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Faculty of Science		Department of Botany	
Tekijä — Författare			
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Ethnobotanical Study in the Village of Judibela, in the Terai Plain, Southern Nepal			
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The main objectives of this study are to gather information about the traditional utilization of the wild edible, medicinal and other useful wild plants as well as to determine the preferences for fuelwood and fodder species in the village of Judibela, in the Rautahat district, Southern Nepal.

The information was gathered by interviewing the villagers with assistance of an interpreter. People were inquired about which wild edible, medicinal and other useful wild plants they use, which part or parts of these plants they use, and in which ways the plants are used. 21 households were asked about the favoured fuelwood and fodder species as well as requested to estimate the daily fuelwood and fodder consumption. The vernacular names of the species were written down. To check the identification of the plants a herbarium specimen was collected from most of them.

As many as 86 wild plants were found to be used in various ways in Judibela. There is a short description of each plant, and the way/ways it is used in the village is/are compared with the possible other uses found in literature. The total amount of wild edible plants recorded is 38 species. The great majority of these is constituted by the species with edible fruit. 39 species are used medicinally. 12 trees out of the total 46 tree species recorded in this study could be classified as multipurpose trees.

Trees are essential as fodder sources in Judibela. It proved to be impossible to calculate the daily forest based fodder consumption, as it is very difficult to estimate the amount of leaves consumed by the animals grazing in the forest. The average daily fuelwood consumption in Judibela is 3.6 kg/person. This considerably high figure indicates that the availability of fuelwood is no problem in the village.

Villagers are highly dependent on forest and its products in their daily needs. The consideration of the minor forest products in forest policy and afforestation projects is likely to increase people's participation in these projects.

Avainsanat — Nyckelord Ethnobotany, medicinal plants, wild edible plants, fuelwood, fodder trees, Terai, Nepal

Saajilyspaikka — Förlagsort
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Muuta tietoja — Övriga uppgifter