RESEARCH ARTICLE

A PRELIMINARY SURVEY OF ETHNOMEDICINAL FLORA ALONG PIR PANJAL GRADIENT (KASHMIR-HIMALAYAS), AHARBAL KULGAM (J&K UT), INDIA

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Abstract: The present study is a preliminary survey to assess the medicinal flora of Aharbal, Kulgam. The area is located at the foothills of Pir Panjal Mountain Range (North-western Himalayas, India). The survey was carried out from April to July 2021. A total number of 42 plant species having medicinal value were observed, collected and photographed. The identification was done using morphological characters, identification keys, relevant literature and expert suggestions. The collected 42 plant species belong to 29 different families and the highest number of plants were collected belong to the family Asteraceae. The collected specimens are kept in the herbarium of the Department of Botany, School of Life Sciences, Central University of Kashmir, Ganderbal, Jammu & Kashmir, India. The present study is the first documentation of the medicinal flora from the region (Aharbal, Kulgam) and will support in the conservation of the endangered medicinal flora.

Keywords: Aharbal, Ethnomedicine, Himalayas, Kashmir, Kulgam, Medicinal Flora, Survey

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