

# PLANTS OF NEPAL: FACT SHEET



*Rhododendron arboreum* Sm.  
(**Lali Gurans** - National flower of Nepal)

Government of Nepal  
Ministry of Forests & Soil Conservation  
**Department of Plant Resources**  
Thapathali, Kathmandu

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## Background

Nepal, a landlocked country located in the central part of main Himalayan range is floristically characterized by the presence of six adjoining floristic regions, namely **central Asiatic in the North, Sino-Japanese in the North East, South East Asia-Malaysian in the South East, Indian in the South Sudano-Zambian in the South-West and Irano-Turanean in the West.** The altitudinal variation ranges from about 60m to the top of the world (8,848 m) has made Nepal a rich country in plant bio-diversity. It has 35 forest types, 75 vegetation units and 118 ecosystems. Nepal's botanical wealth is conserved through various acts and laws and particularly protected in 10 National Parks, 3 Wild-life Reserves, 1 Hunting Reserve, 6 Conservation Areas and 12 Buffer Zones as *in-situ* conservation. Plants are also conserved, as a part of *ex-situ* conservation, in national level Botanical Garden (National Botanical Garden, Godavari, Lalitpur) and 10 district level Botanical gardens at various parts of the country.

**Table 1**

S.N.	Plants	Total No. of Species
1.	Algae	807 species (Ref. 1)
2.	Fungi	2,025 species (Ref. 1)
3.	Lichens	771 species (Ref.1)
4.	Bryophytes (Liverworts 395, Mosses 559)	1150 species (Ref. 1)
5.	Pteridophytes	534 species (Ref. 1)
6.	Non-flowering plants	4,462 species (Ref. 2,3,8,10,11,16)
7.	Gymnosperms	31 (Ref. 16)
8.	Angiosperms	6,653 species (Ref. 1)
9.	Rhododendrons	31 species (Ref. 17)
10.	Endemic plants : a) Flowering b) Non-flowering	282 species (Ref.19,20,21) 248 species (Ref. 2)
11.	Medicinal plants	701 species (Ref. 7)
12.	Medicinal plants prioritized for research and development	30 species (Ref. 16)
13.	Medicinal plants prioritized for agro-technology development	12 species (Ref. 16)
14.	Nepal flora in CITES Appendices	Listed in table 5 (Ref. 5,6)
15.	Protected plants	16 species (Ref. 13,14)
16.	Threatened medicinal plants	60 species (Ref. 4)

**नेपालका संरक्षित वनस्पतिहरू**  
Protected Plants of Nepal (Ref.13,14)

**Table 2**

S.N.	Scientific Name	Nepali Name
<b>I. Banned for Collection, Transportation and Trade</b>		
1.	<i>Dactyloriza hatagirea</i> (D. Don) Soo	पाँचऔले
2.	Bark of <i>Juglans regia</i> Linn.	ओखरको बोक्रा
<b>II. Banned for export outside the country without processing</b> (Not applicable for cultivated products)		
1.	<i>Abies spectabilis</i> (D. Don) Mirb.	तालिसपत्र
2.	<i>Cinnamomum glaucescens</i> (Nees) Hand.-Mazz.	सुगन्धकोकिला
3.	Lichens	भ्याउ
4.	<i>Nardostachys grandiflora</i> DC.	जटामसी
5.	<i>Rauvolfia serpentina</i> (L.) Benth. ex Kurz	सर्पगन्धा
6.	<i>Taxus wallichiana</i> Zucc.	लौठसल्ला
7.	<i>Valeriana jatamansii</i> Jones	सुगन्धवाल
8.	Rock exudate	सिलाजित
<b>III. Banned for felling, transportation and export</b>		
1.	<i>Dalbergia latifolia</i> Roxb.	सतिसाल
2.	<i>Juglans regia</i> Linn.	ओखर
3.	<i>Pterocarpus marsupium</i> Roxb.	विजयसाल
4.	<i>Shorea robusta</i> Gaertn.	साल
<b>IV. Banned for Export without identification &amp; certification</b>		
1.	<i>Neopicrorhiza scrophulariiflora</i> (Pennell) D.Y. Hong	कूटकी

**अनुसन्धान र विकासका लागि प्राथमिकता प्राप्त जडीबुटीहरू**

Medicinal plants prioritized for research and development (Ref.16)

