



# WILD EDIBLE PLANT IN PARNER TAHSIL FROM AHMEDNAGAR DISTRICT (MS) INDIA.

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## ABSTRACT-

The rich diversity of wild fruits and vegetables in Indian tropics, not only provide nutritious food but also income to tribals and poor people leaving close to forest and rural areas. There are large number of plant species, which can be used to fulfill nutrition requirement of growing population of the world. Tribal people got knowledge of wild edible plants traditionally from their forefathers. This traditional knowledge is useful to develop new food sources. For that exploration of natural resources and documentation of traditional knowledge is utmost necessary. The present paper focuses on the wild edible plant in Parner Tahsil from Ahmednagar district of Maharashtra. In present study there are 52 wild plant species enlisted for food, fodder medicines and pharmaceutical products.

## INTRODUCTION-

Human basic needs are food, clothes, shelter and medicine and he always depends on nature either directly or indirectly. Now-a-days due to improvement of knowledge and technology, we obtain our food through agricultural practices. However, if we observe the initial period of civilization and evolution of agriculture, all the food plants were discovered from their natural resources or wild relatives. Still there are large numbers of plant species, which can be used to fulfill nutrition requirement of growing population of the world. Tribal are the part of nature, they fulfill most of their needs from wild resources. They got knowledge of wild edible plants traditionally. This traditional knowledge is useful to develop new food sources. Exploration of natural resources and documentation of traditional knowledge is necessary. Several attempts have been made to list out the wild edibles of Maharashtra and India (Aher R. K. *et al.* 2004, Pradhan S.G. and Singh N.P.1999). Present work is an attempt to explore the traditional knowledge of wild edible plants of Parner tahsil in Ahmednagar district of Maharashtra state.

Ahmednagar district is one of the districts of Western Ghats region. Parner is one of the largest tahsils in Ahmednagar district. Total area of the tahsil is 1,930 sq. Km. The tahsil lies in drought condition. The weather is dry and warm. The average temperature is 16°C to 35°C. rainfall is 695 mm, humidity is 31% the study area lies between the 19.0001°N latitude and 74.4394°E longitude at an elevation of about 700-800 m above main sea level.

Many wild vegetables are used by village people in daily diet. These are used either raw or cooked. Wild vegetables add variety and color to the diet as they are rich sources of nutrients, vitamin and minerals are generally low in fats, most of them also possess medicinal values. Several times it is observed that there are prevailing beliefs regarding health benefits of certain wild vegetable if consumed in specific season.

The knowledge of consumption of wild fruits their use is only limited to senior people of these tribe. On the other hand, the young people of this tribe have very insufficient knowledge about the plants.

Wild edible plants are very beneficial for you and your family for many reasons. First of all, there are wild edibles growing near you no matter what part of the world you live in. Chances are good, you can find a large number of species where you live and some of them are likely to be plentiful. Also consider that wild edible plants are often more nutritionally concentrated than store bought food. It is also wise to start off eating very small quantities of wild edible plants, especially those you have not tried before. Test them before you collect or eat in large quantities.

Look for places where the species you are interested in gathering is plentiful. Also look for plants that have abundant fruit, nuts or berries. This will make your job of gathering less work and also, if you are considerate, it will leave less of an impact on the land. A good guideline is to collect one third of the plant material, leaving two thirds for plant regeneration and wildlife.

#### **MATERIAL AND METHOD-**

The present study investigates the wild edible plant species in Parner tahsil in Ahmednagar district of Maharashtra state during 2016-2022. Various study tours were arranged in Parner tahsil for collection of plant and its information about their vernacular name, uses, medicinal value. Some farmers are interviewed to get knowledge about this plant. Collected plants were identified by standard taxonomic literature. Plant photographs were taken which is useful for identification of plant. Collected plant specimens were preserved in herbarium. The collected plant as given below-

