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Traditional knowledge of Kani tribals in Kouthalai of Tirunelveli hills, Tamil Nadu, India

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Abstract

An ethnobotanical survey was carried out among the ethnic groups (Kani/Kanikaran) in Southern Western Ghats of India. Traditional uses of 54 plant species belonging to 26 families are described under this study. In this communication, the information got from the tribals were compared with the already existing literature on ethnobotany of India. The documented ethnomedicinal plants were mostly used to cure skin diseases, poison bites, wounds and rheumatism. The medicinal plants used by kanis are arranged alphabetically followed by family name, local name, major chemical constituents, parts used, mode of preparation and medicinal uses.



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Keywords

Kani tribals; Ethnomedicine; Tirunelveli hills; Western Ghats and traditional knowledge

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