

# Ethno-Botanical Survey in Ponnakkudi, Tirunelveli District, Tamil Nadu, India

S. R. Pholtan Rajeev<sup>1</sup>, K. N. P. Saraswathi<sup>1</sup>, J. Abishobia<sup>1</sup>, N. Jaison<sup>1</sup>,  
S. Balamani<sup>2</sup>, and M. Thiruthani<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>- PG Scholars, Department of Siddha Toxicology, Govt. Siddha Medical College, Palayamkottai.

<sup>2</sup>- Lecturer, Department of Siddha Toxicology, Govt. Siddha Medical College, Palayamkottai.

<sup>3</sup>- Head of the Department, Department of Siddha Toxicology, Govt. Siddha Medical College, Palayamkottai.

(Corresponding author – Dr. S. R. Pholtan Rajeev<sup>1</sup> - drsrprajeev@gmail.com)

## ABSTRACT

Medicinal plants are available in surrounding us. This research work documented the existence of medicinal plants of Ponnakkudi area (Latitude: 8.62097N Longitude: 77.68643E, altitude: 67m from sea level), Tirunelveli District have several medicinal plants, it helped to develop the traditional knowledge to cure various diseases. As this survey About 33 families and 65 plants within 251 medicinal valued plants largely used by the traditional practitioners and local peoples of Ponnakkudi area have been enumerated in this paper. These plants contain important phytochemicals and are employed in the various ailments. The main aim of this work is to survey, identify medicinal plants for the benefit of mankind and further investigation. Most of the number of the plants species is used for treating different diseases in Ponnakkudi area. The conventional ethno medicinal plants were mostly used for skin diseases, poisonous bite, Common cold, fever, wounds, Diabetes mellitus and rheumatism. Most of medicinal plants are harvested from wild and bare area commonly.

**Index Term**— Medicinal plants, Tirunelveli district, Traditional practitioner.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

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Since ancient eras humans have used many plants for medicine, timber, food and fuel. Due to rich plant biodiversity the traditional knowledge of the use of plants as medicine also had been documented. The interests in ethno-botanical researches have increased considerably for last few decades. Many investigators, Research Scholars are directed towards valorization of ethno botany because of belief that traditional medicines remedies may be useful sources for the new therapeutic products. Most of the people of Tirunelveli district have been depending on the traditional medicine as it is provided free of charge by government, commonly available, and does not cause any harm effects. Since there is no so far

study reported in the district, the present report is communicated.

## 2. METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Study Area

Ponnakkudi (Latitude: 8.62097<sup>N</sup> Longitude: 77.68643<sup>E</sup>, altitude: 67m from sea level), is located on Tirunelveli District. (Figures) Ponnakkudi is 22km from Tirunelveli town and Town and Country Plan developing area. This area fully occupied by waste land and factories commonly. This rural area is filled some people.

In several villages as our survey we got famers and famous traditional practitioner were they are regularly practicing aid of their knowledge on medicinal plants and traditional knowledge with use of local plant resources Interviewed information on the use of medicinal plants were recorded.

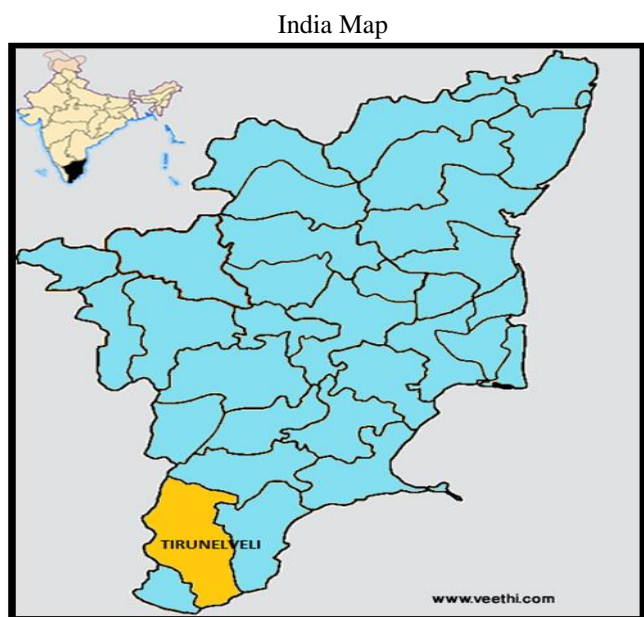
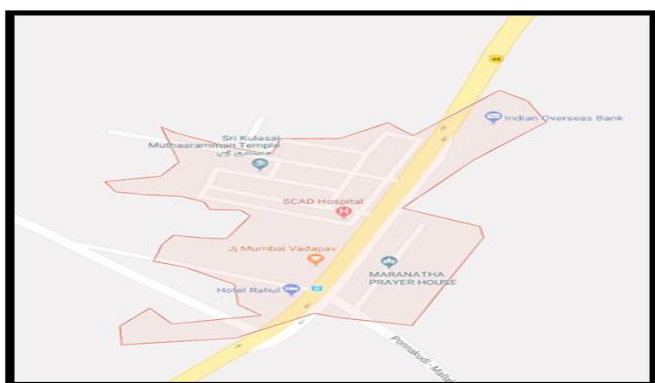


Fig.1- Tirunelveli Map in Tamil Nadu State, India



Fig. 2- Location Map of Ponnakkudi, Tirunelveli District,



Tamil Nadu (India)

Figure- 3: Research Area- Ponnakkudi, Tirunelveli.

