Ethno-Botanical surveyin Konesapuri, Manganai and Sampalthivu North inTrincomalee

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Identification, documentation and conservation of medicinal plants are the main objectives of this research. An ethno-botanical survey was conducted in Konesapuri, Manganai and Sampalthivu-North areas, which are nearer to the Trincomalee Campus. Medicinal plants were identified with the help of taxonomic characters, photographed and documented. 160 medicinal plants from 55 families were identified. The Family Fabaceae constituted the largest proportion of 13.75% of the plants. Euphorbiaceae ranked second (8.75%) and Cucurbitaceae and Malvaceae ranked third (4.375%). A lesser proportion was recorded from other families such as 3.75% from Labiatae: 3.125% from each Apocynaceae, Asclepiadaceae, Moraceae, Arecaceae, Rutaceae and Solanaceae; 2.5% of from Acanthaceae, Compositae and Rubiaceae; 1.875% from each Amaranthaceae, Convolvulaceae, Gramineae, Oleaceae and Verbenaceae families; 1.25% from each Aizoaceae, Anacardicaeae, Boraginaceae, Capparidaceae, Cleomaceae, Liliaceae, Myrtaceae, Oxalidaceae, Rhamnaceae, Salvadoraceae and Zingiberaceae families. Unidentified plants constituted0.625%. Some of the plants found more often in forest areas were Bauhinia racemosa, Caesalpinia major, Datura metel, Evolvulusalsinoides, Excoecaria agallocha, Strychnosnux-vomica and Zizyphus oenoplia. Through this survey some poisonous plants werealso identified and documented. This information would benefit us to understand the diversity of the plants with medicinal value in those areas and to take proper conservation initiatives to protect them.

Keywords: Ethno botanical, Konesapuri, Conservation, Siddha medicine