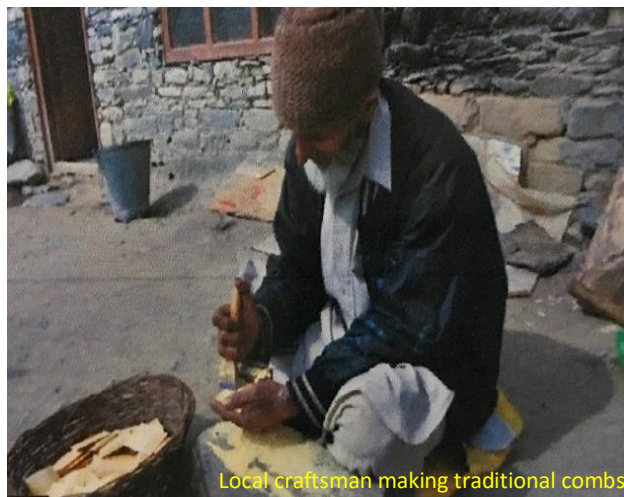


Ethnobotanical exploration of district Rajouri, J&K Himalaya

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Many tribal and ethnic races inhabiting the Indian Himalayan Region and they are quite well adapted to their local environment. They are using available bio-resources for their well livelihoods. Each community or ethnic group has adapted themselves in particular manner. In this context traditional knowledge assumes great significance. Unfortunately, with advent of modernization the traditional knowledge is getting eroded. A case study was carried out in district Rajouri to document the ethnobotanical knowledge of the ethnic groups, such as Gujjars, Bakarwals and paharis.



A total of 77 plant species belonging to 70 genera and 58 families were reported with ethno-botanical uses. The utilization pattern of species indicated that fruits of 7 species, leaves of 29 species, seeds of 2 species, rhizome/roots of 12 species, bulb/corms of 3 species, bark of 2 species, flower of 4 species and whole plants of 4 species were used to cure various diseases in traditional knowledge systems of the aforementioned communities. Rosaceae was dominant family with 6 species, followed by Moraceae with 3 members. Families like Tiliaceae, Violaceae, Urticaceae etc showed one member each.