

EXOTIC MEDICINAL PLANTS USED BY TRIBAL POPULATION OF SIRUVANI REGION, COIMBATORE – AN ETHNOBOTANICAL SURVEY

S. Suganthi, M. Rajasekar and D. Udhaya Nandhini*

*Department of Medicinal and Aromatic Crops
Precision Farming Development Centre
Department of Sustainable Organic Agriculture
Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore – 3, Tamil Nadu, India
Email: udhaya.jeni@gmail.com*

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Abstract: The exotic underutilized plants with diverse source of medicinal properties contribute colossal benefits in the daily livelihoods of the mankind. The present study aims and reveals about the vast wealth of ethnomedicinal properties and the uses of wild underutilized plants located in the siruvani tribal tract of Coimbatore district in Tamil Nadu. The investigation was performed by collection of underutilized plants with medicinal properties, personal observations and steered field walks in consultation with local tribal elders of the study area. The paper highlights some new and less known ethnomedicinal uses of 25 underutilized plants by the tribes of siruvani. Since, the tribal population believes that many dreadful health infringements can be cured by locally available medicinal plant source and prime importance was provided to popularize the imperative source of traditional herbal value. Thus, the present study emphasizes on documentation of medicinal properties from traditional underutilized plant sources which remunerate the welfare of humanitarian.

Keyword: Ethnomedicinal, Underutilized, Siruvani, Tribal, Traditional

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*Corresponding Author