

**EXISTENCE AND SURVEY OF MEDICINAL PLANTS OF THIRU
PALANI MURUGAN KOVIL, ASIKULAM, VAVUNIYA DISTRICT,
NORTHERN PROVINCE, SRI LANKA**

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ABSTRACT

Vavuniya district have several medicinal plants, it helped to develop the traditional knowledge and folk medicine to cure various diseases. This knowledge is used by pharmaceutical agents, suppliers and Phytochemistry researchers to exploit the rich source in the form of raw drugs. An ethno botanical survey of Vavuniya District was made to collect the information from traditional practitioners with the use of medicinal plants of Vavuniya District of Sri Lanka. As this survey About 33 families and 65 plants within 280 medicinal valued plants largely used by the traditional practitioners and local peoples of

Vavuniya District 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, document the existence of medicinal plants of Asikulam area, Vavuniya District for the benefit of mankind and further investigation.

KEYWORDS- Medicinal plants, Vavuniya district, Traditional practitioner.

INTRODUCTION

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 ethnobotanical 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. About one third population of Vavuniya district have been depending on the traditional medicine as it is provided free of charge by government,

commonly available, and does not cause any side effects. Since there is no so far study reported in the district, the present report is communicated.

METHODOLOGY

Study area

Asikulam is located on South East direction of Vavuniya District. (Figures) this is the one of boarder of Vavuniya District from Anuradhapura District. Asikulam is 35km from Vavuniya town and Town and Country Plan developing area. This area fully occupied by farming and Wood cutters commonly. This rural area is filled Poor community people.

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

Sri Lanka Map



Vavuniya map



Fig. 2- Location Map of Asikulam, Vavuniya District, Northern Province (Sri Lanka)

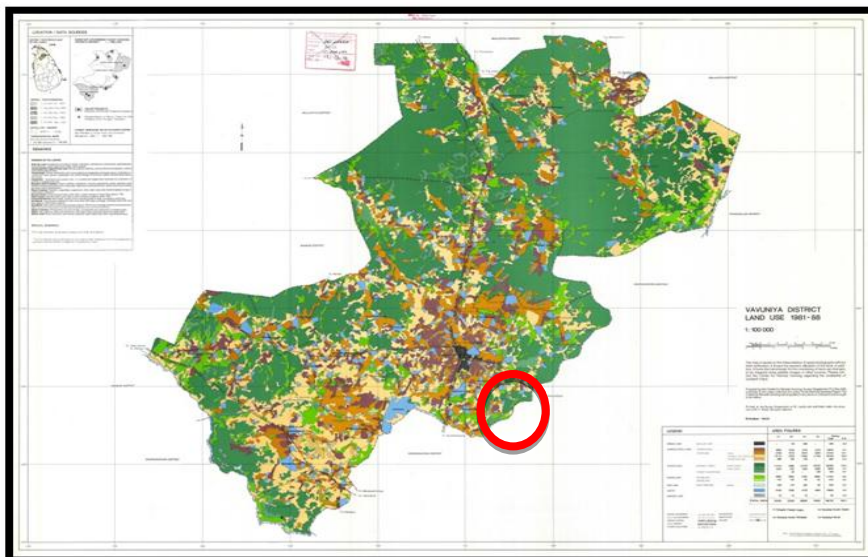
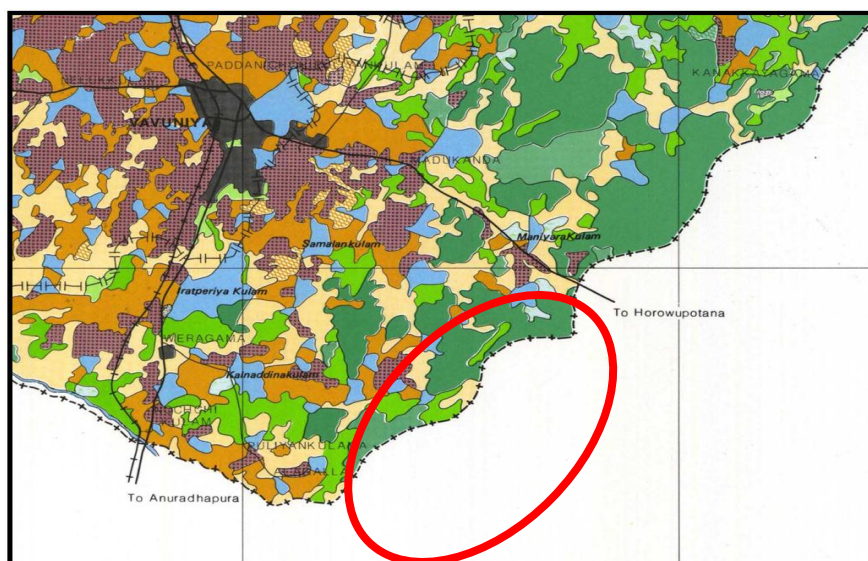


Figure- 3,4: Research Area- Ashikulam, Vavuniya.



Data Collection

Survey

In order to assess the consumption of indigenous medicinal plants, survey was carried out during the year, 2012 in the areas of Asikulam, Vavuniya district in Northern Province, Sri Lanka. To get maximum information the survey was widened diagonally during the following rainy season.

