



Ethnomedicinal Oil Plants used in Treating Skin Diseases in Hyderabad Karnataka Region, Karnataka, India.

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Abstract : A total of 57 oil yielding plant species belonging to 56 genera representing 33 families have been documented. Out of 57 plants, majority of the species are trees followed by herbs, shrubs, and herbaceous climbers. The information gathered from traditional healers and local peoples of Hyderabad- Karnataka region through interview. The knowledge gathered from the traditional healers confirms that these plants are the most excellent plant species with medicinal properties and several new finding were reported. The present study emphasizes that rural people of Hyderabad Karnataka region frequently depends on medicinal plants for treating skin diseases.

Keywords : Ethnomedicinal oil plants; Traditional knowledge; Skin diseases; Hyderabad Karnataka region.

1. Introduction

Since the origin of life on earth, man has been in harmony with the nature and provides a lot of knowledge about plant wealth¹. Nature has been a source of medicinal agents used to treat various diseases for thousands of years in daily life all over the world². Natural products are base of new compounds which lead to medicines and supplied as important life saving medicines to human beings. For about one-half of the medicines which are being used now a day's came from natural sources. The higher plants have a very promising future as sources of medicinal agents which are used in examination, protection and treatment of disease³. Ancient people have depended on herbal remedies and inherit rich traditional knowledge and well aware with the properties and uses of surrounding plants used as food, fodder, fiber, wood, fuel and medicines^{4,5}. The knowledge acquired by them is passed through experience of ages on by verbal sayings from generation to generation as part of their cultural heritage⁶. Folk medication is used for thousands of years, made by practitioners for human health and strength, which becomes principal donors for health care of the native people⁷. Traditional folk medicine use the information, knowledge and observations made by the practitioners is totally based on hypothesis that plants contain natural substances that can promote health and alleviate illness^{1,8}, should have confidence of practice and also holds the legacy of community acceptance and skill gained by local herbalist over a period of time^{9,10}.

According to WHO more than one million people rely on herbal medicines to some extents¹¹. There has been a great range of awareness and growing interest using medicinal plants for treating different diseases because of side effects due to chemicals and heavy cost of drugs¹². Currently most of the drugs isolated from medicinal plants are used for treatment of various bacterial and other infections¹³. Since from many years different plant species which belongs to families Asteraceae, Cupressaceae, Lamiaceae, Solanaceae,

Papilionaceae, Rosaceae and Leguminosae etc are used for the treatment of skin disease¹⁴. Medicinal plants are rich sources of antimicrobial agents, widely used as ethno medicine around the world in different countries¹⁵. Prior to the development of Western medicine, traditional medicinal plants were used as remedies to cure various skin diseases. Majority of the people from different parts of the world, still rely on herbal medicines as they are sources of many potent and powerful drugs for different skin problems¹³.

In India, there is significant incidence of skin diseases due to tropical climate and poor personal hygiene. Many researchers across the country have documented the information on plants used for treating skin diseases by rural and tribal communities¹⁶⁻²⁰. India, with its glorious past of traditional systems of medicine and use of different plants, is one of the eight major centers of origin and diversification of domesticated taxa²¹. Even today large number of plants/plant extracts/decoctions or pastes are equally used by tribal's and folklore traditions and also people of rural areas of India enormously collect and preserve locally available wild and cultivated medicinal plant species and practice to treat skin infections and various ailments²².

1.1 Objective of Research

The objective of this research paper is to document traditional knowledge of medicinal oil plants used in treating skin diseases at Hyderabad- Karnataka region.

1.2 Justification of Research

The present study will help in documenting the traditional ethnobotanical knowledge of Hyderabad-Karnataka region, which they are losing because the younger generation does not rely on traditional treatments due to modern cultural changes. It is, therefore, felt worthwhile to record the traditional knowledge of medicinal oil plants in the area before the information is depleted.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1 Study Area

