



Ethnopharmacological Note

***Curcuma mangga* Valetton & Zijp (Zingiberaceae): a previously unreported plant for treatment of weakness, tumor and acne in children**

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Received November 10, 2018; accepted March 23, 2018; published online April 15, 2018.

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Curcuma mangga Valetton & Zijp is a less known species of the Zingiberaceae family in Bangladesh. In English it is known as ‘mango ginger’, and locally as ‘chotobali’. We are not aware of any ethnomedicinal reports on this plant from Bangladesh, although other species belonging to the *Curcuma* genus like *Curcuma longa* or *Curcuma amada* have numbers of reports on their traditional medicinal uses (Shahnaj et al., 2015; Mukti et al., 2012). In this report, we document the medicinal uses of rhizomes of *Curcuma mangga* for treatment of weakness, tumor, and acne in children. Rhizomes are made into a paste, which is administered to children orally for tumors and weakness. Dried and powdered rhizomes are applied topically to acne. The information was collected from a folk medicinal practitioner, Mr. Kamal Uddin, practicing in Abdul Nabi village, Feni district, Bangladesh. Plant specimens were photographed and voucher specimens deposited at the Bangladesh National Herbarium (Accession Number: 45499). Practically all *Curcuma* genus plants contain curcumin, which has been shown to be highly effective against different cancer types (Shakeri et al., 2018). *Curcuma mangga* thus shows potential to be a source of curcumin and another anti-cancer agent.

Key words: *Curcuma mangga*, *pediatrics*

Declaration of conflict of interest

We have no conflict of interest to declare.

References

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Scientific Name: *Curcuma mangga*

Local Name: Chotobali (ছোট বালি)

Figure 1: *Curcuma mangga*