## 2.2 Data Collection

### Survey

In order to assess the consumption of indigenous medicinal plants, survey was carried out during the year, 2018 in the areas of Ponnakkudi, Tirunelveli district in Tamil Nadu, India. To get maximum information the survey was widened diagonally during the following rainy season.

Ponnakkudi, Tirunelveli area general public were the main informants in the survey. The information on medicinal uses of the indigenous plants has been described after gathering it from local people, experienced aged rural folk, traditional herbal medicine practitioners, local herbal drug sellers and the information collected from the available literature. Direct plant observation and identification was done with the help of local healers known as 'Vaidyar'. Author also as a Doctor and have enough knowledge about medicinal plants of India. Plants recorded in the results were mentioned by at least two TMP's as treating the same disease in order to confirm its use.

### Views of local people

Information obtained from medicinally important plants was assessed by calculating the proportion of plants cited and utilized in relation to the total number of interviewers.

### Categorization of medicinally important plants

Traditionally important medicinal plants which are cultivated, as well as grown in the wild were classified into different types of habits and forms such as trees, herbs, shrubs, climbers, etc.

### Biodiversity of medicinally important plant species

Medicinally important plant species were found to be in plenty in each sampling unit when surveyed. Depending upon the number, they were then divided into four arbitrary groups namely, rare, common, fairly common and abundant.

### Knowledge about plants and their uses

The spearman rank correlation was used to analyze the knowledge about medicinal plant and its correlation with age of survey samples ( $P < 0.005$ ).

## 3. RESULTS

The recorded Information only 65 Plants Species, used commonly as remedies for various diseases are listed with their Family and Local Ecological status in the Ponnakkudi, Tirunelveli District. And identified medicinal plants countered 251 as cultivated also included (Table: 2) followed by their habitat. The Plant part used, Local distribution, ecological status all are enumerated below only 65 plants (Table: 1):

**Records :**

No	Botanical Name	Family	Tamil	Ecological Status	Medicinal Uses
1.	<i>Abutilon indicum</i>	Malvaceae	Thuthi	Threatened as common.	Roots used as tonic. Roots powdered and mixed with ghee and sugar, Leaves as spinach for piles patients.
2.	<i>Abrus precatorius</i>	Fabacea	Kunrimani	Threatened - Vulnerable Status	The leaves are chewed to get relief from throat trouble and voice. Musicians eat the dried leaves to clear and tone up their voice.
3.	<i>Acalypha indica</i> Linn.	Euphorbiaceae	Kuppaimeni	Vulnerable	Leaves are chewed to get relief from worm treatment. Externally application of leaves to skin rashes.
4.	<i>Achyranthes aspera</i>	Amaranthaceae	Nayurivi	Threatened	For cuts and wounds the leaf juice applied externally and eaten raw. The dried whole plant ash used in wounds and fistula in anus.
5.	<i>Ficus racemosa</i> Linn.	Moraceae	Aththi	Threatened	fruit is tonic. Bark is good astringent.
6.	<i>Indigofera tinctoria</i> Linn.	Fabaceae	Avuri	Threatened	Leaf juice used to head oil, root decoction used for antidote.
7.	<i>Adathoda Vascica</i>	Acanthaceae	Adathodai	Threatened due to Habitat loss.	Leaf decoction for cold and cough.
8.	<i>Andrographis paniculata</i>	Acanthaceae	Nilavembu	Threatened	Local Native Vaidya's (Traditional Physicians) use whole plant treats joint pain, viral fevers.
9.	<i>Aegle mormelos</i>	Rutaceae	Vilvam	Threatened	Tender leaves chewed as tonic pulp & leaf juice dysentery & tuberculosis.
10.	<i>Aloe vera</i>	Liliaceae	Katralai	Threatened	Leaf juice used to remove face skin patches. Juice with turmeric powder applied a swellings, tumors and get relief from sprain oral consumption against digestive ailments.
11.	<i>Argemone maxicana</i>	Papavaraceae	Pramathandu	Threatened	Local Native Doctors use the yellow latex to apply on the sore mouth and tongue to get immediate relief.
12.	<i>Asparagus racemosus</i> wild	Liliaceae	Thanneervidan Kizhalangu.	Threatened	Local Native vaidyas use roots as tonic.
13.	<i>Azadirachta indica</i>	Meliaceae	Vembu	Threatened	All parts of the tree are said to have medicinal properties (seeds, leaves, flowers and bark) and are used for preparing many different medical

