Some Important Fibre Yielding Plants of Karauli (Rajasthan)

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Abstract

The present paper dealt with 32 plant species belonging to 16 families which are source of natural fibre yielding plants and used by natives of Karauli district. Surveys were conducted in the study area during the year 2014 to 2015. The data were collected by interviews, observations and participation.

KEY WORDS: Fibre**,** Natural, Natives, Interviews

INTRODUCTION

The state of Rajasthan comprises 33 districts. Karauli is relatively a new disrict designated only in 19 July 1997. The district is bounded on the north by Alwar and Bharatpur, on the south west by Tonk and North West by Jaipur.

The general climatic condition of the area is dry, except a short duration of rainy season. December to February is cold season, March to June summer, July to September rainy season and October to November is autumn season.

The average annual rainfall of the study area is 686mm. The average max. and min.temperatures remain 41° and 25° respectively. The study area comprises of hill slopes, ridges, valleys, rocky plateau, cliffs gorges ravines as important physical features.

Research work has been done on "Floristic and ethno botanical studies on Sawai Madhopur district" (Das 1990) and "Ethnobotanical and phytochemical studies of plants of Sawai Madahopur Tehsil " Baghel 2002). Research papers entitled, "A study on the ethnobotany of Karauli and Sawai Madhopur district" (Das 1997), "Ethnomedicinal plants of Karauli district" (Meena *et al.* 2003), "Folk herbal medicines used by the Meena community in Rajasthan" (Meena & Rao 2010) , "Traditional uses of plants as cooling agents by the tribal and traditional communities of Dang region in Rajasthan, India " (Sharma & Khandelwal, 2010 a), "Ethnobotanical studies in Rajasthan " (Jain & Jain 2012), "Weeds of Rajasthan and their ethnobotanical importance" (Sharma & Khandelwal 2010 b) and "Fibre yielding plants of Rajasthan" (Singh & Singh 1982) have been published .

METHODOLOGY

Regular field surveys were carried in the study area interior during 2014- 2015 using questionnaire cards. Generally two types of interviews were taken, firstly of individuals and secondly of groups. About 355 data-sheets were prepared from the findings made during study period. Herbarium

specimens were prepared, preserved and identified with help of Flora of Indian Desert (Bhandari 1990), Flora of Rajasthan- vol.1-3 (Shetty & Singh 1987-93), Flora of North-East Rajasthan (Sharma & Tiagi 1979) and BSI (Botanical Survey of India), Jodhpur. Specimens were collected and deposited in the herbaria of University of Rajasthan (RUBL), Jaipur.

FIBRE YIELDING PLANTS

Table 1: List of Fibre Yielding Plants

S. No.	Species	Family	Local Name	Plant Part	Rubl No.
1.	*Abelmoschus esculentus* (L.) Moench	Malvaceae	Bhindi	Stem bark	SNC
2.	*Abelmoschus ficulneus* (L.) Wt. & Arn.	Malvaceae	Raan Bhindi	Stem bark	SNC
3.	*Abelmoschus manihot* (L.) Med.	Malvaceae	Raan Bhindi	Stem bark	SNC
4.	*Abelmoschus moschatus* (L.) Med.	Malvaceae	Jangli Bhindi	Stem bark	SNC
5.	*Abutilon indicum* (L.) Sweet	Malvaceae	Kanghi	Stem bark	20011
6.	*Acacia leucophloea* (Roxb.) Willd.	Mimosaceae	Remja	Root	19508
7.	*Acacia nilotica* (L.)	Mimosaceae	Bamoor	Root	19506
8.	*Acacia senegal* (L.) Willd.	Mimosaceae	Dholo khair	Stem bark	19979
9.	*Agave americana* L.	Agavaceae	Gul bans	Leaf	SNC
10.	*Alhagi maurorum* Medic.	Fabaceae	Jawasa	Stem	SNC
11.	*Azadirachta indica* A. Juss.	Meliaceae	Neem	Root	SNC
12.	*Bauhinia racemosa* Lam.	Caesalpiniaceae	Sainta	Stem bark	19470
13.	*Bombax ceiba* L.	Bombacaceae	Semar	Fruit	19985
14.	*Butea monosperma*(Lam.) Tuab.	Fabaceae	Chheela	Stem bark and root	19984
15.	*Calotropis procera* (Ait.) Ait.f.	Asclepiadaceae	Aankota	Stem bark,	SNC

				root and fruit	
16.	*Cocculus hirsutus* (L.) Diels.	Menispermaceae	Jaljamni	Stem	19969
17.	*Cocculus pendulus* (J.R. & G. Forst.) Diels.	Menisrermaceae	Jaljamni	Stem	19563
18..	*Corchorus olitorius* L.	Tiliaceae	Chamghas	Stem	SNC
19..	*Cordia dichotoma* Forst. f.	Cordiaceae	Lisora	Root	20005
20.	*Desmostachya bipinnata* (L.) Stapf	Poaceae	Dab	Leaf	20008
21.	*Grewia tenax* (Forsk.) Fiori	Tiliaceae	Chabeni	Root	SNC
22.	*Holoptelia integrifolia* (Roxb.) Planch.	Ulmaceae	Churel	Stem bark And root	20078
23.	*Imperata cylindrica* (L.) Raeuschel.	Poaceae	Kans	Leaf	SNC
24.	*Leptadenia pyrotechnica* (Forsk.) Decne.	Asclepiadaceae	Kheemp	Stem	20072
25.	*Prosopis cineraria* (L.) Druce	Mimosaceae	Chhonkar	Root	20019
26.	*Rivea hypocreteriformis* (Desr.) Choisy	Convolvulaceae	Phang	Stem	20040
27.	*Saccharum bengalense* Retz.	Poaceae	Moonj	Leaf and culm	SNC
28.	*Saccharum spontaneum* L.	Poaceae	Kans	Leaf and culm	SNC
29.	*Sesbania sesban* (L.) Merrill	Fabaceae	Dhandon	Stem	SNC
30.	*Triumfetta rhomboidea* Jacq.	Malvaceae	Burr	Stem	SNC
31.	*Typha angustata* Bory & Chaub	Typhaceae	Patera	Leaf	19399
32.	*Ziziphus nummularia* (Burm. f.) Wight & Arn.	Rhamnaceae	Jhad	Root	20038

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The natives of study area use natural fibre due to availability of various plant species and poverty. It was observed that educated people had less knowledge than that of uneducated people.

The fibre are mainly used for making ropes , strings, cordage, fishing nets, thatch, brooms, brushes, baskets, mats, filling and other weaving materials. They used 32 plants species belonging to 16 families to obtain natural fibre. Among these stem, stem bark, leaves, fruits and roots are used for fibre. The strongest fibre obtained from the roots of *Butea monosperm*.

Fibre obtained from the fruits of the *Bombax ceiba* and *Calotropis procera* are used to fill the mattress and pillows which are used by the natives of the area to get relief from headach. Among 16 families mostly fibre yielding plants belong to Malvaceae, Fabaceae and Poaceae.

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