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Ethnopharmacological Survey of Medicinal Plants Used to Treat Human Diseases in the Tivaouane Department, Senegal

Kady Diatta^{1*}, William Diatta¹, Alioune Dior Fall¹, Serigne Ibra Mbacké Dieng¹, Amadou Ibrahima Mbaye¹, Abdou Sarr¹ and Mamadou Bamba Seye¹

¹Laboratory of Pharmacognosy and Botany, Cheikh Anta Diop University of Dakar, ZC 5005, FMPO, UCAD, Dakar, Fann, Senegal.

Authors' contributions

This work was carried out in collaboration among all authors. Author KD designed the study, performed the statistical analysis, wrote the protocol and the first draft of the manuscript. Author WD managed the analyses of the study. Author ADF managed the analyses of the study. Authors SIMD, AIM, AS and MBS performed the statistical analysis. Author ADF managed the litterature searchs and approved the final corrections. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

Article Information

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ABSTRACT

Background: In Africa, particularly in Senegal, 70% of the population resort to traditional medicine.
Aim/Objective: The aim of this study is to inventory the plants used to the the treatment of erectile dysfunction, hypertension, diabetes etc because the populations often resort to phytotherapy.
Methods: Fifty traditional practitioners, fifty herbalists and fifty resources persons were conducted to identify the plants used in the management of affections in the Tivaouane department.
Results: Ninety seven plants could be identified and divided into eighty nine genera and forty eight families. Thus, Fabaceae families with 18 species, Euphorbiaceae (8 species), Combretaceae (5 species), Malvaceae (4 species), Anacardiaceae, Annonaceae, Asteraceae, Meliaceae Myrtaceae and Poaceae each with 3 species and Asclepiadaceae, Liliaceae, Lythraceae, Loganaceae and

Menispermaceae each with 2 species: Apocynaceae, Balanitaceae, Bignoniaceae, Capparidaceae, Caricaceae, Casuarinaceae, Celastraceae, Cochlospermaceae, Cucurbitaceae, Hypericaceae, Lamiaceae, Loraceae, Lauraceae, Loranthaceae, Moraceae, Moringaceae, Musaceae Olacaceae, Polygalaceae, Rhamnaceae, Rosaceae, Rutaceae, Sapindaceae, Sapotaceae, Sphenocleaceae, Sterculiaceae, Tiliaceae, Verbenaceae and Zingiberaceae are represented by a single species. The most used plant for antipyretic herbal medicine is Senna occidentalis with a citation percentage of 31.72%, followed by Khaya senegalensis (17.18%) and Citrus aurantifolia (11.01%). The most used plant for antalgic herbal medicine is Grewia bicolor with a citation percentage of 19.48%, followed by Acacia nilotica (12.21%) and Hibiscus sabdariffa (9.59%). The most used plant for antihypertensive is Zizyphus mauritiana with a citation percentage of 16.83%, followed by Combrethum micranthum (13.37%) and Oxythenantera abyssinica (11.88%). The most used plant for cicatrizing is Acacia nilotica with a citation percentage of 25.71%, followed by Vernonia colorata (12%) and Leptadenia hastata (10.29%). The most used plant for erectile dysfunction is Flueggea virosa with a citation percentage of 24.14%, followed by Zingiber officinale (18.96%) and Cassia sieberiana (12.07%). The leaves (51%) and barks (18%) are the organs used for the medicinal preparations. The decoction (44%) is the most use followed by maceration (29%) and powder (16%).

Conclusion: Further investigations are needed to explore the bioactive compounds of these herbal medicines. In this aspect, many plants are claimed to be effective in the treatment of many affections.

Keywords: Ethnopharmacological survey; medicinal plants; human diseases; Tivaouane department; Senegal.

1. INTRODUCTION

Medicinal plants have been prescribed and used widely for thousands of years to treat various disorders and ailments in traditional herbal medicine systems all over the world [1] and have considerable importance in international trade today [2]. There is an increasing demand for the utilization of medicinal plants for providing primary health care to populations, as they are extensively available and inexpensive [3]. In developing countries, approximately 80% of the native inhabitants still rely on traditional medicine, mainly based on phytotherapy, for their primary health care [4]. The use of plants as medicine is as old as the history of mankind [5, 6]. Nowadays, medicinal plants are not only used as regional and traditional treatments but also registered as official medicines that are verified with pharmacopoeias [7]. Medicinal plants play a major role in pharmacological research and drug development, not only when plant constituents are exploited directly as therapeutic agents, but also as starting materials for the synthesis of drugs or as models for pharmacologically active compounds [2,8]. In West Africa, populations are used to taking traditional medicine as a first aid against common health problems [9]. In this aspect, many plants are claimed to be effective in the treatment many affections.

