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An Ethnobotanical, Assessment, Inventory Survey and Traditional Practices of Folkloric Populaces in and around Parvathamalai Hills, Thiruvannamalai District, Tamil Nadu, India

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ABSTRACT This paper explores and documents the ethnobotanical knowledge of medicinal plants, emphasising its pivotal role in public healthcare and pharmaceutical development. This study was conducted in the Parvathamalai hills of the Eastern Ghats in Tamil Nadu and focuses on the relationship between plants and traditional ethnic communities in the field of ethnobotany. The experimental design included interviews with around 200 individuals to gather evidence of current ethnobotanical knowledge, recording local names, botanical names, family classifications and ethnomedicinal uses for each plant. The study identified traditional uses for 125 plant species across 65 families, providing a rich resource for traditional medical practitioners and researchers. The collected data aids in formulating plans for future conservation efforts. The paper recommends further pharmacological studies on the identified plant species to assess their efficacy, safety and potential standardisation in medicinal activity, contributing valuable insights for public healthcare strategies, pharmaceutical development and conservation initiatives in the specified region.