Manathakkali	Shrub

59.	*Solanum torvum* Sw.	Solanaceae	Sundakkai	Shrub
60.	*Solanum trilobatum* L.	Solanaceae	Thuthuvalai	Shrub
61.	*Syzygiumcumini* (L.) Skeels.	Myrtaceae	Naval	Tree
62.	*Tamarindus indica* L.	Leguminosae	Puli	Tree
63.	*Tectona grandis* L.f.	Lamiaceae	Thekku	Tree
64.	*Thespesia populnea* (L.) Sol. ex Correa.	Malvaceae	Poovarasu	Tree
65.	*Tinospora cordifolia* (Willd.) Miers.	Menispermaceae	Seenthalkodi	Climber

Table-2 List of families and number of medicinal plants in each family.

S.NO	FAMILY	NUMBER OF PLANTS
1.	Acanthaceae	3
2.	Amaranthaceae	5
3.	Anacardiaceae	1
4.	Annonaceae	1
5.	Apiaceae	2
6.	Apocynaceae	4
7.	Asparagaceae	1
8.	Asteraceae	1
9.	Colchicaceae	1
10.	Cucurbitaceae	1
11.	Euphorbiaceae	3
12.	Gentianaceae	1

13.	Lamiaceae	1
14.	Leguminosae	9
15.	Lythraceae	1
16.	Malvaceae	2
17.	Menispermaceae	1
18.	Moraceae	1
19.	Musaceae	1
20.	Myrtaceae	1
21.	Nyctaginaceae	1
22.	Oleaceae	1
23.	Papaveraceae	1
24.	Passifloraceae	1
25.	Pedaliaceae	1
26.	Phyllanthaceae	2
27.	Plumbaginaceae	1
28.	Poaceae	2
29.	Rutaceae	2
30.	Sapintaceae	1
31.	Sapotaceae	1
32.	Solanaceae	5
33.	Verbenaceae	1
34.	Violaceae	1
35.	Vitaceae	1
36.	Xanthorrhoeaceae	1

37.	Zingiberaceae	1
	Total	65

Table-3 Plants used to cure fever in our study area

S.NO	BOTANICAL NAME	USEFUL PARTS
1	*Abutilon indicum* (L.) Sweet.	Whole plant
2	*Calotropis gigantea* (L.) Dryand.	Whole plant
3	*Cardiospermumhalicacabum* L.	Leaves, root
4	*Enicostemaaxillare* (Poir.exLam.)A.Raynal	Whole plant
5	*Lantana camera* L.	Leaves

Table-4 Plants used to cure ulcer in our study area

S.NO	BOTANICAL NAME	USEFUL PARTS
1	*Acalypha indica* L.	Whole plant
2	*Pongamia pinnata* (L.) Pierre.	Bark, leaves, seed, root
3	Senna auriculata (L.) Roxb.	Anther, flowers

Table-5 Plants used to cure asthma in our study area

S.NO	BOTANICAL NAME	USEFUL PARTS
1	*Acalypha indica* L.	Whole plant
2	*Achyranthes aspera* L.	Whole plant
3	*Boerhaavia diffusa* L.	Root, leaves, seed
4	*Calotropis gigantea* (L.) Dryand.	Whole plant
5	*Datura metel* L.	Leaves, root, seed, flower, fruit

6	*Euphorbia hirta* L.	Whole plant
7	*Mangifera indica* L.	Whole plant

Table – 6. Plants used to cure leprosy in our study area

S. No.	Botanical Name	Useful parts
1	*Centella asiatica* (L.)Urb.	Whole plant
2	*Tinospora cordifolia* (Willd.) Miers.	Whole plant

Table – 7. Plants used to cure piles in our study area

S. No.	Botanical Name	Useful parts
1.	*Cardiospermum halicacabum* L.	Root, leaf
2.	*Cissus quadrangularis* L.	Whole plant
3.	*Cynodon dactylon* (L.) Pers.	Whole plant
4.	*Mimosa pudica* L.	Whole plant
5.	*Plumbago zeylanica* L.	Roots

Table – 8. List of Ailments and their Chemical constituents

S.NO	BOTANICAL NAME	AILMENTS	CHEMICAL CONSTITUENTS
1.	Abrus precatorius L.	Leaves extract cure increase hair growth	Triglyceride, stigmasterol and β-sitosterol (Consolacion et al. 2013).
2.	Abutilon indicum (L.) Sweet.	Leaves extract cure kidney stone	Abutilin A and (R)-N-(1′-methoxycarbonyl-2′-phenylethyl)-4-hydroxybenzamide (Ping-Chung Kuo et al.