In Senegal, it is clearly recognized that, in the absence of sufficient health coverage for

medicine, at least 76% of households use medicinal plants close to their homes (50%) or sold on urban markets (25%). This use is justified by factors such as health indicators: a high birth rate (48%), population growth (3%) and urbanization (40%), which contrast with a low budget, a lack of access to health care, and poor, the morbidity and the high mortality [10].

Senegalese flora, despite the climatic and human constraints that they suffer, can still offer Man a variety of medicinal plants. There are many products in the pharmacopoeia, herbalists in the markets, in the street, or at the source, namely in the villages of the interior of Senegal. Medicinal plants are used whole or in parts (leaf, stem, root, bark, fruit) in various galenic preparations.

The main aim of this study was to evaluate by surveys the plants used in the treatment of certain affections. We will focus on medicinal plants antipyretic, analgesic, antihypertensive, antidiabetic, healing and finally those used by the population to treat erectile disorders.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1 Study Area

The survey was conducted in Tivaouane Department. The Tivaouane Department (Fig. 1) has an area of 3217 km², lies at $14^{\circ}51'00''N$ Latitude and $16^{\circ}10'00''W$ Longitude. It has a

Sudano-Sahelian climate with maritime influence and a total annual rainfall of 600 mm/year ANSD, [11]. Fig. 1 shows the survey locality.

2.2 Vegetation Description [11]

The vegetation cover of the department of Tivaouane is complex ranging from dunes steppe to Savannah, characteristic of the Sudano-Sahelian domain. In the department of Tivaouane there are non-leached ferruginous "dior" soils and they are of different categories : Hydromorphic lowland soils (inter dunes) rich in calcium and clay, suitable for vegetable and fruit crops, clay sands favoring cereal crops and legumes and lateritic lands very difficult to cultivate.

2.3 Socio-economic Conditions [11]

The Tivaouane Department presents an economic—issue predominantly agricultural. However some peculiarities can be reported with industry, fishing and tourism. What makes it an attractive pole especially the presence of factory, surrounding populations thus accentuating the already existing unemployment As a result, the

living conditions are becoming more and more difficult and the rural exodus is very accentuated.

2.4 Study Design

This study was conducted using a pre established questionnaire. It covered the period from May 2013 to December 2013. The majority ethnicities encountered were Wolof, Peulh, Serer etc.

2.5 Population of the Study

The study population was composed of fifty traditional practitioners, fifty herbalists and fifty resources persons.

2.6 Collection, Identification and Classification

The unknown species of our interviews had been collected and identified in the laboratory of Botany of Cheikh Anta Diop University by Pr Diatta (Botany Specialist). The classification was made using and the new classification APG III [12], the books of Eklu-Natey [13] and Kerharho [14].



Fig. 1. Map of Tivaouane department [11]

2.7 Statitiscal Analysis

The data collected were analyzed using both Microsoft Excel and Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 3. Frequency and percentage tables were generated to summarize results for discussion.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A total of 97 plant species from 89 genera and 48 families were identified as used in the management of erectile dysfunction, antipyretic, antalgic. antidiabetic. cicatrizing. antihypertensive activities. The families. botanical names, local names are given in Table 1 classified according to APG, [12,13,14]. Some families are more often referred because they include several species. Thus, Fabaceae families with 18 species; Euphorbiaceae (8 species), Combretaceae (5 species), Malvaceae (4 species). Anacardiaceae. Annonaceae. Asteraceae. Meliaceae Myrtaceae and Poaceae each with 3 species and Asclepiadaceae. Liliaceae. Lythraceae. Loganaceae and Menispermaceae each with 2 species; Apocynaceae, Balanitaceae, Bignoniaceae. Capparidaceae, Caricaceae, Casuarinaceae, Celastraceae, Cochlospermaceae, Hypericaceae, Cucurbitaceae, Lamiaceae, Loraceae, Lauraceae, Loranthaceae, Moraceae, Moringaceae, Musaceae Olacaceae. Polygalaceae, Rhamnaceae. Rosaceae, Sapindaceae, Rutaceae. Sapotaceae. Sphenocleaceae. Sterculiaceae. Tiliaceae. Verbenaceae and Zingiberaceae are represented by a single species (Fig. 2).