**Table 3**

S.N.	Scientific Name	Family	Nepali Name
1	<i>Aconitum heterophyllum</i> Wall.	Ranunculaceae	अतिस
2	<i>Aconitum spicatum</i> (Bruhl) Stapf	Ranunculaceae	विष
3	<i>Acorus calamus</i> Linn.	Araceae	बोभो
4	<i>Asparagus racemosus</i> Wild.	Liliaceae	सतावरी
5	<i>Azadirachta indica</i> A. Juss.	Meliaceae	नीम
6	<i>Bergenia ciliata</i> (Haw.) Sternb.	Saxifragaceae	पाषाणभेद
7	<i>Cinnamomum glaucescens</i> (Nees) Hand.-Mazz.	Lauraceae	सुगन्धकोकिला
8	<i>Cinnamomum tamala</i> (Buch-Ham.) Nees & Eberm.	Lauraceae	तेजपात

9	<i>Ophiocordyceps sinensis</i> (Berk.) Sacc	Clavicipitaceae	यार्सागुम्बा
10	<i>Dactylorhiza hatagirea</i> (D.Don) Soo	Orchidaceae	पाँचऔले
11	<i>Dioscorea deltoidea</i> Wall.	Dioscoreaceae	भ्याकुर
12	<i>Gaultheria fragrantissima</i> Wall.	Ericaceae	धसिंंगरे
13	<i>Juglans regia</i> Linn.	Juglandaceae	ओखर
14	Lichens	-	भ्याउ
15	<i>Morchella</i> spp.	Pezizaceae	खोया च्याउ/गुच्ची च्याउ
16	<i>Nardostachys grandiflora</i> DC.	Valerianaceae	जटामसी
17	<i>Neopicrorhiza scrophulariiflora</i> (Pennell) Hong	Scrophulariaceae	कुटकी
18	<i>Phyllanthus emblica</i> Linn.	Euphorbiaceae	अमला
19	<i>Piper longum</i> Linn.	Piperaceae	पिपला
20	<i>Podophyllum hexandrum</i> Royle <sup>6</sup>	Podocarpaceae	लघुपत्र
21	<i>Rauwolfia serpentina</i> (L.) Benth. ex Kurz	Apocynaceae	सर्पगन्धा
22	<i>Rheum australe</i> D.Don <i>Rheum moorcroftianum</i> Royle	Polygonaceae	पदमचाल
23	<i>Rubia manjith</i> Roxb. ex Fleming	Rubiaceae	मजिठो
24	<i>Sapindus mukorossi</i> Gaertn.	Sapindaceae	रिठ्ठा
25	<i>Swertia chirayita</i> (Roxb. ex Fleming) Karsten	Gentianaceae	चिराइतो
26	<i>Tagetes minuta</i> Linn.	Asteraceae	जंगली सयपत्री
27	<i>Taxus wallichiana</i> Zucc.	Taxaceae	लौठ सल्ला
28	<i>Tionospora sinensis</i> (Lour.) Merr.	Menispermaceae	गुर्जो
29	<i>Valeriana jatamansii</i> Jones	Valerianaceae	सुगन्धवाल
30	<i>Zanthoxylum armatum</i> DC.	Rutaceae	टिमुर

**खेती प्रविधि अनुसन्धान कार्यका लागि प्राथमिकता प्राप्त जडीबुटीहरू**  
**Medicinal plants prioritized for agro-technology development (Ref.16)**

**Table 4**

S.No	Scientific Name	Nepali Name
1.	<i>Asparagus racemosus</i> Wild.	सतावरी
2.	<i>Cinnamomum glaucescens</i> (Nees) Hand.-Mazz.	सुगन्धकोकिला
3.	<i>Dactylorhiza hatagirea</i> (D.Don) Soo	पाँचऔले
4.	<i>Nardostachys grandiflora</i> DC.	जटामसी
5.	<i>Neopicrorhiza scrophulariiflora</i> (Pennell) Hong	कुटकी
6.	<i>Piper longum</i> Linn.	पिपला
7.	<i>Rauwolfia serpentina</i> (L.) Benth. ex Kurz	सर्पगन्धा

8.	<i>Swertia chirayita</i> (Roxb. ex Fleming) Karsten	चिराइतो
9.	<i>Taxus wallichiana</i> Zucc.	लौठ सल्ला
10.	<i>Tinospora sinensis</i> (Lour.) Merr.	गुर्जो
11.	<i>Valeriana jatamansii</i> Jones	सुगन्धवाल
12.	<i>Zanthoxylum armatum</i> DC.	टिमुर

