

Review Article

A Review of Uganda's Medicinal Tree Species as Sources of Potential Therapeutic Compounds for Disease Management

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Abstract

Ethnomedicinal relevance: Medicinal plants are a source of many potent drugs since they possess diverse phytochemical compounds. Studies on different plant life forms are voluminous, except trees. No single study has been done on tree species used to manage diseases in different regions of Uganda from 1995 up to 2023. **Aim of the study:** This review aimed to compile tree species used to manage different diseases and disease symptoms in various areas in Uganda. **Materials and methods:** The review examined 20 studies with ethnobotanical surveys done in Uganda. Data extraction focused on plant families and species, plant parts used, preparation methods and routes of administration, and the region in Uganda where the ethnobotanical field surveys were conducted. **Results:** 151 tree species from 52 families were identified. Leaves (34.7%) were highly depended on followed by bark (32.0%) and roots (19.7%) were also commonly used. The majority of the herbal remedies were prepared by decoction and taken orally. In regard to disease management using medicinal tree species, the diseases that were prevalent and posing public health concerns were malaria, diarrhea, breast cancer, syphilis, HIV/ AIDs, ulcers, tuberculosis, and skin infections. **Conclusion:** Many tree species in Uganda are used to manage several ailments. However, other tree species with medicinal importance remain undocumented and yet some of them are being destroyed by anthropogenic activities. Efforts to ensure sustainable harvesting of these medicinal tree species are thus required.

Keywords

Herbal Medicine, Medicinal Plants, Traditional Knowledge, Traditional Medicine

1. Introduction

It is pertinent to mention that plants have been used over the years as they possess phytochemical compounds that are of immense benefit [1]. Some of these phytochemical compounds in plants include tannins, terpenoids, alkaloids, and flavonoids [2]. The use of plants is skyrocketing across the globe [3] with the situation not being different in Africa [4]. In regions such as East Africa, countries such as Burundi [5] and Tanzania [6] have relied on traditional medicine. Reports

have put forth that at least 80% of the population in rural areas hinge on traditional medicine [6, 7]. This same situation is also in Uganda, where traditional medicine forms a paramount part of primary health care [8].

It is accentuate to note that Uganda is among the countries in Africa with the richest biodiversity, and its standing among all African countries is extremely high [9]. In East Africa, Uganda is the richest in flora diversity with about 5000 plant

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species from which its people access natural resources [10]. Conversely, unsustainable harvesting, an act which is so alarming, continues to be done [11]. This thus makes the documentation, sustainable utilization, and conservation to be of supreme importance [12]. The documentation of these plants together with their medicinal benefits thus becomes mandatory for their conservation [13]. Interestingly, the current body of literature on medicinal plants for treatment of various diseases in Uganda is extensive [3].

However, numerous medicinal plants and their indigenous uses have not yet been documented even though the knowledge on their uses is being lost [14]. The loss of their knowledge is owing to death of knowledge custodians prior to transferring the knowledge to the young people [15]. Due to this, there is dire need for concrete information on their level of use [16]. Recording of traditional knowledge through ethnobotany surveys is pivotal as it can channel sustainable use of these natural resources [17]. This is because the extent at which the ecosystems of these medicinal plants are being destroyed is surging. For example, studies have shown that the average deforestation rate is approximately 1.53% annually in East Africa, with a high contribution from Uganda [18].

To date, there is plethora of information of medicinal plants but majorly focusing on shrubs, herbs, climbers, and runners yet studies on other life forms especially trees are scarce. These trees are vulnerable as they are greatly depended on for timber and charcoal thus posing a major threat for their existence [19]. Furthermore, some of these tree species take long to grow [20]. This study thought it indispensable to compile a single study of medicinal plants (with focus on tree species)

utilized in Uganda to manage different diseases and disease symptoms.

2. Materials and Methods

A systematic literature search was conducted from 1995 to 2023, and included published scientific literature, unpublished studies, theses, and dissertations. The following databases, Google Scholar, ResearchGate, AJOL, and PubMed were searched for articles on medicinal plants used in Uganda. It is then from these articles that specific information on medicinal trees was obtained. In the review process, the following keywords were included: Central Uganda, Eastern Uganda, ethnobotanical survey, ethnomedicine, medicinal plants, Northern Uganda, traditional medicine, Uganda, Western Uganda. Study titles and abstracts viewed for retrieval were saved to a reference management tool (Mendeley V1.19.8) together with details of where the reference had been found.

The inclusion criteria for the research articles selected were: (i) studies documenting medicinal plants (particularly trees) used to treat different diseases in Uganda, (ii) research articles published in peer-reviewed journals, and (iii) papers published in English. Studies from non-peer-reviewed sources (blogs, newspaper articles) were excluded. To be included in the review, a publication was expected to include clear details of a specific ethnobotanical use, for instance, a plant used to manage sexual dysfunction in males. The scientific name of the plant species should have been included as well as the method of preparation and administration should have been indicated.

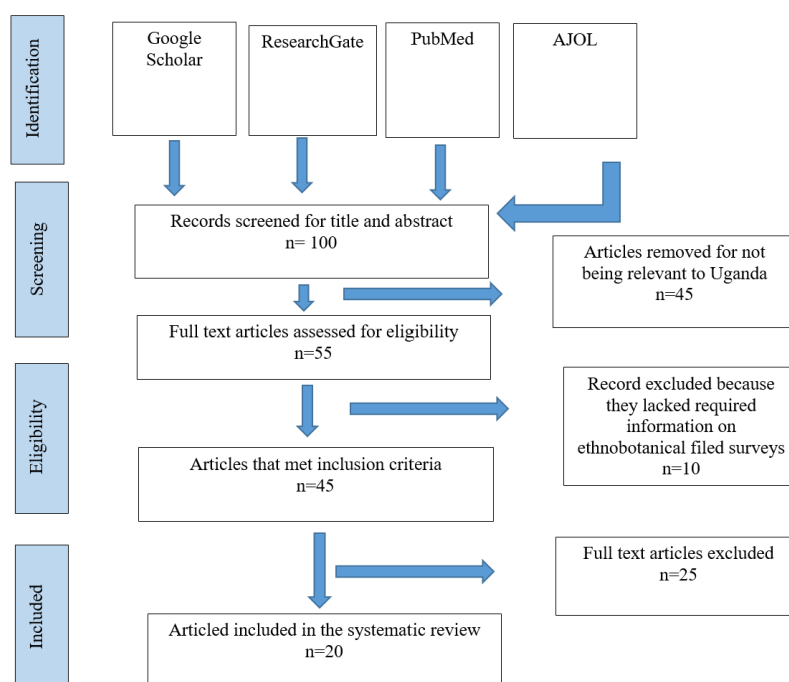


Figure 1. PRISMA flowchart summarizing the workflow adopted in this systematic review.

The selection of the articles was done in four steps. The first step involved checking the relevance of the studies basing on their title. The second step involved evaluating the abstracts to make sure that they match to the inclusion criteria. If primary inspection of an abstract of a paper did not give adequate information to make an informed judgment, the full paper was looked for in the third step and reviewed by the authors prior to making a decision concerning inclusion in the review. Lastly, those that appeared to meet the inclusion criteria were retrieved for extra appraisal (Figure 1). From each article, medicinal plants particularly those belonging to trees as a life form/ habit were scrutinized and then extracted into spreadsheets for easy data management. All the scientific names of the plants were re-checked and named according to the kew data base using the link; <http://powo.science.kew.org>. Plant families were verified using the Angiosperm phylogeny group IV <https://www.gbif.org/dataset/fa8ab13c-52ed-4754-b838-aeff74c79718>.

Descriptive statistics were done to analyse the data gathered. This was made possible with the use of Statistical Packages for Social Scientists (SPSS) (Version 20; IBM Inc.). Data visualization was done using GraphPad Prism 8.0.2 program (GraphPad Software, Inc., San Diego, CA) to generate figures while visualization of study areas to generate a map showing

areas where ethnobotanical surveys have been conducted was done using Quantum Geographic Information System (Version 3.34.15) to generate maps.