			2007).
3.	Acalypha indica L.	Leaves paste cure skin diseases	Acalyphin (Hungeling et al. 2009).
4.	Achyranthes aspera L.	Root and seed cure cough and asthma	Glycosides, saponins, carbohydrates, alkaloids, cardiac glycosides, amino acid, ecdysterone, and hentriacontane (Verma et al. 2021).
5.	*Aegle marmelos* (L.) Correa.	Leaves reduce corneal redness	Aeglemarmelosine(2-phenyl-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-D2-oxazoline) (Laphookhieo et al. 1987).
6.	*Aerva lanata* (L.) Juss. Ex. Schult.	Urinary calculi, dysuria, wounds, piles, polyuria, cardiac	Flavonoids, glycosides, terpenoids and alkaloid (Ansari et al. 2019).
7.	*Aloe vera* (L.) Burm.f.	Reduce Diuretic	Anthraquinone, glycoside, flavonoids; phenylpropanoids, coumarins, phenylpyrone, phenol, phytosterols (Kahramano glu et al. 2019).
8.	*Alternanthera pungens* Kunth.	Cure diabetes	Steroids, flavonoids, saponins, glycoside, phenols. (Alekhya et al. 2021).
9.	*Alternanthera sessilis* (L.) R.Br. ex. DC.	Snakebite, eye sight	Methyl propionate, 2,4-dimethyl-3-pentanol, 2-(1methylpropyl)cyclopentanone, 2,3,4-trimethylpentanoic acid, methyl-2-O-methyl-a-dxylofuranoside, (Shehzad et al. 2018).
10.	*Amaranthus spinosus* L.	Leaf extract cure Snakebite	Diglycoside flavonoids hesperidin, rutin, phenolic acid (*E*)-ferulic acid, amino acids namely tyrosine, arginine, two sterols comprising spinasterol, spinasterol

			3-*O*-*β*-D-glucopyranoside (Tuyen et al. 2019).
11.	*Andrographis paniculata* (Burm.f.) Nees.	Whole plant extract cure viral infection	5,7,20,30-tetramethoxyflavanone, 5-hydroxy-7,20,30-trimethoxyflavone, flavonoids, andrographolide diterpenoids, polyphenols (Rao et al. 2014).
12.	*Annona squamosa* Delile.	Seed powder reduce dandruff	Annonaceous acetogenins, diterpenes, alkaloids cyclopeptides (Ma et al. 2017).
13.	*Argemone mexicana* var. aculeatissima Moric. Ex. Prain.	Seed oil, leaf infusions are drunk to relieve cough	Dehydrocorydalmine, jatrorrhizine, columbamine, and oxyberberine (Singh et al. 2010).
14.	*Bambusa arundinacea* Willd.	Leaves extract cure various inflammatory conditions	Bambec, (Gunn et al. 1995)
15.	*Boerhavia diffusa* L.	Leaves extract cure jaundice	Saponins, phenols, alkaloids, tannins, flavonoids. (Priya and Sharma, 2021).
16.	*Calotropis gigantea* (L.) Dryand.	Powdered root bark relief diarrhoea and dysentery	Calotropine. (Wang et al. 2009).
17.	*Cardiospermum halicacabum* L.	Leaves boiled water cure body pain	Cardiospermin. (Kumar et al. 2011)
18.	*Catharanthus roseus* (L.) G. Don.	Flower paste reduce cancer cell	Anthraquinones, anthranilate synthase, benzoic acid, cinnamate 4-hydroxylase, chorismate mutase, 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid, 2,3-dihydroxybenzoic acid (Mustafa and Verpoorte, 2007).
19.	*Centella asiatica*	Leaves increase memory	Polyacetylenes, triterpenoids, asiaticosides