					preparations.
14.	<b><i>Cretava religiosa</i> DC.</b>	Capparidaceae	Mavelingam	Vulnerable	barks and leaves are used to cure sprains. Barks decoction used to lithontriptic and thyroid disorders.
15.	<b><i>Biophytum sensitivum</i> (L.) DC.</b>	Oxalidaceae	Mukkutti		It is also a reputed medicine for tuberculosis and asthma.
16.	<b><i>Butea monosperma</i></b>	Fabaceae	Palasu	Threatened	: its seeds used for worm treatment.
17.	<b><i>Phyllanthus emblica</i> Linn.</b>	Euphorbiaceae	Nelli	Threatened	The ripe fruits are eaten. This is a general tonic. The local women collect the fruits and sold in the village and city market Ponnakkudi, Tirunelveli
18.	<b><i>Calotropis procera</i></b>	Asclepiadaceae	Velerukku	Vulnerable	Latex applied on the fresh dog bite is quite effective. Dried flowers are used against asthma. Latex is applied for Joint pain and removes the thorn penetrated in to the foot. Tender leaves with neem oil paste is applied to cure Leucoderma.
19.	<b><i>Caesalpinia bunducella</i></b>	Caesalpinaceae	Kalarchi	Vulnerable	Leaf juice is administered in fever, Leucorrhea, Grown as thick and prickly fence around field for protection.
20.	<b><i>Tribulus terrestris</i> Linn.</b>	Zygophyllaceae	Neruncil	Threatened	Decoction of whole plant used as diuretic and urinary disorder. Very effective for urine troubles.
21.	<b><i>Centella asiatica</i></b>	Apiaceae	Vallarai	Common	The leaves are used to increase memory power. 5 leaves with 1 spoon honey given for 3 days.
22.	<b><i>Cassia fistula</i></b>	Caesalpinaceae	Sarakonrai	Threatened	Local Native Doctors use the bark to treat Leucorrhea-Excessive bleeding in menstrual cycles.
23.	<b><i>Capparis spinosa</i></b>	Capparidaceae	Kattotri	Threatened	In folk medicine, leaves used as cataplasm for boils, swelling and hemorrhoids. Decoction of root bark used for vomiting.
24.	<b><i>Corallocarpus epigaeus</i></b>	Cucurbitaceae	Akasakarudan	Threatened	Traditional Physicians use the root tubers to treat the cancer
25.	<b><i>Datura metel</i></b>	Solanaceae	Umathai	Threatened	Leaves in Asthma internally and external for sprains and contusion by Local Native Doctors
26.	<b><i>Gymnema sylvestre</i></b>	Asclepiadaceae	Sirukurenja	Threatened	Native Doctors treat diabetes in general, jaundice and fever by leaf tablets.
27.	<b><i>Gloriosa superba</i></b>	Liliaceae	Kalappai Kizhalangu	Endangered	Medicinal uses of <i>Gloriosa superba</i> : The tubers and leaves used in snakebite, leaves given to cattle as anti-worm treatment. Colchicine, an alkaloid obtained from the

					tubers and seeds fetches high price in the market and used in scientific research.
28.	<b><i>Phyla noddifolia</i> Linn.</b>	Verbanaceae	Podithalai karukku birami.	Threatened	Paste of whole plant is used against the children indigestion locally. Paste of leaves used as head paste for dandruff externally.
29.	<b><i>Hemidesmus indicus</i></b>	Asclepiadaceae	nannari	Threatened	This root is used as tea for blood purifying. It is good for prevention cancer.
30.	<b><i>Pongamia pinnata</i> Linn.</b>	Fabaceae	Pungu	Threatened	It is used as fungicidal action and astringent property. It's used as skin disorders.
31.	<b><i>Mimosa pudica</i></b>	Mimosaceae	Thoddal Vaddi	Threatened	Root used to Diabetes Mellitus. Decoction of whole plant used as washing to wounds.
32.	<b><i>Phyllanthus Niruri</i></b>	Euphorbiaceae	KeelkaiNelli	Threatened	Whole plant is used against in jaundice and liver diseases by local Native Doctors.
33.	<b><i>Plumbago Zeylanica</i></b>	Plumbaginaceae	Venkodivelli	Rare Vulnerable.	Root paste applied on tumors to cure and get relief.
34.	<b><i>Psoralea corylifolia</i></b>	Fabaceae	karpogarisi	Threatened	General uses are diuretic anthelmintic and antifungal. Used as leucoderma also.
35.	<b><i>Thespecia populnea</i> Linn.</b>	Malveceae	Poovarasam	Threatened vulnerable	Applied latex from leaves petioles on wounds and cuts. Decoction of bark is good astringent and antibacterial property.
36.	<b><i>Terminalia berlica</i> Linn</b>	Combretaceae	Thaanri	Threatened due to over utilization and habitat destruction.	this is main ingredient in Thiripala as famous drug in Ayurveda, siddha and Unani. Fruit pulp is general tonic and alterative.
37.	<b><i>Azadirachta indica</i> Linn.</b>	Meliaceae	Vembu	Threatened	The tender leaves are used by the local traditional Physicians in treatment of dysmenorrhea. Decoction of bark is used to periodic fever. Externally, leaves paste apply to skin disorders. Seeds used as preparation of Neem oil.
38.	<b><i>Tinospora cordifolia</i></b>	Menispermaceae	Seenthil	Threatened (Vulnerable) in wild	It leaves used as fomentation for common cold in children. This stem is used for Diabetes Mellitus as prepared Medicine.
39.	<b><i>Ficus hispida</i> Linn.</b>	Moraceae	Peyaththi	Threatened	Juice of the bark is used as antidote for snake bite. Leaves and bark are used freshly for external application to leucoderma.
40.	<b><i>Vitex negundo</i> Linn.</b>	Verbenaceae	Nochchi	Abundant and Low risk due to fast growth.	The tender leaves and flowers are put in to the nose to get rid the coldness. The matured leaves bed are used to get relief from the cold and body pain. Nochchi decoction is used to cure BP heart diseases, paralysis, Diabetes and other diseases by Native Doctors in Ponnakkudi,