3. Results

3.1. Study Characteristics

A total of 55 publication records were identified, and all were assessed and only 20 passed the selection criteria for review and data extraction. All the reviewed studies were from Uganda.

3.2. Use of Medicinal Tree Species in Uganda to Manage Different Diseases

151 medicinal plant species from 52 families were recorded (Table 1). Information in Table 1 and Table 2 on the different medicinal plant species was obtained from different published sources [21, 22, 24, 26-28, 30-32, 34-36]. Some of the plant species recorded were used to boost the immunity of patients, while others were used to treat and manage various diseases. The family with the most species was Fabaceae (21).

Table 1. Medicinal tree species used to manage diseases and disease symptoms in Uganda.

Family Name	Scientific Name	Common name	Local names	Diseases and disease symptoms managed	Study Area	Author
Fabaceae	<i>Acacia campylacantha</i> Hochst. ex A. Rich	White thorn	Mugogwe [Jap], Kibere [Lus]	Malaria	Tororo district, Eastern Uganda	[1]
Fabaceae	<i>Acacia constricta</i> Benth.	Whitethorn acacia	Muwelamanyo [Lug]	Diabetes, Sinuses, convulsions in children	Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda	[2]
Mimosaceae	<i>Acacia gerrardii</i> Benth.	Grey-haired acacia	Muwawa [Lug]	Used to manage HIV/ AIDs	Kamuli, Sembabule, Kabale and Gulu districts	[3]
Fabaceae	<i>Acacia hockii</i> De Wild.	Shittim Wood	Obugando [Ru], Akaasana [Lug], Okuto atino [Lan]	Used to manage cough and tuberculosis, swollen joints and feet	Mbarara and Isingiro districts, Western Uganda	[4]
Mimosaceae	<i>Acacia mearnsii</i> De Wild.	Black wattle	Burikoti [Ru]	Management of bacterial and fungal infections	Around Queen Elizabeth Biosphere Reserve in Bushenyi and Kasese districts, Western Uganda	[5]
Mimosaceae	<i>Acacia seyal</i> Del.	Whistling thorn	Kikongoito [Lus], Akasana [Lug]	Used to manage HIV/ AIDs	Kamuli, Sembabule, Kabale and Gulu districts	[3]
Fabaceae	<i>Acacia siberiana</i> (DC.) Kyal. & Boatwr.	Paperbark thorn	Muwawa [Lug], Mufunuwanduzi [Lus]	Sinuses, convulsions in children	Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda	[2]

Family Name	Scientific Name	Common name	Local names	Diseases and disease symptoms managed	Study Area	Author
Podocarpaceae	<i>Afrocarpus usambarensis</i> (Pilg.) C. N. Page	African yellow-wood	Musenene [Lus]	Dizziness, headaches	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Fabaceae	<i>Afzelia africana</i> Pers	African mahogany	Eiya [Lgb]	Malaria, pain, vomiting, stomach aches, aphrodisiac	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Alangiaceae	<i>Alangium chinense</i> (Lour) Harms.	Chinese Alangium	Omusiisa [Lug]	Anemia	Sango bay forest reserve, Southern Uganda near Lake Victoria	[7]
Fabaceae	<i>Albizia coriaria</i> Oliv	Worm-bark, cherry-blossom, false-thorn, worm-cure Albizia tree	Omugavu [Lug], Musiita [Lus] Kiluku [Ik], Omusisa [Ru], Oberi [Jap]	Used to manage cancer, heart diseases, allergy, nausea, headaches & mental illness, diarrhea, cough, tuberculosis, anemia Used to manage a swollen rectum Used to manage cough and tuberculosis, used to manage diarrheal infections, herpes zoster Used to manage bacterial and fungal infections	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda Mbarara and Isingiro districts, Western Uganda Ibanda and Kiruhura districts, Western Uganda	[6] [2] [4] [8]
Fabaceae	<i>Albizia grandibracteata</i> Taub	Large-bract Albizia	Nongo	Yellow fever, Anemia, fungal infections of the scalp	Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda	[2]
Fabaceae	<i>Albizia macrophylla</i> (A. Rich.) Walp. var. <i>ugandensis</i> Bak. f	Albizia		Skin rash	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Fabaceae	<i>Albizia zygia</i> (DC.) J. F. Macbr.	Albizia	Ackla [Lgb]	Skin rash, diarrhea	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the	[6]

Family Name	Scientific Name	Common name	Local names	Diseases and disease symptoms managed	Study Area	Author
					North East	
Euphorbiaceae	<i>Alchornea cordifolia</i> (Schum & Thonn.) Muell. Arg.	Christmas bush		Pre-hepatic jaundice, Fever	Sango bay forest reserve, Southern Uganda near Lake Victoria	[7]
Apiaceae	<i>Alstonia boonei</i> De Wild.	Cheese wood, pattern wood	Mubajjanggalabi [Lug]	Malaria, fevers	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Fabaceae	<i>Alysicarpus vaginalis</i> (L.) DC.	Alyce clover	Nakalimikamu	Irregular menstrual periods	Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda	[2]
Annonaceae	<i>Annona senegalensis</i> Pers.	African custard-apple, wild custard apple	Mugaali [Lug], Ilipaku [Lgb], Obolo [Jap]	Used to manage diarrhea & respiratory infections	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Annonaceae	<i>Annona muricata</i> L.	Soursop	Kitafeeri [Lug]	Cancer	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Moraceae	<i>Antiaris toxicaria</i> Lesch.	Upas tree, Sacking tree	Kilundu [Lug]	Headache, Weakness in pregnant women Treatment of malaria	Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda Mpigi district, Central Uganda	[2] [9]
Meliaceae	<i>Azadirachta indica</i> A. Juss.	Neem tree	Neem*, Arubaine [Jap]	Treat bacterial and fungal infections Liver, kidney, disease, cough, fever diarrhea, sexually transmitted infections, abdominal pain, swelling & vomiting	Mbarara and Isingiro districts, Western Uganda Uganda	[4] [6]
Balanitaceae	<i>Balanites aegyptiaca</i> (L) Delile	Desert date	Liggwa limu [Lug], Mutete [Ru]	Yellow fever, diarrhea, wounds, Skin rash, Flu, Paronychia, Impotency Breast cancer, Diabetes mellitus, measles, diarrhea, Flu, uterine fibroids	Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda Wakiso, Kampala, and Mukono districts in Central Uganda	[2] [10]

Family Name	Scientific Name	Common name	Local names	Diseases and disease symptoms managed	Study Area	Author
Balanitaceae	<i>Balanites wilsoniana</i> Dawe & Sprague	Wathul	Naliggwalimu [Lug]	Cracks of soles of feet	Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda	[2]
Passifloraceae	<i>Barteria nigritana</i> Hook. f.	African sour apple	Abwolo mono [Lan]	Fever, diarrhea, headache	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Caesalpinia-ceae	<i>Bauhinia thonningii</i> Schum	Camel's foot	Ogali [Lan]	Diarrhea, pain	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Sapindaceae	<i>Blighia unijugata</i> Baker	Akee apple or Ackee apple	Mukuzanyana [Lug]	Cervical cancer; Fibroids Treatment of malaria	Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda Mpigi district, Central Uganda	[2] [9]
Euphorbiaceae	<i>Bridelia micrantha</i> (Hochst) Baill	Bridelia, Mitzeerie, Mitzeeri	Katazami [Lug], Ijio (Obua/ cuajo) [Lgb]	Syphilis	Sango bay forest reserve, Southern Uganda near Lake Victoria	[7]
Myrtaceae	<i>Callistemon citrinus</i> (Curtis) Skeels	Crimson bottlebrush, Bottle brush, Lemon Bottlebrush, Bottle brush tree, Lemon-scented bottlebrush	Akatuusi [Ru], Mwambalabutonya [Lug, Lus] Bottle brush*	Pain in the Fallopian tubes Fatigue, Gonorrhea Bacterial and fungal infections Used to manage cough and tuberculosis	Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East Ibanda and Kiruhura districts, Western Uganda Mbarara and Isingiro districts, Western Uganda	[2] [6] [8] [4]
Theaceae	<i>Camellia sinensis</i> (L.) Kuntze	Tea plant	Majaani [Gis]	Fatigue	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Burseraceae	<i>Canarium schweinfurthii</i>	Bush Candle Tree	Muwafu [Lug], Mubafu [Lus &	High blood pressure, Diabetes, Cough	Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central	[2] [6]

