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Indigenous knowledge of the use of medicinal plants in Bheri, Muzaffarabad, Azad Kashmir, Pakistan

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Abstract

Introduction: Indigenous knowledge of medicinal plants can provide information on phytotherapeutic activity for the treatment of disease. The aim of this study was to document and quantify traditional knowledge on the ethnic use of medicinal plants for the treatment of various human diseases by the communities living in Bheri, Muzaffarabad (Pakistan).

Methods: Ethno botanical data were collected from ethnic communities using semi-structured interviews. Data was analyzed using informant consensus factor (ICF), fidelity level (FL) and medicinal use value (MUV). Moreover, indigenous plant uses were compared with reported phytochemical constituents and their pharmacological properties.

Results: During the survey 80 medicinal plant species used to treat various human ailments were documented. These belonged to 43 families and 69 genera. The plant species identified suggested

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