

# Review on Importance of Weeds as Medicine

Prof. Priyanka S.Vyavahare<sup>1</sup>, Prof. Narahari.A.Patil<sup>2</sup>, Nikita Markad<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1,2,3</sup>*LCOP Study and research Group, Department of Pharmacognosy, Lokseva college of Pharmacy, Phulgaon, Pune*

**Abstract-**The present study was conducted to identify the Medicinal Importance of weeds in Pazhayidomlocality Kottayam district. A weed is a plant consider undesirable in a particular situation, "a plant in the wrong place."weeds completes the crops for one or more plant growth, factors such as mineral nutrients,water,solar energy and space and they hinder crop cultivation operations. Reduction in crop is due to weeds results from their multifarious ways of interfering with crop growth and crop culture. Weeds reduce the quality of the crop produce in many ways. Weeds damage human health and animal health also. The method of study involves the identification of medicinally important weeds from Pazhyidomlocality Kottayam district.Weeds of medicinal importance are identified and listed in the present study.

## INTRODUCTION

A Weed is a plant consider undesirable in a particular situation. "A plant in the wrong Place."Taxanomially the term "weed" has no botanical significance, because as a e plant that is a Weed in one context is not a weed when growing in the situation where it is in the fact wanted and where one species of plant is valuable crop plant, another species in same genus might be a serious weed, such as wild bramble growing among cultivated loganberries. In the same ways, volunteer crops are regarded as weeds in a subsequent crop. Many plants that people widely regard as weeds also are intentionally grown in gardens and other cultivated settings, In which case they are sometimes called beneficial weeds. The term weed also is applied to any plant that grows nor reproduce aggressively or is invasive outside its native habitat. More broadly weed "occasionally is applied pagoratively to species outside the plant kingdom, Species that can survive in diverse environments and reproduce quickly, in this sense it has even been applied to human. A number of native or non-native plants are unwanted in a specific location for a number of reasons. An important one is functional;

they interfere with food and fibre production in agriculture, wherein they must be controlled in order to prevent lost or diminished crop yields. Other important reasons are that they interfere with other cosmetic, decorative, or recreational goals, such as in lawns, landscape architecture, playing fields, and golf courses. Similarly, they can be of concern for environmental reasons whereby introduced species outcompete for resources or space with desire endemic plants.

The term " medicinal plant" includes various types of plant used in herbalism. It is the use of plants for medicinal purpose, and the study of such uses. The Word "herb" has been derived from the Latin word, "herba" and an old French word "herbe". Now days, herb refers to any part of the plant like fruit, seed, stem,, bark, ,flower, leaf, stigma, a root as well as a non- woody plant. Earlier the term "herb" was only applied to non-woody plants, including those that come from trees and shrubs, these medicinal plants are also used as a food, flavonoids, medicine or perfume and also in certain spiritual activities.

## IMPORTANCE OF WEEDS OF MEDICINE

It is an endangered plant with medicinal important.it is well known as, good appetizer and for anemia dyspepsia, cancer, dementia, convulsion and piles. It is also used as Homemade remedy for indigestion and diarrhea in Kids. A number of native or non-native plants are unwanted in a specific location for number of reasons. An important one is functional: they interface with food and fibre production in agriculture, where in they must be controlled in order to prevent lost or diminished crop yields. They can be concern for environmental reasons whereby introduce species out complete for resources or space with desired endemic plants.

## METHODOLOGY

The method of study involves the identification of medicinally important weeds from Pazhayidom locality, Kottayam district. Weeds of medicinal importance are identified and listed in the present study. Then weeds are further evaluated by focusing the medicinal use of each of them. Apart from the medicinal use, the local names and a brief description about each of the weeds are identified and make a details study about it. Finally herbarium was prepared by using this plants.

## SOME MEDICINAL PLANTS ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

*Alternanthera bettzickiana*,

Family: amaranthaceae

Local names: cherucheera kattaponamanni

Medicinal importance:

The whole plant is reported to be useful in purifying and nourishing blood and is claimed to be a soft laxative, a galactagogue and antipyretic. In addition to its wound healing property. The acetone extract has been found to possess lipoxigenase, tyrosinase and xanthine oxidase inhibitory activities and the aqueous ethanolic extract of the whole plant has recently been reported to exhibit antioxidant benefit and improve hepatic oxidant- antioxidant balance in the ovariectomized mice.

*Alternanthera brasiliana*



Family: amaranthaceae

Local Names: Choracheera

Medicinal Importance:

*Alternanthera brasiliana* is a Brazilian plant occurring

in several regions, being known as "penicilina" or terramic is a widely used by rural communities as medicinal agent to cure different diseases such as inflammations and sores or infection processes, wound healing, analgesic.

*Calopogonium Mucunoides*



Family: Fabaceae

Local Names: Manja Payer

Medicinal Importance:

The plant's leaves are widely used in southeastern Nigeria for the management of bacterial infection, diarrhea, and ulcer. Among compounds of pharmacological interest occurring in relative abundance in the plant are alkaloids and flavonoids.

*Chromolaena odorata*



Family: Asteraceae

Local Names: Assam pacha, communist pacha

Medicinal Importance:

It has been utilized in the traditional medicinal systems for its curative properties for centuries. Some of the current studies have revealed its medicinal properties which have led to an enhanced image of this plant as a medicinal herb. It shows anti-inflammatory, antipyretic, analgesic, antimicrobial,

cytotoxic and many other relevant medicinal properties in an appreciable scale.

