# Traditional wound healing plants of Kasaragod district, Kerala state, India

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## Abstract

Folk medicine or traditional medicine is one of the natural health care systems have been practicing by all human cultures from the beginning of civilization. Biodiversity existing in each area also plays an inevitable role in the development of such healthcare practices. The organized healthcare systems like Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani *etc.* are developed as a result of empirical reasoning using rich biodiversity of our country. Kerala, the southern most tip of the subcontinent is also blessed with one of the most luxuriant vegetation and its diversity, its indigenous people has learned to utilize this rich biodiversity to meet the primary healthcare needs for the millennia. In the present communication authors throw light on the contribution of local health practitioners and indigenous knowledge holders in herbal medicine practice especially for wound healing. The present paper deals with 52 single plant remedies and 10 polyherbal formulations which are used by the local healers, traditional practitioners and TK holders of Kasaragod district for the treatment of various kinds of wounds. For each species botanical name, family, local name, parts used, method of preparation and dosage have been recorded.

Keywords: Traditional, Wound healing, Kasaragod, Kerala.

## Introduction

The mystic nature has hidden treasures of Biodiversity and use of herb to manage diseases dates back to the beginning of mankind. For many centuries man has been on the earth totally depending on green plants for his day to day needs especially for healthcare. India has a long history of the use of medicinal plant for various ailments. The role of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, Naturopathy *etc.* are remarkable. Rigveda and Atharvaveda, which dates back to 2000-1000 BC and several post vedic treatise *viz.* Charakasamhitha (100 AD) Sushruthasamhitha (800-100 AD) Dhanwanthari Nighantu (1200 AD) are the important earliest source of information on medicinal plants (Singh. *et al.* 1996). In addition to this, folk remedies for various ailments are conspicuous to modern scientific world, because the vast reserve of knowledge is unwritten; they transfer from generation to generation orally. In Kerala, this diversified system of traditional practices prevail among the rural communities since time immemorial. Even though modern medical systems are available, majority of the people are still depending on the rich local health tradition for treating various ailments especially cuts and wounds and also to remove the scars of wounds and associated problems. But this valuable oral health tradition is not yet documented systematically. The present study aimed to document the plants used for wound healing by the indigenous community / rural peoples of Kasaragod district of Kerala state. The rural communities have rich traditional medicare systems by utilizing the ambient natural resources. Meanwhile India is an agricultural based country,

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the rural communities frequently face some risky situations due to cuts and wounds whenever they are working in the field. In earlier days more than 90% of the villagers are deprived of the hospital facilities in their vicinity, so they have developed their own treatment system by trial and error methods.

Biodiversity is also playing a vital role in maintaining a variety of local treatment systems. Under AICRPE Project (All India Coordinated Research Project on Ethnobiology), ethnobotanical investigations carried out in tribal areas revealed that the tribes have specific knowledge about use of over 10,000 wild plant species which include 8,000 medicinal, 4,000 edible plants, 750 plants for material and cultural requirements 600 plants for fiber and cordages, 80 plants for ornamental 500 plants as fodder, 375 plants as pesticides, 300 plants for gum, resins, dyes and about 100 plants for incense and perfumes (Pushpangadan, 1995). There are so many plant resources used for treating fresh and chronic wounds. Radhakrishnan & Pandurangan (2000) reported the plants used for cuts and wounds prevailed in various parts of Kerala. The treasure of knowledge are systematically documented and validated by many experts. Nayak et al., (2007) proved the wound healing activity of Carica papaya by in vitro means. Sini et al. (2010) reported the wound healing activity of Kaempheria rotunda L. and Kumara et al. (2007) made a review of wound healing plants of India. In this background the present topic 'Traditional Wound Healing Plants of Kasaragod District, Kerala State, India' have been selected for the detailed study of the location specific wound healing plants.

#### Materials and methods

Frequent field visits were conducted in selected villages of Kasaragod district of Kerala State and gathered information about traditional/indigenous knowledge on detailed application and administration of plant resources for healing wounds. Data sheets and questionnaires were used for data collection which includes name and age of informant, place, local name of plants, botanical name, family and specificity in collecting useful parts, detailed method of drug preparation, specificity of dosage and administration. Specimens for herbarium purpose were also collected and processed by wet method (Jain and Rao, 1977) and made into herbarium for future reference and identified by using authentic flora (Gamble, 1915) and Nayar *et al.* (2006). Photographs were also taken for identification and authentication.

