



## Ethnobotanical Survey of Medicinal Plants Used By the Lushai Community in Bandarban District, Bangladesh

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### ABSTRACT

Over the years, ethnobotanical survey has progressed and contributed with knowledge about the use of plants by indigenous communities. In fact the conservation of biomes and use of plant species in medical, pharmaceutical and biotechnological areas depend on the important indigenous information. The Lushai indigenous community living in the Bandarban hill-tracts of Bangladesh has long been an admiration of utilizes plants around them in various purposes and they depend on surrounding vegetation in their daily life. However, there was no effort to document their indigenous knowledge. For the first time ethnobotanical survey is carried out on the utilization of medicinal plants by Lushai community living in Bandarban district. The information had been documented by interviewing traditional herbalists, various elderly men and women following different ethnobotanical methods. All the plants were listed along with their scientific name, lushai name, local name, habit, family, used parts, illness treated, mode of preparation and mode of application. A total of 82 plant species in 72 genera under 44 families have been identified which are used to treat 27 different ailments by the traditional healers. Euphorbiaceae and Zingiberaceae were the most frequently used family in context to the number of species by the Lushai Community. Leaves were found as the most common used plant parts for folk medicine formulation.

**Keyword:** *Ethnobotanical survey, Lushai community, Bandarban district, Bangladesh.*

### INTRODUCTION

The interaction between plants and people is studied in ethnobotany, a field centering on the indigenous knowledge on how the plants are used and managed for the benefits of mankind [1–4]. Specially medicinal use of plants are being popular for healing from different types of diseases [5–10] since 2500 years ago [7]. The traditional uses of those medicinal plants in health-care practices among the rural communities provide the basis for natural drug discovery development (e.g. [6, 9, 11, 12]). According to the World Health Organization (WHO), about 4 billion people in developing countries not only believe in the healing properties of plant species but also use them habitually [13]. With the modern civilization, traditional knowledge about medicinal plants turns such an increasingly fragmented knowledge, interrupted knowledge transmission from generation to generation [14, 15]. Contrast of South Asia, Bangladesh has very less effort to document the indigenous knowledge about medicinal use of plants [16–32]. Although there is an affluent ethnic tradition in terms of traditional medicinal practices in Bangladesh, Lushai ethnic community of Bandarban is one of them. There are very few numbers of dedicated ethnobotanical studies in Bandarban have been published so far [20, 21, 23, 28, 29, 31, 32].

Still Lushai community in Bandarban district remains untouched for the ethnobotanical study. Therefore, an ethnobotanical survey of medicinal plants used by the traditional health practitioners (THPs) of Lushai community in Bandarban, a remote area of Chittagong Hill Tracts was conducted in order to conserve the information regarding traditional uses of medicinal plants. Herein we present our findings in details.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was conducted in Bandarban district of Chittagong Hill Tract (CHT) with an area of 4,502 sq. km. It is situated in the southeast of Bangladesh and located between 21°48'N and 92°24'E [23]. Bangladesh has been gifted with a rich plant diversity base because of its heterogeneous ecologic condition such as fertile alluvial land, warm and humid climate. There are about 6000 species of indigenous and naturalized plants growing in the country [33]. According to Mia [34] more than 1000 of these plants species in Bangladesh contains medicinally active chemical substances. Compare to any other areas in Bangladesh, Bandarban is one of the richest areas in terms of flora [33].

The success of ethnobotanical documentation depends on the cooperative relationship between the researcher and local informants. It is very important to locate knowledgeable

informants for the study of ethnobotany [35]. Techniques and tools of this survey were compatible with actual aims, variable field conditions and theoretical approach of the study [36]. Documentation has been made by taking random interviews of the traditional health practitioners, elderly men and women. The documentation data sheet has been prepared based on Alcorn [37], Jain [38], Martin [39] and Cotton [2]. In field interview technique, the informants accompany with the authors and data had been collected during the field work. To obtain medicinal plant use information, plant interview technique had been used in the maximum cases, because the informants were sometime too busy or don't think himself fit to accompany the authors in the field. Fresh plant samples were collected and brought to the informants. The informants identified some of the plants and describe their uses. This method is less time consuming than field interviews and the plant interview allows more informants to be included in a given period of time [40]. By adopting open-ended and semi-structured question technique were chosen for the interview process, then noted and recorded with a digital voice recorder. The reliability of information on each plant was confirmed through repeated interviews.