*Clidemia hirta*



Family : elastomaceae

Local Names: Soapbush, Koster's curse

Medicinal Importance:

The leaves are astringent and antispasmodic. A decoction of the leafy branches is taken to reduce excessive menstrual flow .An infusion is used to treat stomachache and is also taken as an enema. A decoction of the leaves is used to cicatrize old wounds. Macerated in cold water, the leaves are used to make a women's antiseptic genital bath to remedy hemorrhaging.

*Merremia vitifolia*



Family : convolvulaceae

Local Names: Manja colambi Valli, Vana Vayara.

Medicinal Importance:

The juice of the plant is considered cooling and diuretic .An infusion of the plant is drunk as a treatment for high fever. The plant is used to treat

strangury and urethral discharges.

A preparation from the juice is used to ease inflamed eyes. And infusion of the stem is used internally and externally in the treatment of Malaria and smallpox. The root is eaten raw as a stomachic.

*Argemone Mexicana*

Family: Papaveraceae

Local names: Mexican poppy, Mexican prickly poppy, flowering thistle, cardo or cardosanto

Medicinal importance:

It is commonly known as satyanashi. It is a pioneer plant, grow easily in poor soil c conditions and tolerant of drought it. secretes bright yellow latex, poisonous to grazing animals, so rarely utilised by animals. The plant is used both as fresh and dried, it helps in relieving the kidney pain, expelling a torn placenta and overall. Cleanses the body.it contains some important phytochemicals like alkaloids sanguinarine, jatrorrhizine, oxyberberine. sanguinarine is one of the most important used as alternative medicines to cure pneumonia, coughs, weak lungs, kidney, liver, bladder. it is also used as emetic. Jatrorrhizine, has an anti-inflammatory effect and it improves blood flow in body.



*Parthenium hysterophor*

Family : Asteraceae and subfamily Asteroideae.

Local name: Carrot grass

Medicinal importance:

Remedy for skin inflammation, Rheumatic pain, Diarrhoea, Urinary tract infections, Dysentery, Malaria and Neuralgia.

It is known as Congress grass. It is a short-lived herbaceous plant, with basal rosette of leaves in its early life stages. It is mostly found along roadsides, waterways, lawns and crops.it absorb more nutrients



*Amaranthus spinosus*

Family: Amaranthaceae

Local name: Kate wali chaulai, Spiny amaranth, spiny pigweed, prickly amaranth, thorny amaranth

Medicinal importance:

It is an annual plant of 3-6 feet long. Its root paste is used to treat gonorrhoea, menorrhagia, eczema and colic. Root juice of amaranthus is used to cure fever, urinary troubles, diarrhea, dysentery and also relief from headache. Plant fluid extract is utilized as astringent for the treatment of ulcerated mouth. Amaranthus oil and phytosterol help to lower cholesterol level, including LDL and triglycerides. A peptide found in amaranth was used to fight against inflammation. Rutin and Quercetin are two important phytochemicals obtained from this plant. Rutin is widely used as antimicrobial, antifungal and antiallergic agent. It also helps to treat various chronic diseases such as cancer, hypertension and hypercholesterolemia. Quercetin has antioxidant properties and it is used for the protection against various diseases like osteoporosis and cardiovascular diseases



*Saccharum spontaneum*

Spontaneous commonly known as Kans grass, khagori, keshe. It is a perennial grass of height 100-200cm. Root of *Saccharum spontaneum* when boiled

in cow milk improve the quantity of milk of lactating women.



*Oxalis corniculata*

Commonly known as creeping wood sorrel or sleeping beauty. It is an endangered plant with medicinal importance. It is well known as a good appetizer and for anemia, dyspepsia, cancer, dementia, convulsion and piles.



## FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

The present study states that weeds have a high level of medicinal uses. A weed is just a plant growing in the wrong place. A plant which, in many cases, could be used to ease indigestion, fight the flu, treat poison ivy rashes and even makes a tasty meal. They may mar otherwise perfect mats of green grass, but many weeds are chock full of vitamins, minerals, and surprising healing abilities. Some short-lived species rely heavily on toxic chemicals as a defense to deter herbivores-- these plants usually avoided by grazing animals unless drought

conditions or overgrazing occur. These compounds accumulate on leaves, shoots, flowers and fruits. They include glycoside, alkaloids, and terpenoids, which are all low molecular weight, often toxic at small doses, and highly biologically active. In general, it's always a good idea to do a little research and consult your health-care provider for more serious conditions.

By this Review, it can be concluded that in the core of the nature there are so many plants which possess potent diuretic activity. Herbal medications are free from side effects and toxicity unlike the allopathy.

#### REFERENCE

- [1] WHO . Who fact sheet Bronchial Asthma, World Health Organization, No. 206, Geneva Switzerland, 200
- [2] Albera B. Medical plant's used in traditional medicine by oromo people, Ghimbi District, southwest Ethiopia. *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine* 2014; 10(40) ;1-13
- [3] Gogoi R, Das M.K. Observation on some weeds of medicinal importance in the Brahmaputra valley of Assam. *Journal of Economic and Taxonomic botany*, 2003, 27(2): 434-441.
- [4] WHO monograph on selected medicinal plants. World health organization,1,2005
- [5] *sternw.botanical latin* 4th timber press, Portland Oregon,1992
- [6] *a glossary of botanic terms*, London, duckworth, 1979,481.