Family Name	Scientific Name	Common name	Local names	Diseases and disease symptoms managed	Study Area	Author
	Engl.		Ru]	Female organ system, diarrhea, fatigue, in-appetence	Uganda Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	
Cannabaceae	<i>Cannabis sativa</i> L.	Marijuana	Njaye /Njaga [Lug]	Breast cancer, Measles, body pain, diarrhea, syphilis	Wakiso, Kampala, and Mukono districts in Central Uganda	[10]
Meliaceae	<i>Carapa grandiflora</i> Sprangue	Zebrawood	Mario [Lgb]	Infections	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Caricaceae	<i>Carica papaya</i> L.	Pawpaw	Paapali [Lug & Lus], Mupaapali [Lus], Apapalo [Lan], Paipai [Lgb], Mapapali [Jap]	Skin infections, ulcers, anemia, cough, fatigue	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Cannabaceae	<i>Celtis africana</i> Burm. f.	White Stinkwood, Common celtis, Rough-leaved white-stinkwood		Management of hernia	Mpigi District, Central Uganda	[11]
Sapotaceae	<i>Chrysophyllum albidum</i> G. Don	White star apple	Nkalati [Lug]	Mental illness	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Lauraceae	<i>Cinnamomum verum</i> J. Persl	True cinnamon or Ceylon cinnamon		Treatment of HIV/AIDS	Around Queen Elizabeth Biosphere Reserve in Bushenyi and Kasese districts, western Uganda	[5]
Sterculiaceae	<i>Citropsis articulata</i> Swingle & Kellerman	African cherry orange	Katimbolo [Lug]	Management of sexual impotence and erectile dysfunction	Areas in and around Queen Elizabeth Biosphere Reserve and some other sub counties such as Katerera,	[12]

Family Name	Scientific Name	Common name	Local names	Diseases and disease symptoms managed	Study Area	Author
					Kichwamba and Kitagata in Bushenyi and Munkunyu, Kayonza and Kitsinga in Kasese districts, Western Uganda	
Rutaceae	<i>Citrus limon</i> (L.) Osbeck.	Lemon	Nimawa [Lug], Nimoo [Jap], Lemun [Luo]	High blood pressure, Cough, Blotting	Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda	[2]
Rutaceae	<i>Citrus sinensis</i> (L.) Osbeck	Sweet orange	Muchungwa [Lug]	Diarrhea	Iganga district, Eastern Uganda	[13]
Lamiaceae	<i>Clerodendrum myricoides</i> (Hochst.) R. Br. Vatke	Uganda Glory Bower	Kikonge [Lug]	Stomachache	Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda	[2]
Rubiaceae	<i>Coffea canephora</i> A. Froehner	Robusta coffee	Mwanyii [Lug]	Pre-hepatic jaundice	Sango bay forest reserve, Southern Uganda near Lake Victoria	[7]
Sterculiaceae	<i>Cola acuminata</i> (Pal. de Beauv)	Cola Nut		Treatment of HIV/AIDS	Around Queen Elizabeth Biosphere Reserve in Bushenyi and Kasese districts, Western Uganda	[5]
					Mbarara and Isingiro districts, Western Uganda	
					Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda	
Combretaceae	<i>Combretum molle</i> R. Br. Ex. G. Don	Velvet bushwillow or common bushwillow	Ndagi [Lug], Omurama [Ru], Ioro [Lan]	Used to manage cough and tuberculosis Cough Bacterial and fungal infections Syphilis, cough	Ibanda and Kiruhura districts, Western Uganda Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[4] [2] [8] [6]
Rubiaceae	<i>Craterispermum schweinfurthii</i> Hiern	Maroon screw vine	Musekera/Omuseka [Lug]	Ulcers & oral Sores	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Euphorbiaceae	<i>Croton macrostachyus</i> Hochst. ex Delile	Ethiopian bishopwood	Musogasoga [Lug], Murangara [Ru]	Constipation, diarrhea, cough & sexually transmitted infections Snake bites	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6] [2]

Family Name	Scientific Name	Common name	Local names	Diseases and disease symptoms managed	Study Area	Author
Vitaceae	Cyphostemma		Omumara [Ru]	Treats syphilis, cleans baby, and used to manage gastro intestinal disorders	Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda Kyeizooba sub county Bushenyi District, Western Uganda	[14]
Mimosaceae	Dichrostachys cinerea (L.) Wight & Arn.	Sickle bush, Chinese lantern tree, Marabou thorn		Management of sexual impotence and erectile dysfunction	Areas in and around Queen Elizabeth Biosphere Reserve and some other sub counties such as Katerera, Kichwamba and Kitagata in Bushenyi and Munkunyu, Kayonza and Kitsinga in Kasese districts, Western Uganda.	[12]
Ebenaceae	Diospyros abyssinica (Hiern) F. White	African ebony	Mpojja [Lug]	Stomach upsets	Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda	[2]
Liliaceae	Dracaena afromontana Mildbr	Mountain dragon tree or Kilimanjaro dragon tree.		Hypertension	Bundibugyo District, Western Uganda	[15]
Dracaenaceae	Dracaena steudneri Engl.	Kilimanjaro palm, Kilimanjaro plant.	Kajjolyenjovu [Lug & Lus] Mugorora [Ru]	Cough, Snake bites Tuberculosis & cough	Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[2] [6]
Boraginaceae	Ehretia cymosa Thonn.	Kinkeliba	Emeku [Lug]	Fevers, convulsions, headaches	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Meliaceae	Ekebergia capensis Sparrm.	Cape Ash or the Dog Plum		Blood cleanser, fever, diarrhea, skin infections, malaria	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Celastraceae	Elaeodendron buchananii Loes.	Leathery-		Blocked fallopian tube, Prostate cancer	Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central	[2]

Family Name	Scientific Name	Common name	Local names	Diseases and disease symptoms managed	Study Area	Author
		Leafed Saf-fron			Uganda	
Fabaceae	Entada abyssinica A. Rich	African dream herb	Mwolola [Lug, Lus] Musambamadi [Lus, Gis]	Syphilis, blood tonic, fever, chest pain, abdominal pain, fatigue, anemia ulcers, skin ulcers/ lesions Body weakness	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East Mabira Central Forest Reserve, central Uganda	[6] [2]
Fabaceae	Entada africana Guill. & Perr.	African climbing tree or twining entada	Mwolola [Lug]	Managing malaria	Mpigi district, central Uganda	[9]
Fabaceae	Erythrina abyssinica DC.	Coral tree, Uganda coral, kaffir boom, erythrina, flame tree, red-hot-poker tree, and lucky-bean tree	Jjirikiti [Lug], Murinzi/Kiko [Ru], Oluo [Lgb], Muyirikiti [Lus]	Fatigue, mental illness, anemia, chest pain, skin infections/ lesions, ulcers, cancer, stomach aches, diarrhea, STI, fevers Convulsions, Anemia, Infertility in women, Hiccups, vomiting Used to manage herpes zoster, used for diarrheal infections Used to treat bacterial and fungal infections	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda Mbarara and Isingiro districts, western Uganda Ibanda and Kiruhura district, Western Uganda	[6] [2] [4] [8]
Fabaceae	Erythrina excelsa Bak.	Tambookie tree or kaffirboom		Treatment of malaria	Mpigi district, Central Uganda	[9]
Myrtaceae	Eucalyptus camaldulensis Denhn	River red gum	Kalitusi [Jap], Kalatuc [Lan]	Malaria	Tororo district, Eastern Uganda	[1]
Mimosaceae	Eucalyptus cirtiodora Hook.	Lemon eucalyptus		Treatment of bacterial and fungal infections	Around Queen Elizabeth Biosphere Reserve in Bushenyi and Kasese districts, western Uganda	[5]
Myrtaceae	Eucalyptus globulus Labil.	Tasmanian bluegum	Karutusi [Ru]	Used to manage cough and tuberculosis	Mbarara and Isingiro districts, western Uganda	[4]
Myrtaceae	Eucalyptus grandis W. Hill	Flooded Gum	Kalituusi [Lug]	Oral sores, Cough	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]