All voucher specimens preserved in the Chittagong University Herbarium (CTGUH) which were used for this study. Specimens were identified using several literatures and guides [41–51]. Taxonomic hierarchy of identified plants were arranged according to Cronquist [52]. All enlisted scientific names presented here verified by the world's updated database of "The Plant List (www.theplantlist.org)" [53].

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Plant species belonged to 72 genera and 82 species in 44 families were being used by most of the local people of Lushai community for the treatment of common diseases. The doses were prepared by using leaf, root, fruit, stem, bark, extracts and other parts of the plant. Scientific names arranged alphabetically, followed by lushai names, local names, habit, family, parts used, illness treated, mode of preparation and mode of application listed in Table 1. From the earlier times this indigenous people made use of plants for their basic needs, medicare and livelihood. Some plants used by people are cultivated while others grow in wild conditions.

According to life form (plant habit), the number of plant species were 36% herbs, 18% shrubs, 34% trees, and 12% climbers respectively (Fig. 1). Euphorbiaceae and Zingiberaceae were the most frequently used families in context to the number of species by the Lushai community. The other important families are Caesalpiniaceae, Liliaceae, Amaranthaceae, Cucurbitaceae, Fabaceae, Malvaceae, Mimosaceae, Rutaceae and Solanaceae respectively (Fig. 2). Among these 82 plant species belongs to 65 dicots and 16 monocots and 1 to fern.

Leaves were most common utilized plant parts for the preparation of folk medicine which is 26.04%, then fruit 23.96%, root 11.46%, rhizome 8.33%, bark 8.33%, seed 6.25%, stem 5.21%, bulb 3.13%, whole plant 3.13%, flower 2.08% and tuber 2.08% respectively (Fig. 3). We found that bulb, rhizome, root and the whole plant had been used in formulation of folk medicine is 26.05% for the cure of diseases. These are the destructive ways of using plants because it needs

to eradicate or abolish the whole plant. Moreover, the aerial parts of the plant (leaf, flower, fruit, and seed) can be used without eradicating the plant. For this, it is an outstanding way to conserve them.

The studied ethno-medicinal plant species had been used to treat various diseases (Fig. 4) like dysentery, diarrhoea, worm, cough, cold, jaundice, irregular menstruation, tonsillitis, cuts and fever. The 20.16% of total plant species were used to treat dysentery, 13.95% species for diarrhoea, 12.40-0.78% for other diseases. The most commonly mode of preparation of folk-medicines were decoction, paste, juice, extract and infusion etc. (Fig. 5).

Both external and internal methods of practice of folk-medicine have been recommended. Medicines administered orally were those claimed to be used mainly for treating diarrhoea, dysentery, cough, cold, fever, jaundice and irregular menstruation. On the other hand, medicines recommended to be applied externally included mainly for treating skin disease, cuts, wounds, inflammation, swelling, tonsillitis and eye disease. The internal use of folk-medicine is 75% whereas the external use is 25%.

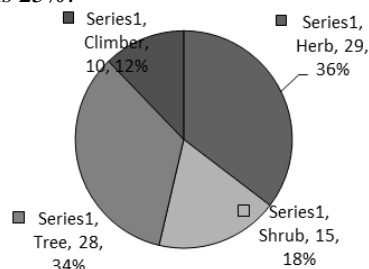


Fig. 1: Percentage of life form (plant habit) used by the Lushai community.

