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Medicinal Plant Diversity in Selected Regions of Western Ghats Region in Chikmagalore, District, Karnataka.

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The southern states of India possess a more varied flora than any other tract of equal area in India. The diverse vegetation in the Western Ghats region of Chikmagalore harbors medicinal plants of immense value. Investigations were undertaken in these areas to document the medicinal plant diversity. A preliminary survey was made. The habit and habitat of these medicinal plants vary from climbers to tree, scrub jungles to evergreen forests. About 22 species belonging to 17 families were recorded. The information on the medicinal potential of these plants were obtained through local medicinal practitioners. The traditional medicinal practices in the areas of Western Ghats regions of Chikmagalore District are not authentically documented. The present studies, therefore helps in enriching the database of medicinal plants of the region.

Key Words: Medicinal plants, Diversity, Western Ghats.