**Table 1- List of plants along with their uses.**

Sr. No.	Botanical Name	Family	Local Name	Location	Used Plant part	Preparation
1	<i>Agave americana</i> L.	<b>Agavaceae</b>	Ghyapat	Dhawalpuri	Flowers	Flowers are cooked as vegetables.
2	<i>Celotia argentea</i> L.	<b>Amaraanthaceae</b>	Kurdu	Throughout Tahsil	Tender leaves	Leaves and twigs are cooked as vegetable
3	<i>Amaranthus biltum</i> L.	<b>Amaranthaceae</b>	Tandulja	Throughout Tahsil	Leaf	Leaves are cooked as vegetables.
4	<i>Amaranthus spinosus</i> L.	<b>Amaranthaceae</b>	Kate math	Throughout Tahsil	Leaf	Leaves are cooked as vegetables along with ingredients.
5	<i>Digera muricata</i> (L.) Mart.	<b>Amaranthaceae</b>	Kundursa	Throughout Tahsil	Leaf	Used as vegetables
6	<i>Colocasia esculenta</i> (L.) Schott.	<b>Araceae</b>	Tera/Alu	Throughout Tahsil	Leaf, Petiole, Root	Leaves are cooked as vegetable, also root eaten as raw.
7	<i>Leptadenia reticulate</i> (Retz.) Wight. & Arn.	<b>Asclepiadaceae</b>	Hirandodi	Parner, Nighoj	Flower	Flower is cooked as vegetables.
8	<i>Caralluma adscendens</i> R.Br.	<b>Asclepidaceae</b>	Makaadsing or Shindamakad	Dhawalpuri Khadakwadi	Shoots/Ste m	Shoots are cooked as vegetables, also eaten as raw.
9	<i>Launaea procumbens</i> L.	<b>Asteraceae</b>	Pathari	Throughout Tahsil	Leaf	Leaves are cooked as vegetable.
10	<i>Bombax ceiba</i> L.	<b>Bombacaeae</b>	Kate-saver	Dhawalpuri Khadakwadi Kanhur	Flower	Flowers are cooked as vegetables.

				pathar		
11	<i>Cordia dichotoma</i> Forst.f.	<b>Boraginaceae</b>	Bhoker	Throughout Tahsil	Fruit	Fruit is edible
12	<i>Cordia sinensis</i> (Forsk.) Ethrb. & Asch.	<b>Boraginaceae</b>	Gondani	Supa	Fruits	Ripe fruits are eaten as raw.
13	<i>Bauhinia racemosa</i> Lamk.	<b>Caesalpinaceae</b>	Shid/ Apta	Throughout Tahsil	Flower, leaf	Flowers and leaves are cooked as vegetables.
14	<i>Capparies zeylanica</i> L.	<b>Capparaceae</b>	Waghati	Throughout Tahsil	Fruit	Immature fruit is cooked as vegetable.
15	<i>Momordica dioica</i> Roxb.ex.Willd	<b>Cucurbitaceae</b>	Kartoli	Nandur pathar, pimpalgaon rotha	Fruit	Fruits are cooked as vegetables.
16	<i>Dioscorea bulbifera</i> L.	<b>Dioscoreaceae</b>	Kadu-kand	Nighoj , ralegan siddhi	Tuber	Boiled tuber is eaten also fresh eaten as raw.
17	<i>Diospyros melanoxyton</i> Roxb.	<b>Ebenaceae</b>	Temburni	Jamgaon, Wankute , Wadgaon savtal	Fruit	Ripe fruits are eaten as raw.
18	<i>Cajanus lineatus</i> Wight. & Arn.) Vander.	<b>Fabaceae</b>	Ran-tur	Throughout Tahsil	Fruit	Fruits are eaten as raw.
19	<i>Flacourtia latifolia</i> Burm.f.	<b>Fabaceae</b>	Tambat	Throughout Tahsil	Fruit	Ripe fruits are eaten as raw.
20	<i>Chlorophytum tuberosum</i> (Roxb.) Baker.	<b>Liliaceae.</b>	Kuli / Kolu	Kanhur pathar ,kakanewadi	Leaf, root	Leaves are cooked as vegetable; also roots eaten as a
21	<i>Moringa oleifera</i>	<b>Moringaceae</b>	Shevga	Throughout Tahsil	legume	Flowers are cooked as

	Gaertn.					vegetables.
22	<i>Portulaca oleracea</i> L.	<b>Portulacaceae</b>	Mhotighol	Throughout Tahsil	Whole plant	Whole plant is cooked as vegetable.
23	<i>Solanum anguivi</i> Lamk.	<b>Solanaceae</b>	Ranvangi	Throughout Tahsil	Fruit	Fruits are cooked as vegetable.
24	<i>Grewia tiliifolia</i> Vahl	<b>Tiliaceae</b>	Dhaman	Throughout Tahsil	Fruits	Ripe fruits are eaten as raw.
25	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i> L.	<b>Zygophyllaceae</b>	Sarata	Throughout Tahsil	Whole plant	Whole plant is cooked as vegetable.
26	<i>Aegle marmelos</i> L.	<b>Rutaceae</b>	Bel	Throughout Tahsil	Fruit	Syrup has therapeutic agent.
27	<i>Ziziphus jujuba</i> Mill.	<b>Rhamnaceae</b>	Bor	Throughout Tahsil	Fruit	Fruit is used in fever
28	<i>Limonia acidissima</i> Houtt.	<b>Rutaceae</b>	Kavath	Throughout Tahsil	Fruit	Seedless pulp used for treatment of dysentery
29	<i>Pithecellobium dulce</i> (Roxb.) Benth.	<b>Leguminosae</b>	Vila yati Chin ch	Throughout Tahsil	Fruit	Fruit is good nutrition
30	<i>Chenopodium boscianum</i> Moq.	<b>Chenopodiaceae</b>	Chakwat	Throughout Tahsil	Leaves	Leaves used as vegetable
31	<i>Bombax ceiba</i> L.	<b>Bombacaceae</b>	Katesavar	Throughout Tahsil	Leaves	Dry flowers for Hemorrhoids
32	<i>Dioscorea alata</i> L.	<b>Dioscoriaceae</b>	DukkarKan d	Throughout Tahsil	Tuber & Bulbil s	Tuber powder used eye diseases
33	<i>Amorphophallus</i>	<b>Araceae</b>	Suran	Throughout Tahsil	Rhizome	Rhizome useful as vegetable and for