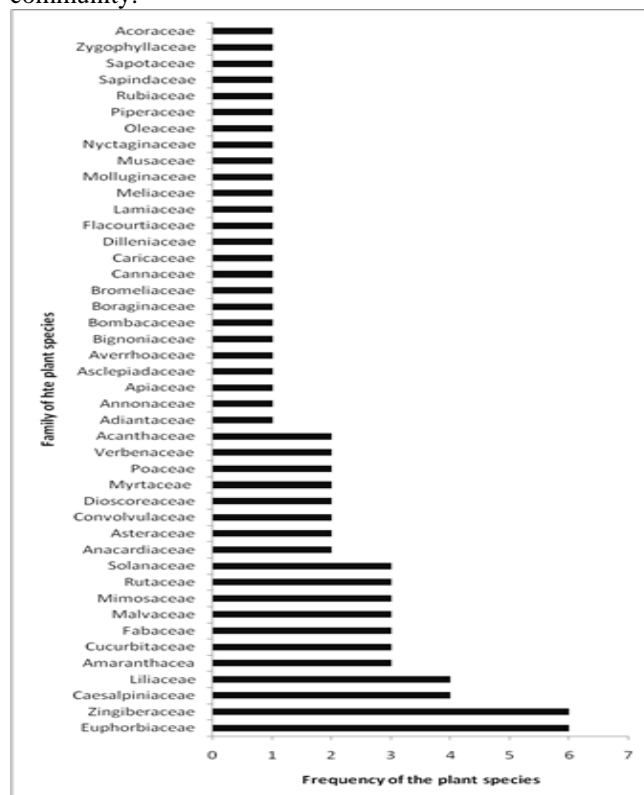


Fig. 2: Families of the ethnomedicinal plants with their frequencies.

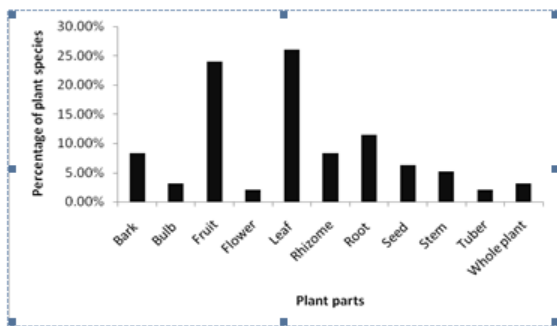


Fig. 3: Plant parts used in folk medicine preparation

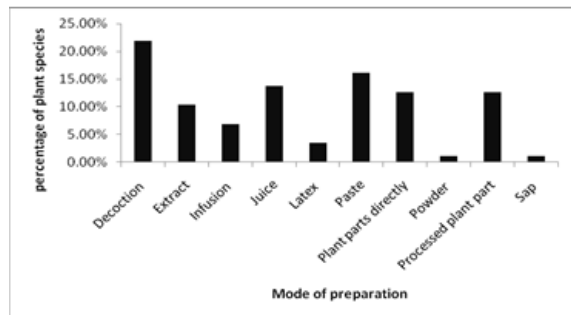


Fig. 5: Mode of preparation used in folk medicine formulation.