Family Name	Scientific Name	Common name	Local names	Diseases and disease symptoms managed	Study Area	Author
Myrtaceae	<i>Eucalyptus sp</i>		Kalituusi [Lug]	Boils	Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda	[2]
Myrtaceae	<i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i> Labill.	Manna Gum	Kalatuc [Luo]	Management of snakebites	Soroti, Serere, Kaberamaido, Kitgum, Kaabong districts	[16]
Euphorbiaceae	<i>Euphorbia tirucali</i> L.	African Milkbush, Pencil Tree, or Finger Tree,	Oruyenje [Ru], Lukoni/nkoni [Lug]	Used to manage cough and tuberculosis	Mbarara and Isingiro districts, Western Uganda	[4]
Rutaceae	<i>Fagaropsis angolensis</i> (Engl.) Dale	Angolan fagara	Rokoo [Jap]	Malaria	Tororo district, Eastern Uganda	[1]
Moraceae	<i>Ficus cyathistipula</i> Warb	African fig tree	Bongi [Jap]	Malaria	Tororo district, Eastern Uganda	[1]
Moraceae	<i>Ficus dawei</i> Hutch.	Dawei fig	Muwo [Lug]	Breast cancer	Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda	[2]
Moraceae	<i>Ficus mucoso</i> Welw. ex Ficalho	wildcard fig	Kabalira [Lug], Olam [Ach]	Swollen eyes	Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda	[2]
Moraceae	<i>Ficus natalensis</i> Hochst.	Natal fig	Mutuba [Lug], Kitoma [Ru]	Gonorrhea, Diarrhea, dysentery, Vomiting	Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[2] [6]
Moraceae	<i>Ficus platyphylla</i> Delile	Desert fig,	Mutuba [Lug]	Malaria	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Moraceae	<i>Ficus saussureana</i> DC.	Saussure fig or Saus-surea-leaved fig	Muwo [Lug]	Urinary tract infections, syphilis & skin rash Treatment of malaria	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East Mpigi district, Central Uganda	[6] [9]
Moraceae	<i>Ficus vallis</i> Chaude	Haroni fig	Olam [Lan]	Dysentery, diarrhea	Ngai and Otwal sub	[17]

Family Name	Scientific Name	Common name	Local names	Diseases and disease symptoms managed	Study Area	Author
Rubiaceae	<i>Fleroya rubrostipulata</i> (K. Schum) Y. F. Deng		Muziko [Ru]	Tuberculosis & respiratory infections	counties in Oyam district, Northern Uganda Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Celastraceae	<i>Garcinia buchananii</i> Baker	African garcinia or brindle-berry	Musali [Lug, Lus]	Hurting bones, Diabetes Vomiting	Mabira Central Forest Reserve, Central Uganda Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[2] [6]
Proteaceae	<i>Grevillea robusta</i> A. Cunn. ex R. Br	Australian silver oak, the southern silky oak, and the golden penda	Grevillia [Jap]	Malaria	Tororo district, Eastern Uganda	[1]
Rubiaceae	<i>Hallea rubrostipulata</i> (K. Schum.) J. Fleroy	Mitragyna	Omuziko [Ru]	Used to boost appetite and immunity Pre-hepatic jaundice; malaria; Pregnancy-related illnesses Management of sexual impotence and erectile dysfunction	Mbarara and Isingiro districts, Western Uganda Sango bay forest reserve, Southern Uganda near Lake Victoria Areas in and around Queen Elizabeth Biosphere Reserve and some other sub counties such as Katerera, Kichwamba and Kitagata in Bushenyi and Munkunyu, Kayonza and Kitsinga in Kasese districts, Western Uganda	[4] [7] [12]
Guttiferae	<i>Harungana madagascariensis</i> Poir.	Dragon's blood tree	Mukabiiransiko [Lug]	Ante-natal treatment	Sango bay forest reserve, Southern Uganda near Lake Victoria	[7]
Phyllanthaceae	<i>Hymenocardia acida</i> Tul.	West African rubber tree, African cork-wood	Nabbaluka/Mbaluka [Lug, Lus]	Skin rashes, fatigue	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]

Family Name	Scientific Name	Common name	Local names	Diseases and disease symptoms managed	Study Area	Author
Euphorbiaceae	<i>Jatropha curcas</i> L.	Physic nut, purging nut, Jamaican castor	Kiroowa [Lug]	Fatigue	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Meliaceae	<i>Khaya anthotheca</i> Welw	East African Mahogany		Treatment of candidiasis	Pader district, Northern Uganda	[18]
Bignoniaceae	<i>Kigelia africana</i> (Lam.) Benth.	Sausage tree	Mussa [Lug & Lus], Mufungedha/ Mwisya [Lus] Mwisya [Ru], Ibologo [Lug]	Cough	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Acanthaceae	<i>Lannea barteri</i> (Oliv.) Engl.		Mukontambaale [Lus], Kibumbu [Gis]	Fever	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Fabaceae	<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i> (Lam.) de Wit	Leucaena, Lead Tree, White Tamarind	Akangi [Lan]	Epilepsy /convulsions	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Lamiaceae	<i>Leucas martinicensis</i> (Jacq.) R. Br.	Martinique Leucas		Diarrhea, Malaria	Kigulu County, Iganga District, eastern Uganda	[13]
Papilionaceae	<i>Lonchocarpus laxiflorus</i> Guill. & Perr	Guajo	Muzugangoma [Lus], Eputon [Ateso]	Management of HIV/ AIDs	Kamuli, Sembabule, Kabale, and Gulu district	[3]
Meliaceae	<i>Lovoa trichilioides</i> Harms	African walnut	Musonko [Lug]	Skin lesions, cancer, infections, diarrhea	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Euphorbiaceae	<i>Macaranga schweinfurthii</i> Pax	African oil palm		Malaria	Mawokota, Mpigi district, central Uganda at an institution of Traditional Healers called	[9]

Family Name	Scientific Name	Common name	Local names	Diseases and disease symptoms managed	Study Area	Author
Polygalaceae	<i>Maesa lanceolata</i> Forssk	White maesa	Omuhanga [Ru]	Stomachache and bodily pains Diarrhea, skin rash Bacterial and fungal infections Ulcers, Diarrhea	Prometra Uganda Bupompoli Ridge, on the northern part of the Rwenzori Mountain in Bundibugyo District, western Uganda Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East Ibanda and Kiruhura districts, Western Uganda Mabira central forest reserve, Central Uganda Mabira central forest reserve, Central Uganda Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East Sango bay forest reserve, Southern Uganda near Lake Victoria	[15] [6] [8] [2]
Rhamnaceae	<i>Maesopsis eminii</i> Engl.	Umbrella tree	Musizi [Lug]	Syphilis Malaria, fevers, stomach aches Gonorrhea	Mabira central forest reserve, Central Uganda Mbarara and Isingiro districts, Western Uganda Ibanda and Kiruhura districts, Western Uganda	[2] [6] [7]
Anacardiaceae	<i>Mangifera indica</i> L.	Mango	Omuyembe [Ru], Muyembe [Lug & Gis], Mahembe [Lan], Mengu [Lgb], Mayembe [Jap]	Infertility in women Convulsions Managing cough and tuberculosis Bacterial and fungal infections	Mabira central forest reserve, Central Uganda Mbarara and Isingiro districts, Western Uganda Ibanda and Kiruhura districts, Western Uganda	[2] [4] [8]
Euphobiaceae	<i>Margaritaria discoidea</i> (Baill). G. L. Webster	African pearl-berry.	Kamenyambazi [Lug]	Oversleeping Pre-hepatic jaundice	Mabira central forest reserve, central Uganda Sango bay forest reserve, Southern Uganda near Lake Victoria	[2] [7]
Bignoniaceae	<i>Markhamia lutea</i> (Benth.) K. Schum	Siala tree	Omushambya [Ru], Lusambya [Lus], Lusoola [Gis], Sambya [Lug]	Ear & eye infections in children Malaria Hoarse voice Used for diarrheal infections Bacterial and fungal infections	Mabira central forest reserve, Central Uganda Mbarara and Isingiro districts, Western Uganda Ibanda and Kiruhura districts, Western Uganda	[2] [4] [8]
Celestraceae	<i>Maytenus senegalensis</i> (Lam) Exell	African mayten	Omuniyabiriko [Ru]	Used to manage herpes zoster	Mbarara and Isingiro districts, Western	[4] [8]

