

Some Noteworthy Medicinal Ornamental Plants from Amravati District, (M.S.) India

Pawade P. N.

Department of Botany, Arts, Commerce & Science College, Kiran Nagar, Amravati.

Abstract

The present papers deals with the study of 30 ornamental medicinal plants planted in the gardens along with some cultivated plants. These ornamental medicinal plants have medicinal significance. In the present investigation, extensive field surveys were conducted in the different gardens, park and nursery. These valuable information was collected from labors and gardeners.

Key Work : *Medicinal ornamental plants, Amravati.*

Introduction :

Amravati is one of the district of West Vidarbha regions of Maharashtra. It lies between 20⁰-30⁰ to 21⁰-46⁰ north latitude and 76⁰-37⁰ to 78⁰-27⁰ east latitudes. The total area of Amravati District region is 12,210 sq. km. The total area under forest is 51,493,248 hectares, of which 55,790 hectares is unclassified and very little area of this region is utilized for cultivation of ornamental plants. The Major ornamental plants planted at Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University Campus, colleges, forest gardens, horticulture college and at Melghat region. Apart from this Majority of the houses in the district have its own house gardens. During exploration of these ornamental plants, it is observed that people are using these ornamentals as a primary health medicine, to cure the disease. All plants have ornamental value or planted as showy plants.

Gardening has been popular in India from ancient times. In ancient Indian literature, the cultivation of food and medicinal plants was known since 4000 years (Bailey, 1924). Mediterranean civilization, gardens were prominent features of the ground of temples and places. Among few are native of India, these are cultivated as ornamental medicinal plants. This region has a rich biodiversity of medicinal ornamental plants species with over more than 30 different varieties growing across the Amravati District. All these ornamental medicinal plants are grown as Avenue trees, Shade trees and Fruits plants. These ornamental medicinal plants are showing diversity in their habit, habitat, floral structure and medicinal significance.

Material and Method:

In the present study, frequent visits are arranged to various parks, gardens, nurseries, house gardens, university campus and the plants specimens were collected, after drying plant specimen herbarium sheets are prepared.

The identification of plants was done by using floras (Hooker, 1872-1897; Cooke, 1901-1908; Naik, 1998; Dhore, 2002; Yadav and Sardesai, 2002; Singh et al., 2001) and manual of cultivated plants (Bailey, 1924). The information of medicinal plants collected by oral talk and interviews with nursery people.

Observation and Result :-

In the present study, 30 Medicinal ornamental plants belonging to 16 families are listed, identified, classified up to varieties level and studied their medicinal uses. These plants are arranged according to their family.

Observation and Result

Family : Malvaceae Juss.

1. *Althea rosea* (L.) "Hollyhock." , Native of Orient, China.

Planted in house and public gardens as ornamentals.

Uses: Used in rheumatism. Roots used in dysentery.

2. *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* L. "Jaswandi, Gurhal." ,

Native of China. Planted in house and public gardens.

Uses: Roots with milk used to keep a pregnancy. Flower buds used as a brain tonic, urinary disorder, piles and blood dysentery.

3. *Thespesia populnea* (L.) “Bhendi – Kazed, Paras bhendi, Paras Pimpal, Umbrella tree”

Occasionally planted along roadsides.

Uses: Used in skin disease and decoction of bark for external wash.

Family: Rutaceae

4. *Rutagraveolens* L. “Satap, Common Rue”.

Native of south Europe. Grown as pot herb or in gardens for its medicinal properties.

Use: Leaves & oil extracted from them are used in Ayurvedic Medicine.

Family: Fabaceae

5. *Sesbania grandiflora* (L.) “Hadga’, ‘Agati’, Heta.”

Planted around villages and in betle-wine yards & also in gardens.

Use: - Flowers and unripe pods are used as vegetable; they are also used in Ayurvedic Medicine.

Family : Caesalpiniaceae

6. *Bauhinia variegata*, ‘Candida’ L. ” Kanchan.”