Asikulam, Vavuniya have so many famous Traditional Medical Practitioners in twenty years ago. Their families and generations are displaced to other station for various reasons therefore Traditional Medical Practitioners (TMP's) generations 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. A total of 38 inhabitants were interviewed. Randomly people were selected of which 21 men and 17 women of age 35 and above were interviewed in their local language, that is, Tamil. In addition, direct plant observation and identification was done with the help of local healers known as 'Parikariyar'. Author also as a Doctor and have enough knowledge about medicinal plants in Sri Lanka. 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 ($P < 0.005$).

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 Asikulam, Vavuniya District. And identified medicinal plants countered 280 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

Table 1- Details of Medicinal plants in Asikulam, Vavuniya Dist.

| No | Botanical Name | Family | Tamil | Sinhala | Ecological Status | Medicinal Uses |
|----|-----------------------------------|----------------|------------|------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| 1. | <i>Abutilon indicum</i> | Malvaceae | Thuthi | Beheth Anoda | 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> | | Kunrimani | Olinda | 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. | Asteraceae | Kuppaimeni | Kuppameniya | Vulnerable | Leaves are chewed to get relief from worm treatment. Externally application of leaves to skin rashes. |
| 4. | <i>Achyranthes aspera</i> | | Nayurivi | Karelsebo | 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 | Atti | Threatened | fruit is tonic. Bark is good astringent. |
| 6. | <i>Indigofera tinctoria</i> Linn. | Leguminoceae | Avuri | Nilavariya | Threatened | Leaf juice used to head oil, root decoction used for antidote. |
| 7. | <i>Adathoda Vascica</i> | Asclepiadaceae | Adathodai | Adathoda | Threatened due to Habitat loss. | Leaf decoction for could and cough. |
| 8. | <i>Andrographis paniculata</i> | Acanthaceae | Nilavembu | Heen bin-Kohomba | Threatened | Local Native Vaidya's (Traditional Physicians) use whole plant treats joint pain, viral fevers. |
| 9. | <i>Aegle mormelos</i> | Rutaceae | Vilvam | Beli | Threatened | Tender leaves chewed as tonic pulp & leaf juice dysentery & tuberculosis. |

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|-----|--------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|-------------|------------|---|
| 10. | <i>Aloe vera</i> | Liliaceae | Katralai | Komarica | 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 soar mouth and tongue to get immediate relief. |
| 12. | <i>Asparagus racemosus wild</i> | Liliaceae | Thanneerviddan Kizhalangu. | hathawariya | Threatened | Local Native vaidyas use roots as tonic. |
| 13. | <i>Azadirachta indica</i> | Meliaceae | Vembu | Kohomba | Threatened | All parts of the tree are said to have medicinal proper-ties (seeds, leaves, flowers and bark) and are used for preparing many different medical preparations. |
| 14. | <i>Cretava religiosa DC.</i> | Capparidacea | Mavelingam | Lunuwarana | Vulnerable | barks and leaves are used to cure sprains. Barks decoction used to lithontripic and thyroid disorders. |
| 15. | <i>Biophytum sensitivum (L.) DC.</i> | Oxalidaceae | Mukkutti | | | It is also a reputed medicine for tuberculosis and asthma. |
| 16. | <i>Butea monosperma</i> | Fabaceae | Palasu | Palas | Threatened | : its seeds used for worm treatment. |
| 17. | <i>Phyllanthus emblica Linn.</i> | Euphorbiaceae | Nelli | 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 Asikulam, Vavuniya |
| 18. | <i>Calotropis procera</i> | Asclepiadaceae | Velerukku | Ela-Vara | 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 |

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| | | | | | | the thorn penetrated in to the foot. Tender leaves with neem oil paste is applied to cure Leucoderma. |
| 19. | <i>Caesalpinia bunducella</i> | Caesalpinaceae | Kalarchi | Kumbuk | Vulnerable | Leaf juice is administered in fever, Leucorrhea, Grown as thick and prickly fence around field for protection. |
| 20 | <i>Tribulus terristis</i> Linn. | Zygophyllaceae | Neruncil | Nerunchi | Threatened | Decoction of whole plant used as diuretic and urinary disorder. Very effective for urine troubles. |
| 21. | <i>Centella asiatica</i> | Apiaceae | Vallarai | Gotu Kola | Common | The leaves are used to increase memory power.5 leaves with 1 spoon honey given for 3 days. |
| 22. | <i>Cassia fistula</i> | Caesalpinaceae | Sarakonrai | Ahala | Threatened | Local Native Doctors use the bark to treat Leucorrhea-Excessive bleeding in menstrual cycles. |
| 23. | <i>Capparis spinosa</i> | Capparidaceae | Kattotri | vellankiriya | Threatened | In folk medicine, leaves used as cataplasm for boils, swelling and hemorrhoids. Decoction of root bark used for vomiting. |
| 24. | <i>Corallocarpus epigaeus</i> | Cucurbitaceae | Akasakarudan | Palas | Threatened | Traditional Physicians use the root tubers to treat the cancer |
| 25. | <i>Datura metal</i> | Solaneceae | Umathai | Athana | Threatened | Leaves in Asthma internally and external for sprains and contusion by Local Native Doctors |
| 26. | <i>Gymnema sylvestre</i> | Asclepiadaceae | Sirukurenja | Masbetha | Threatened | Native Doctors treat diabetes in general, jaundice and fever by leaf tablets. |
| 27. | <i>Gloriosa superba</i> | Liliace | Kalappai Kizhalangu | visha alla | 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 |