### Nepal's flora under CITES appendices (Ref.5,6)

**Table 5**

S.N.	Plants Species	Nepali Name	Appendix
1.	<i>Ceropegia pubescens</i> Wall.	मिकेँ लहरा	II
2.	<i>Cyathea spinulosa</i> (Tree fern) Wall.ex Hook	रुख उन्नु	II
3.	<i>Cycas pectinata</i> (Cycas) Griff.	कलवल	II
4.	<i>Dioscorea deltoidea</i> Wall. ex Griseb	भ्याकुर	II
5.	<i>Podophyllum hexandrum</i> Royle	लघुपत्र	II
6.	Orchidaceae (Orchids)	सुनाखरी	II
7.	<i>Nardostachys grandiflora</i> DC.	जटामसी	II
8.	<i>Rauvolfia serpentina</i> (Linn.) Benth ex Kurz	सर्पगन्धा	II
9.	<i>Taxus wallichiana</i> Zucc.	लौठसल्ला	II
10.	<i>Gnetum montanum</i> Markgr.	भोटे लहरा	III
11.	<i>Meconopsis regia</i> G. Taylor	क्यासर	III
12.	<i>Podocarpus neriifolius</i> D.Don	गुन्सी	III
13.	<i>Talauma hodgsonii</i> Hook. f. & Thomson	भालु काठ	III
14.	<i>Tetracentron sinense</i> Oliv.	भुरीकोटे	III

### Altitude wise species distribution with no. of endemic species (Ref. 22)

**Table 6**

S.No.	Zone	Total no. of flowering plants species	Endemic species
1.	Tropical Zone (0 - 100m)	1500	29
2.	Subtropical Zone (1000-2000m)	2028	50
3.	Temperate Zone (2000-3000m)	2000	113
4.	Sub-alpine (3000-4000m)	1650	180
5.	Alpine & Nival Zone (> 4000m)	1075	190

## Largest Families of Nepal Flora (Ref. 22)

**Table 7**

Compositae (Asteraceae)	395 sp.
Graminae (Poaceae)	366 sp.
Orchidaceae	381 sp.
Leguminosae	304 sp.
Rosaceae	192 sp.
Cyperaceae	191 sp.
Scrophulariaceae	167 sp.
Labiatae	150 sp.
Ranunculaceae	143 sp.
Umbelliferae	123 sp.

## Largest Genera (Ref. 22)

**Table 8**

<i>Saxifraga</i>	84 sp.
<i>Carex</i>	66 sp.
<i>Primula</i>	62 sp.
<i>Pedicularis</i>	62 sp.
<i>Impatiens</i>	49 sp.
<i>Gentiana</i>	47 sp.
<i>Ficus</i>	36 sp.
<i>Aconitum</i>	33 sp.
<i>Berberis</i>	32 sp.
<i>Poa</i>	28 sp.

## Highest no. of endemic species in Genera (Ref. 23)

**Table 9**

<i>Saxifraga</i>	24 sp.
<i>Aconitum</i>	15 sp.
<i>Pedicularis</i>	12 sp.
<i>Primula</i>	12 sp.
<i>Corydalis</i>	10 sp.
<i>Cotoneaster</i>	9 sp.
<i>Saussurea</i>	8 sp.
<i>Oxytropis</i>	7 sp.
<i>Kobresia</i>	7 sp.

## Ecosystem identified and their representation in protected areas (Ref. 8)

**Table 10**

Physiographic Zone	Total no. of Ecosystem	No. in Protected Area
Terai	10	10
Siwaliks	13	5
Midhills	52	53
Highlands	38	30
Others	5	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>80</b>