These results are a few similar with those found by Diatta [15] with 88 plant species from 79 genera and 35 families and the most cited families have the Fabaceae followed the Combretaceae. These results are not similar to those published by Hadj-Seyd [16] with 35 plant species from 32 genera and 14 families and the most of the cited families have the Asteraceae This state of affairs is understandable because the geographical area of studies differs. The reality with regard to the use of plants is thus different according to the geographic area.

The Fabaceae family contains many species of plants known for nutritional and medicinal value. These include the *Detarium microcarpum* species that has shown antiinflammatory, analgesic, antidiabetic and antimicrobial activity [17,18,19]. The *Tamarindus indica* species has shown antioxidant, antidiabetic and hepatoprotective activities [20,21].

The Euphorbiaceae plant family contains several species that are known to be analgesic and antiinflammatory activity [22]. Guiera senegalensis (Combretaceae) has shown acaricidal properties against Hvalomma anatolicum [23]. Anogeissus leiocarpus has shown antiplasmodial and antileishmanial activities [24]. The malvaceae plant family for example Hibiscus sabdariffa has shown an antidiabetic effect in streptozotocin induced mice, antiinflammatory and analgesic activities [25,26].

The Anacardiaceae plant family contains several species that are known to be antimicrobial, antioxidant, cyclooxygenase enzyme inhibitory, phenolic composition and acetylcholinesterase



Fig. 2. Families classification plant cited



Fig. 3. Antipyretic plants cited during the survey

inhibitory activities etc [27,28]. The foregoing literature findings suggest that plants from the three families contain ingredients that are useful for deseases.

The most used plant for antipyretic herbal medicine is *Senna occidentalis* with a citation percentage of 31.72%. It is followed by *Khaya senegalensis* (17.18%) and *Citrus aurantifolia* (11.01%). In my knowledge, there aren't studies confirming this antipyretic activity. The Fig. 3 illustrates the different plants used for this affection.

The most used plant for antalgic herbal medicine is *Grewia bicolor* with a citation percentage of 19.48%. It is followed by *Acacia nilotica* (12.21%) and *Hibiscus sabdariffa* (9.59%). In my knowledge, there aren't studies confirming this antalgic activity. The Fig. 4 shows the different plants used for this affection.

The most used plant for antihypertensive is Zizyphus mauritiana with a citation percentage of 16.83%, followed by Combrethum micranthum (13.37%) and Öxythenantera abyssinica (11.88%). Koffi [29] has shown an antihypertensive activity of Zizyphus mauritiana. authors confirmed Two [30,31] the antihypertensive effects of Combretum micranthum and Hibiscus sabdariffa. The Fig. 5 shows the different plants used for this affection.



Fig. 4. Antalgic plants cited during the survey



Fig. 5. Antihypertensive plants cited during the survey

The most used plant for antidiabetic is *Parinari* macrophylla with a citation percentage of 24.18%, followed by *Sesbania sesban* (21.98%) and *Cocos nucifera* (17.58%).

Soladoye, et al. [32] has confirmed the antidiabetic activity of *Parinari macrophylla* and *Cocos nucifera.* The Fig. 6 illustrates the antidiabetic plant.

The most used plant for cicatrizing is *Acacia nilotica* with a citation percentage of 25.71%, followed by *Vernonia colorata* (12%) and *Leptadenia hastata* (10.29%).

Chaha, et al. [33] has confirmed the wound healing activity of *Psidium guajava* and *Jatropha curcas* [34]. The Fig. 6 illustrates the antidiabetic plant.

The most used plant for erectile dysfunction is *Flueggea virosa* with a citation percentage of 24.14%, followed by *Zingiber officinale* (18.96%) and *Cassia sieberiana* (12.07%).

Maud [35] has confirmed the erectile dysfunction activity of *Flueggea virosa* and *Zingiber officinale.* Ramandeep [36] *has* shown this activity of these plant list. The Fig. 8 illustrates the erectile dysfunction plant.



Fig. 6. Antidiabetic plants cited during the survey



Fig. 7. Wound healing plants cited during the survey



Fig. 8. Erectile dysfunction plants cited during the survey

The leaves and barks are the organs used for the medicinal preparations. These results are according to Diatta [37] demonstrate that leaves are mainly treatments traditional and not according of Thirumalai, et al. [38] who has found that the part of the plant is the leafy stem. Harvesting tree roots and / or bark appears to have more adverse ecological impacts than leaf harvesting [39]. The utilization of Leaves in local inflicting less damaged to the medicinal treat them. This is understandable because the pathology involved and geographical study are different. Most of these plant parts were

harvested unconventionally, with no reforestation politic for future resource availability. For example, there were signs of severe tree attack, uprooting or cutting of the entire plant. Fig. 9 shown the used for the medicinal preparations.