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|-----|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------|---|--|
| | | | | | | from the tubers and seeds fetches high price in the market and used in scientific research. |
| 28. | <i>Phyla noddifolia</i> Linn. | Verbaneceae | Podithalai karukku birami. | Poduthal | Threatened | Paste of whole plant is used against the children indigestion locally. Paste of leaves used as head paste for dandruff externally. |
| 29. | <i>Hemidesmus indicus</i> | Asclepiadaceae | nannari | Iramusu | Threatened | This root is used as tea for blood purifying. It is good for prevention cancer. |
| 30. | <i>Pongamia pinnata</i> Linn. | Fabaceae | Pungu | Karantha | Threatened | It is used as fungicidal action and astringent property. It's used as skin disorders. |
| 31. | <i>Mimosa pudica</i> | Mimosaceae | Thoddal Vaddi | Nidikumba | Threatened | Root used to Diabetes Mellitus. Decoction of whole plant used as washing to wounds. |
| 32. | <i>Phyllanthus Niruri</i> | Euphorbiaceae | KeelkaiNelli | Pitavaka | Threatened | Whole plant is used against in jaundice and liver diseases by local Native Doctors. |
| 33. | <i>Plumbago Zeylanica</i> | Plumbaginaceae | Venkodivelli | Elanitol | Rare Vulnerable. | Root paste applied on tumors to cure and get relief. |
| 34. | <i>Psoralea corylifolia</i> | Fabaceae | karpogarisi | bachuchi | Threatened | General uses are diuretic anthelmintic and antifungal. Used as leucoderma also. |
| 35. | <i>Thespecia populnea</i> Linn. | Malveceae | Poovarasam | Gansuriya | Threatened vulnerable | Applied latex from leaves petioles on wounds and cuts. Decoction of bark is good astringent and antibacterial property. |
| 36. | <i>Terminalia berlica</i> Linn | Combreteceae | Thaanri | Bulu | 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. |

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|-----|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------|-----------------|---|--|
| 37. | <i>Azadirachta indica</i> Linn. | Meliaceae | Vembu | Kohomba | 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. | <i>Tinospora cordifolia</i> | Menispermaceae | Seenthil | Rasahintha | 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. | <i>Ficus hispida</i> Linn. | Morecea | Peyaththi | Kotathimbula | Threated | Juice of the bark is used as antidote for snake bite. Leaves and bark are used freshly for external application to leucoderma. |
| 40. | <i>Vitex negundo</i> Linn. | Verbenaceae | Nochchi | Nikka | 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 Asikulam, Vavuniya 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 | suwantha bavila | 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 | maa bavila | threatened | The roots are used as tonic to <i>vatha</i> |

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|-----|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|------------|--|
| | | | | | | disorders. Decoction is used as muscular pain. |
| 43. | <i>Cynodon dactylon</i> Linn. | Gramineae | Arugu | Eethana | 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 | Kovakka | threatened | Leaves used as spinaches. Unripe fruit used to Diabetes. |
| 45. | <i>Solanum verbanasifolium</i> Linn. | solanaceae | Sundankathari | heen batu | threatened | fruits are used for worm treatment. |
| 46. | <i>Cardiospermum microcapum</i> Linn | Sapindaceae | Mutakotham | valpanala | 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 | domba | 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 | Kumbuk | 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 | Kottan | threatened | The kernel of the seeds are used as tonic to strength to the body. |
| 50. | <i>Cuccuta reflexa</i> Linn. | Convolvulaceae | Thuthumakothan | aga mulla neti wal. | 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 | Vishnukiranti | 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 | kankun | threatened | The leaves are used as spinaches. It is used for control the Diabetes |

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|-----|-------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|------------|--|
| | | | | | | Mellitus. |
| 53. | <i>Merremia tridentate</i> Linn. | Convolvulaceae | Muthiyarkunthal | Heen madu | 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 | Binthal | 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 | karavila | 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 | Kalanthuru ala | threatened | The tubers are used as tonic to diarrhea patients. Decoction is used as astringent property. |
| 57. | <i>Dioscorea triphylla</i> Linn. | Dipsacaceae | Allakodi | alla | 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 | Alla | 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 | Timbiri | 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 | Chinni | threatened | The barks are used as antidote for snake bite. |
| 61. | <i>Euphorbia antiquorum</i> Linn. | Euphorbiaceae | Thirukalli | Daluk | threatened | The latex used as kshara preparation in surgical corrections. |
| 62. | <i>Ricinus communis</i> Linn. | Euphorbiaceae | Muthamaku | Endaru | 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. |

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|-----|------------------------------------|----------|---------------|-------------|------------|---|
| 63. | <i>Acacia leucophloea</i> Linn. | Fabaceae | velvel | maha andara | threatened | The bark used substitute for <i>Acacia Arabica</i> . It is good astringent and used decoction of bark used cleaning wounds. |
| 64. | <i>Adenantha pavonina</i> Linn | Fabaceae | Anaikunrimani | Mathatiya | 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 | Aswanna | threatened | The whole plant used as diuretic. As one of the <i>dashamoola</i> and substitute for <i>Shalaparni</i> . |