					Tirunelveli District. Nochchi is a holy plant offered to Lord Shiva on the occasion of Mahashiva ratri by Hindus.
41.	<i>Sida cordifolia</i> Linn.	malvaceae	Sittamati	threatened	The roots are used as tonic to strength to the body and to make sexually strong. Decoction is used as muscular pain and nerve strength.
42.	<i>Pavonia ordarata</i> Linn.	malvaceae	Peramatti	threatened	The roots are used as tonic to <i>vatha</i> disorders. Decoction is used as muscular pain.
43.	<i>Cynodon dactilon</i> Linn.	Gramineae	Arugu	threatened	Fresh juice is tonic and good for kidney functions. This is good antidote. Good blood purifying.
44.	<i>Coccinea grandis</i> Linn.	Cucurbitacea	Kovai	threatened	Leaves used as spinaches. Unripe fruit used to Diabetes.
45.	<i>Solanum verbanasifolium</i> Linn.	solanaceae	Sundankathari	threatened	fruits are used for worm treatment.
46.	<i>Cardiospermum microcapum</i> Linn.	Sapindaceae	Mutakotham	threatened	The whole plants are used as tonic to strength to the body and to make sexually strong. Decoction is used as relieve muscular pain.
47.	<i>Callophyllum inophyllum</i> Linn.	Guttiferaceae	Punnai	threatened	This root used for traditional physicians for preparing medicines. This seeds are used for external fomentation for joint pain combine with other ingredients.
48.	<i>Terminalia arjuna</i> Linn.	Cobaretaceae	Maruthu	threatened	The barks are used as tonic to strength to the heart and to make cardiovascular strong. Decoction is used as chest pain.
49.	<i>Terminalia cattapa</i> Linn.	Combaretaceae	kathamaram	threatened	The kernel of the seeds are used as tonic to strength to the body.
50.	<i>Cuccuta reflexa</i> Linn.	Convolvulaceae	Thuthumakothan	threatened	The whole plants are used to strength to the ligaments and muscles strong. Externally application in fracture of bone.
51.	<i>Evolvulus alsiniodes</i> Linn.	Convolvulaceae	Vishnukiranthi	threatened	The whole plants are used as tonic to fever condition to the body and to make immune power. Decoction is used as fever.
52.	<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i> Linn.	Convolvulaceae	Vallal	threatened	The leaves are used as spinaches. It is used for control the Diabetes Mellitus.
53.	<i>Merremia tridentate</i> Linn.	Convolvulaceae	Muthiyarkunthal	threatened	The plants are used as tonic to strength to the body and to make muscular strong. Prepared oil is used as muscular pain.
54.	<i>Curculigo orchiodes</i> Linn.		Nilapanai	threatened	The roots are used as tonic to strength to the body and to make sexually strong. And this is nervine tonic also.



55.	<i>Momordica charantia</i> Linn.	Curcubitaceae	Pakal	threatened	This fruit used for control glucose level in Blood. It seeds useful for kill intestinal worms.
56.	<i>Cyperus rotundus</i> Linn.	Cyperaceae	Korai	threatened	The tubers are used as tonic to diarrhea patients. Decoction is used as astringent property.
57.	<i>Dioscorea triphylla</i> Linn.	Dipsacaceae	Allakodi	threatened	The tubers are used as tonic to strength to the body and to make muscular strong.
58.	<i>Dioscorea pentaphylla</i> Linn.	Dipsacaceae	Allakodi	threatened	The tubers are used as tonic to strength to the body and to make muscular strong.
59.	<i>Diospyros malabarica</i> Kostel.	Ebanaceae	Panicha	threatened	The pulp of fruits are used as tonic to strength to the joint and to make nourishment & strong of the joints.
60.	<i>Acalypha fruticosa</i> Linn.	Euphorbiaceae	Sinny	threatened	The barks are used as antidote for snake bite.
61.	<i>Euphorbia antiquorum</i> Linn.	Euphorbiaceae	Thirukalli	threatened	The latex used as kshara preparation in surgical corrections.
62.	<i>Ricinus communis</i> Linn.	Euphorbiaceae	Muthamaku	threatened	The leaves and roots are used as decoction for arthritis. Decoction is used as muscular pain. Leaves paste apply to galatagogue for lactating mothers.
63.	<i>Acacia leucophloea</i> Linn.	Fabaceae	velvel	threatened	The bark used substitute for Acacia Arabica. It is good astringent and used decoction of bark used cleaning wounds.
64.	<i>Adenanthera pavonina</i> Linn.	Fabaceae	Anaikunrim ani	threatened	The barks are used as paste for fracture and muscular pain. Juice of leaves and barks are used in oil.
65.	<i>Alysicarpus vaginalis</i> Linn.	Fabaceae	Pulladi	threatened	The whole plant used as diuretic. As one of the <i>dashamoola</i> and substitute for Shalaparni.