The plants are enumerated alphabetically and given Latin name first followed by family, local name and parts used. Medicinal plant species are categorized as single and polyherbal formulations and description about preparation, administration and dosage of the drugs has also given.

#### Enumeration

1.	Abrus precatorius L. (L	.eguminosae)
	Local name	: Kunni
	Parts used	: Leaves
	Method of preparation	: Fresh leaves crushed and expressed juice is mixed in water.
	Dosage	: Apply 6- 8 drops, twice daily externally on fresh cuts.
2.	Acalypha indica L. (Eu	phorbiaceae)
	Local name	: Kuppameni
	Parts used	: Leaves
	Method of preparation	: Fresh leaves crushed and
		expressed juice is mixed
		in water.
	Dosage	: Apply 5ml thrice daily
		on fresh cuts externally.
3.	Aegle marmelos (L.) Co	orr. (Rutaceae)
	Local name	: Bilwapathre/Kuvvalam
	Parts used	: Leaves
	Method of preparation	: Fresh leaves ground in tender coconut water to paste.
	Dosage	: Apply 4-5gm thrice daily on fresh cuts.
4.	Aloe vera (L.) Burm. f.	(Xanthorrhoeaceae)
	Local name	: Nolidara/Kattarvazha
	Parts used	: Leaf pulp

Fresh leaves are wet

Apply 5gm thrice daily on fresh cuts externally.

Collect fresh latex from

Apply 2-5 drops on chronic wounds exter-

Fresh leaves ground to

Apply 5-10gm thrice daily on fresh cuts exter-

Vattamathu/Peruvalam

Apply 5gm thrice daily for three days on fresh

Mesocarp of the fruit/

Dried fiber burned to ash and mixed in coconut oil. Apply 2gm thrice daily on fresh cuts externally.

Fresh rhizome is ground

Apply 5gm thrice daily on fresh cuts externally.

leaves

	Method of preparation	: Remove the outer skin of the fresh leaf and scrape		Method of preparation	: Fresh leaves are ground to paste.
		the pulp.		Dosage	: Apply 5gm thrice
	Dosage	: 5 gm twice daily on fresh		C	on fresh cuts externa
		cuts.	11.	Carica papaya L. (Cari	caceae)
5.	Alstonia scholaris (L.)	R. Br. (Apocynaceae)		Local name	: Omakka
	Local name	: Ezhilampala		Parts used	: Latex
	Parts used	: Leaves		Method of preparation	: Collect fresh latex
	Method of preparation	: Leaves are shade dried			the fruit surface.
		and pounded to fine		Dosage	: Apply 2-5 drops
	Dessee	powder.		C	chronic wounds e
	Dosage	days on chronic wounds			nally.
		and sores	12.	<i>Centella asiatica</i> (L.) U	Irban (Apiaceae)
6	Andrographis panicula	and soles.		Local name	: Ondelaka/Kodakan
0.	(Burm f) Wall ex Nee	s (Acanthaceae)		Parts used	: Leaves
	Local name	: Nilavevu		Method of preparation	: Fresh leaves groun
	Parts used	: Leaves		* *	paste.
	Method of preparation	: Fresh leaves ground to		Dosage	: Apply 5-10gm t
	* *	paste.		C	daily on fresh cuts e
	Dosage	: Apply 5gm thrice daily			nally.
		on fresh cuts externally.	13.	Clerodendrum infortur	natum L. (Lamiaceae)
7.	Aristolochia indica L. (	Aristolochiaceae)		Local name	: Vattamathu/Peruval
	Local name	: Eeswarberu/Urithookki		Parts used	: Tender leaves
	Parts used	: Tender leaves		Method of preparation	: Fresh tender le
	Method of preparation	: Fresh tender leaves are			ground to paste.
		crushed and expressed		Dosage	: Apply 5gm thrice
	Docado	Juice is taken.			for three days on
	Dosage	the affected parts against			cuts externally.
		wounds	14.	Cocos nucifera L. (Are	caceae)
8.	Biophytum sensitivum	(L.) DC (Oxalidaceae)		Local name	: Thengu
	Local name	: Mukkutti		Parts used	: Mesocarp of the
	Parts used	: Leaves			husk fiber
	Method of preparation	: Fresh leaves crushed and		Method of preparation	: Dried fiber burned to
		expressed juice is taken.			and mixed in coconu
	Dosage	: Apply 2 or 3 drops in		Dosage	: Apply 2gm thrice
		eyes against fresh cut on			on fresh cuts externa
		the eyes.	15.	Curcuma longa L. (Zir	ngiberaceae)
9.	<b>Bixa orellana</b> L. (Bixac	ceae)		Local name	: Manjal, Arasina
	Local name	: Kumkumam		Parts used	: Rhizome
	Parts used	: Flower		Method of preparation	: Fresh rhizome is gr
	Method of preparation	: Fresh nowers ground to			to paste.
	Dosago	· Apply10gm twice daily		Dosage	: Apply 5gm thrice
	Dosage	on fresh cuts externally			on fresh cuts externa
10	Gotonia floribunda Rox	the (Combretaceae)	16.	Cyathula prostrata (L.)	Blume
10.	Local name	· Marsadahalli/Pullanii		(Amaranthaceae)	
	Parts used	· Leaves		Local name	: Cherukadaladı
	1 4115 4504			rants used	: whole plant

