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Traditional medical plants used for Piles and Fistula by Tribes of Mahur Taluka of Nanded District, Maharashtra, India.

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Abstract
An ethno-botanical survey was undertaken to collect information on the use of medicinal plants for the treatment of Piles and Fistula by tribal communities of Mahur Taluka of Nanded District, Maharashtra. In the present Information on 44 plant species used especially for the treatment of Piles and Fistula, as the traditional herbal remedies are based on ancestral knowledge and empiric experiences. It has also been observed that most of the plants are common except few vulnerable species like, *Aegle marmelos, Boswellia serrata* Roxb., *Dioscorea bulbifera L., Gloriosa superba L., Hemidesmus indicus* (L.) R.Br. *and Vitex negundo L.* etc. within the study area. The rural and tribal communities still continue to depend on medicinal plants, this wealth of traditional knowledge needs to be collected and preserved which may help to understand remedial plant metabolites for development of novel herbal medicines and for the betterment of the mankind.

Keywords: Traditional medicinal plants, for Piles and Fistula, by tribes of Mahur taluka, Nanded district, Maharashtra

Introduction
Traditional medicine is currently the fastest growing medical field with herbal therapies becoming increasingly popular. Traditional medicine is considered more holistic, acceptable, accessible and low cost and proven to be safe & that is why preferred by local people (Gessler 1995; Malunga N.P. et.al 2008). The tribal's live and rely on plants and plant products and using traditional medicine system for centuries. The traditional medicinal practices are an important part of the primary health care system in developing world (Ghosh A. 2003). Piles and Fistula are amount to as high as all occupational diseases. Keeping this in mind we explored the knowledge available with native people/ traditional healers from Mahur Taluka, Dist. Nanded India, to cure Piles and Fistula.
Mahur taluka is located in northern part of Nanded district. It is bounded North by Yavatmal district, South by Kinwat taluka of Nanded district, East part by Adilabad district of Telangana and West by Pusad taluka of Yavatmal district of Vidarbha region. Mahur taluka is a thick forested area of Nanded District. The main river is Penganga which flows from the South to North direction. Geographically the Mahur taluka is situated between $19^0$49`to$19^0$83` North latitude and 77^0 91` to $77^0$55` East longitude. The main river is Penganga which flows from the South to North direction.

Forest
The total geographical area of Mahur Taluka is 52160 hectares of which 14397.39 hectares i.e. 28% area covered with forest and 37762.61 hectares are non-forested area.

Forest dwellers
As per the tribal research and training institute of Maharashtra, Census dated 29-04-2008, the total villages in Mahur taluka are 93, total population of the Taluka is 86, 782, Tribal population is 13,455 and percentage of tribal population is 16% which is inhabitated by tribal population of aborigines like Andh, Kolam, Gond, Naikede and Pradhan.

Methodology
For documentation of ethno-botanical information and collection of plant material, several tours were undertaken during the period from January 2014-November 2016. Data presented

here is based on personal observations and interviews with traditional healers (Viz. medicine men, hakims and old aged people with knowledge of folklore medicines) and methodology used is based on the methods available in literature (Jain 1989, Jain and Mudgal 1999). Gathered ethnobotanical information on Piles and Fistula was documented in data sheets prepared which is summarized in Table No.1. For collection of plant materials local informers accompanied with author. Plant identification was carried out by using local flora and flora of adjoining districts. Plants used in Piles and Fistula were compared with published literature (Kirtikar & Basu 1933, Chopra *et. al.* 1956 & 1969, Anonymous 1948-1976, Ambasta1992, Asolkar *et.al.* 1992, Jain 1991, Jain 1996, Jain 1999, Naik 1998 & 2006, Kapur 2001, Pradhan *et. al*. 2005, Prashant Kumar and Vidyasagar 2008, Sharma & Singh 2001, Madhav Chetty *et.al.*, 2013 and Almeida S.M. & Almeida M.R. 2014). And voucher specimens are deposited at Department of Botany, Baliram patil Arts, Commerce and Science Collage, Kinwat, District, Nanded, Maharashtra, India. The correct botanical name of the plant, local name, family, part used and the plants species are arranged alphabetically in Table No. 1.

Results and Discussion

Information on 44 plant species used especially for the treatment of Piles and Fistula by tribal communities of Mahur Taluka of Nanded District, Maharashtra, it reveals utilization of flowering plants belongings to 40 genera comprising of 33 families, out of these 39 families are of dicotyledons, 05 of monocotyledons. The 44 species are distributed habit wise as 19 trees, 05 shrubs, 13 herbs and 07 climbers. Among reported applications using leaf 10, whole plant 09, fruit 07, bark 05, root 05, tuber and gum each 02, seed, root & leaf, leaf & fruit and flower each 01., it is shown in Table No. 1 These crude drugs were used as decoction or infusion of whole plants, leaf, bark, flower, fruit and seeds are used internally, as the traditional herbal remedies are based on ancestral knowledge and empiric experiences. They had been cross checked by literature previously reported for Piles and Fistula. Further extensive Ethnobotanical and Ethno-pharmacological study may lead to the exploitation of plants and compounds for Piles and Fistula.

