

возникновении и достаточно широком распространении инфекционных энтеритов у молодняка скота.

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HOW THE POPULATION OF NIGERIA USE MEDICINAL PLANTS?

Medicinal plants, also called medicinal herbs, have been discovered and used in traditional medicine practices since prehistoric times. Plants synthesize hundreds of chemical compounds for various functions, including defense and protection against insects, fungi, diseases, and herbivorous mammals. According to the World Health Organization (WHO) the definition of traditional medicine may be summarized as the sum total of all the knowledge and practical, whether explicable or not, used in the diagnosis, prevention and elimination of physical, mental or social imbalance and relying exclusively on practical experience and observation handed down from generation to generation, whether verbally or in writing.

Medicinal plants as defined by World Health Organization as a plant in which some or all its parts are used in management of certain illness. In West Africa, new orthodox drugs are not affordable hence more use of herbs of medicinal plants. Most preparation of herbal remedies can take forms like decoction or infusions which are extraction means of getting the active ingredient from leaves or other plants parts or direct use of such parts. Decoction preparations are made traditionally by boiling the medicinal plant part with water and then the extract fluid is taken e.g. preparation of dogoyaro. A list of common medicinal plants used by the Otuo tribe of Owan East local government area Edo State were noted by researchers on herbs included the Lemongrass, orange (known as omoka), Dogoyaro, pineapple (oghakha), pawpaw (Ayaba), African cucumber (Elohn), guava (Egova) and waterleaf known. Also, companies such as Pax herbals have gained successful in sales of unique herbal product e.g. bitter leaf prepared as decoction beneficial to members of Epkoma and Ewu-Esun community in Edo state. Over the years, a major research centers in the drug and research production unit of Obafemi Awolowo University after the discovery from the late Prof Abayomi Sofowora had made huge success in the use of four major plants in combination in the form of decoction to treat malaria. The decoction was known to constitute of mango leaf, Morinda leaves

(oruwo), dogoyaro leaves and leaf of the stool wood (known as 'awun' by the Yoruba tribe). The research was till useful till date in curing malaria and sold to the indigenous people of the south-west of Nigeria as a brand known as 'MAMA decoction'. Enlisted Nigeria Plants Proposed By the National Mirror Committee recommended by the African Region Standard Organization. The African regional standard organization, an intergovernmental body formed by the African union intends to adopt 10 medicinal plants from Nigeria. These set of plants intended to capture food as medicine.

Moringa. Scientific name: Moringa Oleifera. Ethno medicinal use: Leaves as natural booster, ulcer, inflammation and pain and cures headache. Flowers boiled with soymilk have been noted for aphrodisiac quality. Fruit research still goes on the fruit as it shows chance of boosting sperm count in men. Moringa plant is rich in amino acids, minerals and vitamins especially vitamin A, C, and E. Moringa has antioxidants properties that help to fight free radicals and molecule that cause cell damage, inflammation, and oxidative stress.

Bitter kola. Scientific name: Garcina Kola. Ethno medicinal use: Bitter kola is used for enhancing sexual activity and also pain relief.

Bitter leaf. Scientific name: Vernonia amygdalina. Ethno medicinal use: bitter leaf is used as decoction is predominant in South west of Nigeria to manage diabetes and Edo state for treating skin infection. One of the well-known uses of the bitter leaf is that it is a remedy for stomach ache. You can either chew on the tender part of the plant stem or leaf stalk or swallow the bitterness. Also, you can pound the leaves and squeeze out the juice from the leaves. Put three tablespoons of the juice in a small cup, add a pinch of salt to it and drink it. The stomach ache will be relieved just in a matter of minutes. Bitter leaf is used for treating malaria, typhoid fever, and also diarrhea.

African cherry. Scientific Name: Prunus Africana. Ethno medicinal use: Decoction of the bark is used for treatment of stomach ache and wound dressing. Infusion of leaves is used traditionally to improve appetite despite its fruits is mostly generally used for its antioxidant properties (supplement of vitamins)

Girdle pod. Scientific name: Mitracarpus Scaber. Uses: The treatment of skin infections such as scabies, dermatoses, and ringworm. The home remedy for the treatment of body aches, headaches, toothaches, and arthritic pains. It is also used in making traditional medicine for treating amenorrhea, hepatitis, and some sexually transmitted infections.

Conclusion. Though more research in new plants is still undergoing by the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Research and Development despite limits by the toxic effect of some medicinal plant as well as intangible documentation on new plants suspected to till be of use. Hence a consistent approach to make already establish medicinal

product available in the herbal market with both efficacy and effectiveness with minimal or no harm under recommendation and assistance of National Administration for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC).

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IMPORTANT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN NIGERIA

Nigeria, an African country on the Gulf of Guinea, has many natural landmarks and wildlife reserves. Protected areas such as Cross River National Park and Yankari National Park have waterfalls, dense rainforest, savanna and rare primate habitats. One of the most recognizable sites is Zuma Rock, a 725m-tall monolith outside the capital of Abuja that's pictured on the national currency. Officially the Federal Republic of Nigeria, is a country in West Africa. It is situated between the Sahel to the north and the Gulf of Guinea to the south in the Atlantic Ocean. It covers an area of 923,769 square kilometers and with a population of over 225 million, it is the most populous country in Africa, and the world's sixth-most populous country. The largest city in Nigeria is Lagos, one of the largest metropolitan areas in the world and the second-largest in Africa. The important ecological problems in Nigeria are:

- Water and Air Pollution
- Solid Waste Management
- Deforestation

Pollution. In Nigeria, several rural towns that had in the past enjoyed fresh and dry air are currently experiencing air pollution problems due to industrialization process and expansion in human activities. Aquatic or water pollution is the discharge of unwanted biological, chemical and physical materials into water bodies from man's environment. The pollutants are usually chemical, physical and biological substances that affect the natural condition of water. This incidence is responsible for the wide spread water contamination in most Nigerian cities. The environmental policy is the foundation of the environmental management system (EMS) through the provision of a framework for action and the setting of environmental objectives and targets. The environmental problems in Nigeria are acute, pervasive and increase rapidly. This should be a source of great and justifiable concern for all today. The effect of pollution on air, aquatic or water and on land has