



## Asian Journal of Pharmacognosy

Ethnopharmacological Note

### ***Curcuma pseudomontana* - a rare Zingiberaceae species plant of Bangladesh and its medicinal uses**

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*Curcuma pseudomontana* J. Graham is an extremely rare Zingiberaceae species found so far only in the Naikongchhari forested area of Bandarban district in the southeastern hilly area of Bangladesh. In English it is known as hill turmeric, while in Bangladesh it is sometimes referred to as bon holud (wild turmeric) or pahari holud (hill turmeric) by the local people. To the best of our knowledge, there are no reported ethnomedicinal uses of the plant in Bangladesh thus far. The plant is also found in India where it is also considered an endangered species. The Korku tribe of Amravati district, India use smoke of dried rhizomes for hypnotizing persons (Devarkar, 2010). The Irula tribals residing in Sigur plateau, Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, India, use the rhizomes for treating cuts and wounds (Pradheeps and Poyyamoli, 2013). The tribal people (Dhangars, Gowlis) of Purandhar, Maharashtra, India, use the rhizomes (tubers) as a blood purifier (Bhosle et al., 2009). The roots of the plant are orally taken during fever and topically applied to scabies by various tribal people residing in Jalgaon district of North Maharashtra, India (Patil and Bhuktar, 2012). The tubers of the plant are used by the Bagata and Valmiki tribes of Munchingiputtu Mandal, Visakhapatnam district, Andhra Pradesh, India, to treat jaundice (Padal et al., 2012). The Kattunaikan tribe of Malappuram district in Kerala, India, uses the rhizomes for cardiac disorders (Chithra et al., 2016). The rhizomes are used for muscle pain, leprosy, and debility by tribal communities residing in Gundlabrahmeswaram Wildlife Sanctuary (Eastern Ghats), Andhra Pradesh, India (Kanneboyena et al., 2015). The rhizomes are used for skin problems and coughs by the tribals of Achampet Forest Division in Nallamalais, Telengana, India (Reddy, 2015). Information on the medicinal uses of the plant was collected from four informants in the Ramu-Naikongchhari region, where the plant can be found in the wild. The first informant, Gul Chaman (female, age 105 years) mentioned that the rhizomes can be used for indigestion, stomach ache and diarrhoea in humans as well as infections in livestock; the second informant, Foyez Akbar (male, age 42 years) mentioned that the rhizomes can be used for indigestion and stomach ache in humans; the third informant, Rashid Ahmed (male, age 82 years) mentioned that the rhizomes of the plant can be used to treat indigestion and stomach ache in humans and as feed for live stock; the fourth informant, Mohammad Yunus (male, age 45 years) mentioned that the rhizomes can be used to treat stomach ache. The plant was collected and identified at the Bangladesh National Herbarium (Accession Number: 43834).

#### **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**



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No conflict of interest associated with this work.

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