The Hyderabad- Karnataka region is the second largest arid region in India, located in the North - Eastern part of Karnataka, comprises of 4 districts namely, Bidar, Kalaburagi, Raichur and Yadgir districts covering an area of 20,448 sq.km, which is predominantly and traditionally agricultural area besides being one of the most socio - economically backward region (Figure 1). These districts were ruled by the Nizam of Hyderabad before India became independent and hence retained the name of Hyderabad-Karnataka. These districts were subsequently merged into Karnataka during the unification of the states in the post-independent period. The region is blessed with highly productive medium to deep black soils supporting a spectrum of crop diversity and the region is mostly arid and falls under the rain-shadow area. People speak five languages such as, Kannada, Marathi, Telugu, Hindi and Urdu. The plant diversity is extremely rich and number of medicinal plants is used in the treatment of various diseases. Various records of traditional knowledge of the plant species used for the treatment of skin diseases by different tribal communities or local peoples are reported in different parts of India²³⁻²⁷, but no previous records are available on traditional knowledge of medicinal oil plants used for treating skin diseases by the traditional healers of Hyderabad Karnataka region. Therefore, the present study focused on the documentation of traditional knowledge on medicinal oil plants used in the treatment of skin diseases of the study area.

2.2 methodology

An ethnobotanical survey was conducted of the study area during June 2011 to May 2013. A list of traditional practitioners belonging to different areas was prepared. Field trips were undertaken randomly of the study area in such a way that should represent the entire region including rural and tribal pockets. Each locality was visited during different seasons and collected the information about the seasonal medicinal oil plants. During the field trips, frequent visits were made to the herbal practitioners and efforts done to convince them to disclose their traditional knowledge about the healing plants. The information on the use of medicinal oil plants was gathered by direct interaction with Hakeem, Vidhya, local folk practitioners and villagers at field. Out of those 44 informants residing in 4 districts, 16 villages and 12 talukas, was identified from different areas of Hyderabad Karnataka region.

Data was systematically recorded in their local language based on informal interviews and group discussions with local peoples involved in traditional herbal medicine practices. The information was recorded through the standard ethnobotanical questionnaire which includes the local name of plant species, growth form, availability in natural resources, method of collection, storage, name and symptoms of dermatological healthcare problem treated by plant, part(s) used, method of crude drug preparation, mode of administration, doses, duration of treatment and other medicinal uses of species were included in the questionnaire.

The collected medicinal plants was authenticated with the help of floras such as, Flora of Gulbarga district²⁸, Flora of Karnataka²⁹, Flora of Presidency of Madras³⁰ and voucher herbarium specimens deposited in the herbarium centre, Department of Post Graduate Studies and Research in Botany, Gulbarga University, Kalaburagi, Karnataka.

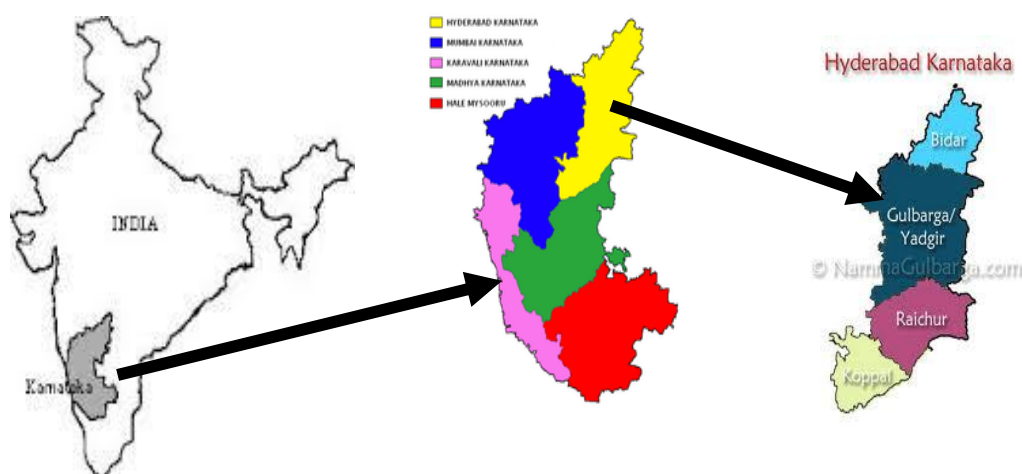


Figure 1. Study area: Hyderabad Karnataka region, Karnataka, India.

