Information services and products for Phytomedicine and Ethno-veterinary medicine: supporting new research niche areas in Africa

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The History of Medicine (Anon)

2000 B.C. Here, eat this root.

1000 A.D. That root is heathen. Here, say this prayer.

1850 A.D. That prayer is superstition. Here, drink this potion.

1940 A.D. That potion is snake oil. Here, swallow this pill.

1985 A.D. That pill is ineffective. Here take this antibiotic.

2000 A.D. That antibiotic is artificial. Here, eat this root.
Introduction
Overview

1. The Phytomedicine Programme of the University of Pretoria

2. Information Support
   • Webpage (Phytomedicine in Africa)
   • Groundbreaking articles
   • Published research output
   • E-Resources
   • Digitised Slide Collection
   • Publishing Proceedings

3. Library Collection development
   • Information resources on OCLC Worldcat
   • Evaluating the monograph collection
   • Journals
   • Interpretation of the benchmarking results

4. Conclusion
What is Phytomedicine?

- …the use of plants, parts of plants, and isolated phytochemicals for the prevention and treatment of various health concerns…

- “Ethnoveterinary medicine is important in areas of developing countries that lack access to conventional medicines for animal health care, which are often unaffordable to poor rural farmers.”

“…the market in traditional medicines is expanding, and traditional practices are increasingly becoming mainstream”,

(McGaw et al. 2007: 366).
The Phytomedicine Programme of the University of Pretoria

- Multidisciplinary
- Collaborative research
- Expertise
- Capacity and facilities
- Focus
Information Support
Webpage (Phytomedicine in Africa)

- description
- parts used
- medicinal uses
- preparation and dosage
- active ingredients
- pharmacological effects
- distribution of the plant
- bibliography
AAMPS African Medicinal Plants
(Based upon Lists A and B of the Centunon Declaration)

General warning
This website contains general information about medicinal plants and their uses. It is intended as a general overview and not as a medical handbook for self-treatment. Many of the medicinal plants described are highly toxic and may cause severe allergic reactions or serious poisoning. We cannot be held responsible for claims arising from the mistaken identity of plants or their inappropriate use. Do not attempt self-diagnosis or self-treatment. Always consult a medical professional or qualified practitioner.

Acacia senegal (L) Willd.
Adansonia digitata L.
Aframomum melegueta K. Schum
Agathosma betulina (Bergius) Pillans
Aloe ferox Mill.
Antidesma madagascariensis Lam.
Aphrodisia africana (Vahl.) Benn.
Artemisia afra Jacq
Aspalathus linearis (Burm. F.) Dahlg.
Balanites aegyptica (L.) Del.
Boisselia spp
Bulbine frutescens (L.) Willd.
Caesalpinus caerules (L.) Huth
Carissa edulis Vahl
Catharanthus roseus (L.) G. Don.

Acacia
Baobab
Grains of Paradise
Echu
Bitter Aloes
Bois Bigaignon
Fandeman
African Artemisia
Rooibos
Desert Date
Frankincense
Eubline
Pigeon Pea
Natal Plum
Madagascan Periwinkle
Adansonia digitata

Bombacaceae

Common names
muhuyu (Venda); shimuwu (Tsonga); movana (Tswana); krametart (Afrikaans)
babobbi (English)

Family
Fabaceae

Description
This remarkable tree is a conspicuous feature of the Northern Province of South Africa. It is relatively short (up to about 15 metres in height), but develops a massive, unevenly folded trunk of more than 20 metres in circumference. The massive, usually squat cylindrical trunk gives rise to thick tapering branches resembling a root-system, which is why it has often been referred to as the upside-down tree. The smooth bark is grey or yellowish-grey. The leaves are hand-sized and divided into 5-7 finger-like leaflets. Being deciduous, the leaves are dropped during the winter months and appear again in late spring or early summer. Each leaflet tapers to a sharp point and is up to 150 mm long. Large, pendulous white flowers are produced in early summer (October to December) (up to 200 mm in diameter), and are sweetly scented. They are followed by very large egg-shaped fruits of up to 150 mm long. The seeds are surrounded by a powdery white pulp (“cream of tarter”) and the thin, hard outer shell of the fruit is covered with characteristic velvety, yellow hairs.