	Method of preparation	: Fresh whole plant			from the root is applied
		crushed and boiled in			on wounds drop by drop
		coconut oil as medicated			as Dhara.
		oil.		Dosage	: 10ml once daily against
Ι	Dosage	: Apply on fresh cuts for			chronic wounds.
		3-4 days.	22.	Gmelina arborea Roxb	. (Lamiaceae)
17. (	Cynodon dactylon (L.)	Pers. (Poaceae)		Local name	: Kumbil
Ι	Local name	: Garike hullu/Karukapul-		Parts used	: Leaves
		lu		Method of preparation	: Fresh leaves crushed and
I	Parts used	: Whole plant			expressed juice is mixed
N	Method of preparation	: Fresh whole plant			in water
		crushed and expressed		Dosage	: 10ml thrice daily on
		juice is boiled and con-			fresh cuts externally.
_	_	centrated in coconut oil.	23.	Gloriosa superba L. (C	olchicaceae)
Ι	Dosage	: Apply 5ml drop by drop		Local name	: Menthonni
		3-4 times on chronic		Parts used	: Tuber
		wounds externally.		Method of preparation	: Fresh tuber ground to
18. <i>I</i>	<b>Emilia sonchifolia</b> (L.)	DC. (Compositae)		* *	paste.
l	Local name	: Muyalcheviyan		Dosage	: Apply 3gm thrice daily
1	Parts used	: whole plant		-	against chronic wounds.
Γ	Method of preparation	: Fresh whole plant	24.	Jasminum sambac (L.)	Aiton (Oleaceae)
		crushed and expressed		Local name	: Mulla
		Juice is bolied and coll-		Parts used	: Leaves
т	Docago	· Apply 5ml drop by drop		Method of preparation	: Fresh leaf ground to
1	Dosage	3.4 times on chronic			paste.
		younds externally		Dosage	: Apply 5gm thrice daily
19.7	<b>Entada rheedii</b> Spreng	(Leguminosae)			on fresh wounds exter-
I	Local name	· Parandavalli Pallakkava			nally.
N	Method of preparation	· Fresh stem bark crushed	25.	Jatropha curcas L. (Eu	phorbiaceae)
	for the second sec	and expressed juice is		Local name	: Kattavanakku
		mixed in 5-10 drops of		Parts used	: Latex
		water.		Method of preparation	: Collect the fresh latex
Ι	Dosage	: Apply 5-10 drops twice			from the stem.
	C	daily thrice daily on		Dosage	: Apply 3-5 drops thrice
		frash auto avtornally			daily on chronic wounds
		mesh cuts externally.			÷
20. 1	<b>Euphorbia tirucalli</b> L. (	(Euphorbiaceae)			externally.
<b>20.</b> I	<b>Euphorbia tirucalli</b> L. ( Local name	(Euphorbiaceae) : Kallichedi	26.	<b>Kaempferia rotunda</b> L.	externally. (Zingiberaceae)
<b>20.</b> <i>I</i> I	<i>Euphorbia tirucalli</i> L. ( Local name Parts used	(Euphorbiaceae) : Kallichedi : Latex	26.	<i>Kaempferia rotunda</i> L. Local name	externally. (Zingiberaceae) : Chengazhinir kizhangu
20. / I H	<i>Euphorbia tirucalli</i> L. ( Local name Parts used Method of preparation	Euphorbiaceae) : Kallichedi : Latex : Fresh latex is heated	26.	<i>Kaempferia rotunda</i> L. Local name Parts used	externally. (Zingiberaceae) : Chengazhinir kizhangu : Rhizome
20. / I H N	<i>Euphorbia tirucalli</i> L. ( Local name Parts used Method of preparation	<ul> <li>Euphorbiaceae)</li> <li>Kallichedi</li> <li>Latex</li> <li>Fresh latex is heated along with 10ml coconut</li> </ul>	26.	<i>Kaempferia rotunda</i> L. Local name Parts used Method of preparation	externally. (Zingiberaceae) : Chengazhinir kizhangu : Rhizome : Fresh rhizome ground to
20. /	<i>Euphorbia tirucalli</i> L. ( Local name Parts used Method of preparation	<ul> <li>Euphorbiaceae)</li> <li>Kallichedi</li> <li>Latex</li> <li>Fresh latex is heated along with 10ml coconut oil.</li> </ul>	26.	<i>Kaempferia rotunda</i> L. Local name Parts used Method of preparation	externally. (Zingiberaceae) : Chengazhinir kizhangu : Rhizome : Fresh rhizome ground to paste.