3. Result and Discussion

Medicinal plants are a rich source of organic compounds. Modern medicinal system using medicinal plants as drug agents against several infectious and non-infectious diseases^{31,32}. The present study reveals that the inhabitants of the study area are rich in indigenous knowledge of plants and their uses to treat various diseases. 57 medicinal oil plants species were reported by the local people and traditional healers of Hyderabad Karnataka region for the treatment of skin diseases belonging to 56 genera representing 33 families and presented the results (Table 1). Out of 57 plants, majority of the species are trees followed by herbs, shrubs, and herbaceous climbers. The plant parts such as, leaves, flower, root, fruits, bulb and seeds were utilized by traditional healers. During the study period all information's on the use of medicinal oil plants was gathered from 44 elder resource informants, 40 were men and 4 were women, whose age ranged from 40-80 years who have real knowledge about the utilization of medicinal plants. These plants are arranged in alphabetical order of their scientific name along with family followed by local name, parts used, method of drug preparation, and mode of administration and duration of treatment.

Table 1. Medicinal oil plants used against skin diseases by people of Hyderabad-Karnataka region.

Sl. No.	Botanical name with voucher number.	Family	Local name	Part used	Mode of administration
1.	<i>Abrus precatorius</i> L. HGUG 823	Fabaceae	Gulagangi	Seeds	Seed oil with onion juice mixed equally applied externally to cure ringworm till it cures.

2.	<i>Aegle marmelos</i> (L.) Correa. HGUG 710	Rutaceae	Bilvapatregida, kaveet	Leaves	Leaves are shade dried and extract oil mix with equal quantity of jasmine oil applied daily to cure acne, pimples, burns, black spots and wounds till the recovery.
3.	<i>Alangiumsalvifolium</i> (L.f.) HGUG 300	Alangiaceae	Ankaligida, ankol	Seeds	Oil prepared is used externally with palm jaggery for scabies and ulcers.
4.	<i>Aleovera</i> (L.)N.Burm.Fl. HGUG 547	Liliaceae	Lolesara, kanvar	Leaves	Oil extracted from leaves mixed with 5-6 drops of almond oil used to cure burns, allergies, irritation, acne, itching, eczema, psoriasis, wounds and swelling of skin.
5.	<i>Allium sativum</i> L. HGUG 549	Liliaceae	Laison, belloli	Bulb	A tablespoon of Bulb oil mixed with a pinch of turmeric powder and paste is prepared. This is applied on the affected parts daily morning after bath to cure tinea vesicularis.
6.	<i>Argemonemexicana</i> L. HGUG 614	Papaveraceae	Daturi	Seeds	Freshly extracted seed oil in pistil and mortar apply on infected skin to relieve itching and skin allergies till it cures.
7.	<i>Azadirachtaindica</i> Juss. HGUG 576	Meliaceae	Bevinamara, neem	Seeds	About 8-10 drops of neem seed oil and zaitun oil(olive) mixed with a pinch of turmeric powder and apply daily on white patches on skin till it recover and neem seed oil with aloe oil also used for itching of skin for 10-15days.

8.	<i>Brassica juncea</i> (L.) Czernajew. HGUG 114	Brassicaceae	Sasuve,raai	Seeds	5-6 drops of raai seed oil with a pinch of turmeric powder, orange peel powder, sandal wood powder, chick pea powder, 3-4 drops of aleovera oil mixed well and used for removing pimples and black spots.
9.	<i>Caesalpinia bonduca</i> (L.) Roxb. HGUG 208	Fabaceae	Gajjaga	Seeds	Seed are pressed on stone and its oil is applied for skin diseases and leprosy.
10.	<i>Calotropis gigantea</i> (L.) R.Br. HGUG 47	Asclepiadaceae	Yekkadagida	Seeds	Seeds are ground in pistil and mortar. Extracted oil used to cure skin diseases like eczema, ringworm.
11.	<i>Celastrus paniculatus</i> Willd. HGUG 133	Celastraceae	Jyothishmathi, Malkangni	Seeds	Cold pressed seed oil applied on ulcers, wounds till it cures.
12.	<i>Celosia argentea</i> L. HGUG 08	Amaranthaceae	Anne soppu	Seeds	Seeds are ground in pistil and mortar. Seed oil used to reduce inflammation and also to cure itching and bacterial skin diseases.
13.	<i>Citrus lemon</i> (L.) Burm.f. HGUG 67	Rutaceae	Nimbu, nimbakai	Fruit pulp	Oil extracted from fruit pulp mixed with camphor is used in treating various skin diseases.
14.	<i>Cocos nucifera</i> L. HGUG 42	Arecaceae	Tenginamara, nariyal	Endosperm	A fine powder of endosperm is made and prepared a paste in pistil and mortar, extracted oil is filtered and used in treating various skin problems including psoriasis, dermatitis, eczema, itchy and dry skin, flaking of skin, ringworm, athlete's foot, thrush, and

