Vegetational Analysis Of Medicinal Plants Of Bharatpur Block, Dist-koria (Chhattisgarh) India

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ABSTRACT

The State of Chhattisgarh has about 44% of its geographical area covered with forests. The Koria district in Chhattisgarh lies between 22°05’ to 23°04’ North latitudes and 81°33’ to 82°45’ East longitude. The average rainfall is 121.36 cm. The forest area is 81.23% of Total dist. area. The annual mean temperature is 24°C. The temperature varies between 16.2°C to 31°C. Geologically the area is dominated by upper Gondwana rocks. Which are rich in coal deposit. The highest mountain ranges of the region occupy the northern part of the district. The district Koria has a very rich flora exhibiting diversity specially of medicinal plants. There is no comprehensive description of the flora of the district is available. The district has a tribal population using enormous range of plants for their basic needs, sustenance and livelihood. “Keeping these points in view” the Present paper deals with diversity of the medicinal plants of the district and their ecological status. Vegetational analysis of Bharatpur block revealed some interesting observations on phytosociological characters enumerate medicinal plants belonging to Bharatpur block enumerate 80 medicinal plants were recorded. The common plant species showing maximum frequency were Tribulus terrestris (90%), Vicia sativa (80%) and Jatropha curcas, Cleome gynandra and Blumea lacera (70%). At this block, Woodfordia fruticosa, Xanthium strumarium and Pergularia extensa were showing maximum frequency of 80%, 70% and 60% respectively. Woodfordia fruticosa showed high density also.

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Triumfetta rhomboidea showed maximum density and abundance but Bacopa monnieri and Vanda roxburghii showed maximum abundance. It was abstracted that Bacopa monnieri, Costus speciosus, Curculigo orchioides, Curcuma amada and Embelia robusta were the rare species. They exhibited only 20% frequency. Leea macrophylla was also very rare having only 10% frequency and only density of 1. Curculigo orchioides and Pterocarpus marsupium were among the less abundant species at this site.

Key Words: Phytosociology, Bharatpur, vegetation, % frequency

INTRODUCTION

Koria district in Chhattisgarh is very rich in natural vegetation and biological wealth. The district lies between 22°58’ to 23°49’ North latitude and 81°33’ to 82°45’ East longitude and has a forest area of 81.23%. Average rainfall is 121.36 cm. and annual mean temperature is 24°C. The district is dominated by Upper Gondwana rocks which are rich in deposition of coal. The vegetation particularly the forests have not been explored fully excepting a few reports from the forest department (Tiwari, 1992) [13]. There is no report on the rich forest flora of the district. Keeping these points in view the present investigation was planned to enumerate phytosociological analysis of vegetation of medicinal plants belonging to Bharatpur block.

METHODOLOGY

The work required extensive field survey and therefore a thorough and extensive survey of the five blocks of the Koria district of Chhattisgarh was done during the years 2005 to 2008. Bharatpur block included study sites which were widely separated from each other, encompassing an area of 40 km². Study sites were visited of frequent intervals and a thorough sampling was done to document the species diversity. The plant specimens were preserved, identified and a herbarium has been prepared. Identification of medicinal plants species was primarily done by gathering local information regarding availability and utilization of various wild medicinally important plants.

The sampling sites were selected randomly these are Masora, Jardol, Patwahi, Bhagwanpur, Badkadol, Jolgi, Kudra, Hatwari, Ghaghra, Belgawan, Baharsi, Mainpur, Mannod, Khatoli, Umarwah, Titoli, Pandari, Semaria, Rend and Wadhvar. (Fig-1)

The phytosociological characters, such as, % frequency, density and abundance were also recorded as per method described by Mishra (1968). [4]

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

Phytosociological observations on medicinal plants belonging to Bharatpur block enumerated 80 medicinal plants were recorded. The common plant species showing maximum frequency were Tribulus terrestris (90%), Vicia sativa (80%) and Jatropha curcas, Cleome gynandra and Blumea lacera (70%).

At this block, Woodfordia fruticosa, Xanthium strumarium and Pergularia extensa were showing maximum frequency of 80%, 70% and 60% respectively. Woodfordia fruticosa showed high density also. Triumfetta rhomboidea showed maximum density and abundance but Bacopa monnieri and Vanda roxburghii showed maximum abundance.

It was abstracted that Bacopa monnieri, Costus speciosus, Curculigo orchioides, Curcuma amada and Embelia robusta were the rare species. They exhibited only 20% frequency. Leea macrophylla was also very rare having only 10% frequency and only density of 1. Curculigo orchioides and Pterocarpus marsupium were among the less abundant species at this site. (Table -1)

However, the results clearly indicate a high degree of diversity and the community is a tropical dry deciduous type of Sal forest. Presently the medicinal plant diversity was also recorded as very high. There are plant species showing very low population density which draw attention of researchers for conservation. The sampled area requires conservation because of its potential for natural regeneration and utility value as well as varied plant diversity.