<b>20.</b> <i>I</i> I H N	<i>Euphorbia tirucalli</i> L. ( Local name Parts used Method of preparation Dosage	<ul> <li>Euphorbiaceae)</li> <li>Kallichedi</li> <li>Latex</li> <li>Fresh latex is heated along with 10ml coconut oil.</li> <li>Apply 5ml once daily on</li> </ul>	26.	<i>Kaempferia rotunda</i> L. Local name Parts used Method of preparation Dosage	externally. (Zingiberaceae) : Chengazhinir kizhangu : Rhizome : Fresh rhizome ground to paste. : Apply 5gm thrice daily
20. <i>I</i> I H N	<i>Euphorbia tirucalli</i> L. ( Local name Parts used Method of preparation Dosage	<ul> <li>Euphorbiaceae)</li> <li>Kallichedi</li> <li>Latex</li> <li>Fresh latex is heated along with 10ml coconut oil.</li> <li>Apply 5ml once daily on chronic wounds exter-</li> </ul>	26.	<i>Kaempferia rotunda</i> L. Local name Parts used Method of preparation Dosage	externally. (Zingiberaceae) : Chengazhinir kizhangu : Rhizome : Fresh rhizome ground to paste. : Apply 5gm thrice daily on fresh wounds exter-
<b>20.</b> <i>I</i> I H N	<i>Euphorbia tirucalli</i> L. ( Local name Parts used Method of preparation Dosage	<ul> <li>(Euphorbiaceae)</li> <li>: Kallichedi</li> <li>: Latex</li> <li>: Fresh latex is heated along with 10ml coconut oil.</li> <li>: Apply 5ml once daily on chronic wounds externally.</li> </ul>	26.	<i>Kaempferia rotunda</i> L. Local name Parts used Method of preparation Dosage	externally. (Zingiberaceae) : Chengazhinir kizhangu : Rhizome : Fresh rhizome ground to paste. : Apply 5gm thrice daily on fresh wounds exter- nally.
20. <i>I</i> I I I 21. <i>I</i>	<i>Euphorbia tirucalli</i> L. ( Local name Parts used Method of preparation Dosage <i>Ficus racemosa</i> L. (Mo	<ul> <li>(Euphorbiaceae)</li> <li>: Kallichedi</li> <li>: Latex</li> <li>: Fresh latex is heated along with 10ml coconut oil.</li> <li>: Apply 5ml once daily on chronic wounds externally.</li> <li>oraceae)</li> </ul>	26. 27.	<i>Kaempferia rotunda</i> L. Local name Parts used Method of preparation Dosage <i>Mallotus philippensis</i> (	externally. (Zingiberaceae) : Chengazhinir kizhangu : Rhizome : Fresh rhizome ground to paste. : Apply 5gm thrice daily on fresh wounds exter- nally. Lam.) MuellArg.
20. / I H N I 21. / I	<i>Euphorbia tirucalli</i> L. ( Local name Parts used Method of preparation Dosage <i>Ficus racemosa</i> L. (Mo Local name	<ul> <li>Euphorbiaceae)</li> <li>Kallichedi</li> <li>Latex</li> <li>Fresh latex is heated along with 10ml coconut oil.</li> <li>Apply 5ml once daily on chronic wounds exter- nally.</li> <li>raceae)</li> <li>Athi</li> </ul>	26. 27.	<i>Kaempferia rotunda</i> L. Local name Parts used Method of preparation Dosage <i>Mallotus philippensis</i> ( (Euphorbiaceae)	externally. (Zingiberaceae) : Chengazhinir kizhangu : Rhizome : Fresh rhizome ground to paste. : Apply 5gm thrice daily on fresh wounds exter- nally. Lam.) MuellArg.
20. <i>I</i> H M 1 1 21. <i>I</i> H	Euphorbia tirucalli L. ( Local name Parts used Method of preparation Dosage Ficus racemosa L. (Mo Local name Parts used	<ul> <li>(Euphorbiaceae)</li> <li>: Kallichedi</li> <li>: Latex</li> <li>: Fresh latex is heated along with 10ml coconut oil.</li> <li>: Apply 5ml once daily on chronic wounds externally.</li> <li>oraceae)</li> <li>: Athi</li> <li>: Root</li> </ul>	26. 27.	<i>Kaempferia rotunda</i> L. Local name Parts used Method of preparation Dosage <i>Mallotus philippensis</i> ( (Euphorbiaceae) Local name	externally. (Zingiberaceae) : Chengazhinir kizhangu : Rhizome : Fresh rhizome ground to paste. : Apply 5gm thrice daily on fresh wounds exter- nally. Lam.) MuellArg. : Kurukootty

