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Notice for the PhD Viva-Voce Examination

Ms Srikala S Reddy (Registration Number: 1981703), PhD scholar at the School of Sciences, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore will defend her PhD thesis at the public viva-voce examination on Friday, 09 August 2024 at 11.30 am in Room No. 044, Ground Floor, R & D Block, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru - 560029.

Title of the Thesis	:	**Understanding the Pastoral Ethnobotany in Koppal and Vijayanagar Districts of Karnataka for Sustainability**
Discipline	:	**Botany**
External Examiner (Outside Karnataka)	:	**Dr Thimma Naik** Professor Department of Botany Sri Krishnadevaraya University Anantapur - 515003 Andhra Pradesh
External Examiner (Within Karnataka)	:	**Dr Anand M R** Associate Professor Department of Botany Agronomy Division University of Agricultural Sciences Bengaluru, Karnataka
Supervisor	:	**Dr Manjunatha B T** Professor Department of Life Sciences School of Sciences CHRIST (Deemed to University) Bengaluru- 560029 Karnataka

The members of the Research Advisory Committee of the Scholar, the faculty members of the Department and the School, interested experts and research scholars of all the branches of research are cordially invited to attend this open viva-voce examination.

Registrar

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 05 August 2024

ABSTRACT

The research aimed to comprehensively explore the ethnobotanical significance and nutritional value of wild plants utilized by pastoralists in Koppal and Vijayanagar districts. The study area selection involved meticulous consideration of the geographical and ecological relevance. Determining an appropriate sample size was crucial to ensure representative data collection, achieved through systematic methodologies. Informants were thoughtfully selected to gather indigenous knowledge about the diverse uses of wild plants, emphasizing their fodder, veterinary, edible, and medicinal applications. Employing ethnobotanical research methods, interviews were conducted to document plant usage, elucidate their taxonomical identities, and create an extensive inventory. The collection of plants referenced by pastoralists during interviews was a pivotal step. Detailed assessments of plant categories, habits, habitats, and specific plant parts used were documented. Herbarium preparation and authentication were conducted meticulously to preserve and validate the collected plant specimens.

Comparison with ethnobotanical studies from other subtropical regions worldwide was conducted using the Jacquard index, revealing similarities and differences. The evaluation of sustainable utility focused on wild edible plants, analysing their viability for long-term utilization. Furthermore, investigating the forage quality of selected wild fodder and hay supplement plants was carried out. Analysing their proximate provided insights into their nutritional value. In summary, this comprehensive research delved into ethnobotanical practices, taxonomic identification, nutritional evaluation, and sustainable utilization of wild plants among pastoral communities. The findings not only contributed to ethnobotanical knowledge but also provided valuable insights into the potential economic and ecological significance of these plants for the communities involved.

Keywords: *Ethnobotany, Koppal, Vijayanagara, Pastoralism, wild edible and fodder plants*

Publications:

1. **S. R. Srikala** and B. T. Manjunath, "Biodiversity of Wild Fodder Plants of Semi-arid Regions, North East Karnataka, India," *African Journal of Biological Sciences*, vol. 6, no. 8, pp. 596-607, 2024. doi: 10.33472/AFJBS.6.8.2024.596-607.
2. **S. R. Srikala** and Manjunath B.T., "Ethnomedicinal and Veterinary Plants used by Local Pastoral Communities of Vijayanagara District, Karnataka, India," *African Journal of Biological Sciences*, vol. 6, no. 8, pp. 608-623, 2024. doi: 10.33472/AFJBS.6.8.2024.608-623.
3. **S. R. Srikala** and B. T. Manjunath, "Contemporary ethnobotany of pastoralism in semi-arid Deccan region-Koppal district, Karnataka, India," Medicinal Plants-International Journal of Phytomedicines and Related Industries, vol. 15, no. 3, pp. 498-510, 2023.
4. **S. R. Srikala**, B. T. Manjunath, "Ethnobotany of Wild Edible Plants, Hampi, Karnataka, India," *Journal of Advanced Zoology*, vol. 45, no. 1, pp. 560–566, 2024. doi: 10.53555/jaz.v45i1.4592.
5. **S. R. Srikala** et al., "Crop and Ethnomedicinal Plants Proteomics in Response to Salt Stress," *Journal of Survey in Fisheries Sciences*, pp. 1019-1021, 2023.