

## MEDICO-BOTANY OF GENUS *MUCUNA* FROM WESTERN MAHARASHTRA

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*The genus Mucuna, with its thirty species, is distributed throughout the tropics. Out of the, eleven Indian species, eight have got ethnobotanical significance. Some of the species are found cultivated on boundaries of fields. These eight species have value either in medicinal, edible, fodder and/or manure preparations. Ethnic groups from western Maharashtra viz. Mahadeo koli, Thakar, Katkari and Kokana utilize it in traditional ways. It is also noticed that this taxon has been utilized traditionally by many ethnic groups from other states of India.*

*The paper records ethnobotanical information on the genus Mucuna. It assumes significance from the economic view point of tribals.*