	Method of preparation	: Fruits are shade dried			fruits ground to paste.
		and pounded to fine		Dosage	: Apply 5gm thrice daily
		powder and is mixed			on chronic wounds ex-
		with coconut oil.			ternally.
	Dosage	: Apply 3gm thrice dai-	33.	Nerium oleander L. (A	pocynaceae)
	-	ly on chronic as well as		Local name	: Arali
		fresh wounds externally.		Parts used	: Latex
28.	Memecylon randeriani	um S.M. Almeida		Method of preparation	: Fresh latex is collected.
	& M.R. Almeida (Mela	stomataceae)		Dosage	: Apply few drops directly
	Local name	: Wollekodi		e	on fresh wounds.
	Parts used	: Tender leaves	34.	Nvctanthes arbor-tristi	s L. (Oleaceae)
	Method of preparation	: Fresh tender leaves		Local name	: Pavizhamalli
		crushed and expressed		Parts used	: Leaves
		juice is collected.		Method of preparation	: Fresh leaves crushed and
	Dosage	: Apply externally on the			expressed juice is mixed
	-	affected part against			in water
		fresh cuts.		Dosage	· Apply 5gm thrice daily
29.	Magnolia champaca (I	u.)		200080	on fresh wounds exter-
	Baill. ex Pierre (Magno	liaceae)			nally
	Local name	: Chempakam	35.	<b>O</b> cimum tenuiflorum I	(Lamiaceae)
	Method of preparation	: Fresh root ground to		Local name	· Kattuthulasi
		paste.		Parts used	· Leaves
	Dosage	: Apply 2-3gm thrice dai-		Method of preparation	· Fresh leaves crushed and
		ly on chronic wounds		filediou of preparation	expressed juice is col-
		externally.			lected
30.	Mimosa pudica. L. (Le	guminosae)		Dosage	· Apply directly on
	Local name	: Thottavadi, Nachika-		200460	wounds 4 times daily for
		mullu			3-4 days
	Parts used	: Leaves	36	<b>Olea dioica</b> Roxh (Ole	aceae)
	Method of preparation	: Fresh leaves ground to	50.	Local name	· Edana
		paste.		Parts used	· Tender leaves
	Dosage	: Apply 5gm twice daily		Method of preparation	· Fresh tender leaves
		on fresh wounds, prefer-		We not or preparation	rubbed
		ably in the early morning		Dosage	· Apply on the affected
		and at bed time.		Dosage	nart against fresh cut
31.	Moringa oleifera Lam.	(Moringaceae)	37	<b>Pavatta indica</b> L (Rubi	aceae)
	Local name	: Muringa	57.	Local name	· Davatta
	Parts used	: Leaves		Ports used	: lavana
	Method of preparation	: Fresh leaves crushed and		Method of preparation	: Fresh leaves ground to
		expressed juice is taken.		Method of preparation	noste
	Dosage	: Apply 5ml twice daily		Dosaga	· Apply 5 gm four times
		on fresh wounds, prefer-		Dosage	. Apply Sgill tour times
		ably in the early morning			automally on mesh wounds
		and at bed time.	20	Dangulania da amia (Eo	externally.
32.	Myristica malabarica I	.am. (Myristicaceae)	30.	$(\Delta nocuraceae)$	133 <b>N.</b> J UIIUV.
	Local name	: Kattujathi		(Apolynautat) Local name	· Velinaruthi
	Parts used	: Mesocarp		Parts used	· Leaves
	Method of preparation	: Fresh mesocarp of the		1 1110 1000	. 1.001105

