ETHOPHARMACOLOGICAL STUDY OF ANTI-INFECTIOUS PLANTS USED IN THE WILAYA OF SETIF, EAST OF ALGERIA

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ABSTRACT

Background: Medicinal plants are plant drugs, at least some of which have medicinal properties. Many diseases contracted by humans are linked to bacterial infections. The wilaya of Setif, located in the north of Algeria, is rich in vegetal biodiversity used against microbial infections. Our study aims to identify locally used plants against common infections.

Methods: this study is based on an investigation covering the various aspects of traditional uses. A questionnaire was distributed and filled by a population of users and herbalists spread over the wilaya of Setif. This questionnaire covers the geographic region, the age, the sex and the quality of the informant, the type of infection being treated, the name and part of the plant used, the method of preparation and the method of administration.

Results: The results show that there is a fluctuation in the consumption and the use of plants against infections with a remarkable predominance of a few species such as Oregano, Eucalyptus and Mint consumed as decoction.

Conclusion: the Setif population has the culture to use plants against infections, but in a method exclusive of international standards.

KEYWORDS: Medicinal plants, Antimicrobial effect of plants, Ethnopharmacological survey