					diaper rash and other skin infections.
15.	<i>Coriandrum sativum</i> L. HGUG 22	Apiaceae	Kotambri, dhania	Seeds	Seed are pressed on stone and its oil used to cure eczema, wound and irritation on skin, mouth ulcers, dryness, fungal infections and skin inflammation.
16.	<i>Croton bonplandianus</i> Bail. HGUG 201	Euphorbiaceae	Uttigida	Seeds	Seed oil applied to cure skin rashes, black spots till it cures.
17.	<i>Cucumis sativus</i> L. CL	Cucurbitaceae	Sauvtekai, kakdi	Seeds	Cold pressed seed oil used in treating damaged skin, dry skin conditions, eczema, psoriasis, acne and sunburned skin.
18.	<i>Cucurbitapepo</i> L. CL	Cucurbitaceae	Kumbalakai, kaddu	Seeds	Dried seeds are powdered in pistil and mortar. Its oil is mixed with a pinch of turmeric powder used for healing burns and wounds.
19.	<i>Cuminum cyminum</i> L. CL	Apiaceae	Jeera, jerege	Seeds	Dried seeds are roasted on hot pan for 1 minute and cooled. After some time these seeds are grounded to a fine paste in pistil and mortar until oil oozes and used to cure skin disease
20.	<i>Cymbopogon citrates</i> (DC.) Stapf HGUG 644	Poaceae	Nimbehullu	Leaves	Leaves pressed and its oil applied for acne and athlete's foot till it cures.
21.	<i>Datura stramonium</i> L. HGUG 738	Solanaceae	Ummattigida, Dhatura	Seeds	Seed oil is extracted in pistil and mortar and filtered. Oil used for ulcers and wounds till it cures.

22.	<i>Derris indica</i> (Lam.) Bennet HGUG 169	Fabaceae	Hongemara, karanj, kadwabadam	Seeds	1 tablespoon of seed oil mixed with equal quantity of neem oil and castor oil applied for 15-20 days for skin diseases like scabies, sores, herpes and eczema.
23.	<i>Eclipta prostrate</i> (L.)L. HGUG 82	Asteraceae	Bhrungaraja	Leaves	Leaf oil along with coconut oil and amla oil applied daily to cure premature graying of hairs and hairfall. Oil is used to cure skin diseases like athlete foot, eczema and dermatitis.
24.	<i>Emblicoefficialis</i> Gaertn. HGUG 197	Euphorbiaceae	Amla, NelliKayi	Fruit	Dried fruit is powdered and ground in pistil and mortar until oil oozes out and used to cure graying of hair and dandruff.
25.	<i>Eucalyptus globules</i> Labill. HGUG 594	Myrtaceae	Neelgiri	Leaves	Leaves are boiled in water for 15-20 minutes. Oil collected from its water surface. Allow cooling and used to cure wounds.
26.	<i>Gliricidiasepium</i> (Jacq.) Kunth. HGUG 494	Fabaceae	Hasirugobbragid a	Flowers	Shade dried flowers are ground in pistil and mortar. Extracted oil used for hair loss, boils, skin tumors, ulcers, wounds.
27.	<i>Gossypium herbaceum</i> Linn. CL	Malvaceae	Kapas, Hati	Seeds	Seed oil is mixed with coconut oil and used in clearing the skin spots and freckles.
28.	<i>Helianthus annuus</i> L. CL	Asteraceae	Suryakanthi	Seeds	3-4 drops of seed oil applied on infected part of skin for 2-4 days to cure fungal skin diseases.