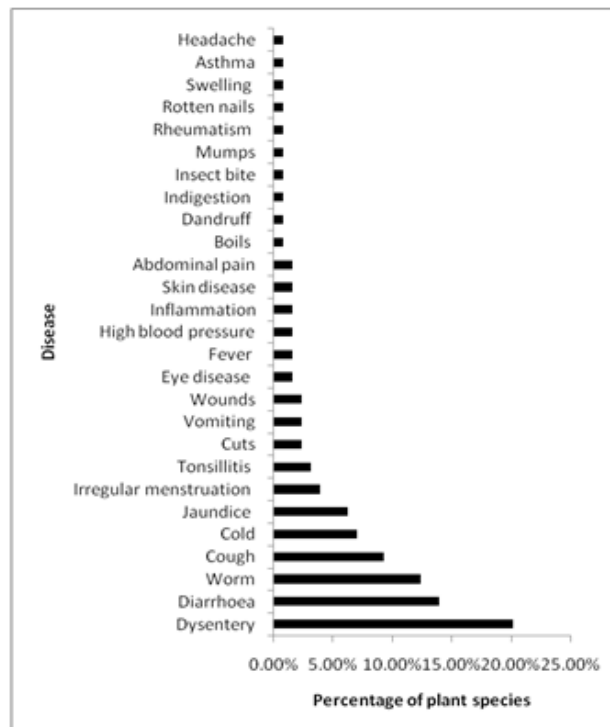


Fig. 4: Frequencies of the medicinal plant species used for various diseases.

Table 1. List of plants used in folk medicine by Lushai community.

| Scientific name                            | Lushai name  | Local name/Habit  | Family        | Parts used  | Illness treated                          | Mode of preparation   | Mode of application |
|--|--------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------|--|-----------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Abelmoschus esculentus</i> (L.) Moench. | Kelky        | Dheros/Shrub      | Malvaceae     | Fruit       | Diarrhoea, dysentery                     | Processed plant parts | Oral administered   |
| <i>Abelmoschus moschatus</i> Medik.        | Thurmui      | Mushakdana/S hrub | Malvaceae     | Fruit       | Dysentery                                | Processed plant parts | Oral administered   |
| <i>Acacia concinna</i> (Willd.) DC.        | Vai An Thur  | Boba lot/Shrub    | Mimosaceae    | Fruit       | Dandruff                                 | Powder                | Local application   |
| <i>Achyranthes aspera</i> L.               | Kawp Ta Rit  | Apang/Herb        | Amaranthaceae | Leaf        | Dysentery                                | Juice                 | Oral administered   |
| <i>Acorus calamus</i> L.                   | Thit         | Bach/Herb         | Acoraceae     | Rhizome     | Worm, diarrhoea, dysentery               | Decoction             | Oral administered   |
| <i>Adenanthera pavonina</i> L.             | Be Ai        | Rakta kambal/Tree | Mimosaceae    | Seed        | Swelling                                 | Paste                 | Local application   |
| <i>Adhatoda zeylanica</i> Medic.           | Tumpang      | Basak/Shrub       | Acanthaceae   | Leaf        | Cough, cold, asthma, high blood pressure | Extract               | Oral administered   |
| <i>Adiantum lunulatum</i> Burm. f.         | Lawngbet     | Goyalelata/Herb   | Adiantaceae   | Whole plant | Dysentery                                | Plant parts directly  | Oral administered   |
| <i>Aegle marmelos</i> (L.) Corrêa          | Thing Sharuh | Bel/Tree          | Rutaceae      | Fruit       | Diarrhoea, dysentery                     | Plant parts directly  | Oral administered   |
| <i>Allium cepa</i> L.                      | Parun Sen    | Piaj/Herb         | Liliaceae     | Bulb        | Insect bite                              | Paste                 | Local application   |
| <i>Allium sativum</i> L.                   | Parun Nau    | Rasun/Herb        | Liliaceae     | Bulb        | High blood pressure, cold, cough         | Plant parts directly  | Oral administered   |