Family Name	Scientific Name	Common name	Local names	Diseases and disease symptoms managed	Study Area	Author
				Bacterial and fungal infections	Uganda Ibanda and Kiruhura districts, Western Uganda	
Meliaceae	<i>Melia azedarach</i> L.	Chinaberry tree	Lira [Jap]	Malaria	Tororo district, Eastern Uganda	[1]
Moraceae	<i>Milicia excelsa</i> (Welw.) C. C. Berg	African Teak	Muvule [Lug, Lus, Lan]	Skin rash Asthma, cough, skin lesions, pain, fatigue.	Mabira central forest reserve, Central Uganda Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[2] [6]
Rubiaceae	<i>Mitragyna stipulosa</i> Kuntze	Borneo Kratom	Nzigu [Lug]	Prolapsed rectum	Mabira central forest reserve, Central Uganda	[2]
Annonaceae	<i>Monodora myristica</i> (Gaertn.) Duval	Calabash-nutmeg, African-nutmeg, Jamaica-nutmeg, False nutmeg		Management of hernia	Buwama Subcounty, Mpigi District, Central Uganda	[11]
Rubiaceae	<i>Morinda lucida</i> Benth.	Brimstone tree, morinda, Indian Mullberry, Hog tree apple	Kabaja nsayi [Lug]	Management of hernia	Buwama Subcounty, Mpigi District, Central Uganda	[11]
Moringaceae	<i>Moringa oleifera</i> Lam.	Horseradish tree, drumstick tree, benzolive tree, kelor tree, mlonge tree, marango tree, saji-han tree, sajna tree and mulangay tree	Molinga*, Kakwalu [Ach]	Aching joints Fatigue, inappetence, cough, malaria Used to boost appetite and immunity	Mabira central forest reserve, Central Uganda Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East Mbarara and Isingiro districts, Western Uganda	[2] [6] [4]
Musaceae	<i>Musa paradisiaca</i> L.	Edible banana	Gonja [Lug]	Management of HIV/AIDS	Kamuli, Sembabule, Kabale and Gulu districts	[3]
Mimosaceae	<i>Newtonia buchananii</i> (Baker) Gilb.&Perr.	Buchanania		Treatment of malaria	Mawokota, Mpigi district, Central Uganda	[9]
Urticaceae	<i>Obetia radula</i> (Baker) Baker ex B. D. Jacks.			Cough	Kigulu County, Iganga District, Eastern Uganda	[13]

Family Name	Scientific Name	Common name	Local names	Diseases and disease symptoms managed	Study Area	Author
Oleaceae	<i>Olea europaea</i> L	Olive tree	Olive oil [Ach]	Management of HIV/ AIDs	Kamuli, Sembabule, Kabale and Gulu districts	[3]
Chrysobalanaceae	<i>Parinari curatellifolia</i> Planch.	African almond		Stomach ache	Sango bay forest reserve, Southern Uganda near Lake Victoria	[7]
Lauraceae	<i>Persea americana</i> Mill.	Avocado	Ovakedo [Lug, Ru, Lgb] Vadeko [Lus]	Cough Ulcers, cough, anemia, fatigue Used to boost appetite and immunity	Mabira central forest reserve, Central Uganda Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East Mbarara and Isingiro districts, western Uganda	[2] [6] [4]
Leguminosae	<i>Piliostigma thonningii</i> (Schum.) Milne Redh. Kilama	Nigerian almond	Kilaama [Lus]	Diarrhea	Iganga District	[13]
Fabaceae	<i>Piptadeniastrum africanum</i> (Hook F.) Brenan	Sherlock or African memi	Mpewere [Lug]	Cough Cough Allergies and syphilis	Mabira central forest reserve, central Uganda Sango bay forest reserve, Southern Uganda near Lake Victoria Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[2] [7] [6]
Apocynaceae	<i>Plumeria obtusa</i> L.	Temple tree	Omusikamori [Ru]	Treat bacterial and fungal infections, used to manage herpes zoster	Mbarara and Isingiro districts, western Uganda	[4]
Apocynaceae	<i>Plumeria rubra</i> L.	Nosegay or frangipani	Musikamoli [Lug], Musikamori [Ru]	Herpes zoster For viral infections	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East Ibando and Kiruhura districts, Western Uganda	[6] [8]
Araliaceae	<i>Polyscias fulva</i> Harms.	Ming aralia,	Setaala [Lug]	Managing HIV/ AIDs	Kamuli, Sembabule, Kabale, Gulu district	[3]
Sapotaceae	<i>Pouteria adolfi-friedericii</i> (Engl.)	Bape	Yet ngok kede	Abdominal pain,	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North,	[6]

Family Name	Scientific Name	Common name	Local names	Diseases and disease symptoms managed	Study Area	Author
	<i>A. Meeuse</i>		[Lan]	swelling & vomiting	Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	
Rosaceae	<i>Prunus africana</i> (Hook. f.) Kalkman	African cherry	Ngwabuzito [Lug], Ntaseesa [Lus], Sirumandu [Gis], Muba [Ru]	Prostate cancer; epilepsy, heart diseases, diarrhea, cough, chest pain Fainting, Prostate cancer	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East Mabira central forest reserve, Central Uganda	[6] [2]
Meliaceae	<i>Pseudocedrela kotschy</i> (Schweinf.) Harms	Nigerian Cedar	Oputu [Ach]	Managing HIV/ AIDs	Kamuli, Sembabule, Kabale, and Gulu districts	[3]
Acanthaceae	<i>Pseudospondias microcarpa</i> (A. Rich.)	African mango	Muziru [Lus]	Yellow fever Wounds	Mabira central forest reserve, Central Uganda Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[2] [6]
Anacardiaceae	<i>Psidium guajava</i> L.	Guava	Amapeera [Ru] Mupeera [Lug, Ru]	Bacterial and fungal infections Used to manage cough and tuberculosis, used for diarrheal infections	Ibanda and Kiruhura districts, Western Uganda Mbarara and Isingiro districts, Western Uganda	[8] [4]
Guttiferae	<i>Psorospermum febrifugum</i> Spach	Congo fever tree		Syphilis	Sango bay forest reserve, Southern Uganda near Lake Victoria	[7]
Myristicaceae	<i>Pycnanthus angolensis</i> (Welw.) Warb.	African nutmeg	Olunaaba [Lug]	Treatment of malaria	Mawokota, Mpigi district, Central Uganda	[9]
Anacardiaceae	<i>Rhus natalensis</i> Bern ex. Krauss	Natal guarri	Omusheeshe [Ru]	Bacterial and fungal infections Managing cough and tuberculosis Used for diarrheal infections Used to manage herpes zoster and viral infections	Ibanda and Kiruhura districts, Western Uganda Mbarara and Isingiro districts, Western Uganda Ibanda and Kiruhura districts, Western Uganda	[8] [4] [8]
Anacardiaceae	<i>Rhus vulgaris</i> Meikle	Sicilian Sumac, Sumac, and Venetian	Obukanja [Ru]	Bacterial and fungal infections	Ibanda and Kiruhura districts, Western Uganda	[8]