The decoction (44%) is the most use followed by maceration (29%) and powder (16%) (Fig. 10). Bene, et al. [40] who showed that decoction and grinding are the most important methods of preparation in traditional pharmacopoeia. Some plant species have specificities of action against a given cause. These result are not according to

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Tilahun [41] who has found crushing (38.5%) followed pounding (18.8%) and powdering (14.6%). This difference in medical preparation may be due to the differences between the species found on both sides of the planet. Decoction as boiling method is an effective method of preparing medicinal plant because it preserves the medicine longer when compared to cold water. Boiling is believed to be efficient in extracting active ingredient and for hygienic reasons. This prescription can also be

explained by the fact that the diseases are related to deep organs [41]. To reach them, any compound must pass through the digestive system to facilitate its assimilation. It should be made clear to readers that just because local people use a plant to treat an ailment, there is no guarantee that the plant is successful in treating the condition.

Table 1 shown the inventory of the plants mentioned during the survey.



Fig. 9. Plant parts used





Botanicals names	Locals names	Families
1. Acacia albida	Kad (w)	Fabaceae
2. Acacia nilotica	Gonakié (w)	Fabaceae
3. Acacia seyal	Surur (w)	Fabaceae
4. Adansonia digitata	Gouye (w)	Malvaceae
5. Allium sativum	Aye (fc)	Liliaceae
6. <i>Aloe vera</i>	Aloé verra (fc)	Liliaceae
7. Anacardium occidentale	Darkassé (w)	Anacardiaceae
8. Annona senegalensis	Dougor (w)	Annonaceae
9. Annona muricata	Corossolier (fc)	Annonaceae
10. Anogeissus leiocarpus	Guédian (w)	Combretaceae
11. Aphania senegalensis	Khéwer (w)	Sapindaceae
12. Arachis hypogea	Guerté (w)	Fabaceae
13. Azadirachta indica	Nim (w)	Meliaceae
14. Balanites aegyptiaca	Soump (w)	Balanitaceae
15. Bauhinia rufescens	Rande (w)	Fabaceae
16. Boscia senegalensis	Niandam (w)	Capparidaceae
17 Bridelia micrantha	Soulukum (w)	Fuphorbiaceae
18. Butvrospermum parkii	Karité (w)	Sanotaceae
19 Calotronis procera	Poften (w)	Ascleniadaceae
20 Carapa procera	Tulukuna (w)	Meliaceae
21. Carica nanava	Panava (w)	Caricaceae
22. Cassia italica	Levdour (w)	Fabaceae
23. Senna occidentalis	Mbanté (w)	Fabaceae
24. Cassia sieberiana	Siendiègne (w)	Fabaceae
25. Casuarina equisetifolia	Filzo (w)	Casuarinaceae
25. Casualina equiselliolia	Páptopiá (w)	Malyapaa
20. Centa pentanura 27. Centaurea sp	Khomkhom (w)	Astoraçõe
29. Chrozophora conocolongia	Ndomot (w)	Funderbiaceae
20. Citrus surrentifolio	Limon (w)	Butaaaaa
29. Circompolos mucronoto	Ngolomar (w)	Monispormaceae
30. Cissampelos mucionata	Enver (w)	
22 Coffee an	Catá (fa)	Bubiagogo
32. Concella sp	Cale (IC)	Rublaceae
33. Cocculus periodulus		Areassas
34. Cocos nucliera		Arecaceae
35. Combretum giutinosum		Combretaceae
36. Compretum micrantrum	Doule (w)	Compretaceae
37. Cordyla pinnata	DIMD (W)	Fabaceae
38. Cymbopogon citratus		Poaceae
39. Detarium microcarpum	Dankn (w)	Fabaceae
40. Detarium senegalensis	Ditakn (w)	Fabaceae
41. Dichrostchys glomerata	Sunth (w)	Fabaceae
42. Ekebergia senegalensis	Knakhtnioye (w)	Mellaceae
43. Eucalyptus camaldulensis	Xotu butel (w)	Myrtaceae
44. Eugenia caryophyllata	Xorompole (w)	Myrtaceae
45. Euphorbia balsamifera	Salann (w)	Euphorbiaceae
46. Euphorbia hirta	Mbal (w)	Euphorbiaceae
47. Ficus iteophylla	Loro (W)	Lytraceae
48. Ficus thonningii	Dobali (w)	Moraceae
49. Gardenia ternifolia	Dibutone (w)	Rubiaceae
50. Gossypium barbadense	Weten (w)	Malvaceae
51. Guiera senegalensis	Nguer (w)	Combretaceae
52. Grewia bicolor	Kelle (w)	Tiliaceae