|  |                  |                    |                |                  |                                   |                              |  |
|--|------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| <i>Allium tuberosum</i> Rottler ex Spreng.     | Mang Purun       | Banga-gandina/Herb | Liliaceae      | Bulb             | Cold, cough                       | Decoction                    | Oral administered                      |
| <i>Aloe vera</i> (L.) Burm.f.                  | Chladoro         | Ghrita Kumari/Herb | Liliaceae      | Leaf             | Inflammation                      | Juice                        | Local application                      |
| <i>Alpinia nigra</i> (Gaertn.) Burt            | Bawngkawr        | Jangli Ada/Herb    | Zingiberaceae  | Rhizome          | Cough, cold                       | Juice                        | Oral administered                      |
| <i>Amaranthus spinosus</i> L.                  | Bualing Nei      | Katanotey/Herb     | Amaranthaceae  | Root             | Dysentery                         | Juice                        | Oral administered                      |
| <i>Anacardium occidentale</i> L.               | Guestunut        | Kaju/Tree          | Anacardiaceae  | Bark             | Diarrhoea, dysentery              | Decoction                    | Oral administered                      |
| <i>Ananas comosus</i> (L.) Merr.               | Lakhuthei        | Anaras/Herb        | Bromeliaceae   | Leaf             | Worm                              | Paste                        | Oral administered                      |
| <i>Annona reticulata</i> L.                    | Thei Kel Ek      | Nona/Tree          | Annonaceae     | Fruit            | Diarrhoea, dysentery              | Plant parts directly         | Oral administered                      |
| <i>Asclepias curassavica</i> L.                | Dingdi Par       | Kakturi/Shrub      | Asclepiadaceae | Root             | Jaundice                          | Processed plant parts        | Oral administered                      |
| <i>Averrhoa carambola</i> L.                   | La Hat Thei      | Kamranga/Tree      | Averrhoaceae   | Fruit            | Jaundice                          | Plant parts directly         | Oral administered                      |
| <i>Azadirachta indica</i> A.Juss.              | Vawizum          | Neem/Tree          | Meliaceae      | Leaf, bark, root | Worm, skin disease                | Paste, decoction             | Local application                      |
| <i>Bombax ceiba</i> L.                         | Phun Chawng Kung | Shimul/Tree        | Bombacaceae    | Bark             | Skin disease                      | Decoction                    | Local application                      |
| <i>Butea monosperma</i> (Lam.) Taub.           | Tuang Toa Par    | Palas/Tree         | Fabaceae       | Bark             | Cold, cough                       | Decoction                    | Oral administered                      |
| <i>Caesalpinia pulcherrima</i> (L.) Sw.        | Sen Ri Te Par    | Radhachura/Shrub   | Caesalpinaceae | Leaf             | Irregular menstruation            | Decoction                    | Oral administered                      |
| <i>Canna indica</i> L.                         | Bawngkawr        | Kalaboti/Herb      | Cannaceae      | Rhizome          | Worm                              | Extract                      | Oral administered                      |
| <i>Carica papaya</i> L.                        | Thingfangma      | Pepe/Tree          | Caricaceae     | Fruit, seed      | Diarrhoea, worm                   | Processed plant parts, paste | Oral administered                      |
| <i>Citrus aurantiifolia</i> (Christm.) Swingle | Ser Thur         | Lebu/Shrub         | Rutaceae       | Fruit            | Vomiting, headache                | Juice                        | Oral administered                      |
| <i>Citrus maxima</i> (Burm.) Merr.             | Umphur           | Jambura/Tree       | Rutaceae       | Fruit            | Worm, jaundice, vomiting          | Juice                        | Oral administered                      |
| <i>Coix lacryma-jobi</i> L.                    | Mimte            | Tasbi/Herb         | Poaceae        | Root             | Irregular menstruation            | Juice                        | Oral administered                      |
| <i>Cordia dichotoma</i> G.Forst.               | Mekthing         | Bohari/Tree        | Boraginaceae   | Leaf, fruit      | Cold, cough                       | Decoction                    | Oral administered                      |
| <i>Curcuma caesia</i> Roxb.                    | Ai Dum           | Kalahaldi/Herb     | Zingiberaceae  | Rhizome          | Diarrhoea, dysentery, tonsillitis | Decoction, paste             | Oral administered<br>Local application |
| <i>Curcuma longa</i> L.                        | Ai Eng           | Halud/Herb         | Zingiberaceae  | Rhizome          | Tonsillitis                       | Paste                        | Local application                      |
| <i>Dalbergia sissoo</i> DC.                    | Chimim           | Sisu/Tree          | Fabaceae       | Leaf             | Dysentery, inflammation           | Extract, paste               | Oral administered<br>Local application |
| <i>Dillenia indica</i> L.                      | Kawr Thing Dawng | Chalta/Tree        | Dilleniaceae   | Fruit            | Diarrhoea, dysentery              | Plant parts directly         | Oral administered                      |