Family Name	Scientific Name	Common name	Local names	Diseases and disease symptoms managed	Study Area	Author
		Sumac				
Rubiaceae	<i>Rytigynia beniensis</i> (De Wild) Robyns.			Septic ear	Sango bay forest reserve, Southern Uganda near Lake Victoria	[7]
Polygalaceae	<i>Securida longipedunculata</i> Fresen.	Violet tree, fibre tree, or Rhodesian violet	Mukondwe [Lug], Mukondwa [Lus], Elila [Lan]	Fatigue, joints & chest pain, cough, ulcers & oral sores Breast cancer	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East Wakiso, Kampala, and Mukono districts in Central Uganda	[6] [10]
Fabaceae	<i>Senna didymobotrya</i> (Fresen.) H. S. Irwin & Barneby	Popcorn senna or peanut butter cassia	Muvuvumira [Lus], Guberubenu [Gis], Murgabagaba [Ru]	Bacterial and fungal infections Skin rashes	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[8] [6]
Fabaceae	<i>Senna hirsuta</i> (L.) H. S. Irwin & Barneby	Hairy senna, Texas senna	Elekumare [Ateso]	Management of snakebites	Soroti, Serere, Kaberamaido, Kitgum, Kaabong districts	[16]
Fabaceae	<i>Senna siamea</i> (Lam.) H. S. Irwin & Barneby	Siamese cassia or Thai cassia	Garcia [Lug]	Treatment and Prevention of Malaria	Cegere Sub-County, Apac District	[19]
Fabaceae	<i>Senna singueana</i> (Delile) Lock	Wild coffee or coffee senna	Lokeru [Ik]		Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Fabaceae	<i>Senna spectabilis</i> (DC.) H. S. Irwin & Barneby		Mucuula [Lug]	Cough, diarrhea	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Euphorbiaceae	<i>Shirakiopsis elliptica</i> (Hochst.) Esser	Asian pigeon wings, butterfly wings		Management of hernia	Mpigi District, central Uganda	[11]

Family Name	Scientific Name	Common name	Local names	Diseases and disease symptoms managed	Study Area	Author
Bignoniaceae	<i>Spathodea campanulata</i> P. Beauv.	African tulip tree	Kifabakazi [Lug, Lus], Shitsubi [Gis], Bwizibwingi [Ru]	Gastro intestinal disorders and uterine infections, used in pregnancy care Increase vaginal fluids, skin infection, Hernia	Bushenyi District, Western Uganda Mabira central forest reserve, central Uganda	[14] [2]
Bignoniaceae	<i>Spathodea nilotica</i> Seem	African Tulip tree		Yellow fever	Iganga District, eastern Uganda Sango bay forest reserve, Southern Uganda near Lake Victoria Iganga District, eastern Uganda	[13] [7] [13] [6] [10]
Apiaceae	<i>Steganotaenia araliacea</i> Hochst.	Carrot tree, cabbage tree	Buco [Lgb], Elwilwi [Lan], Kinulanjombe/Kimulyangimbe [Lug], Kibundubundu/Ndujule [Lus]	Diabetes Yellow fever Diarrhea, fatigue, syphilis Used to treat Breast Cancer	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East Wakiso, Kampala, and Mukono district	
Bignoniaceae	<i>Steriospermum kanthium</i> Cham.	Pink jacaranda	Kinyarisa [Ru]	Malaria & fevers	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Celastraceae	<i>Symphonia globulifera</i> L. f.	Boarwood	Musaali [Lug]	Cough & mental illness Cough	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East Sango bay forest reserve, Southern Uganda near Lake Victoria	[6] [7]
Myrtaceae	<i>Syzygium cumini</i> (L.) Skeels	Jambolan, Java Plum	Jjambula [Lug, Gis]	Diarrhea, dysentery & stomach aches, Skin rash	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Myrtaceae	<i>Syzygium cordatum</i> Hochst.	Water berry	Mwambala zitonya [Lug]	Skin rash Pregnancy-related illnesses, Pre-hepatic	Mabira central forest reserve, central Uganda Sango bay forest reserve, Southern Uganda near	[2] [7]

Family Name	Scientific Name	Common name	Local names	Diseases and disease symptoms managed	Study Area	Author
				jaundice	Lake Victoria	
Myrtaceae	<i>Syzygium guineense</i> (Willd.) D. C.	Water berry		Pre-hepatic jaundice	Sango bay forest reserve, Southern Uganda near Lake Victoria	[7]
Apocynaceae	<i>Tabernemontana holstii</i> (K. Schum) Stapf.			Pancreatic insufficiency	Sango bay forest reserve, Southern Uganda near Lake Victoria	[7]
Fabaceae	<i>Tamarindus indica</i> L.	Tamarind	Nkooge [Lug], Eti [Lgb], Chwa [Jap]	Stomachache Diarrhea, liver disease & cough	Mabira central forest reserve, Central Uganda Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[2] [6]
Rubiaceae	<i>Tarenna pavettoides</i> (Harv)	Pavettoides Bush	Omunywamaiz [Ru]	Cleans baby and stops the flow of water during pregnancy	Kyeizooba sub county Bushenyi District, Western Uganda	[14]
Rutaceae	<i>Teclea nobilis</i> Del.	Desert Date or Mukheit	Nzo [Lug]	Body cleanser	Mabira central forest reserve, Central Uganda	[2]
Combretaceae	<i>Terminalia schimperiana</i> Hochs t. ex Delile	Abyssinian Almond	Kadri [Lgb]	Ulcers, skin lesions & infections	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Lamiaceae	<i>Tetradenia riparia</i> (Hochst.) Codd	Misty plume bush, ginger bush	Kyewamala [Lug]	Eye & ear infections	Mabira central forest reserve, Central Uganda	[2]
Euphorbiaceae	<i>Tetrochidium didymostemon</i> (Baill.) Pax & K. Hoffm		Mukejje [Lug]	Measles Indigestion (gastrointestinal)	Mabira central forest reserve, Central Uganda Sango bay forest reserve, Southern Uganda near Lake Victoria	[2] [7]
Apocynaceae	<i>Thevetia peruviana</i> K. Schum	Yellow oleander, Lucknut, Be-still-tree	Omusenene (Ru)	Managing cough and tuberculosis	Mbarara and Isingiro districts, Western Uganda	[4]
Meliaceae	<i>Toona ciliata</i> M. Roem.	Red cedar, Indian mahogany,	Yat bwoc/Yat luu pa coo [Luo]	Management of snakebites	Soroti, Serere, Kaberamaido, Kitgum, Kaabong districts	[16]
Meliaceae	<i>Trichilia ematica</i> Vahl.	Natal mahogany.	Akwirakwir [Lan]	Worms, heart problems, syphilis, gonorrhea, snake bite, body pain, impotence	Apac District, Northern Uganda	[20]
Rubiaceae	<i>Vangueria apiculata</i> K. Schum.	Apiculate Vangueria		Constipation	Sango bay forest reserve, Southern Uganda near Lake Victoria	[7]

Family Name	Scientific Name	Common name	Local names	Diseases and disease symptoms managed	Study Area	Author
Sapotaceae	<i>Vitellaria paradoxa</i> C.F. Gaertn.	Shea butter tree	Komero [Lgb]	Stomach aches, skin infections	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[6]
Verbenaceae	<i>Vitex doniana</i> Sweet	Black Plum	Yuelo/Uwelo [Jap]	Malaria	Tororo district, Eastern Uganda	[1]
Canellaceae	<i>Warburgia ugandensis</i> Sprague	Ugandan greenheart	Omwiha [Ru], Abasi/Muya [Lug], Balwegiira [Lus], Balwegiira /Abasi [Gis] Abac [Lan], Atiko [Jap]	Stomach ache, sore throat, ulcers, fatigue, fever, blood infections cough/ TB/asthma, diarrhea, allergies, syphilis, skin lesions/rash Bacterial and fungal infections, cough and tuberculosis Diarrheal infections, flu, and cough	Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East Mbarara and Isingiro districts, Western Uganda Mabira central forest reserve, Central Uganda	[6] [4] [2]
Rutaceae	<i>Zanthoxylum chalybeum</i> Engl.	Knob wood	Entale ya Ddungu [Lug], Ddungu lya ntale [Lus], Rukuts [Ik], Outiku [Lugb]	Cervical cancer Headaches & mental illness	Mabira central forest reserve, Central Uganda Arua in the Northwest, Dokolo in the North, Mbale and Iganga in the East, Bushenyi in the West, Rakai in the South, Luwero in the central and Kaabong in the North East	[2] [6]
Rutaceae	<i>Zanthoxylum gilletii</i> (De Wild)	African satinwood	Omutatembwa [Ru]	Induces labor	Kyeizooba sub county Bushenyi District, Uganda	[14]

Key: Languages spoken: Lgb=Lugbara, Lan=Langi, Gis=Lugisu, Lus=Lusoga, Ru=Runyankore, Lug=Luganda, Jap= Japadhola, Ach=Acholi, Ik=Ik/Karimojong, * = No local name. Western name adopted

Table 2. Parts used on tree species and the mode of preparation and administration of herbal medicine.

