



# Traditional Folk Veterinary Medicines

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**Anita Jain**

 **SCIENTIFIC  
PUBLISHERS (INDIA)**  
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[www.scientificpub.com](http://www.scientificpub.com)

*Published by:*

Scientific Publishers (India)  
5-A, New Pali Road, P.O. Box 91,  
Jodhpur – 342 001 (India)

E-mail: [info@scientificpub.com](mailto:info@scientificpub.com)  
[www.scientificpub.com](http://www.scientificpub.com)

© Scientific Publishers (India), 2010

ISBN: 978-81-7233-665-3  
eISBN: 978-93-86347-84-8

Printed in India

## PREFACE

Livestock health is a major problem facing farmers and herders throughout India. Veterinarians are few in remote areas and the cost of modern treatment is expensive, inaccessible and sometimes inappropriate because it is not sustainable in the prevailing socioeconomic conditions. This situation has seen the rise and application of indigenous and traditional livestock treatment practices as the most immediate solution. This practice is commonly referred to as Ethnoveterinary and is the subject of this book.

Ethnoveterinary knowledge (sometimes also called veterinary anthropology) deals with folk beliefs, knowledge, skills, methods and practices pertaining to the health care of animals.

Ethnoveterinary knowledge is part of indigenous knowledge and as an integral part of traditional knowledge it forms part of a community cultural heritage.

Ethnoveterinary medicine can make an important contribution to improving the veterinary healthcare infrastructure in India and increase the productivity of Indian livestock.

There has been a spurt of publications on traditional medicinal plants related to human ailments but only few publications are available related to ailments of animals. Our team has a mission to work with dedication in the service of mute animals.

The present work on alternative medicine related to our age old heritage of traditional veterinary practices will eventually help millions of farmers for treating large number of common animal diseases and thoroughly contribute in livestock production and overall rural development. It is time now to supplement our validated traditional knowledge and present this great contribution to the nation, and train our veterinarians and herbalists / healers to preserve and harness nature in services of the rural masses and the mute animals, by developing cheap, tested, potent, easily and readily available herbal remedies to be in the service of animal health and production, by offering cheap, easily available, harmless plant medicines, of which many are validated and are highly adoptable.

The chief purpose of this book is to provide information about therapeutic uses of the herbs of forests and thus foster an interest in the so-called plant derived "Wonder Drugs". The information on the plant

species includes the latest valid botanical name, with vernacular names in use in the area covered; a systematic and brief botanical description; phenology giving the months of flowering and fruiting and ethnoveterinary uses. This book is profusely illustrated to aid recognition of herbs described in this work. The present book is full of original ethnoveterinary observations taken during our ethnobotanical surveys. The book contains documentation of 265 ethnoveterinary plants which are used by the tribals and rural communities to treat various animal ailments. An attempt has been made to name the tribe making specific use and methods of preparation of the drug, dosage and duration have also been highlighted. Besides herbs, ethnoveterinary remedies based on animal and animal products and minerals are also given in the book.

People working in the field of Ayurveda, Pharmacology, Forestry, Conservation, Anthropology, Indian culture, History, Sociology, Ecology and Environmental biology would find this a very useful and informative book on folklore veterinary medicines. We may add that in spite of the care, which has been exercised in every way, there are bound to be some errors and omissions and we will appreciate having these brought to our notice by the users of this book. We and informants shall feel rewarded if any traditional herbal veterinary medicine documented in this book is developed into a modern drug of great therapeutic importance.

**S.S. Katewa**  
**P.K. Galav**  
**Anita Jain**

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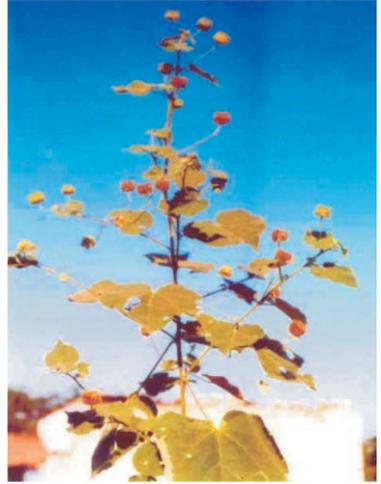
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**Authors interacting with indigenous healers (Raikas and Rebaris) of Rajasthan**



*Abrus precatorius*



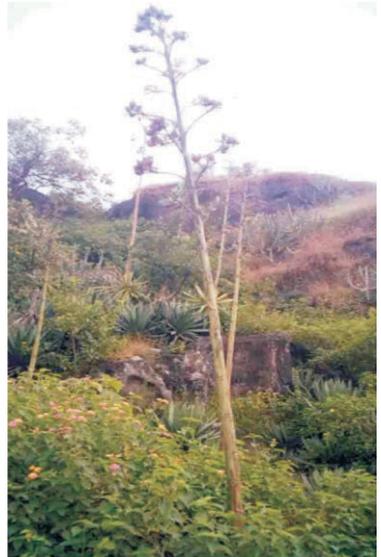
*Abutilon indicum*



*Albizia lebbek*



*Aegle marmelos*



*Agave americana*



*Achyranthes aspera*



*Adhatoda zeylanica*



*Ampelocissus latifolia*



*Annona squamosa*



*Arisaema tortuosum*



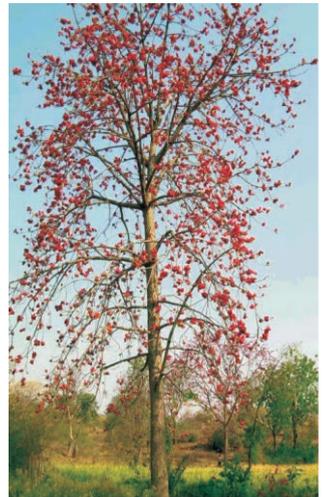
*Aristolochia bracteolata*



*Asparagus racemosus*



*Barleria prionitis*



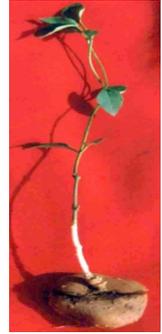
*Bombax ceiba*



*Caesalpinia bonduc*



*Calligonum polygonoides*



*Ceropegia bulbosa*



*Calotropis procera*



*Capparis decidua*



*Celastrus paniculata*



*Chlorophytum tuberosum*



*Celosia argentea*



*Cissampelos pareira*



*Citrullus colocynthis*



*Cissus quadrangula*



*Citrus medica*



*Cocculus hirsutus*



*Corallocarpus epigaeus*



*Clitoria ternatea*



*Costus speciosus*



*Curculigo orchioides*



*Curcuma amada*



*Cuscuta reflexa*



*Cymbopogon martinii* *Dendrophthoe falcata*



*Dioscorea bulbifera*



←  
*Euphorbia fusiformis*



*Enicostema axillare*



*Gloriosa superba*



*Helicteres isora*



*Martynia annua*



*Nyctanthes arbor-tristis*



*Pandanus fascicularis*



*Pedalium murex*



*Peperomia pellucida*



*Plumbago zeylanica*



*Sarcostemma viminale*



*Tinospora cordifolia*



*Typha angustata*



*Urginea indica*



*Vanda tessellata*



*Vitex negundo*



←  
*Woodfordia fruticosa*