Table 1- Details of Medicinal plants in Ponnakkudi, Tirunelveli Dist.

Table 2- Local status of Medicinal plants (wild &amp; cultivated) in Ponnakkudi, Tirunelveli Dist.

No.	Tamil Name	Botanical Name
1	Agatti	Sesbania garandiflora.
2	Atti	Ficus recemosa.
3	Anthimalli	Mirabilis jalapa.
4	Ammanpachcharisi	Euphorbia pilurifera.

5	Ammayarkoondal	Curcuma reflexa.
6	Arasu	Ficus religiosa.
7	Arathai	Alpinia galanga.
8	Arival mookku patchilai	Sida acuta.
9	Arunelli	Phyllanthus acidus.
10	Alari	Nerium odorum.
11	Alli	Nymphaea nouchali.

12	Avarai	Lablab purpureus.
13	Avuri	Inidgofera tinctoria.
14	Azhavanam	Lawsonia inermis.
15	Azhinjil	Alangium salvifolium.
16	Arugu	Cynodon dactylon.
17	Arukirai	Amarantus tristis.
18	Adathodai	Justicia adatoda.
19	Adutheenadapalai	Aristolochia bracteolata.
20	Athondai	Capparis zeylanica.
21	Amanakku	Ricinus communis.
22	Peramanakku	Ricinus inermis.
23	Ayil	Chukarasia tabularis.
24	Araikirai	Marsilea quadrifolia.
25	Alamaram	Ficus benghalensis.
26	Aavarai	Cassia auriculata.
27	Al-vallikuzhang	Manihot esculenta.
28	Attuthumatti	Citrullus colocynthis.
29	Attunetti	Neptunia oleracea.
30	Anai – katrazhai	Agave Americana.
31	Anai kuntri	Adenantha pavonina.
32	Iruvi	Dryopteris felizmas.
33	Isangu	Clerodendrum inermis.
34	Inji	Zingiber officinale.
35	Iththi	Ficus microcarpa.
36	Impural	Oldenlandia umbellata.
37	Rattai - peimarutti	Anosomeles malabarica.
38	Ilanda maram	Ziziphus mauritinaia.
39	Ilavamaram	Bombax ceiba.
40	Iluppai	Madhuca longifolia.
41	Eechu (Sitrechu)	Phoenix sylvestris.
42	Perechu	Phonex dactilifera.
43	Echchura mooli	Aristolochia indica.
44	Ezhathalair	Plumeria rubra.
45	Uka	Salvadora persica.
46	Uthamakani	Pergularia daemia.
47	Uppilangodi	Mimosa paniculata.
48	Rudra jadai	Ocimum basilicum.
49	Uzhundu	Vigna mungo.
50	Umaththai	Datura metal.

51	Etti	Strychnos nux-vomica.
52	Erukku	Calotropis gigantea.
53	Elikkadilai	Merremia emarginata.
54	Eliyamankku	Jatropha curcas.
55	Elumichai	Citrus lemon.
56	Elumichan thulasi	Ocimum gratissimum.
57	Ellu	Sesamum indicum.
58	Ezhilapalai	Alstonia scholaris.
59	Iyvirali	Diplocyclos palmatus.
60	Oritazhtamarai	Ionidium suffruticosum.
61	Kakkarikkay	Cucumis sativus.
62	Kadambu	Anthocephalus cadamba.
63	Kadara naraththai	Citrus medica.
64	Chengadugu	Brassica juncea.
65	Kanap – pundu	Exacum pedunculatum.
66	Kandangkattari	Solanum surattense.
67	Kamuku	Areca catechu.
68	Kottaikaranthai	Spaeranthus indicus.
69	Kaththari	Solanum melongena.
70	Karisalankanni	Eclipta prostrata.
71	Karungali	Diospyrus ebanum
72	Karunai thandu	Amarphophallus paeonic folius.
73	Karpuravalli	Anisochilus carnosus.
74	Karumbu	Saccharum officinarum.
75	Kallapai kizhangu	Glorius superba.
76	Kaliyana pushnikay	Benincasa hispida.
77	Kaliyana murukku	Erythrina variegata.
78	Kavizh thumbai	Trichodesma indicum.
79	Kazharchi kodi	Caesalpinia bonduc
80	Kazhu-nir	Nymphaea alba
81	Kala	Crissa carandar
82	Kalippakku	Areca catechu
83	Kalli	Euphorbia ligularia
84	Shadhurakalli	Euphorbia antiquorum
85	Kari-vembu	Murraya koenigi
86	Katrazhai	Aloe barbadensis
87	Kariabolam	Aloe littoralis



