

Recursos etnofarmacológicos en la ecorregión de la Caatinga: Área de Protección Ambiental (APA) das Onças (São João do Tigre, Cariri paraibano, Brasil): manejo y conservación

Ethnopharmacological resources in Caatinga ecorregion: Environmental Protection Area (EPA) das Onças (Sao Joao do Tigre, Paraiban Cariri, Brazil): management and handling

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The aims of this work is to know the potential use of the medicinal plant resources of the environmental protection area (EPA) Das Onças to promote the phytodrug production useful in Basic Health Care. The medicinal species are evaluated for its proper management and handling and promoting the sustainable development of the area. Data were obtained applying a semi-structured questionnaire to 130 informants. Quantitative and qualitative analysis of the data determined the species with higher pharmacological interest and its need for conservation and management. 933 appointments relating to 96 species and 44 botanical families were obtained. Fabaceae, Lamiaceae and Asteraceae were the families most cited. The nervous system-associated diseases were the most common among respondents and there is uniformity in the use of plants for the treatment of illnesses of the research population. The *Bauhinia cheilanta* species highlights for its pharmacological and phytochemical interest. The conservation of resources is not affected in general because the leaf is the part employed in the most used species.

Key words: EPA Das Onças; Paraiba; Caatinga; ethnopharmacological resources; management and handling.