Table 2- Local status of Medicinal plants (wild & cultivated) in Asikulam, Vavuniya Dist.

| No. | Botanical Name | Tamil Name |
|-----|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | <i>Abelmoschus esculantus.</i> | Vendakai |
| 2 | <i>Abrus precatorius</i> | Kuntri |
| 3 | <i>Abutilon indicum.</i> | Thuththi |
| 4 | <i>Acacia leucophloea.</i> | Velvel |
| 5 | <i>Acalypha fruticosa.</i> | Chini |
| 6 | <i>Acalypha indica</i> | Kuppeimeni |
| 7 | <i>Achyranthes aspera.</i> | Nayuruvi |
| 8 | <i>Acorus calamus.</i> | Vasambu |
| 9 | <i>Adenanthera pavonina.</i> | Anai kuntri |
| 10 | <i>Aegle marmelos.</i> | Vilvam |
| 11 | <i>Aerva lanata.</i> | Chirupelai |
| 12 | <i>Agave Americana.</i> | Anai – katrazhai |
| 13 | <i>Alangium salvifolium.</i> | Azhinjil |
| 14 | <i>Albizia lebeck.</i> | Vagai |
| 15 | <i>Alium cepa.</i> | Vengayam |
| 16 | <i>Aloe barbadensis</i> | Katrazhai |
| 17 | <i>Aloe littoralis</i> | Kariabolam |
| 18 | <i>Alpinia galanga.</i> | Arathai |
| 19 | <i>Alternanthera sessilis.</i> | Ponnanganni |
| 20 | <i>Amaranthus gangeticus</i> | Kiraitandu |
| 21 | <i>Amarantus tristis.</i> | Arukirai |
| 22 | <i>Amarphophallus campanilatus</i> | Karunai thandu |
| 23 | <i>Ammania baccifera.</i> | Nirmel neruppu |
| 24 | <i>Anacardium occidentale.</i> | Munthiri |
| 25 | <i>Ananas comosus.</i> | Annasipazham |
| 26 | <i>Andrographis echiodes</i> | Gopuram targi |
| 27 | <i>Andrographis paniculata.</i> | Nilavembu |
| 28 | <i>Aniso chilus carnosus.</i> | Karpuravalli |
| 29 | <i>Anona squamosa.</i> | Siththa |
| 30 | <i>Anosomeles malabarica.</i> | Rattai - peimarutti |
| 31 | <i>Anthocephalus cadamba.</i> | Kadambu |
| 32 | <i>Aponogeton monostachyon</i> | Kottikizhangu |
| 33 | <i>Arachis hypogea.</i> | Verkadalai |
| 34 | <i>Areca catechu</i> | Kalippakku |
| 35 | <i>Areca catechu.</i> | Kamuku |
| 36 | <i>Argemone mexicana</i> | Kudiyottupoonu |
| 37 | <i>Argyreia nervosa.</i> | Kadarpalai |
| 38 | <i>Aristolochia bracteolata.</i> | Adutheenadapalai |
| 39 | <i>Aristolochia indica.</i> | Echchura mooli |
| 40 | <i>Artemisia nilagisica.</i> | Masipathisi |
| 41 | <i>Artocarpus heterophyllus.</i> | Pala |
| 42 | <i>Asarum europaeum.</i> | Nilakkadambu |
| 43 | <i>Asparagus racemosus.</i> | Thannirvittan |
| 44 | <i>Atalantia malabarica</i> | Kattu elumichchai |
| 45 | <i>Avarrhoa carambola.</i> | Tamaraththam |
| 46 | <i>Averrhoa bilimbi.</i> | Pilimbi |