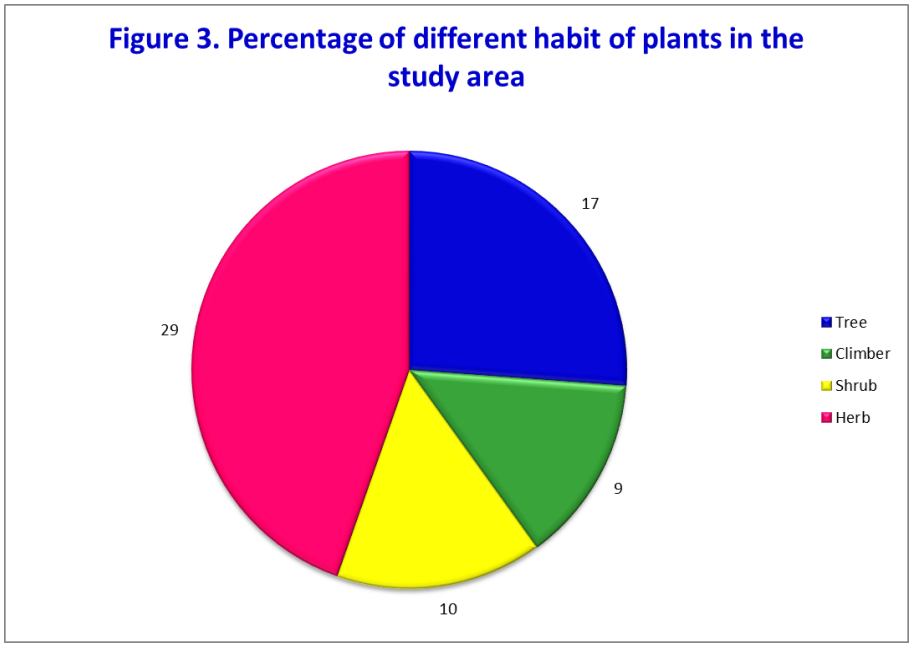
	(L.) Urb.	power	(Siddiqui et al. 2007).
20.	*Cissus quadrangularis* L.	Stem paste increase bone strength	Carotenoids, triterpenoids and ascorbic acid (Mishra et al. 2010).
21.	*Coccinia grandis* (L.) Voigt.	Fruits cure Diabetes	4-hydroxy benzaldehyde, 3,4'-Odimethylcedrusin 9'-O-glucopyranoside, (Trinh et al. 2020).
22.	*Coriandrum sativum* L.	Leaves extract cure stomach pain	Tannins, terpenoids, alkaloids, phenolics, flavonoids, fatty acids, sterols and glycosides (Snafi 2016.)
23.	*Curcuma longa* L.	Rhizome mixed with warm milk cure common cold	Demethoxycurcumin (Niranjan and Prakash, 2008)
24.	*Cynodon dactylon* (L.) Pers.	Juice applied to bleeding cuts and wounds	Flavanoids, alkaloids, glycosides, terpenoides, triterpenoids steroids, saponins, tannins, resins (Snafi 2016).
25.	*Datura metel* L.	Crushed leaves relieve pain	Alkaloids, flavanoids, saponins and steroids.(Kuganathan and Ganeshalingam, 2010)
26.	*Eclipta prostrate* (L.) L.	Leaves extract cure skin troubles	Ecliptal, ß-amyrin, luteolin-7-O-glucoside, hentriacontanol, heptacosanol, stigmasterol (Jadhav et al. 2009**)**
27.	*Enicostema axillare* (Poir. ex Lam.) A. Raynal.	Dried powdered, honey blood purifier	Glutathione (Gite et al.2010)
28.	*Euphorbia hirta* L.	Milky latex reduce block dots	Campesterol, astragalin, hymenoxin, luteolin-7-*O*-*β*-D-glucopyranoside and quercetin 3-*O*-*α*-L arabinofuranoside (Bach et al. 2020).