|   |                 |                        |                |                  |                                   |                       |                   |
|---|-----------------|------------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Dioscorea alata</i> L.                   | Ram Bara        | Chupri Alu/<br>Climber | Dioscoreaceae  | Tuber            | Worm                              | Processed plant parts | Oral administered |
| <i>Dioscorea bulbifera</i> L.               | Thing kawng     | Ratalu/<br>Climber     | Dioscoreaceae  | Tuber            | Diarrhoea, dysentery, worm        | Processed plant parts | Oral administered |
| <i>Erythrina variegata</i> L.               | Fartua          | Madar/Tree             | Fabaceae       | Leaf, bark, root | Dysentery, irregular menstruation | Paste                 | Oral administered |
| <i>Eupatorium odoratum</i> L.               | Kalang sam      | Assam lata/Herb        | Asteraceae     | Leaf             | Cuts, wounds                      | Paste                 | Local application |
| <i>Euphorbia antiquorum</i> L.              | Huanpal         | Tiktasij /Shrub        | Euphorbiaceae  | Stem             | Tonsillitis                       | Latex                 | Local application |
| <i>Euphorbia hirta</i> L.                   | Buimit          | Dudhiya/Herb           | Euphorbiaceae  | Stem             | Eye disease                       | Latex                 | Local application |
| <i>Excoecaria agallocha</i> L.              | Gawrthing       | Gewa/Tree              | Euphorbiaceae  | Leaf             | Rheumatism                        | Juice                 | Local application |
| <i>Flacourtia jangomas</i> (Lour.) Raeusch. | Riam Shang      | Paniala/Tree           | Flacourtiaceae | Fruit            | Diarrhoea                         | Plant parts directly  | Oral administered |
| <i>Foeniculum vulgare</i> Mill.             | Deihnak         | Mouri/Herb             | Apiaceae       | Seed             | Cough                             | Paste                 | Oral administered |
| <i>Glinus oppositifolius</i> (L.) Aug.DC.   | Bakchen         | Gima/Herb              | Molluginaceae  | Whole plant      | Diarrhoea, dysentery              | Processed plant parts | Oral administered |
| <i>Gmelina arborea</i> Roxb.                | Thlangbawng     | Gamari/Tree            | Verbenaceae    | Leaf, root       | Cough, abdominal pain             | Juice, decoction      | Oral administered |
| <i>Gomphrena globosa</i> L.                 | Cheai Lo Par    | Botam Phul/Herb        | Amaranthaceae  | Leaf             | Cough                             | Infusion              | Oral administered |
| <i>Hedychium coronarium</i> J.Koenig        | Sawl Eng Par    | Dolon Chapa/Herb       | Zingiberaceae  | Rhizome          | Worm                              | Juice                 | Oral administered |
| <i>Ipomoea quamoclit</i> L.                 | Tawngka         | Tarulata/<br>Climber   | Convolvulaceae | Leaf             | Boils                             | Paste                 | Local application |
| <i>Jasminum sambac</i> (L.) Aiton           | Thuang Thum Par | Beli/Shrub             | Oleaceae       | Root, leaf       | Irregular menstruation            | Decoction             | Oral administered |
| <i>Kaempferia rotunda</i> L.                | Tuk Tin Par     | Bhui Champa/Herb       | Zingiberaceae  | Rhizome          | Cuts, wounds                      | Paste                 | Local application |
| <i>Litchi chinensis</i> Sonn.               | Raite           | Lichu/Tree             | Sapindaceae    | Flower           | Mumps, tonsillitis                | Decoction             | Local application |
| <i>Luffa acutangula</i> (L.) Roxb.          | Umpawng         | Jhinga/Climber         | Cucurbitaceae  | Fruit, Seed      | Worm                              | Plant parts directly  | Oral administered |
| <i>Mangifera indica</i> L.                  | Theihai         | Aam/Tree               | Anacardiaceae  | Bark, leaf       | Diarrhoea                         | Infusion              | Oral administered |
| <i>Manihot esculenta</i> Crantz             | Mangbal         | Shimal alu/Herb        | Euphorbiaceae  | Root             | Jaundice                          | Extract               | Oral administered |
| <i>Manilkara zapota</i> (L.) P.Royen        | Nazak           | Safeda/Tree            | Sapotaceae     | Fruit            | Rotten nails                      | Latex                 | Local application |
| <i>Mikania cordata</i> (Burm.f.) B.L.Rob.   | Zaganlau        | Assam Lata/Climber     | Asteraceae     | Leaf             | Cutting wounds                    | Extract               | Local application |
| <i>Mimosa pudica</i> L.                     | Belhzak         | Lajjaboti/Shrub        | Mimosaceae     | Root             | Dysentery, jaundice               | Extract               | Oral administered |
| <i>Mirabilis jalapa</i> L.                  | Arpa Khuang Pa  | Shandhamaloti/Herb     | Nyctaginaceae  | Leaf             | Inflammation                      | Paste                 | Local application |