Scientific Name of tree species	Part used	Mode of Preparation and Administration
<i>Acacia campylacantha</i> Hochst. ex A. Rich	Root bark	Oral
<i>Acacia constricta</i> Benth.	Root	Decoction drunk, steam bathe
<i>Acacia gerrardii</i> Benth.	Stem bark	**
<i>Acacia hockii</i> De Wild.	Leaf/Bark	Chew or boil the leaf or bark and drink 500 ml 3 times daily
	Root	Pound the roots, and then boil with cows hooves and drink soup
<i>Acacia mearnsii</i> De Wild.	Leaf, Bark	Steaming, then insert in the birth canal

Scientific Name of tree species	Part used	Mode of Preparation and Administration
<i>Acacia seyal</i> Del.	Stem bark	**
<i>Acacia siberiana</i> (DC.) Kyal. & Boatwr.	Bark	Decoction drunk
	Roots	Herbal bathe
<i>Afrocarpus usambarensis</i> (Pilg.) C. N. Page	Leaf	Herbal bathe
<i>Azelaia africana</i> Pers.	Bark	Decoction drunk
<i>Alangium chinense</i> (Lour) Harms.	Leaf	Infusion drunk
		Decoction drunk/ Ointment
	Bark	Boil the bark and sit in the water
	Root/ Bark	Dry the roots/ bark, boil them and then drink 500 ml daily
<i>Albizia coriaria</i> Oliv.	Bark	Decoction drunk, 250 ml twice a day
	Bark /Root	Crush the bark into powder, apply on the affected area
		Boil, add honey and drink 100 ml 3x daily
	Leaf	Pound, dry and mix with water and drink
<i>Albizia grandibracrea</i> Taub	Bark	Pound inner bark, mix in water and wash the head
<i>Albizia macrophylla</i> (A. Rich.) Walp. var. <i>ugandensis</i> Bak. f	**	Decoction drunk
<i>Albizia zygia</i> (DC.) J. F. Macbr.	Bark	Decoction drunk
<i>Alchornea cordifolia</i> (Schum & Thonn.) Muell. Arg.	Twig	Decoction drunk
<i>Alstonia boonei</i> De Wild.	Bark	Decoction drunk
<i>Alysicarpus vaginalis</i> (L.) DC.	Leaf	Decoction drunk
<i>Annona senegalensis</i> Pers.	Bark and Leaf	Decoction drunk
<i>Annona muricata</i> L.	Root/ Leaf/ Fruit	Decoction drunk
		Crush in water and bathe
<i>Antiaris toxicaria</i> Lesch.	Leaf	Make a decoction by boiling until the water is half way. Take half a glass a day for 7 days
	Bark	
<i>Azadirachta indica</i> A. Juss.	Leaf	Mix leaf extract with honey and drink
	Root, Leaf, Bark	Decoction drunk
		Decoction drunk
<i>Balanites aegyptiaca</i> (L) Delile	Leaf	Mixed with Citrus limon leaves, boiled and drunk
	Root	Boil and wash
	Bark	Crush and tie on finger
	Leaf/ Root/ Bark	Decoction drunk
		Decoction drunk
<i>Balanites wilsoniana</i> Dawe & Sprague	Leaf	Crush and smear on feet
<i>Barteria nigritana</i> Hook. f.	Leaf	Decoction drunk
<i>Bauhinia thonningii</i> Schum		Decoction drunk
		Decoction drunk
<i>Blighia unijugata</i> Baker	Bark	Make a decoction by boiling until the water is half way and drink half glass twice a day for seven days.
<i>Bridelia micrantha</i> (Hochst) Baill	Bark, Leaf	Decoction drunk

Scientific Name of tree species	Part used	Mode of Preparation and Administration
<i>Callistemon citrinus</i> (Curtis) Skeels	Leaf	Decoction drunk
	Root	Decoction drunk
	Leaf	Chew or boil, drink 250 ml daily
	Leaf/Bark	Decoction drunk 500 ml daily
<i>Camellia sinensis</i> (L.) Kuntze	Leaf	Decoction drunk
<i>Canarium schweinfurthii</i> Engl.	Bark	Decoction drunk
<i>Cannabis sativa</i> L.	Leaf/ Flower/ Fruit	Decoction drunk
<i>Carapa grandiflora</i> Sprangue	Leaf	Decoction drunk
<i>Carica papaya</i> L.	Leaf/ Root/ Fruit	Decoction drunk
<i>Celtis africana</i> Burm. f.	Root	Decoction drunk
<i>Chrysophyllum albidum</i> G. Don	Root, Bark	Decoction drunk
<i>Cinnamomum verum</i> J. Persl	Leaf, Bark	**
<i>Citropsis articulata</i> Swingle & Kellerman	Fruit	Pounding, boiling, chewing and then taken orally in tea or porridge
<i>Citrus limon</i> (L.) Osbeck.	Fruit	Juice drunk
<i>Citrus sinensis</i> (L.) Osbeck	Bark	Boil in water for not less than 30 minutes, and drink
<i>Clerodendrum myricoides</i> (Hochst.) R. Br. Vatke	Root	Pound add water and drink
<i>Coffea canephora</i> A. Froehner	Leaf	Decoction drunk
<i>Cola acuminata</i> (Pal. de Beauv)	Seed	**
<i>Combretum molle</i> R. Br. Ex. G. Don	Leaf (shoot)	Chew shoots or boil and drink 1 teaspoon 3 times a day
	Bark	Decoction drunk
	Leaf, Bark, Root	Boil, drink 1teaspoon 3x daily
	Bark	Decoction drunk
<i>Craterispermum schweinfurthii</i> Hiern	Bark	Make tea and drink
<i>Croton macrostachyus</i> Hochst. ex Delile	Leaf	Decoction drunk
	Tuber	Pound and smear on the bite
<i>Cyphostemma</i>	Leaf	Boil in water and drink
<i>Dichrostachys cinerea</i> (L.) Wight & Arn.	Bark	Pounding, boiling and then taken orally
<i>Diospyros abyssinica</i> (Hiern) F. White	Leaf	Decoction drunk
<i>Dracaena afromontana</i> Mildbr	Leaf	Pounded and extracted with water
<i>Dracaena steudneri</i> Engl.	Leaf	Burn the leaves and collect the ash, add salt and lick
	Bark	Pound and press on the bitten part
	Bark, Leaf	Lick powder
<i>Ehretia cymosa</i> Thonn.	Leaf	Decoction drunk
<i>Ekebergia capensis</i> Sparrm.	Root	Pound/Decoction
<i>Elaeodendron buchananii</i> Loes.	Bark	Decoction drunk
<i>Entada abyssinica</i> A. Rich	Bark, Leaf	Decoction/Ointment