Grown as avenues and in gardens.

Uses: Roots, bark and flowers are used in Ayurvedic medicine. Bark is used for tanning and dyeing.

7. *Cassia fistula* L. “ Amaltas “ , Planted along the roadside.

Uses: Roots, bark or pulp of pod used for digestion. Leaf juice used in the treatment of pimples. Pulp of pod used in rheumatic pain joint, jaundice, regulation of menstrual cycle.

Family : Mimosaceae

8. *Samanea saman* (Jacq.) “ Rain- Tree, Saman, Zaman” .

Native of tropical America. Planted along the road sides & Gardens.

Uses: A good shade tree. Sweet pulp of pods is edible & is used in medicine.

Family :Rosaceae

9. *Rosa indica* L.“ Gulab, Deshigulab”. Native of India.

Planted in garden.

Uses: Rose water used for cleaning eye, flower with sugar used in treatment of skin disease, piles, and urinal disorder.

Family: Crassulaceae

10. *Kalanchoe pinnata* (Lamk.) “Panphuti, Air-plant, Life plant Floppers”.

Native of Tropical Africa. Planted in gardens.

Uses: It is effective in treatment of removing the kidney stone, Jaundice, high blood pressure. It also relieves the pain, anti-dysenteric and anti-inflammatory. Leaves are used in ayurvedic medicine.

Family: Combretaceae

11. *Terminalia catappa* L. “Badam, Deshi-Badam, Hirani Badam, Jangli-Badam.”

A native of Tropical Asia, Grown in gardens and along the roadsides.

Uses: It is effective in the treatment of hepatitis, liver cancer, sickle cell, stress, weak immune system, highly effective in diarrhea, dysentery. Bark & leaves gives a black dye. Leaves are applied to rheumatic Joints.

Family: Apocynaceae

12. *Allamanda violacea* Garden. & Field. “Purple Allamanda”.

Native of Brazil. Planted in gardens.

Uses: Used in the system of traditional medicine for various purposes. Used in the treatment of liver tumor, Jaundice, splenomegaly and malaria. The root is powerful cathartic & is used in malignant fevers.

13. *Alstonia scholaris* (L.) “Satvin, Saptaparna. Devil’s Tree, Dita bark tree.”

Native of evergreen forests of India, China, Malaysia & Shrilanka.

Planted in gardens & along the road sides.

Uses: Used to purify blood and relieve respiratory disorder. It is cytotoxic herb which is used to stop the cancerous growth. Bark & latex are used in Ayurvedic Medicine in the treatment of fever, malaria, trouble in digestion, tumor, ulcers, asthma.

14. *Tabernaemontana divaricata* (L.) “Tagar, Chandni .”

Native of West Indies. Planted in house & Public gardens.

Uses: All parts are used in Ayurvedic and traditional medicine. It is antioxidant, antitumor, anti-infection, analgesic.

15. *Nerium indicum* Mill. “Kaner”. Native of tropical & Subtropical Asia.

Planted in house & public garden.

Uses: It is used in treatment of sexual weakness, piles and bite of snake and insects.

16. *Plumeria alba* L. “Pandhara Chapha”.

Native of Tropical America. Grown in gardens.

Uses: It is used in gastric ulcer and asthma, piles, gonorrhea, blood disorders and tumors.

Family: Acanthaceae

17. *Adhatodazaylanica* Medic. Hist. & commentat. “Adulsa “

Grown in hedges, also naturalized.

Uses : All parts of the plants are used to cure asthma in Ayurvedic medicine. Leaves are used as fungicide & insecticide. Also used in the treatment of leprosy, blood disorders, heart trouble, fever. Vomiting, loss of memory, jaundice, leukoderma, tumor, mouth troubles and gonorrhea.

18. *Barleria priontis* L. “Kate Koranti.”

Planted in gardens, near the temples.

Uses: Root, bark and leaves, are used in Ayurvedic medicine. Also used in the treatment of skin diseases, burning urination, fever, localized swelling, goiter and act as blood purifier.