29.	<i>Hemidesmus indicus</i> (L.) R.Br. HGUG 48	Asclepiadaceae	Sogade beru, anantamul.	Roots	Oil extracted from roots is applied externally to cure wounds, feet infections and skin diseases.
30.	<i>Hibiscus cannabinus</i> L. CL	Meliaceae	Pundi, ambadha	Seeds	Seed oil, 25g Kapur (camphor), 4 damber (Naphthalene) balls mix with coconut oil apply twice a day for every skin diseases till it recover.
31.	<i>Hyptissauveolens</i> (L.) Poit HGUG 536	Lamiaceae	Nayitulasi	Seeds	Seed oil along with equal quantity of sesame oil applied to cure sores, itchy spots, fungal infections, dry flaky skin and many other skin problems.
32.	<i>Jasminum roxburghianum</i> Cl. HGUG 605	Oleaceae	Chameli, kadumallige	Flowers	Jasmine flower spread over floor with sesame seeds for a month, separate flower and extracted oil applied on sensitive skin to reduce stretch marks, pimples wounds, itching and other scares.
33.	<i>Jatropha curcas</i> L. HGUG 1295	Euphorbiaceae	Jangliarandi, chitalataligida	Seeds	4-5 drops of oil extracted from shade dried seeds mixed with a pinch of turmeric powder used in leprosy and skin diseases like pimple, itches, ringworm, scabies and eczema till it cures.
34.	<i>Lantana indica</i> Roxb. HGUG 253	Verbenaceae	Raimuniya	Leaves	Fresh leaves ground to a fine paste in pestil and mortar and filtered using cotton cloth. Extracted oil used externally for treating skin itches, wounds, leprosy and scabies.

35.	<i>Lawsoniainermis</i> L. HGUG 554	Lythraceae	Mehendi, madarangi	Seeds and leaves	Shade dried seeds pressed in pistil and mortar and filtered. Extracted oil used to cure ulcers and leprosy daily till it cures.
36.	<i>Linumusatissimum</i> L. HGUG 266	Linaceae	Alsi, agase	Seeds	Seed roasted on hot pan for a minute and grounded in pistil and mortar and filtered. Extracted oil used to cure itching and inflammation.
37.	<i>Luffaacutangula</i> (L.) Roxb. CL	Cucurbitaceae	Herekai, turai	Seeds	Shade dried seed powdered in pistil and mortar and soaked in a cup of water for a day and filtered. Extracted oil used to cure skin diseases.
38.	<i>Luffacylindrica</i> (L.) M.Roem CL	Cucurbitaceae	Tuppadherekai, gheeturai	Seeds	Shade dried seed powdered in pistil and mortar and soaked in a cup of water for a day and filtered. Seed oil used to cure leprosy and other skin problems.
39.	<i>Mangiferaindica</i> L. HGUG 15	Annonaceae	Aam, mavinamara	Seeds	Dried seed is pressed on stone and its oil applies on pimples for 2-4 days.
40.	<i>Menthapiperita</i> L. CL	Lamiaceae	Pudina	Leaves	5gm podina leaves, 5gm ajwain, 10gm camphor mix and extract oil, apply daily used for cleaning wounds and treating skin infections reduce pimples and acne till it cures.
41.	<i>Momordicacymbalaria</i> Fenzl. HGUG 809	Cucurbitaceae	Karchikayi	Seeds	Shade dried seed powdered in pistil and mortar and soaked in a cup of water for a day and filtered. Oil used to cure wounds.

42.	<i>Nerium odorum</i> Soland. HGUG 1056	Apocyanaceae	Kaner,kangil	Roots	Oil prepared from the shade dried root bark is used for treating skin diseases.
43.	<i>Nigella sativa</i> L. CL	Ranunculaceae	Kalongi, Krishna jeerige	Seeds	100gm kalongi seeds, 50gm tike soppu leaves (<i>Tridaxprocumbens</i>) boil to extract oil and soon mix 2gm kapur powder (<i>Eclipta Alba</i>) in prepared oil and filter. Apply for skin diseases like small pimples, acne, black spots, athlete foot, eczema, itching and dermatitis.
44.	<i>Ocimumscantum</i> L. HGUG 532	Lamiaceae	Tulsi	Seeds	Seed oil mixed with coconut or sesame oil, is applied on wounds and sores to prevent the pus formation. It soothe and heals the cracked feet.
45.	<i>Psidiumguajava</i> L. HGUG 595	Myrtaceae	Peralagida, peeru	Seeds	Oil extracted from shade dried seeds mixed with a pinch of turmeric powder used to cure eczema, psoriasis, ringworm, wound, tinea versicularis and leucoderma.
46.	<i>Psoraleacorylifolia</i> L. HGUG 484	Fabaceae	Bavanchi	Seeds	Oil extracted from shade dried seeds used to cure wounds and other dermal disorders.
47.	<i>Ricinuscommunis</i> L. HGUG 193	Euphorbiaceae	Arandi	Seeds	Mature seeds are boiled in water for 15-20 minutes. Oil collected from its water surface. Allow cooling and mixed with cow urine, applied daily to cure white patches, leprosy and leucoderma.

