Indigenous animal health technologies in hilly region of Uttranchal state

The study was conducted in five villages Nainital district in Uttaranchal State. Twenty traditional veterinary practitioners available in the villages were selected for exploring the prevalence of animal health related problems. Besides this, hundred respondents were selected purposively in order to explore the prevalence of animal health related problems and indigenous technologies for curing the same. Socio personal and economic profile of the respondents showed that majority of the respondents were of middle age group, Thakur caste, having joint type of families with large family size and low level of family education Their main occupation was agricultural labourers, having monthly income Rs. 2000 to 3000 and having land upto 1 acre with medium herd size. As regards the prevalence of animal health related problems respondents in hilly areas and traditional veterinary practitioners were agreed upon the high prevalence of indigestion, fever, diarrhoea, worm infestation, fresh wound/cut, mastitis, maggot infested wound, tympani/bloat, foot and mouth disease, pneumonia/coughing and internal muscular injury. Regarding the indigenous animal health technologies and scientific relevance of different plants respondents in hilly areas were found to be using about thirty two plants for curing the animal health related problems prevalent in their area. These plant species were Lehsun, Ghrit, Kumari, Sharifa, Katili, Safed Musli, Satawar, Neem, Pasan Bheda, Palas, Bhang, Brahmi, Harjojan, Van Haldi, Amarbel, Bhringraj, Akharot, Kamala, Pudina, Karela, Tulsi, Chalmura, Kute, Makoi, Kanala, Chirayata, Mamira, Ban Ajwain, Guruch, Bicchu Booti, Aswgandha and Tamur. Out of all the plants used, indigenous uses of twenty-five plants in some cases came out to be scientifically relevant. These plants were Lehsun, Ghrit, Kumari, Katili, Pati, Safed Musli, Neem, Pasan Bheda, Palas, Bhang, Brahmi, Harjojan, Van Haldi, Amarbel, Akharot, Kamala, Pudina, Karela, Tulsi, Chalmura, Kute, Makoi, Chirayata, Mamira, Aswgandha and Tamur. However, scientific relevance of the indigenous uses of rest of the plants has not explored. Few indigenous animal health technologies, which were found to be scientifically relevant, were documented in a booklet form. So that respondents in hilly areas can easily use these herbal remedies at household level.