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|----|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 47 | <i>Azadirachta indica.</i> | Vembu |
| 48 | <i>Bacopa monnieri.</i> | Nibrahmi |
| 49 | <i>Bambusa arundinacea.</i> | Mungil |
| 50 | <i>Bauhinia purpurea.</i> | Mantharai (red) |
| 51 | <i>Bauhinia tomentosa</i> | Kattatti |
| 52 | <i>Benincasa hispida.</i> | Kaliyana pushnikay |
| 53 | <i>Biophytum sensitivicum.</i> | Mutkuththi |
| 54 | <i>Boerhavia diffusa.</i> | Mukkirattai |
| 55 | <i>Bombax ceiba.</i> | Ilavamaram |
| 56 | <i>Brassica alba.</i> | Vengadugu |
| 57 | <i>Butea monosperma.</i> | Palasu |
| 58 | <i>Cadiospermum helicacabum.</i> | Mudakkattan |
| 59 | <i>Caesalpinia bonduc</i> | Kazharchi kodi |
| 60 | <i>Cajanus cajan.</i> | Thuvarai |
| 61 | <i>Calanus rotang.</i> | Pirappan kizhangu |
| 62 | <i>Calophyllum inophyllum.</i> | Punnai |
| 63 | <i>Calotropis gigantea.</i> | Erukku |
| 64 | <i>Capparis zeylanica.</i> | Athondai |
| 65 | <i>Carica papaya.</i> | Pappali |
| 66 | <i>Cassia alata.</i> | Vandukolli |
| 67 | <i>Cassia auriculata.</i> | Aavarai |
| 68 | <i>Cassia fistula</i> | Konrai-Sarak Konrai |
| 69 | <i>Cassia margiuata</i> | Senkonrai |
| 70 | <i>Cassia occidentalis.</i> | Peyavarai |
| 71 | <i>Cassia senna.</i> | Nila varai |
| 72 | <i>Cassia tora.</i> | Thakarai(Usithakarai) |
| 73 | <i>Casuarina equisetifolia.</i> | Chavukkumaram |
| 74 | <i>Catunaregum spinora</i> | Karai |
| 75 | <i>Catunaregum spinosa.</i> | Marakkarai |
| 76 | <i>Cayratia pedata.</i> | Naralai |
| 77 | <i>Centella asiatica.</i> | Vallarai |
| 78 | <i>Chrysanthemum coronarium.</i> | Samanthipoo |
| 79 | <i>Chukarasia tabularis.</i> | Ayil |
| 80 | <i>Cissus quadrangularis.</i> | Pirandai |
| 81 | <i>Citrullus colocynthis.</i> | Attuthumatti |
| 82 | <i>Citrus aurantium</i> | Kitchilipazham |
| 83 | <i>Citrus lemon.</i> | Elumichai |
| 84 | <i>Citrus medica.</i> | Kadara naraththai |
| 85 | <i>Cleistanthus collinus.</i> | Odukkam |
| 86 | <i>Cleome viscose.</i> | Velai |
| 87 | <i>Clerodendrum phlomoidis.</i> | Thazhuthazhai |
| 88 | <i>Clitoria ternatea</i> | Kakkanam |
| 89 | <i>Coccinia grandis</i> | Kovai |
| 90 | <i>Cocos nucifera.</i> | Tengumaram |
| 91 | <i>Coffea Arabica</i> | kappikottai |
| 92 | <i>Colocasia esculenta.</i> | Sembu |
| 93 | <i>Commelina benghalensis</i> | Kanam vazhai |
| 94 | <i>Commiphora myrrh.</i> | Valendrabolam |

| | | |
|-----|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 95 | <i>Convolvulus repens.</i> | Vallikodi |
| 96 | <i>Corallocarpus epigaeus.</i> | Akasagarudan |
| 97 | <i>Cordia dichotoma.</i> | Naruvili |
| 98 | <i>Crateava magna.</i> | Mavilangu |
| 99 | <i>Crinum asiaticum.</i> | Vishamunkil |
| 100 | <i>Crissa carandar</i> | Kala |
| 101 | <i>Crotalaria retusa</i> | Kilukiluppai |
| 102 | <i>Cucumis sativus.</i> | Kakkarikkay |
| 103 | <i>Cucumis sativus.</i> | Vellarikai |
| 104 | <i>Cucurbita maxima.</i> | Paragikai |
| 105 | <i>Curculigo orchioides.</i> | Nilappanai |
| 106 | <i>Curcuma zeodaria</i> | Kitchilikizhangu |
| 107 | <i>Curcuta reflexa.</i> | Ammayarkoondal |
| 108 | <i>Curuma longa.</i> | Manjal |
| 109 | <i>Cycus circinalis.</i> | Madanakamappu |
| 110 | <i>Cynodon dactylon.</i> | Arugu |
| 111 | <i>Cyperus rotandus</i> | Korai |
| 112 | <i>Datura metal.</i> | Umaththai |
| 113 | <i>Delonix elata.</i> | Vadhanarayan |
| 114 | <i>Desmodium gangeticum.</i> | Pulladi |
| 115 | <i>Dichrostachys cinerea.</i> | Vidathasi |
| 116 | <i>Dioscorea alata</i> | Kai-vallikkodi |
| 117 | <i>Dioscorea esculenta.</i> | Valli |
| 118 | <i>Diplocyclos palmatus.</i> | Iyvirali |
| 119 | <i>Dodonaea viscosa.</i> | Virali |
| 120 | <i>Eclipta prostrata.</i> | Karisalankanni |
| 121 | <i>Ehretia microphylla</i> | Kuruvich-chi |
| 122 | <i>Elacocarpus sphacsisus.</i> | Rudraksham |
| 123 | <i>Enicostemma axillare.</i> | Vellarugu |
| 124 | <i>Erythrina variegata.</i> | Kaliyana murukku |
| 125 | <i>Euphorbia ligularia</i> | Kalli |
| 126 | <i>Euphorbia pilurifera.</i> | Ammanpachcharisi |
| 127 | <i>Euphoriabia ligularia.</i> | Ilaikalli |
| 128 | <i>Euphorpia antiquorum</i> | Shadhurakalli |
| 129 | <i>Evolvulus alsinoides.</i> | Vishnukiranthi |
| 130 | <i>Exacum pedunculatum.</i> | Kanap – pundu |
| 131 | <i>Ficus benghalensis.</i> | Alamaram |
| 132 | <i>Ficus hispida.</i> | Chirupeyathi |
| 133 | <i>Ficus hispida.</i> | Peyatti |
| 134 | <i>Ficus microcarpa.</i> | Iththi |
| 135 | <i>Ficus recemosa.</i> | Atti |
| 136 | <i>Ficus religiosa.</i> | Arasu |
| 137 | <i>Garcinia xanthochymus.</i> | Pachillai |
| 138 | <i>Gisekia pharnaceoides</i> | Manali kirai |
| 139 | <i>Gloriosa superba.</i> | Chevaganar kizhangu |
| 140 | <i>Glorius superba.</i> | Kallapai kizhangu |
| 141 | <i>Glycosmis arborea</i> | Kodiveli |
| 142 | <i>Gmelina asiatica.</i> | Nilakumizh |