	<i>commutatus</i> (Schott) Engl.					mouth disease
34	<i>Spondias pinnata</i> (L.f.) Kurz	<b>Anacardaceae</b>	Ambanda	Padali darya	Leaves	Leaves Juice used for earache- Locally
35	<i>Ficus recemosa</i> L.	<b>Moraceae</b>	Umber	Throughout Tahsil	Fruit	Young fruits as vegetable, Seed powder used in diabetes
36	<i>Carissa crrandus</i> L.	<b>Apocynaceae</b>	Karvand	Pimpalgaon rotha , supa	Fruit	Seeds used for Stomach each
37	<i>Syzygium cumini</i> (L.) Skeel	<b>Myrtaceae</b>	Jambhul	Throughout Tahsil	Fruit	Good nutrition agent
38	<i>Tomarindus indica</i> L.	<b>Caesalpiniaceae</b>	Chinch	Throughout Tahsil	Fruit	Good nutrition agent
39	<i>Alternanthera</i> <i>sessilis</i> L.	<b>Amaranathacen e</b>	Chimukata	Throughout Tahsil	Leaf	Used to relive headache
40	<i>Senna occidentalis</i> (L.) Link	<b>Caesalpiniaceae</b>	Ran -takda	Throughout Tahsil	Seed	Used to treatmen of heart diseases
41	<i>Coccinia grandis</i> (L.) Voigt	<b>Cucurbitaceae</b>	Tondali	Throughout Tahsil	Fruit	Used for food
42	<i>Euphorbia</i> <i>terraccina</i> L.	<b>Euphorbaceae</b>	Nivdung/ Sabar	Throughout Tahsil	Leaves	For skin products
43	<i>Celastrus</i> <i>paniculatus</i> L.	<b>Celastraceae</b>	Kanguni	Padali-darya	Leaves /seed	Used as vegetable
44	<i>Citrus maxima</i> L.	<b>Rutaceae</b>	Edulimb	Throughout Tahsil	Fruit	Fruit is edible
45	<i>Bambusa vulgaris</i> L.	<b>Poaceae</b>	Bambu	Throughout Tahsil	Leaves	Used as vegetable
46	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i> L.	<b>Asteraceae</b>	Mhatara	Throughout Tahsil	Leave s /	Root tea is used for treatment of asthma

					roots	
47	<i>Acacia suma</i> L.	<b>Fabaceae</b>	Murmat achi Sheng	Throughout Tahsil	Legume	Used as vegetable
48	<i>Justicia adhatoda</i> L.	<b>Acanthaceae</b>	Adulsa	Kanhur pathar	Leaves	For cough treatment
49	<i>Sesbania grandiflora</i> (L.) Poir.	<b>Fabaceae</b>	Hadga	Throughout Tahsil	Flower	Flower is used as a vegetable
50	<i>Canthium coromandelicum</i> (Burm.f.) Alston	<b>Rubiaceae</b>	Kar	Alkute	Fruits	For throat Infection
51	<i>Canavalia gladiate</i> L.	<b>Fabaceae</b>	Abai	Throughout Tahsil	Legume	Used for vegetable
52	<i>Lantena camera</i> L.	<b>Verbenaceae</b>	Ghaneri	Throughout Tahsil	Fruit	Fruit used as food

## CONCLUSION -

In the above work an attempt has been made to collect the knowledge of wild plants used by local people villagers of Parner Tahsil. Study collects the database of traditional indigenous knowledge of plants of the Maharashtra, which have been not been documented earlier.

In this study some plants are useful in pharmaceutical sector which needs more study & research. With same pattern fruits with nutritional benefits, processing & preserving techniques will help local people to live with healthy environment.

Study helps to learn healthy life balancing with various fruits, Vegetables which are readily available without our knowledge. These parts will enhance our health with very easy manner but some more study & knowledge.

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