Adhikari et al. have analysed the composition, distribution and use pattern of medicinal trees of Uttarakhand State in different eco-regions. They have
### Table 1: Phytosociological observation of medicinal plants of BHARATPUR Block

| S.No. | Botanical Name                | Life form | Frequency | Density | Abundance | Ecological status | Distribution |
|-------|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------|--------------------|--------------|
|       | Adhatoda vasica Nees.        | S         | 40        | 6.2     | 15.5      | Seldom present     | R            |
| 2.    | Adina cordifolia Hook. f.    | T         | 30        | 2.3     | 7.6       | Seldom present     | R            |
| 3.    | Albizia odoratissima Benth.   | S         | 50        | 17.3    | 34.6      | Often present      | R            |
| 4.    | Aristolochia indica L.       | H         | 30        | 3       | 10        | Seldom present     | R            |
| 5.    | Bacopa monnieri L.            | H         | 20        | 23.3    | 116.5     | Rare               | C            |
| 6.    | Barleria prionitis L.         | H         | 50        | 9.8     | 19.6      | Often present      | R            |
| 7.    | Bauhinia purpurea L.          | S         | 40        | 8.5     | 21.25     | Seldom present     | R            |
| 8.    | Boswellia serrata Roxb.       | T         | 40        | 3.5     | 8.75      | Seldom present     | R            |
| 9.    | Bryophyllum calycinum Salis.  | H         | 60        | 40.3    | 67.1      | Often present      | C            |
| 10.   | Cannabis corniculata L.       | S         | 40        | 9.6     | 24        | Seldom present     | R            |
| 11.   | Cassia sophera L.             | S         | 40        | 10.1    | 25.2      | Seldom present     | R            |
| 12.   | Chlorophytum tuberosum Baker. | H         | 20        | 2.2     | 11        | Rare present       | R            |
| 13.   | Clerodendron serratum Spreng. | S         | 30        | 5.3     | 13.2      | Seldom present     | R            |
| 14.   | Costus speciosus Smith        | H         | 20        | 5.9     | 29.5      | Rare               | C            |
| 15.   | Crinum asiaticum L.           | H         | 30        | 2.6     | 8.6       | Seldom present     | R            |
| 16.   | Curculigo orchoides Gaertn.   | H         | 20        | 1.4     | 7         | Rare               | R            |
| 17.   | Curcuma amada Roxb.           | H         | 20        | 5.3     | 26.5      | Rare               | C            |
| 18.   | Curcuma aromatica Salisb.     | H         | 50        | 43.3    | 86.6      | Often present      | C            |
| 19.   | Cymbopogon flexuosus Hack.    | S         | 20        | 2.8     | 14        | Rare               | R            |
| No. | Species                          | Habit | Growth | Height | Presence   | Status |
|-----|---------------------------------|-------|--------|--------|------------|--------|
| 20  | *Cymbopogon martini* Stapf.     | H     | 50     | 68     | 136        | Often present |
| 21  | *Cyperus rotundus* L.           | H     | 40     | 42.9   | 107.2      | Seldom present |
| 22  | *Cyperus scariosus* Br.         | H     | 50     | 51.4   | 102.8      | Often present |
| 23  | *Dodonaea viscosa* L.           | H     | 60     | 42.1   | 70.16      | Often present |
| 24  | *Dryopteris crenata* Christ.    | H     | 20     | 17     | 8.5        | Rare |
| 25  | *Embelia robusta* Roxb.         | S     | 20     | 2.1    | 10.5       | Rare |
| 26  | *Erythrina indica* Lamk.        | T     | 40     | 6.7    | 16.7       | Seldom present |
| 27  | *Eulophia campestris* Wall.     | H     | 30     | 3.3    | 11         | Seldom present |
| 28  | *Euphorbia tirucalli* L.        | S     | 50     | 17.5   | 35         | Often present |
| 29  | *Ficus hispida* L.              | T     | 50     | 4.2    | 8.4        | Often present |
| 30  | *Flemingia nana* Roxb.          | H     | 50     | 11.5   | 23         | Often present |
| 31  | *Gloriosa superba* L.           | S     | 30     | 2.6    | 8.66       | Seldom present |
| 32  | *Glossogynepinnatifida* DC      | H     | 30     | 3.7    | 12.33      | Seldom present |
| 33  | *Grevillea robusta* A. Cunn.    | T     | 30     | 5.5    | 18.33      | Seldom present |
| 34  | *Grewia hirsuta* Vanb.          | S     | 20     | 2.9    | 14.5       | Rare |
| 35  | *Holoptelea integrifolia* Planch.| T   | 30     | 3.2    | 10.66      | Seldom present |
| 36  | *Holarrhena antidysenterica* Wall.| T | 30     | 7.5    | 25         | Seldom present |
| 37  | *Jatropha gossypifolia* L.      | S     | 60     | 28     | 46.6       | Often present |