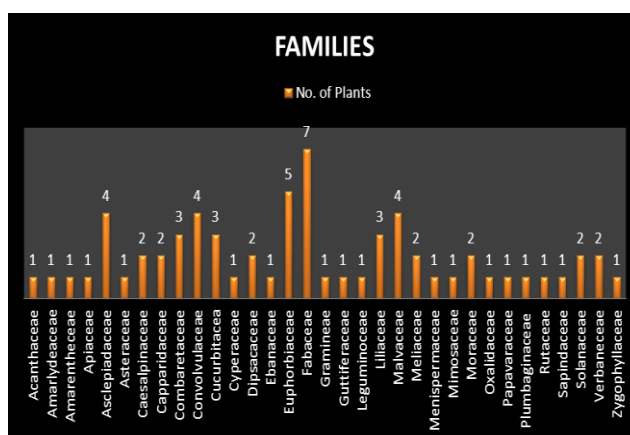
| | | |
|-----|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 143 | <i>Gossypium arboretum.</i> | Chemparuthi |
| 144 | <i>Gossypium arboretum.</i> | Chemparuththi |
| 145 | <i>Gossypium herbaceum.</i> | Paruththi |
| 146 | <i>Greens</i> | Kiraikal |
| 147 | <i>Gymnema sylvestre</i> | Kurinjam |
| 148 | <i>Gynandropsis gynandra.</i> | Thaivelai |
| 149 | <i>Helianthus annus.</i> | Suriyakanthi |
| 150 | <i>Helicteres isora.</i> | Valampusikkai |
| 151 | <i>Heliotropium indicum.</i> | Telkodukku |
| 152 | <i>Hemidesmus indicus.</i> | Nannari |
| 153 | <i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis.</i> | Chemparuththi |
| 154 | <i>Horastrus fbellifer.</i> | Panai |
| 155 | <i>Hygrophila auriculata.</i> | Nirmulli |
| 156 | <i>Indigofera aspalathoides.</i> | Shivanar vembu |
| 157 | <i>Indigofera enneaphylla.</i> | Cheppu – nerunjil |
| 158 | <i>Inidgofera tinctoria.</i> | Avuri |
| 159 | <i>Ionidium suffruticosum.</i> | Oritazhtamarai |
| 160 | <i>Ipomea pes-caprae.</i> | Musarkathilai |
| 161 | <i>Ixora coccia.</i> | Vetchi |
| 162 | <i>Jasminum grandiflorum.</i> | Malli |
| 163 | <i>Jatropha curcas</i> | Kattamnakku |
| 164 | <i>Jatropha curcas.</i> | Eliyamankku |
| 165 | <i>Justicia adatoda.</i> | Adathodai |
| 166 | <i>Lablab purpureus.</i> | Avarai |
| 167 | <i>Lagenaria siceraria.</i> | Churai |
| 168 | <i>Lawsonia inermis.</i> | Azhavanam |
| 169 | <i>Leucas aspera.</i> | Thumbai |
| 170 | <i>Limonia acidissima.</i> | Vilamaram |
| 171 | <i>Madhuca longifolia.</i> | Iluppai |
| 172 | <i>Mangifera indica.</i> | Ma |
| 173 | <i>Manihot esculenta.</i> | A1 – vallikuzhang |
| 174 | <i>Maranta arundinacea</i> | Kuvai kizhangu |
| 175 | <i>Marsilea quadrifolia.</i> | Araikirai |
| 176 | <i>Melothria heterophylla</i> | Karkovai |
| 177 | <i>Mentha arvensis</i> | Puthina |
| 178 | <i>Merremia emarginata.</i> | Elikkadilai |
| 179 | <i>Mesua nagassarium.</i> | Chirunagapu |
| 180 | <i>Mimosa pudica.</i> | Thottar Chinungi |
| 181 | <i>Mimusops elengi.</i> | Magizh |
| 182 | <i>Mirabilis jalapa.</i> | Anthimalli |
| 183 | <i>Mollugo lotoides.</i> | Chemppadi |
| 184 | <i>Momorchica charantia.</i> | Pakal |
| 185 | <i>Momoridica dioica</i> | Kattu Pagal |
| 186 | <i>Morinda tinctoria.</i> | Nuna |
| 187 | <i>Moringa oleifera.</i> | Muningai |
| 188 | <i>Murraya koenigi</i> | Kari-vembu |
| 189 | <i>Musa paradisiaca.</i> | Vazhai |
| 190 | <i>Nelumbo nucifera.</i> | Thamarai |

