

SELECTED TRADITIONAL USES OF MEDICINALLY AND ECONOMICALLY IMPORTANT PLANTS GROWN IN KALLARA PANCHAYATH AREA OF THIRUVANANTHAPURAM DISTRICT, KERALA

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ABSTRACT: The plant – based traditional medical system continue to give the most important health care to more than three quarters of the world's population. A significant prerequisite for suitable utilization of raw materials is the survey of its natural resources and the preparation of an inventory. It is necessary that we should have full knowledge regarding the occurrence, percentage, distribution and phenological characters of different plant species for their proper utilization. An ethnobotanical study was conducted in Kallara Panchayath area in Thiruvananthapuram District, Kerala, India. The present study reports information about twenty ethnobotanically important plants belonging to sixteen families and nineteen genera and also through light on certain little known ethnobotanically potentials of therapeutic values employed to cure diseases. In addition to medicinal properties, different other uses are also discussed.

Keywords: *Inventory, occurrence; population; potential, utilization*

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