| 38  | *Jussiaea suffruticosa* L.      | H     | 40     | 38.7   | 96.7       | Seldom present |
| 39  | *Lasiosiphon eriocephalus* Decne | H     | 20     | 0.8    | 4          | Rare |
| 40  | *Lawsonia inermis* L.           | S     | 50     | 51.1   | 102.2      | Often present |
|   | Species                  |   |   |   |   |
|---|--------------------------|---|---|---|---|
|41.| *Leea macrophylla* Horn. | S | 10 | 01 | 10 | Rare |
|42.| *Lepidium sativum* L.    | S | 30 | 7.5 | 25 | Often present | R |
|43.| *Leucas cephalotes* Spreng. | S | 50 | 18.7 | 37.4 | Often present | R |
|44.| *Martynia diandra* Glox. | S | 60 | 9.5 | 15.83 | Often present | R |
|45.| *Mimusops hexandra* Roxb. | T | 20 | 2.7 | 13.5 | Rare | R |
|46.| *Ocimum basilicum* L.    | H | 50 | 22 | 44 | Often present | R |
|47.| *Ougeinia dalbergioides* Benth. | T | 40 | 10.5 | 26.25 | Seldom present | R |
|48.| *Oxalis corniculata* L.  | H | 60 | 21.9 | 36.5 | Often present | R |
|49.| *Oxystelma esculentum* Br. | H | 30 | 9.5 | 31.66 | Seldom present | C |
|50.| *Paederia foetida* L.    | S | 50 | 12.7 | 25.4 | Often present | R |
|51.| *Pandanus odoratissimus* Roxb. | S | 30 | 3.5 | 11.66 | Seldom present | R |
|52.| *Passiflora incarnata* L. | C | 30 | 2.3 | 7.66 | Seldom present | R |
|53.| *Pergularia extensa* N.E.Br. | C | 60 | 14.2 | 23.6 | Often present | R |
|54.| *Phyllanthus niruri* L.   | H | 50 | 21.3 | 42.6 | Often present | R |
|55.| *Pluchea lanceolata* Oliver & Hierno. | S | 40 | 5.1 | 12.75 | Seldom present | R |
|56.| *Pongamia pinnata* Pierre. | T | 40 | 3.4 | 8.5 | Seldom present | R |
|57.| *Premna integrifolia* L. | T | 50 | 8.5 | 17 | Often present | R |
|58.| *Prosopis spicigera* L.  | T | 20 | 0.9 | 9 | Rare | R |
|59.| *Psoralea corylifolia* DC | H | 50 | 8.3 | 16.6 | Often present | R |
|60.| *Pterocarpus marsupium* Roxb. | T | 30 | 2.2 | 7.33 | Seldom present | R |
|61.| *Pueraria tuberosa* DC   | C | 30 | 3.3 | 11 | Seldom present | R |
|   | Species                                | Habit | Growth | Yield | Value | Presence   | Status |
|---|----------------------------------------|-------|--------|-------|-------|------------|--------|
| 62. | *Rauwolfia tetraphylla* L.             | S     | 20     | 3.5   | 17.5  | Rare       | R      |
| 63. | *Schleichera trijuga* Willd.           | T     | 40     | 5     | 12.5  | Seldom present | R    |
| 64. | *Shorea robusta* Gaertn.               | T     | 90     | 95.9  | 106.5 | Constantly present | C   |
| 65. | *Solanum indicum* L.                   | S     | 30     | 6.4   | 21.33 | Seldom present | R    |
| 66. | *Spilanthes acmella* L.                | H     | 20     | 4.8   | 24    | Rare       | C      |
| 67. | *Stevia rebaudiana* Bertoni.           | H     | 50     | 28    | 56    | Often present | C    |
| 68. | *Terminalia belerica* Roxb.            | T     | 40     | 6.5   | 16.25 | Seldom present | R    |
| 69. | *Terminalia tomentosa* W.&A.           | T     | 60     | 6.8   | 11.33 | Often present | R    |
| 70. | *Tribulus terrestris* L.               | H     | 30     | 26.4  | 88    | Seldom present | C    |
| 71. | *Triumfetta rhomboidea* Jacq.          | H     | 40     | 56.5  | 141.2 | Seldom present | C    |
| 72. | *Urginea indica* Kunth.                | H     | 60     | 47.7  | 79.5  | Often present | C    |
| 73. | *Vanda roxburghii* L.                  | H     | 40     | 45.4  | 113.5 | Seldom present | C    |
| 74. | *Vernonia anthelminticum* Willd.       | H     | 50     | 45.7  | 91.4  | Often present | C    |
| 75. | *Vernonia cinerea* Less.               | H     | 40     | 9.3   | 23.25 | Seldom present | R    |
| 76. | *Vicia sativa* L.                      | C     | 50     | 28.9  | 57.8  | Often present | C    |
| 77. | *Vitex negundo* L.                     | T     | 40     | 4.5   | 11.2  | Seldom present | C    |
| 78. | *Wedelia calendulacea* Less.           | H     | 50     | 13.5  | 27    | Often present | R    |
| 79. | *Woodfordia fruticosa* Kurz.           | S     | 80     | 59.3  | 74.12 | Mostly present | R    |
| 80. | *Xanthium strumarium* L.               | H     | 70     | 28.5  | 40.71 | Mostly present | R    |
concluded that 86%, 32%, 11%, 5% and 2% species are present in different regions. Out of these, 128 species are exclusively sub-tropical. [1] Suraj and Menon have enumerated phytosociological analysis of woody vegetation along an altitudinal gradation in Ponmudi hill, Trichur district, Kerala. They carried out vegetation analysis to study the density, basal area, I.V.I., dominance, diversity index and distribution pattern of species along an altitudinal gradation in Ponmudi hill of Thrissur forest division in Kerala.

