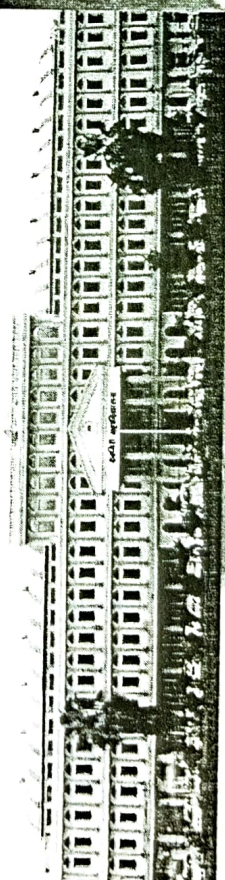


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Indexed with Cross ref and DOI <https://doi.org/10.26643/think-india>

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Volume 22, Special Issue 31, December-2019

National Conference on ETDAB-2019

THINK INDIA JOURNAL

Organized by
Department of Botany,
Deogiri College, Aurangabad. M.S.
www.deogiricollege.org/sr/etdab_2019/

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Ethanobotanical Properties of Turmeric In Maharashtra

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Abstract

Ethanobotany is a recent branch of Life science leading to various disciplines such as anthropology, archeology, botany, ecology, economics and medicine, religious, cultural and several other disciplines. Seeing the Indian history it is found that Ayurveda plays major role in our country, herbal drugs are found to used very popularly not only in India but worldwide it is accepted. Today Ayurveda and scientific investigations are going hand in hand and working for new achievements. Turmeric (*Curcuma longa* and *Curcuma aromatica* Salisb.) has been described in Ayurveda, as treatment inflammatory diseases and is referred by different names in different cultures, active principle called Curcumin or diferuloylmethane, a yellow pigment present in turmeric (curry powder) has been shown to exhibit numerous activities. Curcumin is the major component found in Turmeric and is interested area in between the researchers. The present study was aimed to review the ethanobotanical properties, phytochemical and pharmacological properties of turmeric plant. The most important part of turmeric is rhizome part widely used by different tribal communities. Turmeric exhibits biological actions, which include anti-inflammatory, anti-diabetic, analgesic, antibacterial, anti-fungal, anti-protozoal, anti-ulcer, hypocholesteremic activities also turmeric has shown anti-cancer effect induced mainly mediated through induction of apoptosis and many more medicinal values. Maharashtra state in India ranks sixth in area under turmeric cultivation. In Maharashtra Sangali, Satara, Hingoli, Nanded, Parbhani are the major turmeric growing districts. Sangli, a city of Maharashtra, is second only to Erode in size and importance as a production and trading site for turmeric.

Key words: *Ethanobotany, Ayurveda, Turmeric, Curcumin, Rhizome, Medicinal.*

Introduction

India is the largest producer, consumer and exporter of turmeric in the world. Indian turmeric is considered to be the best in the world market because of its high curcumin content. India accounts for about 80 per cent of world turmeric production and 60 per cent of world exports. Major turmeric exporting countries are India, Thailand, Taiwan, and several other Southeast Asian, Central and Latin American countries. The major turmeric importing countries include Japan, Sri Lanka, Iran, UAE, US, UK and Ethiopia. Major turmeric producing states in India are the southern states of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, the eastern states of Orissa and West Bengal, and the western state of Maharashtra. In Telangana during the year 2018-19, area covered under turmeric was 47888 hectares as against 44956 hectares in the corresponding period of last year. Among major turmeric growing districts, Nizamabad has reported 13965 hectares acreage under turmeric as against 12800 hectares in last year. Jagtial has so far reported 13250 hectares as against 12378 hectares during last year and Warangal (Rural) has reported 5521 hectares of acreage compared to last year's 4250 hectares. The same in Andhra Pradesh was reported as 17914 hectares as compared to 14830 hectares in the corresponding period of last year. Turmeric production for 2019-20 is estimated at 532,353 MT (basis dry crop) compared to previous year's 476,771 MT (Agriwatch). The estimated turmeric production may go down further as Maharashtra standing crop is at very crucial stage.

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