|   |                 |                    |                |                   |   |                       |                    |
|---|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------|---|-----------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Momordica charantia</i> L.                         | Changkha        | Korolla/Climber    | Cucurbitaceae  | Fruit, seed, leaf | Worm, diarrhoea, dysentery.                 | Infusion              | Oral administered  |
| <i>Musa paradisiaca</i> L.                            | Banhla          | Kola/Herb          | Musaceae       | Fruit             | Dysentery                                   | Processed plant parts | Oral administered  |
| <i>Neolamarckia cadamba</i> (Roxb.) Bosser            | Zawng par       | Kadam/Tree         | Rubiaceae      | Bark              | Diarrhoea                                   | Infusion              | Oral administered  |
| <i>Nicotiana tabacum</i> L.                           | Vaihlo          | Tamak/Herb         | Solanaceae     | Leaf              | Pain  | Processed plant parts | Local application  |
| <i>Ocimum americanum</i> L.                           | Vawipanha       | Ban Tulshi/Herb    | Lamiaceae      | Leaf              | Cold, cough, diarrhoea, dysentery           | Extract, infusion     | Oral administered  |
| <i>Operculina turpethum</i> (L.) Silva Manso          | Kainem          | Dudh Kalmi/Climber | Convolvulaceae | Root              | Worm  | Extract               | Oral administered  |
| <i>Oroxylum indicum</i> (L.) Kurz                     | Thlengkawng     | Thona/Tree         | Bignoniaceae   | Bark              | Jaundice                                    | Processed plant parts | Oral administered  |
| <i>Phyllanthus acidus</i> (L.) Skeels                 | Thei Pang Kei   | Arboroi/Tree       | Euphorbiaceae  | Fruit             | Jaundice                                    | Processed plant parts | Oral administered  |
| <i>Phyllanthus emblica</i> L.                         | Suan Lu         | Amloki/Tree        | Euphorbiaceae  | Fruit             | Cough, cold, diarrhoea, dysentery, jaundice | Processed plant parts | Oral administered. |
| <i>Piper betle</i> L.                                 | Pan Nah         | Pan/Climber        | Piperaceae     | Leaf              | Indigestion                                 | Juice                 | Oral administered  |
| <i>Psidium guajava</i> L.                             | Kawl Thei       | Piyara/Tree        | Myrtaceae      | Fruit             | Diarrhoea                                   | Plant parts directly  | Oral administered  |
| <i>Saccharum arundinaceum</i> Retz.                   | Lailuang        | Teng/Herb          | Poaceae        | Whole plant       | Dysentery                                   | Decoction             | Oral administered  |
| <i>Senna alata</i> (L.) Roxb.                         | Aicia Kung      | Dadmardan/Shrub    | Caesalpinaceae | Leaf              | Worm  | Juice                 | Oral administered  |
| <i>Senna occidentalis</i> (L.) Link                   | Micia Kung      | Kalkasunde/Shrub   | Caesalpinaceae | Leaf, root        | Worm, fever                                 | Decoction             | Oral administered  |
| <i>Solanum melongena</i> L.                           | Bawk Bawn       | Begun/Shrub        | Solanaceae     | Flower            | Fever                                       | Decoction             | Oral administered  |
| <i>Solanum torvum</i> Sw.                             | Linghawi        | Tit Begun/Shrub    | Solanaceae     | Fruit             | Worm  | Processed plant parts | Oral administered  |
| <i>Syzygium fruticosum</i> DC.                        | Mui             | Puti jam/Tree      | Myrtaceae      | Leaf              | Dysentery                                   | Extract               | Oral administered  |
| <i>Tamarindus indica</i> L.                           | Teng Ta Re      | Tetul/Tree         | Caesalpinaceae | Fruit             | Dysentery, diarrhoea                        | Infusion              | Oral administered  |
| <i>Tectona grandis</i> L.f.                           | Clawn Pang      | Shegun/Tree        | Verbenaceae    | Stem              | Dysentery                                   | Decoction             | Oral administered  |
| <i>Thunbergia grandiflora</i> (Roxb. ex Rottl.) Roxb. | Zawng Hawi Leng | Nillata/Climber    | Acanthaceae    | Stem              | Eye pain                                    | Sap                   | Local application  |
| <i>Tribulus terrestris</i> L.                         | Kawl Thei       | Gokkhur/Herb       | Zygophyllaceae | Fruit             | Dysentery                                   | Decoction             | Oral administered  |
| <i>Trichosanthes cucumerina</i> L.                    | Berul           | Chichinga/Climber  | Cucurbitaceae  | Fruit, seed       | Irregular menstruation                      | Processed plant parts | Oral administered  |
| <i>Urena lobata</i> L.                                | Rampurun        | Banokra/Shrub      | Malvaceae      | Stem              | Abdominal pain                              | Decoction             | Oral administered  |