	Method of preparation	: Fresh leaves ground to			out adding water to paste
		paste		Dosage	: Apply externally against
	Dosage	: Apply 5-10gm twice			chronic wounds.
		daily on fresh wounds	45.	Syzygium cumini (L.) S	Skeels (Myrtaceae)
		externally.		Local name	: Njaval
39.	Piper betel L. (Piperace	eae)		Method of preparation	: Fresh tender leaves
	Local name	: Vettila		* *	ground to paste
	Parts used	: Leaves		Dosage	: Apply 5gm thrice dai-
	Method of preparation	: Fresh leaves ground to		U	ly on fresh and chronic
		paste.			wounds externally.
	Dosage	: Apply 5gm twice	46.	Tabernaemontana diva	<i>vricata</i> (L.) R Br. ex
	e	daily on fresh wounds		Roem & Schult (Anoc	vynaceae)
		externally.		Local name	· Nandiarvattam
40.	<b>Ricinus communis</b> L. (	Euphorbiaceae)		Parts used	· I stev
	Local name	: Avanakku		Method of preparation	· Eresh latex is collected
	Parts used	· Tender leaves		Method of preparation	from the tender leaves
	Method of preparation	· Fresh tender leaves		D	A united dimention on freedo
	method of preparation	ground to paste		Dosage	Apply directly on fresh
	Docade	· Apply 5gm thrice daily			wounds externally.
	Dosage	on fresh and abronia	<b>4</b> 7.	Terminalia paniculata	Roth (Combretaceae)
		on nesh and chronic		Local name	: Maruthu
11	Cida al ambifalia amban	wounds externally.		Parts used	: Stem bark
1.	Siaa rnombijolia subsp	. ainifolia (L.)		Method of preparation	: Fresh stem bark crushed
	Ugbor. (Malvaceae)				and expressed juice is
	Local name	: Kurunthotti			collected.
	Parts used	: Root		Dosage	: 10ml of expressed juice
	Method of preparation	: Fresh roots ground in		·	is mixed with 5ml of
		rice soup to paste			ghee: apply external-
	Dosage	: Apply 5gm twice			ly on the affected part
		daily on fresh wounds			against fresh cuts
		externally.	48	Trichosanthas cucumar	<b>ing</b> I (Cucurbitaceae)
2.	Spermacoce hispida L.	(Rubiaceae)	<del>т</del> 0,	Local name	· Kattunadavalam
	Local name	: Tharthaval		Docar manie	: Lagyas
	Parts used	: Leaves		Faits used Mathad of monomation	. Leaves
	Method of preparation	: Fresh leaves ground to		Method of preparation	Fresh leaves ground to
	* *	paste.		D	paste .
	Dosage	: Apply 5gm thrice		Dosage	: Apply 5gm thrice daily
	0	daily on fresh wounds			on fresh wounds exter-
		externally			nally.
3	Firmiana simplex (L.)	W Wight (Malvaceae)	49.	Cyanthillium cinereum	<b>ı</b> (L.) H.Rob.L
10.	I ocal name	· Thondi		(Compositae)	
	Parts used	: Root bark		Local name	: Poovankurunthal
	Mathad of propagation	· Frach root bark ground		Parts used	: Leaves
	Method of preparation	to posto		Method of preparation	: Fresh leaves crushed and
	D	to paste.		I I I I	expressed juice is taken.
	Dosage	: Apply 5gm twice		Dosage	· Apply 2 or 3 drops in eve
		daily on fresh wounds		200460	against fresh cut in eve
		externally.	50	Viter negundo I (I am	ujaceae)
4.	Helicteres isora L. (Ma	$Ivaceae$ ) $\Box$ Local name	50.	Local name	· Karinochi
		: Erumakayyoola		Parts used	
	Parts used	:Root		I also used Method of preparation	· Frash laguage ground to
	Method of preparation	: Fresh roots ground with-		memou or preparation	. Fresh leaves ground to
					paste.
					J. Traumonal and FOIK Practices

