

**Ethnobotany of medicinal plants of Morgah and Kotha Kalan areas of Potohar region of Pakistan.** (Oral Presentation)

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**Introduction**

Potohar is a famous historical region situated in the north of Punjab province of Pakistan. It has rich diversity of medicinal plants which are widely being used from centuries. Morgah and Kotha Kalan were the two main areas in which ethnobotanical study regarding medicinal plants was conducted from April to June 2005.

**Objectives**

The main objectives were to collect data regarding utilization of medicinal plants by local people of that area, to observe the preference of local people for medicinal plants over allopathic, or homeopathic medicines, role of women in preserving indigenous knowledge and to observe the conservation status of commonly utilized medicinal plants of the area.

**Methods**

Primary as well as secondary data was collected through surveys, questionnaires, interviews, observations and field visits. Random sampling was done, sample consisted of 70 people who were mostly the Hakims (specialists prescribing medicinal plants for different disease cure) and the housewives as they were found to be more aware of the usage of medicinal plants. Herbarium specimens were also prepared containing ethnobotanical labels.

**Results**

The area studied was semi urbanized, cemented as well as mud houses were there, mostly people were uneducated (not having formal degrees and diplomas). It was found that upper class of the area relied more on allopathic medicines while the middle and lower class of people in the studied area had strong belief on herbal treatments, especially the housewives were growing few medicinal plants especially for stomach and throat ailments in their homes.

**Conclusion**

About 68 plant species belonging to 39 families were found to be in utilization by local people of that area.

**Keywords:** None

**Selected References**

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