



“Plant Folk–Medicines and Medicinal Plants of North-East India”

Author: Dr Subhan C. Nath

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This book **“Plant Folk – Medicines and Medicinal Plants of North-East India”** published by the CSIR-North East Institute of Science & Technology (formerly RRL), Jorhat has been released recently by the Institute at a concluding function of its year long Golden Jubilee celebration program.

The book has provided folklore medicinal information of 500 plant species used in the form of 970 recipes for the treatments of a large number of disease symptoms by the people of the region. The information about the contents of the book is provided in 4 chapters. Recipes of folklore medicines are given in chapter I and are arranged disease-wise in alphabetical order. Plant species prescribed for the treatment of disease are also arranged in alphabetical order. For each plant species, botanical name followed by (under parentheses) family name and vernacular name(s) used by the respective ethnic group(s) is provided. For convenience and practicability of the work, it has however been chosen to specify the ethnic groups / communities against the vernacular names in most cases. The chapter II contains plates of the colored photographic presentations of 324 plant and plant parts represented by 284 plant species used for the disease treatments. An index to plant names with the treated diseases is given in chapter III. An enumeration of 167 plant species treated with synonymous nomenclature is also given in chapter IV while the bibliographic accounts of the references are provided at the end. The book will be a useful reference for botanists, chemists, pharmacologists and students working / interested in the field of medicinal plants and herbal drug discovery.

The book has been authored by the Chief Scientist, Dr Subhan C. Nath F.L.S. (London), F.E.S., F.I.A.T., of the Division of Medicinal, Aromatic & Economic Plants of the Institute (NEIST, Jorhat) who has done extensive research work on medicinal, aromatic and economic plants of North-East India leading to the development of industry potentialities, products, processes, techniques, database, herbarium repository and herbal garden. Dr Nath has 30 years of research experience and is an elected fellow and member of many academic bodies and research institutions including the Editorial Committee member of the Wealth of India – Raw Materials besides being a Guest Faculty to Tezpur and Dibrugarh University in Assam. A recipient of P. C. Goswami Award -1992 of Assam Science Society, B. M. Das Memorial Science Award -1992 of B M Das Memorial Trust, Assam, Life Time Education Achievement Award -2006 of Health and Education Development Association, Delhi and B. N. Mehrotra Medal Award-2010 of the Society of Ethnobotanists, Lucknow, Dr Nath has so far 3 books (1 authored, 2 edited), 140 research papers, 25 book chapters, 33 popular science articles, 12 radio-talk and 5 patents to his credit and guided many Ph. D. students. The present book is the result of author’s own work in the area of herbal pharmacopoeia of the indigenous people of the region for more than two decades.

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