29.	*Ficus benghalensis* L.	Root extract boost immune system	Lupenyl acetate, α-Amyrenyl acetate, γ-Sitosterol, Palmitic acid and Lupeol (Verma et al. 2015).
30.	*Gloriosa superb* L.	Rhizome extract applied tropically to reduce labor pain	Colchicines and Gloriosine (Ashokkumar 2015).
31.	*Gymnema sylvestre* (Retz.) Schult.	Cure diabetes	Gymnemagenin. (Ramalingam and Parthasarathy, 2014).
32.	*Hemidesmus indicus* (L.) R. Br. Ex. Schult.	Whole plant juice extract taken internally keep the body cool	2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (Moorthy and Kumar, 2021).
33.	*Hybanthus enneaspermus* (L.) F. Muell.	Cure urinary problems	Alkaloids, dipeptide, isoarborinol, sitosterol, flavonoids, tannins (Rajsekhar et al. 2016).
34.	*Hygrophila auriculata* (Schumach.) Heine.	Reduce Toothache	Saponins, alkaloids, steroids, tannins, flavonoids and triterpenoids (Hussain et al. 2010).
35.	*Jasminum angustifolium* (L.) Willd.	Leaves reduce ringworm	Phenolics, terpenoids, coumarins, glycosides, steols, esters and fatty acids.(Reshma et al. 2021).
36.	*Justicia adhatoda* L.	Leaf extract cure cold, cough	Vasicoline, Vasicolinone, Adhatodine, Adhavasine, Aniflorine, and Vasicinone (Mishra et al. 2022).
37.	*Lantana camara* L.	Root bark paste cure bed sores	Caryophyllene, 1-α-phellandrene, lantadene A, lantadene B, lancamarone quinine, lantanine (Venkatachalam et al. 2011).

38.	*Lawsonia inermis* L.	Leaves paste cure skin troubles	Alkaloids, terpenoids, quinones, coumarins, xanthones and fatty acids (Chaudhary et al. 2010)
39.	*Mangifera indica* L.	Leaf extract cure nasal bleeding	Mangiferin. (Santhi et al. 2021).
40.	*Mimosa pudica* L.	Leaf and stem treat scorpion sting	4-*o*-(b-D-glucopyranosyl-6-sulphate) gallic acid (Azmi et al. 2011).
41.	*Mimusops elengi* L.	Cure dental ailments	Spinasterol, ursolic acid, 3β, 6β, 19α, 23-tetrahydroxyurs-12-en-28-oic acid, taraxerol, spinasterol β-Dglucopyranoside (Amir et al.2013).
42.	*Murraya koenigii* (L.) Spreng.	Leaves paste reduce hairfall	Mahanimbin, girinimbin, murrayanin, murrayafolin-A (Bakar et al. 2007).
43.	*Musa paradisiaca* L.	Stem extract reduce kidney stone	Musanolone E (Liu et al. 2014).
44.	*Passiflora foetida* L.	Plant extract antidiarrhoeal activities	Passibiflorin (Olafsdottir et al. 1989).
45.	*Phyllanthus amarus* Schumach. and Thonn.	Whole plant cure gonorrhoea	Flavonoid, flavone 4',5,7-triethoxy-3,3',6-trimethoxy, triterpenoid 17-(1,5-Dimethylhexyl)-6-hydroxy-5-methylestr-9-en-3-y acetate (Zubair et al. 2016).
46.	*Phyllanthus emblica* L.	Leaves cure hairfall	Flavonoids, kaempferol-3-O-_-L-(600-methyl)-rhamnopyranoside, kaempferol-3-O-_-L-(600-ethyl)-rhamnopyranoside (Rehman et al. 2007).
47.	*Physalis minima* L.	Whole plant decoction remedy for cancer	Physalins, withanolides, Ixocarpalactones, withaphysalins (Withaphysalin, 1984).
48.	*Pithecellobium dulce* (Roxb.)	Bark and bulb cure gum ailments	Alkaloids, anthraquinones, flavonoids, cardiac glycosides, terpenoids. (Kumar et

	Benth.		al. 2013).
49.	*Plumbago zeylanica* L.	Plants cure Diuretic	Plumbazeylanone, plumbagic acid, β-sitosterol, lupeol, lup-20(29)-en-3, 21-dione, norcanelilline, 3-O-glucopyranosyl plumbagicacid methylester, uridine, Daucosterol. (Min et al. 2011).
50.	*Pongamia pinnata* (L.) Pierre.	Ulcers, strengthening gums, piles	Flavonoids pongamones A–E, (Li et al. 2006).
51.	*Ricinus communis* L.	Plant ectract cure insecticide	Alkaloids, steroids, flavonoids, glycosides, phenolics, Ricinine (Tripathi et al. 2010)
52.	*Senna alata* (L.) Roxb.	Leaves cure asthma	Flavones, flavonols, flavonoids glycosides, alatinon, alanonal, β-sitosterol-β-D-glucoside. (Fatmawati et al. 2020).
53.	*Senna auriculata* (L.) Roxb.	Cure stomach ulcer	Alkaloid, flavonoids, phenolic, and tannin (Prasathkumar et al. 2021)
54.	*Senna siamea* (Lam.) H.S.Irwin and Barneby.	Leaf paste cure Bone fracture	Saponins, anthraquinones, alkaloids, flavonoids, tannins, terpenoids and steroids (Sholikha and Wulandari, 2020).
55.	*Sesamum indicum*L.	Seed paste cure mensus problems	Flavonoid glucoside-pedalin, furofuranlignans-sesamolin, sesangolin.(Wada et al. 2021)
56.	*Sesbania grandiflora* (L.) Pers.	Plants cure ulcer	2-arylbenzofurans, sesbagrandiflorain D and E, 2-arylbenzofurans, spinosan A and spinosan B (Tjahjandarie et al.2020).
57.	*Sida acuta* Burm.f.	Cure stomachic	Flavonoids (Uysal et al. 2021).

