

UTILIZATION OF MEDICINAL PLANTS BY COMMUNITIES
LIVING WITHIN CAÑAS RIVER WATERSHED,
CAVITE, PHILIPPINES

THESIS

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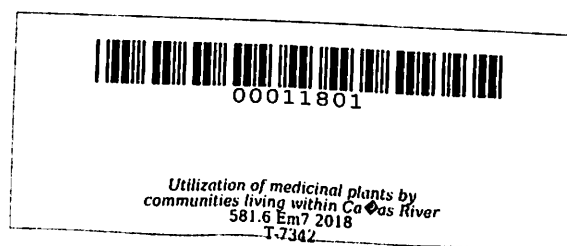
Indang, Cavite

June 2018

**UTILIZATION OF MEDICINAL PLANTS BY COMMUNITIES LIVING
WITHIN CAÑAS RIVER WATERSHED, CAVITE, PHILIPPINES**

Undergraduate Thesis
Submitted to the Faculty of the
College of Agriculture, Food, Environment and Natural Resources
Cavite State University
Indang, Cavite

In partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science



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June 2018

ABSTRACT

EMPIG, CHERYNEL G. and ESTAMO, AILEEN JOY D. Utilization of Medicinal Plants by Communities living within Cañas River Watershed, Cavite, Philippines. Undergraduate Thesis. Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science. Cavite State University, Indang, Cavite. June 2018. Adviser: Dr. Lilibeth P. Novicio.

The study was conducted from August 2017 to May 2018 within Cañas River Watershed, which is composed of seven municipalities/cities namely Tagaytay City, Amadeo, Indang, Trece Martires City, Tanza, General Trias City and Rosario and has a total of 95 barangays to assess the extent of utilization of medicinal plants by communities living within the watershed. Specifically, the study aimed to: (1) identify the medicinal plants which can be found in the Cañas River Watershed and are utilized by communities living in the area; (2) determine the uses of the medicinal plants in the study area; (3) classify the medicinal plants in the study area based on its botanical characteristics; (4) determine the utilization method to cure common ailments by the selected participants; and (5) determine the medicinal plants used by the communities as listed in the Medicinal plants approved by the Department of Health. Descriptive research and purposive sampling using survey method and ocular observation were used in this study. Interview was conducted to determine the demographic profile, types of medicinal plants, other uses of medicinal plants, classification of medicinal plants and their method of preparation in the study area.

The participants that were selected within Cañas River Watershed were the traditional healers (*albularyo* and *hilot*) and Barangay Health Workers (BHWs). One hundred ninety (190) participants composed of 73 traditional healers (11 *albularyo* and 62 *hilot*) and 117 BHWs were recorded in the area.

Based on the interview, about 93 percent of the total number of participants answered that they are using medicinal plants as a primary alternative medicine for common ailments or diseases.

Study showed that there were 177 medicinal plants found within the 95 barangays of Cañas River Watershed that can cure common ailments.

Based on the study, most number of the medicinal plants (28.49%) were reported under the category of culinary uses. In terms of the classification of medicinal plants, most of the medicinal plants were categorized as tree (38%).

Results showed that most of the traditional healers and BHWs used leaves in preparing herbal medicine and decoction as the utilization method to cure common ailments or diseases such as diarrhea, scabies, headache, stomachache, high blood, ulcer, skin boils, colds, cough, bruise, head lumps, and relapse.

The most common medicinal plants used by the communities as listed in the medicinal plants approved by the Department of Health were both *bayabas* as antiseptic and *sambong* as a treatment for cough with (23.11%).

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