Services offered
1. Short-term and long-term training programmes on Ethnomedicinal, Medicinal and Aromatic plants, Ethnobotany, Ethnomedicine and Pharmacognosy.
2. Hands-on training on vitro and in vivo Experimental Pharmacology.
3. Extension activities on Conservation and Sustainable utilisation of Medicinal, Aromatic and food plants.

Division of Ethnomedicine & Ethnopharmacology

Objective of the Division
The Division of Ethnomedicine & Ethnopharmacology was established in the year 1992, with the mandate for conservation, preservation, sustainable utilization and bioprospecting of the rich traditional knowledge related to plants used for food and medicine of our country through systematic documentation, pre-clinical studies, molecular ethnopharmacological research to translate the outcome of the research into action for the benefit of the common people.

Major research areas
Systematic documentation of Traditional Knowledge (TR)
- Ethno-medicinal-botanical survey
- Preparation of database on TR associated with plants used for food and medicine.

Bioprospecting through Ethnopharmacological Research
- Anti-inflammatory studies
- Anti-bacterial studies
- Anti-fungal studies
- Anti-diabetic studies
- Anti-cancer studies
- Immunomodulatory studies
- Anti-infectious studies
- Pharmacognostic studies
- Physiological studies
- Molecular and genomic expressions studies
- Extension activities out related to traditional knowledge associated with biodiversity and its protection, primary health care and empowerment of women.

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Brief description about the Division

- Ethnomedicine and Ethnopharmacology Division was established in 1992 with an aim for bio prospecting of herbal medicines based on systematically documented traditional knowledge.
- Our team comprises Senior Scientists as Ethnomedicians, Ethnopharmacologists, Physicians along with 35 Young Scientists, Post-doctoral Fellows, Inspires Fellows, Research Scholars, Project students and Alumni staff.

Methodology of Work

Ethnopharmacological studies based on systematically documented traditional knowledge provide a platform for discovering ethnomedicines and ethnomedicinals for medicinal and food plants used throughout the world which forms the basis for an evidence-based approach to "natural medicines."
- Systematic documentation of traditional knowledge.
- Scientific validation of traditional knowledge.
- Filming of patients.
- Research publications.
- Development of herbal drugs or natural products.
- Technology transfer.
- IP protection.
- Access and Benefit Sharing.

Publications


Extension activities

- People participation programs.
- Contact and awareness programs.
- Training in Ethnomedicine and Ethnopharmacology aspects.

Funding Agencies of Projects

- DBT, DST, NPDF, AYUSH, WOS, SPRM, KSTE.

Major Collaborators

- RGCB, CDRI, NBPGR, RCG, NBRRI, Lucknow, Agro-exploration College - Varanasi, VBI-Parco.

Major achievements

1. Systematically documented 4,270 information covering 286 medicinal and food plants based on traditional knowledge.
2. Patents filed-15 (awarded) 1 Provisional 1.
3. Transformation of 2 scientifically validated herbal medicine drugs - JEEVANIM-granules and BARIADISH 6.7 Oil (entrate).
4. Developed Herbal Health Care Kit comprising 6 herbal products for internal use/external application, ready for technology transfer.
5. Developed Herbal Cough Syrup and VAIJY Sports medicines are ready for technology transfer.
6. Developed herbal formulation for liver protection and diabetes are ready for clinical trials.
7. Scientifically validated 42 plants based on Ethnomedical leads through molecular and pharmacological approach for further studies.
8. New antifungal molecules discovered against Cryptococcus gypseus. Very significant lead molecule (K1317) showed potent activity against Cryptococcus gypseus at very low concentrations both in in vivo and in vitro conditions.
9. Journal of Traditional and Folk Practices is being published since 2013 from NBTTF.
10. 2015: Developed Pharmacopeial standards of 25 Medicinal plants for Indian systems of Medicine [ISM] and Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).
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Papers

- Journal articles-335
- Papers in Conferences-250
- Books 8
- Handbooks-4
- EC-3
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List 5 Important research papers published recently


Extension activities including seminars/workshops organized, invited talks etc.

- Pilot Participatory Program of Conservation and Sustainable Use of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants - Kotki and Aarivuka, Tribal areas - Karnataka Forest Dept. under World Bank Consultancy Project.
- "Herbs for all and Health for all" at Uthrus Grama Swastikrahan (KISTEL) Govt of Karnataka.
- Setting up a facility for Traditional Knowledge Documentation in Food and Medicinal and Quality Control Laboratory for Herbal Products (VARPARK-KISTEL).

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