## Threatened medicinal and aromatic plants in Nepal (Ref. 4)

**Table 11**

S.N.	Plant Species	Family	Nepali Name	Threat Category	
				CAMP	IUCN
1.	<i>Acacia catechu</i> (L.F.) Willd.	Leguminosae	खयर	.....	T
2.	<i>Aconitum balangrense</i> Lauener	Ranunculaceae	विष	EN	.....
3.	<i>Aconitum bisma</i> (Buch.-Ham.) Rapaics	Ranunculaceae	विष	DD	.....
4.	<i>Aconitum ferox</i> Wall. ex Seringe	Ranunculaceae	सेतो विष	DD	T
5.	<i>Aconitum gammiei</i> Stapf	Ranunculaceae	विष	.....	T
6.	<i>Aconitum heterophyllum</i> Wall.	Ranunculaceae	अतिस	V	R
7.	<i>Aconitum laciniatum</i> (Bruhl) Stapf	Ranunculaceae	विष	.....	T
8.	<i>Aconitum spicatum</i> (Bruhl) Stapf	Ranunculaceae	विष	V	T
9.	<i>Allium hypsistum</i> Stearn	Liliaceae	जिम्बु	V	.....
10.	<i>Allium przewalskianum</i> Regel	Liliaceae	जिम्बु	.....	V
11.	<i>Alstonia neriifolia</i> D.Don	Apocynaceae	.....	EN	R
12.	<i>Alstonia scholaris</i> (L.) R.Br.	Apocynaceae	छत्तिवन	V	R
13.	<i>Arisaema costatum</i> (Wall.) Mart. ex Schott	Araceae	सर्पको मकै	LC	.....

14.	<i>Arnebia benthamii</i> (Wall. ex G.Don) I.M.Johnston)	Boraginaceae	महारंगी	V	.....
15.	<i>Asparagus racemosus</i> Willd.	Liliaceae	सतावरी	V	.....
16.	<i>Bergenia ciliata</i> (Haw.) Sternb.	Saxifragaceae	पाषनभेद	.....	T
17.	<i>Butea monosperma</i> (Lam.) Kuntze	Leguminosae	पलास	V	EN
18.	<i>Corydalis megacalyx</i> Loudlow	Papavaraceae	भासाका, भुतकेशी	EN	.....
19.	<i>Crateva unilocularis</i> Buch.-Ham.	Capparaceae	सिप्लीकान	EN	R
20.	<i>Curculigo orchioides</i> Gaertn.	Hypoxidaceae	कालो मुस्ली	V	.....
21.	<i>Dactylorhiza</i> <i>hatagirea</i> (D.Don) Soo.	Orchidaceae	पाँचऔले	EN	.....
22.	<i>Dalbergia latifolia</i> Roxb.	Leguminosae	सतिसाल	.....	V
23.	<i>Delphinium himalayai</i> Munz	Ranunculaceae	अतिस	V	.....
24.	<i>Dioscorea deltoidea</i> Wall.	Dioscoreaceae	भ्याकुर	EN	T
25.	<i>Elaeocarpus</i> <i>sphaericus</i> (Gaertn.) K. Schum.	Elaeocarpaceae	रुद्राक्ष	.....	V
26.	<i>Ephedra intermedia</i> Schrenk & Meyer	Gnetaceae	सोमलता	EN	.....
27.	<i>Ephemerantha</i> <i>macraei</i> (Lindl.) P.F. Hunt & Summerh.	Orchidaceae	जिवन्ती	V	.....
28.	<i>Fritillaria cirrhosa</i> D.Don	Liliaceae	काकोली	V	.....
29.	<i>Gloriosa superba</i> Linn.	Liliaceae	केवरी, अग्नि शिखा	EN	.....
30.	<i>Heracleum lallii</i> C.Norman	Umbelliferae	.....	EN	.....
31.	<i>Jurinea dolomiaea</i> Boiss.	Compositae	धुपजडी	NT	.....
32.	<i>Lilium nepalense</i> D.Don	Liliaceae	खिरौले	DD	.....