88	Kakkanam	<i>Clitoria ternatea</i>
89	Kattatti	<i>Bauhinia tomentosa</i>
90	Kattamnakku	<i>Jatropha curcas</i>
91	Kattu elumichchai	<i>Atalantia malabarica</i>
92	Kattu ellu	<i>Sesamum prostratum</i>
93	Kattu kadugu	<i>Cleome viscosa</i>
94	Kattu Pagal	<i>Momordica dioica</i>
95	Kattu peipudal	<i>Trichosanthes lobata</i>
96	Kattu mullangi	<i>Blumea lacera</i>
97	Kattu Vengayam	<i>Urginea indica</i>
98	Kai-vallikkodi	<i>Dioscorea alata</i>
99	Kavatambul	<i>Cymbopogon martinii</i>
100	Kalen	<i>Agaricus campestris</i>
101	Kanam vazhai	<i>Commelina benghalensis</i>
102	Kitchilikizhangu	<i>Curcuma zeodaria</i>
103	Kitchilipazham	<i>Citrus aurantium</i>
104	Kilukiluppai	<i>Crotalaria retusa</i>
105	Kiraikal	Greens
106	Puthina	<i>Mentha arvensis</i>
107	Puliyarai	<i>Oxalis corniculata</i>
108	Manali kirai	<i>Gisekia pharnaceoides</i>
109	Kiraithandu	<i>Amaranthus gangeticus</i>
110	Kizhanelli	<i>Phyllanthus amarus</i>
111	Kudiyottupoondi	<i>Argemone mexicana</i>
112	Kuppeimeni	<i>Acalypha indica</i>
113	Kumizhmaran	<i>Gmelina arborea</i>
114	Kuruvich-chi	<i>Ehretia microphylla</i>
115	Kuruver	<i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i>
116	Kurattai	<i>Trichosanthes tricuspidata</i>
117	Kurinjam	<i>Gymnema sylvestre</i>
118	Kuntri	<i>Abrus precatorius</i>
119	Kuvai kizhangu	<i>Maranta arundinacea</i>
120	Kottikizhangu	<i>Aponogeton monostachyon</i>
121	Koththavarai	<i>Cyamopsis tetragonoloba</i>
122	Kollukkaivelai	<i>Tephrosia purpurea</i>
123	Konrai-Sarak-Konrai	<i>Cassia fistula</i>
124	Kodaga salai	<i>Rungia repens</i>

125	Gopuram targi	<i>Andrographis echinodes</i>
126	Korai	<i>Cyperus rotundus</i>
127	Kovai	<i>Coccinia grandis</i>
128	Charanai	<i>Trianthema decandra</i>
129	Chavukkumaram	<i>Casuarina equisetifolia</i>
130	Samanthipoo	<i>Chrysanthemum coronarium</i>
131	Sivathia	<i>Operculina turpethum</i>
132	Chirupeyathi	<i>Ficus hispida</i>
133	Chitramutti	<i>Pavonia zeylanica</i>
134	Peramutti	<i>Pavonia odorata</i>
135	Siththa	<i>Anona squamosa</i>
136	Sindil	<i>Tinospora cordifolia</i>
137	Chundai	<i>Solanum torvum</i>
138	Churai	<i>Lagenaria siceraria</i>
139	Cheppu – nerunjil	<i>Indigofera enneaphylla</i>
140	Chemparuththi	<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i>
141	Chemparuthi	<i>Gossypium arboreum</i>
142	Chembai	<i>Sesbania sesban</i>
143	Thakarai (Usithakarai)	<i>Cassia tora</i>
144	Peyavarai	<i>Cassia occidentalis</i>
145	Manathathakkali	<i>Solanum nigrum</i>
146	Thannirvittan	<i>Asparagus racemosus</i>
147	Tamaraththam	<i>Avarrhoa carambola</i>
148	Thazhuthazhai	<i>Clerodendrum phlomidis</i>
149	Thamarai	<i>Nelumbo nucifera</i>
150	Thazhai	<i>Pandanus odoratissimus</i>
151	Thantri	<i>Terminalia bellirica</i>
152	Thirakshi	<i>Vitis vinifera</i>
153	Thillai	<i>Excoecaria agallocha</i>
154	Thuththi	<i>Abutilon indicum</i>
155	Thumbai	<i>Leucas aspera</i>
156	Thulasi	<i>Ocimum sanctum</i>
157	Thuthuvalai	<i>Solanum trilobatum</i>
158	Tengumaram	<i>Cocos nucifera</i>
159	Thekku	<i>Tectona grandis</i>
160	Telkodukku	<i>Heliotropium indicum</i>

