

## **STUDIES ON DISTRIBUTIONAL PATTERN OF THREATENED HERBAL RESOURCES OF HIGH ALTITUDE HIMALAYA OF UTTAR PRADESH- THEIR STATUS AND CONSERVATION STRATEGY**

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*The present study is the outcome of the two decade survey (1980-1999) in all the virgin alpine areas of U.P. Himalaya. During the study it was observed that 29 species of highly valuable medicinal plants are endangered. Their distribution is restricted and population is very low and presently being exploited from the wild on a commercial scale. Owing to the narrow ecological range of these species in situ conservation is the best option. Identification of preferred habitats, altitudinal range and the elite populations with respect to below ground biomass will pave the way for reintroduction of these species to obtain maximum returns*

*and minimize the destruction of less productive populations.*