33.	<i>Maharanga bicolor</i> (Wall. ex G.Don) A.DC.	Boraginaceae	महारंगी	DD	.....
34.	<i>Maharanga emodi</i> (Wall.) A.DC.	Boraginaceae	महारंगी	DD	K
35.	<i>Meconopsis dhwojii</i> G. Taylor ex Hay	Papavaraceae	.....	NT	.....
36.	<i>Michelia champaca</i> Linn.	Magnoliaceae	चाँप	CR	EN
37.	<i>Nardostachys</i> <i>grandiflora</i> DC.	Valerianaceae	जटामसी	V	V
38.	<i>Neopicrorhiza</i> <i>scrophulariiflora</i> (Pennell) Hong	Scrophulariaceae	कुटकी	V	.....
39.	<i>Operculina turpethum</i> (L.) S.Manso	Convolvulaceae	निसोथ	EN	.....
40.	<i>Oroxylum indicum</i> (L.) Kurz	Bigoniaceae	टटेलो	EN	.....
41.	<i>Otochilus porrectus</i> Lindl.	Orchidaceous	.....	EN	.....
42.	<i>Paeonia emodi</i> Wall.	Paeoniaceae	चन्द्र	.....	V
43.	<i>Panax pseudo-ginseng</i> Wall.	Araliaceae	मगन	V	.....
44.	<i>Paris polyphylla</i> Smith	Liliaceae	सतुवा	V	V
45.	<i>Piper longum</i> Linn.	Piperaceae	पिपला	V	.....
46.	<i>Pistacia chinensis</i> Bunge subsp. <i>integerrima</i> (J.L. Stewart) Rech.f.	Anacardiaceae	काकरसिंगी	.....	R
47.	<i>Podophyllum</i> <i>hexandrum</i> Royle	Berberidaceae	लघुपत्र	V	V
48.	<i>Pongamia pinnata</i> (L.) Pierre	Leguminosae	कारेगी/करन्ज	DD	K
49.	<i>Pterocarpus</i> <i>marsupium</i> Roxb.	Leguminosae	विजयसाल	CR	-
50.	<i>Rauvolfia serpentina</i> (L.) Benth. ex Kurz	Apocynaceae	सर्पगन्धा	CR	EN
51.	<i>Rheum australe</i> D.Don	Polygonaceae	पदमचाल	V	V
52.	<i>Rheum</i> <i>moorcroftianum</i> Royle	Polygonaceae	पदमचाल	NT	.....
53.	<i>Rheum nobile</i> Hook.f. & Thoms.	Polygonaceae	ठूलो पदमचाल	V	R
54.	<i>Rubia manjith</i> Roxb. ex Fleming	Rubiaceae	मजिठो	V	.....

55.	<i>Swertia angustifolia</i> Buch.-Ham. ex D.Don	Gentianaceae	भाले चिराइतो	EN	.....
56.	<i>Swertia chirayita</i> (Roxb. ex Fleming) Karsten	Gentianaceae	चिराइतो	V	V
57.	<i>Swertia multicaulis</i> D.Don	Gentianaceae	सर्मागुरु	DD	.....
58.	<i>Taxus wallichiana</i> Zucc..	Taxaceae	लौठसल्ला	EN	.....
59.	<i>Tinospora sinensis</i> (Lour.) Merr.	Menispermaceae	गुर्जो	V	.....
60.	<i>Valeriana jatamansii</i> Jones	Valerianaceae	सुगन्धवाल	V	.....

**CR = Critically endangered, DD = Data deficient, EN = Endangered, K = Insufficiently Known, NT = Nearly threatened, V = Vulnerable, R = Rare and T = Threatened**

**राष्ट्रिय वनबाट संकलित जडीबुटीहरूको परिमाण तथा उठेको राजस्व (२०५९ देखि २०६६/०६७)**  
Revenue by NTFPs collection from national forests

Table 12

S. No.	Year	Eastern DR		Central DR		Western DR		Mid Western DR		Far Western DR		Total	
		Amount Kg	Revenue Rs.	Amount kg	Revenue Rs.	Amount Kg.	Revenue Rs	Amount Kg.	Revenue Rs.	Amount Kg	Revenue Rs.	Amount Kg.	Revenue Rs.
1.	2059/60	313756.5	1162267.6	897560	13610798.5	78659.5	365544.9	2597364.8	11444893.8	981527.5	3784446	4868868.3	30367950.8
2.	2060/61	272517	486555.3	717897.6	2735360.2	50371.5	309843.3	1430266.8	10465328.6	385721.1	1989120.3	2856773.9	15986207.7
3.	2061/62	254578	942919	627628	2334117.5	45881	254590.3	1390165.1	7648950	666772	2370624	2985024.1	13551200.8
4.	2062/63	101510	659564	209464.5	1710083	78162	291973.5	2170416.1	12118433.2	766118	2206992.5	3325670.6	16987046.2
5.	2063/64	174484	955332	118988	764805	44823	332366	1301308.4	10310916.2	1024303.7	4278596	2663907.1	16642015.2
6.	2064/65	166476	1187907	243289	1414435	52791	998222.5	1769743.9	15233740.8	1148557.2	9946629	3380857.1	28780934.3
7.	2065/65	238417	1727087.1	73914.8	1369684.5	35677.1	373912.3	965477	19106533.5	867146.9	16352801.6	2180632.8	38930019
8.	2066/67	140468	665991	113510.5	1002083	78857.5	777421.5	352534.5	2814393	1486151.8	15590873.9	2171522.3	20850762.4

Source: DOF 2012

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