Vol. 02, 03, 04(1); 2016

	Dosage	: Apply 5gm paste twice daily on chronic wounds		ternally.
		externally.	52. Ziziphus xylopyrus (Ret	tz.) Willd. (Rhamnaceae)
51.	Ziziphus mauritiana La	am. (Rhamnaceae)	Local name	: Kottamullu
	Local name	: Elantha	Parts used	: Leaves
	Parts used	: Stem bark	Method of preparation	: Fresh leaves ground to
	Method of preparation	: Fresh stem bark ground to paste		paste and applied on the affected part. Dosage
	Dosage	: Apply 5gm thrice daily on chronic wounds ex-		: Apply thrice daily against fresh cut.

## **Poly Herbal Formulations (PHF)**

## **PHF - 1**

Sl.No.	Ingredients	Local name	Family	Part used
1	Manihot esculenta Crantz	Maracheeni	Euphorbiaceae	Tender Leaves
2	Clerodendrum infortunatum L.	Vattamathu/Peruvalam	Lamiaceae	Tender leaves

Tender leaves of both ingredients crushed and expressed juice has taken. Apply 5ml thrice daily on fresh cuts externally.

## **PHF - 2**

Sl.No.	Ingredients	Local name	Family	Part used
3	Nicotiana tabacum L.	Hogesappu	Solanaceae	Leaves
4	Cynodon dactylon (L.) Pers.	Garikehullu/ Karukapullu	Poaceae	Leaves

All the ingredients ground to paste and apply externally thrice daily against fresh cuts.

**PHF – 3** 

Sl.No.	Ingredients	Local name	Family	Part used
1	<i>Ixora coccinea</i> L.	Kepla	Rubiaceae	Flower
2	Vitex negundo L.	Nechi	Lamiaceae	Leaves

All the ingredients ground to paste and apply externally against fresh cuts.

#### PHF-4

Sl.No.	Ingredients	Local name	Family	Part used
1	Biophytum reinwardtii (Zucc.) Klotzsch.	Mukkutti	Oxalidaceae	Whole plant
2	Mimosa pudica L.	Nachikamullu	Leguminosae	Whole plant

All the ingredients ground to paste and apply externally against fresh cuts.

#### **PHF – 5**

Sl.No.	Ingredients	Local name	Family	Part used
1	Ipomoea batatas (L.) Lam.	Kereng, Genasu	Convolvulaceae	Tender leaves
2	Basella alba L.	Pasala keerai	Basellaceae	leaves

Both ingredients crushed and expressed juice is collected. Apply externally on the affected part against chronic wounds as well as fresh cuts.

