

# An Ethnobotanical Survey of Medicinal Plants Used in the East Sepik Province of Papua New Guinea

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## Abstract

Fast modernization in the East Sepik (ES) Province of Papua New Guinea (PNG) is bringing about a lessening in people educated in therapeutic plant use. Here we report a union and examination of conventional therapeutic plant use from four ethnically unmistakable areas in the ES Province and moreover contrast them with two other past reports of customary plant use from various regions of PNG. PNG is honored with uncommon natural variety and a rich yet divided social embroidered artwork of customs, workmanship, profound convictions and therapeutic information.

## Keywords

Papua New Guinea • East Sepik • Medicinal plants • Bougainville • Eastern highlands • Quantitative ethnopharmacology

## About the Study

Therapeutic plant use between four unmistakable lingo study regions in the ES Province of PNG indicated that solitary a little part of plants had shared use in every territory, anyway generally using distinctive plant parts, being readied diversely and to treat distinctive ailments. A few occurrences of already unreported therapeutic plants could be found. Therapeutically under-and over-used plants were discovered both in the provincial reports and in a transregional examination, in this way demonstrating that these restorative usage frequencies contrast between regions. As a rule, when various names for similar species were discovered, we endeavored to coordinate plant family names to the PNG Plant Database variants to consider quantitative examination. Plant families which are considered abused have a substandard tenable stretch that lies over the predominant trustworthy span for the local complete information. Plant families that are considerend underused have a prevalent sound stretch underneath the second rate believable time period provincial complete informational collection dispersion. In any case, among the plants distinguished to species level, just four species were accounted for in each overview: *Alstonia scholaris* (L.) R.Br, *Cassia alata* L, *Passiflora foetida* L, and *Zingiber officinale* Roscoe. This unmistakably infers an otherworldly/enchanted association of plant and patient. Conventional review of the data assembled yielded data about plants not broadly utilized, inadequately clarified or utilized for unexpected infirmities in comparison to those in districts where utilization of the plant is more normal.

*Alocasia cucullata* (Lour.) is utilized in Chinese medication for snakebite, abscesses, stiffness, and joint pain and has as of late been distinguished as containing anticancer mixtures. *Averrhoa carambola* L. (starfruit) organic product is utilized for cuts and asthma in PNG, and furthermore broadly utilized all through the world for an assortment of afflictions. *Chrysopogon aciculatus* (Retz). Trin is utilized in the East Sepik for expanding. The plant is utilized in Ayurveda as a diuretic. *Clitoria ternatea* L. is utilized for

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barrenness in PNG and comparatively in Ayurveda, where new root juice in new goat milk is utilized for pregnancy. *Endospermum medullosum* L.S.Sm. has been portrayed already as utilized against ailment. *Uncaria orientalis* Guillaumin, used to treat windedness in the East Sepik, needs pharmacological comment, however has been examined

## Conclusion

Investigation of recurrence of utilization of plant families in the clinical convention focuses to specific inclinations. This can at last be helpful in focusing on plants for biochemical examination. Notwithstanding, if the ideal result of the ethnobotany attempt is to feature helpful plants for the pharmacopeia, at that point better grained information is required to take apart the abundance of data assembled, (for example exact geographic area including ecological conditions, and so on) Comment with biochemical data, protection status, harmfulness information would yield utility for a more assorted arrangement of researchers. To this end the different endeavors of PNG plant science, ethnobotany, ethnopharmacology and plant protection need to work together more thoroughly to characterize valuable interfaces for one another's information needs. Notwithstanding the presence of an enormous corpus of clinical explanation of plants for PNG, already obscure clinical employments of plants can be revealed. Besides, correlations of restorative plant usage are conceivable if information bases are reformatted for textures that permit examinations. A deliberate exertion in building effectively practically identical data sets could drastically encourage ethnopharmacological investigation of the current plant variety.

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