[7] Negi et al. have enumerated phytosociological studies of a traditional reserve forest, Thal Ke Dhar, Pithoragarh, Central Himalayas (India). They have documented phytosociological study in Thal Ke Dhar Sacred forest to understand the structure, regeneration potential and conservation status. [5] Awasthi et al. have studied floral diversity of Bandhavgarh National Park with a phytosociological approach. They explored the value of wildlife habitats for wildlife species which is directly linked to the type and variety of plant communities and their conditions. [2] Sahu S.C. et al. carried out in tropical dry deciduous forest of Boudh district, Orissa. They inventoried a total of 187 species (trees 91, shrubs 10, climbers 12 and herbs 74) with in a four hectare sampled area. [8] Suresh et al. have enumerated 67 species from disturbed area of Thalipirai hills and 72 species from undisturbed area of Sundaramahalingan hills under Grizzled Giant Squirrel Wildlife sanctuary forest of Virudhunagar district. They have reported 51 families from the two sites with 125 genera and 139 species. [9] Thakur et al. have reported Tectona grandis as dominant tree species in forest vegetation of Sagar district on the basis of I.V.I. Record of more phytosociological analysis on vegetation of different regions have also been reported and in all these studies emphasis has been given to vegetation as a whole. In present study, analysis has been done especially emphasizing medicinal plants. [12]

Bijalwan et al. have done phytosociological analysis of overstorey and understorey woody perennials along with aspects in Balandi watershed of mixed dry tropical forest in Chhattisgarh plain. They concluded that aspect plays an important role in the structure and dominance in the phytodiversity. [3]

Pokhariyal et al. have analysed the comparative studies on species richness, diversity and composition of Anogeissus latifolius mixed forest in Phakot and Pathari Rao watersheds of Garhwal Himalayas. They have compared the tree species richness in the two watersheds and revealed that distribution and species richness pattern in Phakot and Pathari Rao watersheds were more or less similar. A total of 87 spp. were recorded. [6]

Shameem et al. have studied to investigate the comparative assessment of edaphic factors and phytodiversity of herbaceous vegetation on seasonal basis spring (March to May), summer (June to August), autumn (September to November) and winter (December to February), at two different ecosystems in lower Dachigam National Park, Kashmir Himalaya. Phytosociological attributes of plant species were studied by randomly laying 25 quadrats of 1×1 m² size at both sites. The vegetation data recorded was quantitatively analysed for density, frequency and abundance. Plant diversity was evaluated using different diversity indices. [10]

Shaheen Hamayun et al. have studied that Hindukush Himalayas (HKH) is one of the world’s richest biodiversity region hosting 4 global biodiversity hotspots, 60 ecoregions and 488 protected areas. The important endemic taxa Current study was undertaken to get information about alpine vegetation structure and community distribution in Karambar lake surroundings, North Pakistan at 4200 m.a.s.l. A total of 108 plant species belonging to 27 families were recorded. [11]

CONCLUSION

The result in the present study clearly show that the flora is very rich floristically which may be attributed to its varied topography and variation in climatic conditions. Species showing high frequency and low abundance were attributed to a status of Regular distribution and species showing low frequency and high abundance were attributed to a status of showing contagious distribution.

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