|                                      |          |          |               |         |  |           |                   |
|--------------------------------------|----------|----------|---------------|---------|--|-----------|-------------------|
| <i>Zingiber officinale</i><br>Roscoe | Sawthing | Ada/Herb | Zingiberaceae | Rhizome | Cough, cold, dysentery, vomiting, worm | Decoction | Oral administered |
|--------------------------------------|----------|----------|---------------|---------|--|-----------|-------------------|

The time of taking, dose and duration of practice of these folk-medicines are varied from traditional health practitioners to practitioners and on the basis of disease. The establishment of community clinic is in many rural areas and that may change gradually the existing pattern of indigenous knowledge based system of healthcare. Recently, they are losing their precious heritage of plant use indigenous knowledge because of industrialization and urbanization. At present younger generation lost the interest to continue their parental tradition because it does not provide them proper financial support for their livelihood. If these conditions continue; their traditional knowledge of plant uses will be lost rapidly. Now, it is a burning necessity to document their ethno-medicinal use information to protect them from disappearing. This information can be the source and help the modern researchers in the discovery of new drugs (e.g. [9, 10]).

However, measures should be taken to train up the Traditional Health Practitioners (THPs) regarding the harmful effects of irrational uses of plants in order to ensure safe therapy. The gradual increase of the commercial demand of medicinal plants has been increasing which results in careless plant collection activities. So we should carry out necessary steps for protect the vulnerable plant species from being endangered.

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