48.	<i>Rosadamascena</i> Mill. CL	Rosaceae	Gulaab	Flowers	Oil with pinch of salt applied every morning for 5-10 minutes and wash off till recovery of mouth ulcers, infection of mouth, swelling of mouth due to ulcer. Seed oil is also applied on itching portion and also used to cure ringworm disease.
49.	<i>Santalum album</i> L. HGUG 716	Santalaceae	Srigandha, sandal	Seeds	Cold pressed seed oil used to cure ulcers, wounds, cuts, infection and inflammation of skin till it cures.
50.	<i>Sapindus laurifolius</i> Vahl. HGUG 721	Sapindaceae	Antuvala, retha	Fruit	Cold pressed seed oil applied daily on skin to cure rashes, itching and dandruff till it cures.
51.	<i>Semecarpus anacardium</i> L.f. HGUG 33	Anacardiaceae	Bhilawa, karigeru	Fruit	A drop of fruit peel oil mix with 4-5 drops of coconut oil and apply daily to remove black dark patches on skin, and cracks on foot heels till it recover.
52.	<i>Sesamum indicum</i> L. HGUG 616	Pedaliaceae	Yellugida, til	Seeds	Seed oil mixed with paste of lison (<i>Allium sativum</i>) applied twice a day for treating eczemia, psoriasis, acne, pimples and wounds till it cures.
53.	<i>Solanum melongena</i> L. CL	Solanaceae	Baigan, kantakari	Seeds	A table spoon of seed oil with 20g karpur mix with coconut oil applied daily on pimples and wounds till recovery.
54.	<i>Tamarindus indica</i> L. HGUG 224	Fabaceae	Imli, hunase	Seed kernal	20gm of shade dried seed kernels finely powdered and soaked for day in a cup of water and filtered. Oil collected from

					surface of filtrate and externally used to reduce skin infections, leprosy, healing of wounds till recovery.
55.	<i>Tectonagrandis</i> Linn. f. HGUG 766	Verbenaceae	Sagwan, Tega	Seeds	Oil extracted from shade dried seeds used to cure skin disease like scabies.
56.	<i>Terminalia bellerica</i> (Gaertn.) Roxb. HGUG 141	Combretaceae	Bahera	Seeds	Seed oil mixed with equal quantity of coconut oil is applied twice a day against rash.
57.	<i>Trachyspermum ammi</i> Sprague CL	Apiaceae	Ajwain	Seeds	5gm ajwain seeds, 5gm podina leaves and 10gm camphor mix and extract oil, applied daily used for cleaning wounds and treating skin infection reduce pimples and acne till it cures.

HGUG- Herbarium Gulbarga University Gulbarga; CL- cultivated.