Family: Verbenaceae

19. *Vitex negundo* L. “Nirgudi “Grown often in gardens for hedges.

Uses: Leaves are used in Ayurvedic medicine. It is very good muscle relaxant, pain relieving, anti- mosquito, anti anxiety, anti asthma.

Family : Santalaceae

20. *Santalum album* L. “Chandan”. Planted in gardens.

Uses : Sandalwood oil is used in folk medicine for the treatment of common cold, bronchitis, skin disorder, fever, urinary tract, inflammation of the mouth and pharynx liver and gallbladder.

Family: Euphorbiaceae

21. *Jatropha curcas* L. “Chandur – Jyot; Mogali Yerand.”

Native of tropical America. Planted in hedges, also naturalized – around villages.

Uses: Used for relief from sickness. Wood, leaves, fruits & seeds are used in local medicine.

Family: Araceae

22. *Colocasia esculenta* (L.) “Alu, Chamkura”.

Planted commonly in kitchen garden, also wild in some parts.

Uses : It is used in the treatment of asthma, arthritis, diarrhea, internal hemorrhage neurological disorders and skin disorders. Leaves & rhizomes are used as vegetables.

Family: Poaceae

23. *Cymbopogon martinii* (Roxb.) “Tikhadi, Rosha Gawat ”.

Grown in house & public gardens.

Uses : Used in treatment of joint pain, respiratory disorders, Anorexia, intestinal worms, skin diseases, and diarrhea. Essential oil is obtained from leaves & inflorescence & used in perfumery.

24. *Cymbopogon nardus* Rendle. “Citronella - Grass”. Planted in house gardens.

Uses: Leaves are aromatic used in tea as an Ayurvedic medicine. Also used in traditional medicine in the treatment of menstrual problems.

25. *Vetiveria zizanioides* (L.) “Wala, Khus”.

Native of Tropical & subtropical Asia, E. Indies. Planted in house gardens.

Uses: It is cooling agent, tonic and blood purifier. Also used in the treatment of skin disorder and ring worm. Rhizome & roots are aromatic. These are used in perfumery. Roots are used in Ayurvedic medicine.

Family: Asteraceae

26. *Calendula officinalis* L. “Pot Marigold”.

Native of South Europe. Planted in house as well as public gardens.

Uses: Leaves are used in the treatment of varicose vein.

27. *Chrysanthemum indicum* L. “Marguerite or paris Daisy, Shevanti”.

Planted in house & public gardens.

Uses: It is used to treat chest pain (angina), high blood pressure, type 2 diabetes, fever, cold, swelling. In combination with other herbs, it is also used to treat prostate cancer.

28. *Wedelia calendulacea* Less. “Pivala - bhangra.”

Grown in garden as an Ornamentals.

Uses: Leaf juice is used to promote growth of hair. Also used as tonic, to treat coughs, skin diseases.

Family: Oleaceae

29. *Jasminum officinale* L. “Jai, Chemeli”.

Native of Kashmir, Afghanistan & Peria. Cultivated in India, China & Europe.

Planted in house & public gardens.

Uses: Used in the treatment of hepatitis, liver pain due to cirrhosis, abdominal pain, to heighten sexual desire and in cancer.

Family: Combretaceae

30. *Quisqualis indica* L. “Rangoon Wel, Lalchemeli.”

Native of Tropical Asia. Planted in house and public gardens.

Uses: It used as herbal medicine for the expulsion of intestinal worms and anti cancer.

Conclusion :

Botanically Amravati district was explored by Dhore, 2002, but about the ornamental nobody explored this district. Identification of the ornamental plants are difficult due to their common names which are related with the regional names or they have common English names. These ornamental plants are brought from outside and planted in garden. Some time the names are given by nursery man. Still there is a use of ornamental in medicine by labors, tribal and villagers. Current study was aimed for identification of different ornamental plants and their medicinal uses. These are not purposely planted but are easily available.

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