#### **PHF -6**

Sl.No.	Ingredients	Local name	Family	Part used
1	Salacia reticulata Wight	Ekanayakam	Celastraceae	Root
2	Tectona grandis L. f.	Thekku	Lamiaceae	Tender leaf

Dried and powdered form of root of ingredient 1 and fresh tender leaves of ingredient 2 are wet ground to paste and mixed in 20ml coconut milk. Add 1gm of burned hair and boiled in water and concentrated and apply externally on wounds.

#### **PHF -7**

Sl.No.	Ingredients	Local name	Family	Part used
1	Acorus calamus L.	Vayambu	Acoraceae	Rhizome
2	Curcuma longa L.	Pachamanja	Zingiberaceae	Rhizome

Fresh rhizomes of both ingredients ground to paste. Apply externally against septic due to spines.

#### **PHF -8**

Sl.No.	Ingredients	Local name	Family	Part used
1	Acorus calamus L.	Vayambu	Acoraceae	Rhizome
2	Curcuma longa L.	Pachamanja	Zingiberaceae	Rhizome
3	Santalum album L.	Chandanam	Santalaceae	Heart wood
4	Piper betel L.	Vettila	Piperaceae	Leaves

All ingredients wet ground to paste. Apply externally on the affected parts against wounds.

#### **PHF -9**

Sl.No.	Ingredients	Local name	Family	Part used
1	Euphorbia hirta L.	Nelapala	Euphorbiaceae	Leaves
2	Piper nigrum L.	Kurumulaku	Piperaceae	Fruit

Fresh leaves of first ingredient is crushed and expressed juice is mixed with a pinch of pepper powder. Apply externally, thrice daily against fresh cuts/wounds.

#### **PHF-10**

Sl.No.	Ingredients	Local name	Family	Part used
1	Acorus calamus L.	Vayambu	Acoraceae	Rhizome
2	Santalum album L.	Chandanam	Santalaceae	Heart wood
3	Curcuma longa L.	Manjal	Zingiberaceae	Rhizome

All the ingredients ground to paste and apply externally on the affected part against wounds to heal septic due to spines

## **Result and Discussion**

The study brought on record of 52 single and 10 combinations of plant remedies. Out of the total 64 plant

species Euphorbiaceae stands high in number (7) followed by Lamiaceae (5) Apocynaceae (4) Malvaceae, Leguminosae and Oleaceae and Rubiaceae (3), Combretaceae, Compositae, Oxalidaceae, Piperaceae, Rhamnaceae, Zingiberaceae (2 each) and other 24 families represents single species.

The total information was given by 36 informants with an age group of 40 - 80. From the Ethnobotanical survey it was noticed that the persons between the age group of 50-80 are more familiar with wound healing plants. Of the 64 plant species 38 ethnomedicinal plant species are applied or administrated through different media. It is found that water is the main and important media (80%), followed by 15 % and 5 % coconut water and coconut oil respectively. Almost all parts are used as officinal parts for the treatment such as leaves, stem, root, rhizome, tuber, flower, fruit, *etc.* Details are depicted in the fig I.





While analyzing the data, the leaves are major parts used for treatment of wounds, which may be due to the continuous availability of drug source. Hence, the conservation of these plants is relatively easier than others. It is observed that 2 kinds of mode of administration is prevailing, internal and external. Among the single plant remedies, 97 % are used for external application and 3% used for internal application. In the combination drugs, 80% are external and 20% are internal administrations. Dhara is the main mode of external treatment for chronic wounds.

#### Conclusion

The present study aimed to document the traditional wound healing plants used by the rural communities of Kasaragod district of Kerala state. During the course of the study, information on 64 plant species used for healing treatments was documented. Among this, leaves are widely used followed latex. 97% of the drugs are used for external application and water is the major medium used. The informants with the age group of 50-80 are capable of giving most of the information. These local inhabitants have a strong faith in traditional medicine and are well versed with the utilization of plants of their surroundings through trial and error methods. They are using the preparations from time immemorial without knowing their chemical constituents. The collection, identification and documentation of ethnomedicinal data on biological resources are inevitable steps for bio-prospecting. To understand the therapeutic potential of the traditional medicine, there is a need for more studies of traditional health care practices through Pharmacological and clinical interventions.

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