

MEDICINAL MANGROVES AND HALOPHYTES OF MAHARASHTRA COAST

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Mangroves and Halophytes are the salt tolerant species beneficial to the costal ecosystem as a whole and also to the mankind in many ways. Mangroves stabilize shore lines and they act as filter against storms and high velocity wind. They are also used as fuel, fodder, vegetable etc. Their medicinal utility is uncommon and less known. They are used in many ailments / diseases like rheumatism, dysentery, leucorrhoea, diahorrea, rheumatism, skin diseases etc. In the present paper an attempt has been made to present the information available on medicinal uses of Mangroves and Halophytes growing along the costal belt of Maharashtra in India, with a view to attract the attention of the pharmacists, physicians and others interested in new formulations. All

together thirty two Mangrove species have been enumerated giving details of their nomenclature, distribution etc. together with their medicinal use for thirty nine ailments.

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