Dosage pattern mentioned with the particular species including quality of medicine, its frequency and duration, and it depends mainly on the severity of the disease as well as on age of the patient. Seeds are the most frequently used part in drug preparation. Data was compared with the available literature and found that many usages are not recorded earlier listed in Table 1^{16,18,23,33}. Medicinal plants used for treating skin diseases in North and South region of Karnataka area are found less reported³⁴, while some other are available in earlier literature but are quite different in their preparation, use, method, parts of plants and diseases^{23,25,33-39}. No literature found on medicinal oil plants in treatment of skin diseases. Interesting observation found during the study that most of the important medicinal oil plants using in the treatment of skin diseases by the local people and traditional healers of Hyderabad Karnataka region with similar method of drug preparation. Across India, many medicinal plants are commonly used for treating skin diseases and very less common oil plants being used, but method of drug preparation found to be different comparing with our finding as mentioned (Table 1). *Cymbopogon citrates* leaves oil used externally to treat acne and athlete's foot in Hyderabad Karnataka region, where as Kurichar tribe of Wayanad District, Southern Western Ghats Kerala, India, used for toothache⁴⁰. People of Adilabad district, Andhra Pradesh, India⁴¹, use entire plant paste of *Argemone mexicana* to effected parts of the skin, whereas pounded seeds with rhizome of *Curcuma aromatic* and *Acorus calamus* to treat skin diseases by people of Nagapattinam district⁴², whereas people of Hyderabad Karnataka region used *A. mexicana* seed oil for itching and skin allergies. *Brassica juncea* seed oil with combination of other oils to cure pimples and black spots by people of Hyderabad Karnataka region while only *B. juncea* seed oil used by people of Adilabad district and Nagapattinam district, *Lawsonia inermis* stem bark paste used by people of Adilabad district, whereas *L. inermis* leaf with *Cipadessa baccifera* leaf and bark to cure psoriasis by Nagapattinam district people. *Jatropha gossypifolia* leaf paste, *Mangifera indica* bark paste combined gum used both by the people of Adilabad district and Nagapattinam district, and *Semecarpus anacardium* gum formed from stem bark used externally for skin disease by people of Adilabad district, *Solanum nigrum* leaf juice applied externally for itching by people of Adilabad district and Nagapattinam district. From another species of *Jatropha* such as *Jatropha curcas* seed oil with combination of turmeric powder to treat leprosy and skin diseases like pimple, itches, ringworm, scabies and eczema, *L. inermis* seed oil used to cure ulcers and leprosy, *M. indica* seed oil to cure pimples. *S. anacardium* seed oil with combination of coconut oil used to treat black dark patches on skin, and cracks on foot heels till it recover. Whereas with another species of genus *Solanum*, *S. melongena*

seed oil with 20g karpur mix with coconut oil applied daily on pimples and wounds by people of Hyderabad Karnataka region.

Indo-Mongoloid communities of Upper Assam applied *Citrus limon* fruit juice on the body to relieve from prickly heat, *Datura stramonium* leaf paste on eczema, *M.indica* latex on sore eyes, *Ocimum sanctum* crushed leaves mixed with a pinch of salt and applied on the ringworm. *Ricinu scommunis* leaf paste to cure carbuncles. *Terminalia bellerica* crushed fruit bark on septic ulcer. The bark of the fruit is removed and the remaining part is crushed into a paste and applied on sore eyes⁴³. Whereas people of Hyderabad Karnataka region using *Citrus limon* fruit pulp oil mixed with camphor in treating various skin diseases, *D.stramonium* seed oil used for ulcers and wounds, *O. sanctum* seed oil mixed with coconut or sesame oil, applied on wounds and sores to prevent the pus formation and also soothes and heals the cracked feet. *R.communis* seed oil mixed with cow urine, applied daily to cure white patches, leprosy and leucoderma. *T.bellericas* eed oil mixed with coconut oil to treat rashes, whilebark and root extract of *T. bellerica* plant used by people of Nagapattinam district to treat skin disease and *Azadirachta indica* boiled flower with sesame oil against dandruff, whereas people of Hyderabad Karnataka region used *A. indicaseed* oil and olive oil mixed with a pinch of turmeric powder on white patches and also with aloe oil for itching of skin.

Conclusion

The knowledge gathered from the traditional healers of study area found to be different from above mentioned literatures. Peoples are still unknown of many of medicinal oil plants such as *Hyptis suaveolens*, *Trachyspermum ammi*, *Tectona grandis*, *Tamarindus indica*, *Psoralea corylifolia*, *Psidium guajava*, *Gliricidia sepium* etc. They are using only very few common oil plants such as *Azadirachta indica*, *Semecarpus anacardium*, *Ricinus communis*, *Ocimum sanctum*, *Brassica juncea*, *Jatropha curcas*, *Momordica cymbalaria* etc, in treating skin diseases. Hence, there is a need to spread the traditional knowledge of oil yielding medicinal plants to cure various skin diseases and therefore useful for researchers in the field of ethno botany, ethno medicine and pharmacology. The findings of the survey emphasized that medicinal oils were extensively used by the traditional healers and local peoples and these medicine have great potentiality to cure different types of skin diseases. The indigenous rural community mostly depends on traditional healthcare system. Pharmacological investigations on these medicinal oils should be a multidisciplinary research involving observation and discovery of chemical compounds of biological importance which can be of great significance in therapeutic treatments.

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