Parts Used
The dried fruit pulp (mixed with water) or the bark are used, rarely the leaves or seeds.

Medicinal Uses
Database of groundbreaking articles

- RefWorks
- RefShare
Publication of research output

- **UPSpace**
  Institutional repository
- **OpenUP**
  Open access faculty publications
- **UPeTD**
  Electronic theses collection
Example of an OpenUP article

Research Repository of the University of Pretoria, South Africa

Please use this identifier to cite or link to this item: http://hdl.handle.net/2263/3192

Title: In vitro anthelmintic, antibacterial and cytotoxic effects of extracts from plants used in South African ethnoveterinary medicine

Inquiries: http://vetevhr.up.ac.za

Authors/Institution: McCaw, L.J.; Van der Merwe, D.; Elloff, J.N.

LC Subjects:
- Anthelmintics
- Antibacterial agents
- Nematode/plant relationships
- Plant extracts
- Traditional veterinary medicine -- South Africa

Keywords:
- Antibacterial
- Brome grass
- Anthelmintic
- Cytotoxicity
- Ethnoveterinary medicine

Issue Date: Mar-2007

Publisher: Blevier

Citation: McCaw, L.J; Van der Merwe, D; Elloff, JN, 2007, 'In vitro anthelmintic, antibacterial and cytotoxic effects of extracts from plants used in South African ethnoveterinary medicine', The Veterinary Journal, vol. 173, no. 2, pp. 366-372.

[http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/10900233]

Sponsors: The University of Pretoria and the National Research Foundation are thanked for providing financial support.

Abstract: Please refer to abstract in article

URI: http://hdl.handle.net/2263/3192

ISSN: 1090-0233

Rights: Blevier

Type: Postprint Article
Example of a thesis on UPeTD

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<td>Supervisor</td>
<td>Advisor Name Title Dr J A Picard Prof J N Elloff</td>
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Several investigations into the antimicrobial activity of members of the Combretaceae have been undertaken in recent years. Although...
Information Sources
Collection development
Information resources on OCLC Worldcat

- "medicinal plants" or
  "Materia medica, Vegetable"
- "traditional medicine"
Information resources on OCLC Worldcat
2007 - Mar 2009

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Theses / dissertations on "Medicinal Plants" added on OCLC WorldCat

Amount added

- 1680 - 1987
- 1988 - 1996
- 1997 - 2000
- 2001 - 2003
- 2004 - 2005
- 2006 - 2008
Evaluating the monograph collection

Amount of titles owned

- University of Illinois at Chicago
- University of Edinburgh
- University of Witwatersrand
- University of Cape Town
- University of Pretoria
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Conclusion

• Need to develop information resource
• Interlending
• Motivation for further collection development

“The integrity of data and the transparency about their acquisition are vital to science.”

Rossner et al (2007: 1091)
Academic libraries "... are not publishers, but they do preserve the functions and purposes of publishers. They are not consumers of information, but they do sustain a culture of deliberative information consumption...they are not the research and teaching embraced by the academy, but without their bibliographic traditions, scholarly discovery, learning, and teaching would be isolated, episodic, and limited to the hash economy of the subject or topic attracting the greatest money or the best students. Ultimately, the purpose of any library is to preserve a global intellectual connective tissue that usefully binds the subjects of all books, articles, reports and myriad other published and unpublished sources of knowledge."

Shuler (2007: 713)
Thank you

[29 April 2009].


http://www.isiknowledge.com [28 April 2009]

http://www.ais.up.ac.za/aisintranet/manage.htm [30 April 2009].

University of Pretoria. Department of Library Services: UPSpace Research Repository of the University of Pretoria, South Africa. [Online]. https://www.up.ac.za/dspace/ [30 April 2009].


University of Pretoria. Department of Paraclinical Sciences, Faculty of Veterinary Science.
Phytomedicine Programme. [Online]