Table 1: List of medicinal plants used for Piles and Fistula

Sr.No.	Botanical name	Family	Local name	Part use
1	*Abutilon indicum* (Link) Sweet.	Malvaceae	Kanghi	Root and Leaf
2	*Acacia nilotica* (L.) Willd. ex Del. ssp indica (Benth.) Brenan	Mimosaceae	Babhul	Gum
3	*Achyranthus aspera L.*	Amaranthaceae	Aghada	Whole Plant
4	*Aegle marmelos* (L.) Corr.	Rutaceae	Bel	Whole Plant
5	*Ageratum conyzoides L.*	Asteraceae	Sahadeveli	Leaf
6	*Ailanthus excelsa* Roxb.	Simaroubarceae	Maharuk	Fruit
7	*Aloe vera* (L.) Burm.f.	Liliaceae	Korphad	Leaf
8	*Andrographis paniculata* (Burm.f.) *Wall ex Nees.*	Acanthaceae	Bhui-neem	Leaf
9	*Anogeissus latifolia* (Roxb.ex.Dc.) Wall. Ex. Guill & Perr.	Combretaceae	Dhawanda	Whole Plant
10	*Azadirachta indica* A. Juss.	Meliaceae	Neem	Leaf and Fruit
11	*Boswellia serrata* Triana & Planch.	Burseraceae	Salai	Gum
12	*Butea monosperma* Lamk. Taub.	Fabaceae	Palas	Bark
13	*Butea superba* Roxb.	Fabaceae	Palas-vel	Leaf
14	*Citrus medica L.*	Rutaceae	Mahalumbu	Fruit
15	*Cleome viscosa L.*	Capparidaceae	Pivli tilwan	Seed
16	*Cordia gharaf* (Forsskl) Ehrenb.ex. Asch.	Ehretiaceae	Gondani	Fruit
17	*Curculigo orchioides* Gaertn.	Hipoxydaceae	Kali-musali	Root
18	*Daucus carota L.*	Brassicaceae	Ganjar	Whole Plant
19	*Dioscorea bulbifera L.*	Dioscoreaceae	Dukkar Kand	Tuber
20	*Ficus benghalensis L.*	Moraceae	Vad	Bark
21	*Ficus racemosa L.*	Moraceae	Umbar	Leaf
22	*Ficus religiosa L.*	Moraceae	Pimpal	Bark
23	*Gloriosa superba L.*	Colchicaceae	Kal-lavi	Tuber
24	*Hibiscus rosa-sinensis L.*	Malvaceae	Jaswand	Leaf
25	*Hemidesmus indicus (L.) R.Br.*	Apocynaceae	Khobarvel	Leaf
26	*Ipomoea quamoclit L.*	Convolvulaceae	Nalyachi Bhaji	Whole Plant
27	*Leucas aspera (Willd.) Link.*	Lamiaceae	Kumbha	Leaf
30	*Madhuca longifolia (J.Konig) J.F.Macbr. (J.Konia) Maebr.*	Sapotaceae	Moha	Flower
28	*Mangifera indica L.*	Anacardiaceae	Amba	Bark
29	*Mimosa pudica L.*	Mimosaceae	Lajalu	Leaf
31	*Nelumbo nucifera Gaertn.*	Nelumbonaceae	Kamal	Whole Plant
32	*Ocimum bassilicum L.*	Lamiaceae	Sabja	Leaf
33	*Plumbago zeylanica L.*	Plumbaginaceae	Chitrak	Root
34	*Rotula aquatic Lour.*	Boraginaceae	Machim	Root
35	*Solanum nigrum L.*	Solanaceae	Kamanchi	Whole Plant
36	*Syzygium cumini (L.)*	Myrtaceae	Jambhul	Fruit
37	*Tectona grandis L.f.*	Lamiaceae	Sag	Bark
38	*Terminalia bellirica (Gaertn.) Roxb.*	Combretaceae	Behda	Fruit
39	*Terminalia chebula Retz.*	Combretaceae	Hirda	Fruit
40	*Terminalia cuneata Roth.*	Combretaceae	Arjuna	Fruit

41	*Tinospora cordifolia (Thunb.) Miers.*	Menispermaceae	Gul-vel	Root
42	*Urena lobata L.*	Malvaceae	Atibala	Whole Plant
43	*Vernonia cinerea (L.) Less.*	Asteraceae	Sahadevi	Whole Plant
44	*Vitex negundo L.*	Lamiaceae	Nirgudi	Root

Conclusion

During the present study it has been observed that most of the plants are common except few vulnerable species like, *Aegle marmelos, Boswellia serrata* Roxb., *Dioscorea bulbifera L., Gloriosa superba L., Hemidesmus indicus* (L.) R.Br. *and Vitex negundo L.* etc. etc. within the study area. Although root, bark, stem, leaves and whole plant is used but leaf is the commonest part used in the treatment. Majority of the preparations are used internally in his form of infusion or decoction. The detailed information regarding the therapeutic application of different plants of 44 plant species were obtained and their role in curing Piles and Fistula and mode of administration by tribal healers, priests and ordinary villagers were compared with available literature in different regions of India and abroad on medicinal plants. It was found that many of the uses listed are not recorded earlier. It provides deeper insight into the indigenous method of applications and effectiveness of the plant derivatives in treating different ailments of the liver disorders.

Further pharmacological and clinical studies on these plants may provide effective natural medicines for various liver disorders and it will also be useful to determine in the bioprospecting potential of these plants.

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