161	Thettan	<i>Strychnos potatorum.</i>
162	Thottar Chinungi	<i>Mimosa pudica.</i>
163	Nancharuppan	<i>Tylophora indica.</i>
164	Naththichuri	<i>Spermacoce hispida.</i>
165	Naralai	<i>Cayratia pedata.</i>
166	Nanthiavattam	<i>Tabernaemontana divaricata.</i>
167	Naruvili	<i>Cordia dichotoma.</i>
168	Nannari	<i>Hemidesmus indicus.</i>
169	Nagathali	<i>Opuntia dillenii.</i>
170	Nagamalli	<i>Rhinacanthus nasuta.</i>
171	Nayuruvi	<i>Achyranthes aspera.</i>
172	Naval	<i>Syzygium cumini.</i>
173	Nilakkadambu	<i>Asarum europaeum.</i>
174	Nilakumizh	<i>Gmelina asiatica.</i>
175	Nibrahmi	<i>Bacopa monnieri.</i>
176	Nirpola	<i>Phyllanthus reticulatus.</i>
177	Nirmulli	<i>Hygrophila auriculata.</i>
178	Nirmel neruppu	<i>Ammania baccifera.</i>
179	Nuna	<i>Morinda tinctoria.</i>
180	Nettilingam	<i>Polyalthia longifolia.</i>
181	Neichatti	<i>Vernonia cinerea.</i>
182	Nerunjil	<i>Tribulus terrestris.</i>
183	Nelli	<i>Phyllanthus emblica.</i>
184	Notchi	<i>Vitex negundo.</i>
185	Payaru	<i>Vigna mungo.</i>
186	Paruththi	<i>Gossypium herbaceum.</i>
187	Pappali	<i>Casica papaya.</i>
188	Chemparuththi	<i>Gossypium arboreum.</i>
189	Pala	<i>Artocarpus heterophyllus.</i>
190	Palasu	<i>Butea monosperma.</i>
191	Pakal	<i>Momorchica charantia.</i>
192	Palai	<i>Manikara hexandra.</i>
193	Piray	<i>Streblus asper.</i>
194	Pirandai	<i>Cissus quadrangularis.</i>
195	Chirupelai	<i>Aerva lanata.</i>
196	Pungu	<i>Pongamia pinnata.</i>

197	Pudal	<i>Trichosanthes cucumescina.</i>
198	Puli	<i>Tamarindus indicus.</i>
199	Punnai	<i>Calophyllum inophyllum.</i>
200	Puvarasu	<i>Thespesia populnea.</i>
201	Poduthalai	<i>Phytia nodiflora.</i>
202	Ponmusuttai	<i>Sida acuta.</i>
203	Ponnanganni	<i>Alternanthera sessilis.</i>
204	Magizh	<i>Mimosa elengi.</i>
205	Manjal	<i>Curcuma longa.</i>
206	Mallikai	<i>Jasminum grandiflorum.</i>
207	Maruthu	<i>Terminalia arjuna.</i>
208	Ma	<i>Mangifera indica.</i>
209	Mathulai	<i>Punica granatum.</i>
210	Mavilangu	<i>Crateva magna.</i>
211	Milakaranai	<i>Todalia asiatica.</i>
212	Musumusukkai	<i>Mukia madraspatana.</i>
213	Mudakkattan	<i>Cadiospermum helicacabum.</i>
214	Munthiri	<i>Anacardium occidentale.</i>
215	Murungai	<i>Moringa oleifera.</i>
216	Mukkirattai	<i>Boerhavia diffusa.</i>
217	Mungil	<i>Bambusa arundinacea.</i>
218	Vasambu	<i>Acorus calamus.</i>
219	Vandukolli	<i>Cassia alata.</i>
220	Vagai	<i>Albizia lebeck.</i>
221	Vadhanarayan	<i>Delonix elata.</i>
222	Vazhai	<i>Musa paradisiaca.</i>
223	Vilvam	<i>Aegle marmelos.</i>
224	Vilamaram	<i>Limonia acidissima.</i>
225	Vishamunkil	<i>Crinum asiaticum.</i>
226	Vishnukiranthi	<i>Evolvulus alsinoides.</i>
227	Peyatti	<i>Ficus hispida.</i>
228	Vengayam	<i>Alium cepa.</i>
229	Vetchi	<i>Ixora coccia.</i>
230	Vendakai	<i>Abelmoschus esculantus.</i>
231	Vellarikai	<i>Cucumis sativus.</i>
232	Vellarugu	<i>Enicostemma axillare.</i>
233	Vettilai	<i>Piper betle.</i>

234	Vengai	<i>Pterocarpus marsupium</i> .
235	Vembu	<i>Azadirachta indica</i> .
236	Verkadalai	<i>Arachis hypogea</i> .
237	Vel	<i>Acacia nilotica</i> .
238	Velai	<i>Cleome viscosa</i> .
239	Thaivelai	<i>Gynandropsis gynandra</i> .
240	Nagananda	<i>Dicelptera paniculata</i>
241	Kattukodi	<i>Cocculus indicus</i>
242	vari katralai	<i>Sensiveria rotants</i>
243	seru Punaikalli	<i>Passiflora</i>

244	perum puladi	<i>Desmodium giganticum</i>
245	Seru pulladi	<i>Desmodium trifolium</i>
246	Serukurecha	<i>Gymnena latifolia</i>
247	Kala	<i>Carissa carandas</i>
248	Senkaththari	<i>Capparis spinosa</i>
249	Nai thumbai	<i>Leucus zeylanica</i>
250	Mulladi nayakan	<i>Cissus tetrafolia</i>
251	Kachchal kodi	<i>Cocculus hirsutus</i> Diels.

