

Wild species of flora of the North-West of Russia as medicinal plants for the indigenous peoples of the North

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Introduction

Currently, it is very important to have time to collect endangered folk details about the features of the use of small nations species of local flora as useful species (medicinal, food, hygiene). Collection and analysis ethnobotany data about using of wild species of local flora as medicinal plants people from small ethnic population on the North of Russia (Tkachenko and Lebedeva, 2018). The aim of this work was to collect and study materials ethnobotanical number of Baltic and Finnish ethnic peoples of the North European part of Russia (Veps, Karelians, Izhora, Vodes, Estonian-Seto), Komi-Zyrian, Saami and Russian, with which almost all these people have long live in more or less close geographical and cultural contact.

Materials and methods

There was a list of 160 questions on the use of local flora plants as useful. The methodological basis of this work was the personal collection of material by the survey method during expedition trips to the settlements of the North-West of the Russian Federation.

Results and discussion

Flora of North-West part Russia includes approximately 2700 species of vascular plants. Small ethnic groups look like as Veps, Karelians, Izhora, Vodes, Seto-Estonians, Komi-Zyrian, Saami – they using as helpful (medicinal and edible) plants only some species from local flora (not more than 1-2% from the total number of species from flora of North-West of Russia).

Modern information technologies penetrate deeper into the lives of different segments of the population. This leads to a rapid loss of traditional knowledge accumulated by many centuries. Everything is quickly erased the memory of the use of different kinds of plants to treat diseases, using them as amulets, and their role in many ceremonies. Only in small remote villages can still find people who preserve old knowledge about the use of plants as useful. It is important to have time to collect and store grain of people's knowledge and skills in the use of wild plant species as useful (food, medicinal, ceremonial, construction, ritual). Fewer young people who pass native folk knowledge about the use of plants.

Particular attention should be paid to informants (who to interview and how). Many healers, who keep native people's knowledge, often do not go to the contact, and do not share their knowledge to use as a medicinal plant (Lebedeva and Tkachenko 2016 a, b; 2017a, b).

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Conclusion

In many countries, especially in the last decade, a lot of attention to the collection of ethnobotanical and ethnopharmacy data. These works are important to and among minorities of the North, whose lives are still largely dependent on the connection with Mother Nature, the ability to use the plant as useful. In the data collection process, it has been revealed that a single national group, but residing remotely from each other, one and same species are not equally used. Different people often use various types of plant for the treatment of diseases or as edible.

Currently requires the organization of a wide collection of information on the use of wild species of local flora of the local population as useful, especially as food and medicines.

The most complete knowledge about potential new sources from local floras for the development of new drugs of plant origin, derived from data collected ethnobotanical, will identify promising new kinds of complex medical and biological research and development of new highly effective drugs.

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