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Medicinal uses of *Schoenoplectiella articulata*: a wetland sedge

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ABSTRACT

Wetlands plays a vital role in the human life. Wetland flora also have medicinal values. In present study *Schoenoplectiella articulata* was taken to consider its medicinal values. The study was carried out in some target places of Odisha. It reveals that *Schoenoplectiella articulata* have some medicinal values which is used to cure disease like diarrhoea, vomiting, body ache etc. Hence, more research needs to do to know its other medicinal uses.

INTRODUCTION

Wetland is called as kidney of landscape and it covers about 6% of its area (Maltby & Tumer 1983). The Wetland plants play an important role in the life of human being. Some Wetland plants are used as medicine (Swapna et al. 2011). Cyperaceae is highly diverse and globally distributed sedge family. It is the third largest family among the flowering plant and comprises up to 5,500 species and 109 genera (Muasya 1998). Mostly, sedges habitats are wetlands, including marshes, fens, shore line etc. (Reznicek 1990). *Schoenoplectiella*

articulata (Plate 1) is a perennial herb, the stems are densely tufted, spongy and green in colour up to 2-40 cm. leaves reduced to 1-2 bladeless, scarious, obliquely truncate sheaths. Inflorescence pseudo lateral, capitate, globose, consisting of numerous spikelets; involucrel bract erect, similar to and continuous with the stem, transversely separate, sometimes too much longer than the stem proper, up to 60 cm long. Spikelets brown and sessile, ovoid to oblong-ovoid. Glumes firm, appressed, concave, with scarcely prominent keel, broadly ovate, 3-5 mm long and wide, acute, apiculate, many nerved, brown or rufous-testaceous. Bristles