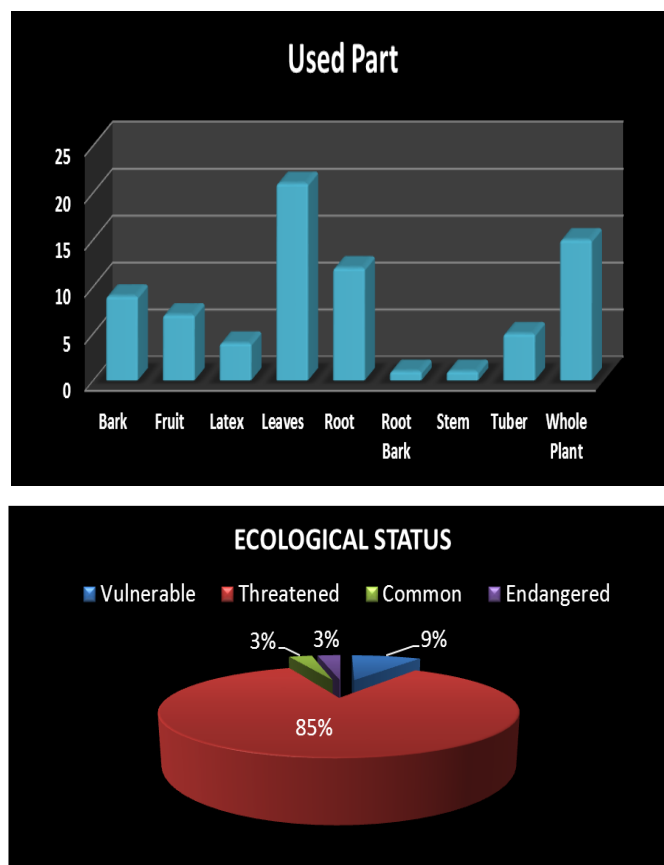
| | | |
|-----|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 191 | <i>Neptunia oleracea.</i> | Attunetti |
| 192 | <i>Nerium odorum.</i> | Alari |
| 193 | <i>Nivotiana tobacum.</i> | Pugaiyilai |
| 194 | <i>Nymphaea alba</i> | Kazhu-nir |
| 195 | <i>Nymphaea nouchali.</i> | Alli |
| 196 | <i>Ocimum basilicum.</i> | Rudra jadai |
| 197 | <i>Ocimum gratissimum.</i> | Elumichan thulasi |
| 198 | <i>Ocimum sanctum.</i> | Thulasi |
| 199 | <i>Oldenlandia umbellata.</i> | Impural |
| 200 | <i>Operculina turpethum.</i> | Sivathia |
| 201 | <i>Opuntia dillenii.</i> | Nagathali |
| 202 | <i>Oryza sativa.</i> | Nel |
| 203 | <i>Oxalis corniculata</i> | Puliyarai |
| 204 | <i>Pavetta indica.</i> | Pavattai |
| 205 | <i>Pavonia odorata.</i> | Peramutti |
| 206 | <i>Pavonia zeylanica.</i> | Chitramutti |
| 207 | <i>Pergularia daemia.</i> | Uthamakani |
| 208 | <i>Phoenix sylvestris.</i> | Eechu (Sitrechu) |
| 209 | <i>Phonex dactilifera.</i> | Perechu |
| 210 | <i>Phyllanthus amarus</i> | Kizhanelli |
| 211 | <i>Phyllanthus acidus.</i> | Arunelli |
| 212 | <i>Phyllanthus emblica.</i> | Nelli |
| 213 | <i>Phyllanthus reticulates.</i> | Nirpola |
| 214 | <i>Physalis minima.</i> | Thakkali |
| 215 | <i>Phyta nodiflora.</i> | Poduthalai |
| 216 | <i>Piper betle.</i> | Vettilai |
| 217 | <i>Piper longum.</i> | Thippili |
| 218 | <i>Pistia stratiotes.</i> | Akasathamara |
| 219 | <i>Plectranthus vettiveroides.</i> | Vilamichamver |
| 220 | <i>Plumeria rubra.</i> | Ezhathalair |
| 221 | <i>Polyalthia longifolia.</i> | Nettilingam |
| 222 | <i>Pongamia pinnata.</i> | Pungu |
| 223 | <i>Premma tomentosa.</i> | Pidangunasi |
| 224 | <i>Prena corymbosa.</i> | Munnai |
| 225 | <i>Punica granatum.</i> | Mathulai |
| 226 | <i>Quamoclit pennata</i> | Kasi rathnam |
| 227 | <i>Rhinacanthus nasuta.</i> | Nagamalli |
| 228 | <i>Ricinus communis.</i> | Amanakku |
| 229 | <i>Ricinus tanarius.</i> | Chevamanakku |
| 230 | <i>Rosa centifolia.</i> | Panirpoo |
| 231 | <i>Rungia parviflora.</i> | Thavasurungai |
| 232 | <i>Rungia repens</i> | Kodaga salai |
| 233 | <i>Saccharum officinarum.</i> | Karumbu |
| 234 | <i>Saccharum spontaneum.</i> | Nanal |
| 235 | <i>Salacia reticulata.</i> | Kadalazhinjil |
| 236 | <i>Sesamum indicum.</i> | Ellu |
| 237 | <i>Sesbania garandiflora.</i> | Agatti |
| 238 | <i>Sesbania sesban.</i> | Chembai |