## Discussion

This Study revealed a considerable medicinal plant diversity of Ponnakkudi, Tirunelveli district. Data were compared with the available literature of different regions of India on medicinal plants and was found that many of these are not recorded earlier. In Indian ethnobotanical studies on medicinal plants were conducted earlier in other districts. However, in Ponnakkudi, Tirunelveli district, No detailed studies on ethno medicine have been conducted. The formulation and standardization of these effective phyto-medicines should be encouraged for their sustainable uses and preservation of endangered species of this area. The data accrued is expected to be useful for the development of the herbal drug industries to improve tribal and rural economy of Ponnakkudi, Tirunelveli district. The plants which are accrued are to be used single or combination with others. Some information pertaining to particular remedy from different localities or groups of informants reflects the accuracy and authenticity of the medicines on the phyto-chemistry. The Data from the Traditional practitioners will be helpful further for the Scientific assessment of these medicines on phyto-chemistry, Biological activity and clinical studies are, however necessary. This may provide a lead in the development of drugs to be used in modern system of medicine.

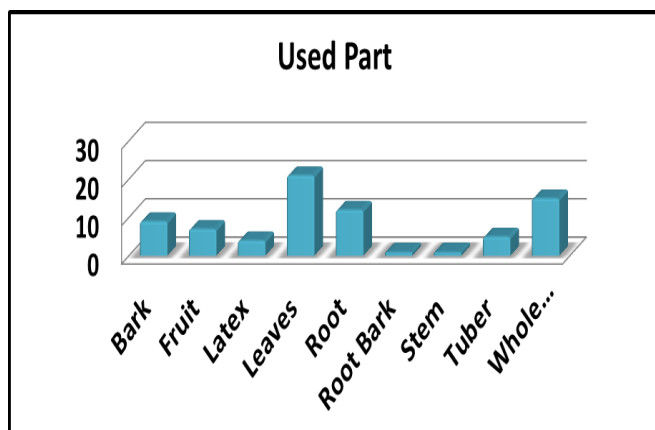


Chart: 01- plant families

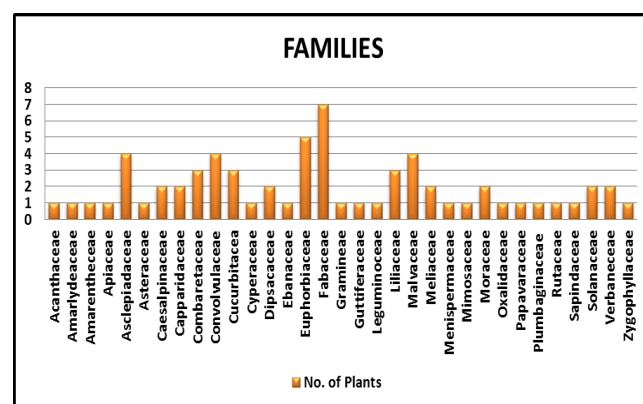


Chart: 02- Part used of plants

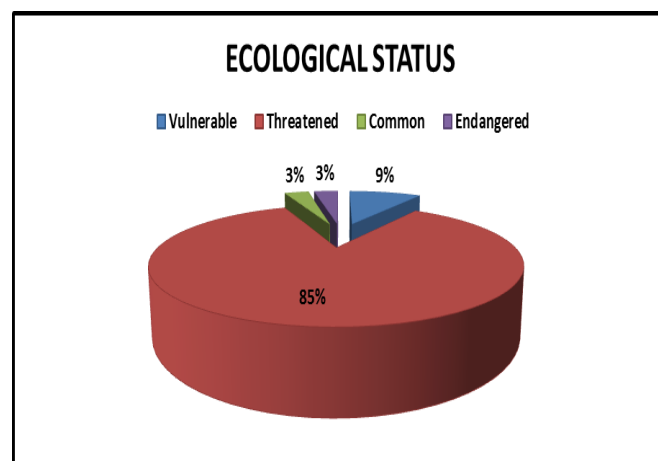


Chart: 03- Ecological status of plants

## CONCLUSION

There is always a hunt for rich ethno botanical knowledge for ethno botanical studies of medicinal plants. Further, this research has placed on records the local uses of medicinally

important plants which were interviewed among 38 local people of Ponnakkudi, Tirunelveli district. The traditional healers are the main source of knowledge on medicinal plants. In Ponnakkudi, Tirunelveli district, many local people are going for agriculture and sustainable harvesting of plants with medicinal value which helps not only in conservation of these traditional medicinally important plants but also in marketing of these plants and their products for economic growth of the people. Finally, to conclude, 33 family plants were found out within the most important 65 medicinal plants among 251 is present in study area now, this research article will attract the attention of ethno botanists, phyto-chemists and pharmacologists for further critical investigation of medicinal plants present in the districts of Tamil Nadu, India.

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### APPENDIX:

#### MEDICINAL PLANTS:



*Barlaria mysorensis*



*Lepidagathis pungens*



*Euphorbia hirta*





*Withania somnifera*



*Eclipta prostate*



*Phyllanthus amrus*