58.	*Solanum nigrum* L.	Fruits reduce mouth ache	Gentisic acid, luteolin, apigenin, kaempferol, m-coumaric acid, anthocyanidin (Huang et al. 2010).
59.	*Solanum torvum* Sw.	Seed powder cure stomach grem	neochlorogenin 6-*O*-*β*-D-quinovopyranoside, neochlorogenin 6-*O*-*β*-D-xylopyranosyl-(1→3)-*β*-D-quinovopyranoside (Yuan et al. 2011).
60.	*Solanum trilobatum* L.	Crushed leaves cure asthma	Tannins, saponins, flavanoides, phenolic compounds, cardiac glycosides (Latha and Kannabiran, 2006).
61.	*Syzygium cumini* (L.) Skeels.	Seed boiled water cure intestinal problems and reduce weight loss	Anthocyanin, glucoside, ellagic acid, isoquercetin, kaemferol, myrecetin (Ayyanar and Babu, 2012).
62.	*Tamarindus indica* L.	Seed powder cure blood clot	9ß, 19-Cyclo-4 ß4, 4, 14, x-trimethyl-5 cholestan-3ß-ol, 24R-Ethyl cholest-5-en, 3β-ol (Khanzada et al. 2008).
63.	*Tectona grandis* L.f.	Flowers cure urinary discharges	9(S)-4-oxo-7,8-dihydro-b-ionol and 3b-hydroxy-7,8-dihydro-b-ionone (Macias et al. 2008)
64.	*Thespesia populnea* (L.) Sol. Ex. Correa.	Seed powder cure skin diseases	Glycosides, steroid, flavonoids, tannins, phenolic compound, saponins (Patil et al. 2012).
65.	*Tinospora cordifolia* (Willd.) Miers.	Leaves extract cure heart diseases,	Aporphine, alkaloids, N-formylasimilobine 2-O- β-D-glucopyranosyl-(1→2)-β-D-glucopyranoside (tinoscorside A, 1), N-acetylasimilobine 2-O-β- D-glucopyranosyl-(1→2)-β- D-glucopyranoside (Kiem et al. 2010).



SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The present study is mainly focused on the medicinal value of plants that occur in the Edalakudy under Nagercoil Town Municipality. In my study area, we have noticed herbs (29 species), followed by shrubs (10 species), trees (17 species) and only 9 climbers. Most of the medicinal plants in Eladakudy are endangered and become rare. (eg *Cardiospermum halicacabum, Centella asiatica*, etc. Many plant species are used to cure various diseases. Asthma & other diseases are cured by *Acalypha indica, Achyranthes aspera, Euphorbia hirta*. Plants like *Centella asiatica, Tinospora cordifolia* are commonly used to cure diabetes. Ulcer diseases are cured by *Senna auriculata*. Leguminosae is the dominant family of my study area, and Amaranthaceae, Apocynaceae, and Solanaceae were the sub-dominant family.

As per the estimation of the World Health Organization (WHO), 80% of the global population still relieves on plant-based medicines for primary health care. In the earlier days, Edalakudy was fully roofed by a huge number of plants. But nowadays these areas were somewhat barren due to the many human activities like exporting or selling the important Medicinal Plants to the market as they don't know the value of such precious medicinal plants. Nowadays human beings suffer from numbers of diseases and rely on allopathic

medicine without knowing the value of traditional medicine which were existed in their own place now at the verge of extinction.

We have to educate and create awareness among the people to conquer this problem. We must educate and encourage the public about the value of medicinal plants. I conclude, by saying, every one of us must take a decision to grow some medicinal plants in their backyards of house garden or their surroundings to avoid the early extinct of valuable plant species.

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