Table 1. The inventory of the plants mentioned during the survey

Botanicals names	Locals names	Families
53. Hibiscus sabdariffa	Bissap (w)	Malvaceae
54. Jatropha curcas	Tabananie (w)	Euphorbiaceae
55. Jatropha chevalieri	Weutenu beut (w)	Euphorbiaceae
56. Khaya senegalensis	Khaye (w)	Meliaceae
57. Lactuca sativa	Salade (w)	Asteraceae
58. Lantana camara	Douté Gambi (w)	Verbenaceae
59. Lawsonia inermis	Foudeun (w)	Lythraceae
60. Leptadenia hastata	Thiakhat (w)	Asclepiadaceae
61. Loeseneriella africana	Tafe (w)	Loganiaceae
62. Mangifera indica	Mango (w)	Anacardiaceae
63. Manihot esculenta	Niambi (w)	Euphorbiaceae
64 <i>. Mentha sp</i>	Nana (w)	Lamiaceae
65. Maytenus senegalensis	Ndouri (w)	Celastraceae
66. Mitragyna inermis	Xoss (w)	Rubiaceae
67. Momordica charantia	Mbeurbof (w)	Cucurbitaceae
68. Moringa oleifera	Nebedail (w)	Moringaceae
69. Musa paradisiaca	Banana (w)	Musaceae
70. Ocimum basilicum	Ngungun (w)	Lamiaceae
71. Oxytenanthera abyssinica	Waakh (w)	Poaceae
72. Parinari macrophylla	New (w)	Rosaceae
73. Parkia biglobosa	Houle (w)	Fabaceae
74. Persea gratissima	Avocat (w)	Lauraceae
75. Piliostigma reticulatum	Nguiguis (w)	Fabaceae
76. Prosopis africana	Yir (w)	Fabaceae
77. Prosopis chilensis	Prosopis (fc)	Fabaceae
78. Psidium guajava	Goyab (w)	Myrtaceae
79. Psorospermum corymbiferum	Keutidiantabé (w)	Hypericaceae
80. Pterocarpus erinaceus	Wen (w)	Fabaceae
81. Sclerocarya birrea	Beer (w)	Anacardiaceae
82. Flueggea virosa	Keng (w)	Euphorbiaceae
83. Securidaca longipedunculata	Fouf	Polygalaceae
84. Sesbania sesban	Sabsab (w)	Sphenocleaceae
85. Sterculia setigera	Mbep (w)	Sterculiaceae
86. Stereospermum kunthianum	Fekh (w)	Bignoniaceae
87. Strichnos spinosa	Teumb (w)	Loganiaceae
88. Strophantus sarmentosus	Thiokh (w)	Apocynaceae
89. Tamarindus indica	Dakhar (w)	Fabaceae
90. Tapinanthus bangwensis	Tire (w)	Loranthaceae
91. Terminalia avicennioides	Reubreub (w)	Combretaceae
92. Vernonia colorata	Doctor (w)	Asteraceae
93. Xanthoxylum xanthoxyloides	Denguidek (w)	Rutaceae
94. Ximenia americana	Gologne (w)	Olacaceae
95. Xylopia aethiopica	Diar (w)	Annonaceae
96. Zea mays	Mbokh (w)	Poaceae
97. Zingiber officinale	Didière (w)	Zingiberaceae
98. Zizyphus mauritiana	Sidème (w)	Rhamnaceae

4. CONCLUSION

A total number of Ninety seven plants could be identified and divided into eighty nine genera and forty eight families. Plants from the family Fabaceae, Euphorbiaceae, Combretaceae and Anacardiaceae were the most frequently used plants. The most commonly used plant part was leaves for the management of erectile dysfunction, antipyretic, antalgic, antidiabetic, wound healing and antihypertensive activities. The mode of application used by traditional medicinal practitioners (TMPs) was predominantly by decoction drink. The ethnopharmacological information provides a solid basis for further research aimed at identifying and isolating bioactive components that can be converted into drugs for the management of affections.

CONSENT

It is not applicable.

ETHICAL APPROVAL

It is not applicable.

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COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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