| | | |
|-----|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 239 | <i>Setaria italica.</i> | Thinai |
| 240 | <i>Shorea robusta</i> | Kngiliam |
| 241 | <i>Sida acuta.</i> | Ari – val mookku patchilai |
| 242 | <i>Sida acuta.</i> | Ponmusuttai |
| 243 | <i>Solanum melongena.</i> | Kaththari |
| 244 | <i>Solanum nigrum.</i> | Manathathakkali |
| 245 | <i>Solanum surattense.</i> | Kandangkattari |
| 246 | <i>Solanum torvum.</i> | Chundai |
| 247 | <i>Solanum trilobatum.</i> | Thuthuvalai |
| 248 | <i>Sorghum vulgare.</i> | Cholam |
| 249 | <i>Spaeranthus indicus.</i> | Kottaikaranthai |
| 250 | <i>Spermacoce hispida.</i> | Naththichuri |
| 251 | <i>Streblus asper.</i> | Piray |
| 252 | <i>Strychnos nux-vomica.</i> | Etti |
| 253 | <i>Strychnos potatorum.</i> | Thettan |
| 254 | <i>Syzygium cumini.</i> | Naval |
| 255 | <i>Tabernaemontana divaricata.</i> | Nanthiavattam |
| 256 | <i>Tamarindus indicus.</i> | Puli |
| 257 | <i>Tectona grandis.</i> | Thekku |
| 258 | <i>Tephorosia purpurea</i> | Kollukkaivelai |
| 259 | <i>Terminalia arjuna.</i> | Maruthu |
| 260 | <i>Terminalia bellirica.</i> | Thantri |
| 261 | <i>Terminalia chebula.</i> | Kadukkai pinchu |
| 262 | <i>Thespesia populnea.</i> | Puvarasu |
| 263 | <i>Tinospora cordifolia.</i> | Sindil |
| 264 | <i>Todalia asiatica.</i> | Milakaranai |
| 265 | <i>Trianthema decandra</i> | Charanai |
| 266 | <i>Tribulus terrestris.</i> | Nerunjil |
| 267 | <i>Trichodesma indicum.</i> | Kavizh thumbai |
| 268 | <i>Trichosanthes cucumesina.</i> | Pudal |
| 269 | <i>Trichosanthes lobata</i> | Kattu peipudal |
| 270 | <i>Tylophora indica.</i> | Nancharuppan |
| 271 | <i>Urginea indica</i> | Kattu Vengayam |
| 272 | <i>Vernonia cinerea.</i> | Neichatti |
| 273 | <i>Vetiveria zizanoides</i> | Kuruver |
| 274 | <i>Vigna mungo.</i> | Uzhundu |
| 275 | <i>Vigna mungo.</i> | Payaru |
| 276 | <i>Vitex negundo.</i> | Notchi |
| 277 | <i>Vitis vinifera.</i> | Thirakshi |
| 278 | <i>Zingiber officinale.</i> | Inji |
| 279 | <i>Zingiber officinale.</i> | Chukku |
| 280 | <i>Ziziphus mauritinaia.</i> | Ilanda maram |

| | Family | No. of Plants |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| 1 | Acanthaceae | 1 |
| 2 | Amarlydeaceae | 1 |
| 3 | Amarentheceae | 1 |

| | | |
|----|----------------|---|
| 4 | Apiaceae | 1 |
| 5 | Asclepiadaceae | 4 |
| 6 | Asteraceae | 1 |
| 7 | Caesalpinaceae | 2 |
| 8 | Capparidaceae | 2 |
| 9 | Combretaceae | 3 |
| 10 | Convolvulaceae | 4 |
| 11 | Cucurbitaceae | 3 |
| 12 | Cyperaceae | 1 |
| 13 | Dipsacaceae | 2 |
| 14 | Ebanaceae | 1 |
| 15 | Euphorbiaceae | 5 |
| 16 | Fabaceae | 7 |
| 17 | Gramineae | 1 |
| 18 | Guttiferaceae | 1 |
| 19 | Leguminosae | 1 |
| 20 | Liliaceae | 3 |
| 21 | Malvaceae | 4 |
| 22 | Meliaceae | 2 |
| 23 | Menispermaceae | 1 |
| 24 | Mimosaceae | 1 |
| 25 | Moraceae | 2 |
| 26 | Oxalidaceae | 1 |
| 27 | Papavaraceae | 1 |
| 28 | Plumbaginaceae | 1 |
| 29 | Rutaceae | 1 |
| 30 | Sapindaceae | 1 |
| 31 | Solanaceae | 2 |
| 32 | Verbanaceae | 2 |
| 33 | Zygophyllaceae | 1 |





Appendix



DISCUSSION

This Study revealed a considerable medicinal plant diversity of Asikulam, Vavuniya district. Data were compared with the available literature of different regions of Sri Lanka on medicinal plants and was found that many of these are not recorded earlier. In Sri Lankan ethnobotanical studies on medicinal plants were conducted earlier in other districts. However, in Asikulam, Vavuniya 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 Asikulam, Vavuniya 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.

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 Asikulam, Vavuniya district. The traditional healers are the main source of knowledge on medicinal plants. In Asikulam, Vavuniya 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 280 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 Northern Province, Sri Lanka.

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