
Ethnomedicinal Plants used by Paliyars Aborginal community of Theni District, Tamil Nadu (India)

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Résumé

The present study was aiming to promote further detailed study on medicinal properties of plants used by Paliyar tribes in Theni district, Tamil Nadu (India), an ethnic community still depends upon their very rich indigenous knowledge for healing their ailments. The study was carried out through semi-structured questionnaires and interviews in consultations with the herbal practitioners. The voucher specimens with all necessary information, grouped by family, have been deposited in the herbarium of the Department of Botany of VHNSN College (Autonomous), Virudhunagar. About 75 plant species distributed in 27 families were described as well as the method used for drug preparation, the mode of administration, the probable dosage and duration of treatment. Nowadays, the number of traditional healers are dwindling, so the traditional knowledge on ethno-medical plants will disappear soon since the young generation is not interested to carry on this tradition.

Mots-Clés: Ethnobotany, Medicinal plants, Paliyars, Western ghats, Theni District, India

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