Scientific Name of tree species	Part used	Mode of Preparation and Administration
	Bark	Boil in water and bathe when cold
<i>Entada africana</i> Guill. & Perr.	Bark	Decoction (4 and 3 teaspoons after every 8 hours for adults and children, respectively, for a week).
	Bark, root	Decoction drunk
<i>Erythrina abyssinica</i> DC.	Bark	Pound, add salt, put in a clean cloth and squeeze in the mouth
	Bark	Apply powder on the affected area
	Leaf/Bark/Root	Boil, add honey and take 2 table spoons 3 times a day
	Leaf, bark	Boil, bathe, drink 50 ml 2x daily
<i>Erythrina excelsa</i> Bak.	Bark	Make a decoction by boiling until the water is half way. Take half a glass 3 times a day for 7 days.
<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> Denhn	Leaf	Topical bath
<i>Eucalyptus cirtiodora</i> Hook.	Leaf, Fruit	Pounding
<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> Labil.	Leaf	Chew; or drink decoction 500 ml daily
<i>Eucalyptus grandis</i> W. Hill	Leaf	Decoction drunk
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	Leaf	Mix with 10 seeds of Jackfruit and leaves of <i>Erythrina abyssinica</i> DC and mix in 4 cups of water and boil to 3 cups, drink
<i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i> Labill.	Roots/ Leaves	Decoction drunk
<i>Euphorbia tirucali</i> L.	Leaf	Steam on fire and chew
<i>Fagaropsis angolensis</i> (Engl.) Dale	Roots, leaves, fruits, seeds	Oral
<i>Ficus cyathistipula</i> Warb	Leaf	Oral
<i>Ficus dawei</i> Hutch.	Bark	Decoction drunk
<i>Ficus mucoso</i> Welw. ex Ficalho	Leaf	Pound, burn and press on the eye
<i>Ficus natalensis</i> Hochst.	Bark	Decoction drunk
<i>Ficus platyphylla</i> Delile	Seed	Decoction drunk
		Decoction drunk
<i>Ficus saussureana</i> DC.	Bark	Make a decoction by boiling until the water is half way. Take half a glass 3 times a day for 7 days.
<i>Ficus vallis</i> Chaude	Root	Crushed, mixed in cold water, Extract drunk half glass once a day
<i>Fleroya rubrostipulata</i> (K. Schum) Y. F. Deng	Bark, Leaf	Lick powder
	Root	Pound and add to tea
<i>Garcinia buchananii</i> Baker	Bark	Make tea and drink
<i>Grevillea robusta</i> A. Cunn. ex R. Br	Leaf	Oral
	Leaf, bark	Decoction drunk, 500 ml daily
<i>Hallea rubrostipulata</i> (K. Schum.) J. Fleroy	Bark	Decoction drunk
	Bark and Root	Pounding, boiling and then taken orally
<i>Harungana madagascariensis</i> Poir.	Bark	Decoction drunk
<i>Hymenocardia acida</i> Tul.	Bark	Decoction/ Ointment
<i>Jatropha curcas</i> L.	Seed	Infusion drunk
<i>Khaya anthotheca</i> Welw	Roots	**
<i>Kigelia africana</i> (Lam.) Benth.	Leaf	Decoction + honey

Scientific Name of tree species	Part used	Mode of Preparation and Administration
<i>Lannea barteri</i> (Oliv.) Engl.	Bark	Decoction drunk
<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i> (Lam.) de Wit	Root	Decoction drunk
<i>Leucas martinicensis</i> (Jacq.) R. Br.	Root	Crushed in water
<i>Lonchocarpus laxiflorus</i> Guill. & Perr	Root bark	**
<i>Lovoa trichilioides</i> Harms	Bark, Seed, Leaf	Ointment
<i>Macaranga schweinfurthii</i> Pax	Bark	Make a decoction by boiling until the water is half way. Take half a glass 3 times for 5 days
	Bark	Pounded and extracted with water
	Bark	Decoction + Honey/ Sugar/ Salt
<i>Maesa lanceolata</i> Forssk	Seed	Dry, mix powder with jelly smear body
	Leaf/ Root	Boil, drink 100 ml daily
	Root	Decoction drunk
	Root	Decoction drunk
<i>Maesopsis eminii</i> Engl.	Bark	Decoction drunk
	Bark, Leaf	Decoction drunk
	Bark	Decoction drunk
<i>Mangifera indica</i> L.	Leaf	Steaming
	Leaf, bark, root	Pound, boil, add honey drink 250 ml daily, one tea spoon for child
		Pound, boil add honey drink 250 ml daily
<i>Margaritaria discoidea</i> (Baill). G. L. Webster	Bark	Decoction drunk
	Flower	Pound and drop in the ear or eye
	Leaf	Decoction drunk
<i>Markhamia lutea</i> (Benth.) K. Schum	Root/ Leaf	Chew
	Root	Decoction drunk 250 ml; 1 teaspoon child
		Boil, drink 250 ml twice a day
<i>Maytenus senegalensis</i> (Lam) Exell	Leaf	Apply powder on affected part of body
	Bark, Leaf	Boil, drink 100 ml a day
<i>Melia azedarach</i> L.	Leaf, Root	Oral
<i>Milicia excelsa</i> (Welw.) C. C. Berg	Bark	Boil and bathe
	Bark, Leaf	Decoction/Tea
<i>Mitragyna stipulosa</i> Kuntze	Leaf	Pound, place sap on rectum and tie some leaves on.
<i>Monodora myristica</i> (Gaertn.) Dunal	Root	Decoction drunk
<i>Morinda lucida</i> Benth.	Seed	Decoction drunk
	Flower	Pound, dry sieve, mix with Vaseline and smear on joints
<i>Moringa oleifera</i> Lam.	Leaf, Root, Seed	Sauce/Tea
	Leaf	Leaves steamed and eaten as vegetable
<i>Musa paradisiaca</i> L.	Leaf	**
<i>Newtonia buchananii</i> (Baker) Gilb.&Perr.	Bark	Powder bark. One table spoon in half a litre of water and boil. Drink half glass once a day for 7 days.
<i>Obetia radula</i> (Baker) Baker ex B. D. Jacks.	Leaf	Powder licked

Scientific Name of tree species	Part used	Mode of Preparation and Administration
<i>Olea europaea</i> L	**	**
<i>Parinari curatellifolia</i> Planch.	Leaf	Decoction drunk
	Bark	Decoction drunk
<i>Persea americana</i> Mill.	Leaf, Seed, Bark	Decoction drunk
	Leaf	Decoction, 500 ml drunk daily
<i>Piliostigma thonningii</i> (Schum.) Milne Redh. Kilama	Bark	Boiled in water for not less than 30 minutes
<i>Piptadeniastrum africanum</i> (Hook F.) Brenan	Leaf	Steam bathe
	Bark	Decoction drunk
<i>Plumeria obtusa</i> L.	Leaf	Apply sap or powder in jelly on the affected area Apply leaf sap or powder on the affected area
<i>Plumeria rubra</i> L.	Sap	Apply sap on the affected area
<i>Polyscias fulva</i> Harms.	Stem bark	**
<i>Pouteria adolfi-friedericii</i> (Engl.) A. Mecuse	Root	Decoction
<i>Prunus africana</i> (Hook. f.) Kalkman	Bark, Leaf	Decoction/Tea
	Leaf	Decoction drunk
<i>Pseudocedrela kotschyi</i> (Schweinf.) Harms	**	**
<i>Pseudospondias microcarpa</i> (A. Rich.)	Bark	Pound, decoction drunk Decoction drunk
		Boil, drink 500 ml daily
<i>Psidium guajava</i> L.	Leaf	Decoction drunk 1/2 glass twice daily Decoction drunk, 250 ml 3 times daily
<i>Psorospermum febrifugum</i> Spach	Bark, Leaf	Decoction drunk; bathe
<i>Pycnanthus angolensis</i> (Welw.) Warb.	Leaf	Boil a handful of leaves in one litre of water and take half a glass a day for a week. Boil, drink and bathe Boil and drink 500 ml daily; child; 1 teaspoon twice daily
<i>Rhus natalensis</i> Bern ex. Krauss	Leaf	Boil and drink 250 ml daily Apply powder on the affected area Boil and bathe, or dry apply powder on affected area
<i>Rhus vulgaris</i> Meikle	Leaf /root	Boil, then drink; chew seeds
<i>Rytigynia beniensis</i> (De Wild) Robyns.	Leaf	Ash baked crushed leaves mixed with cow ghee, apply to infected ear
<i>Securida longipedunculata</i> Fresen.	Roots, Leaf	Decoction +Milk Decoction drunk
<i>Senna didymobotrya</i> (Fresen.) H. S. Irwin & Barneby	Leaf	Boil and drink or pound and smear body Decoction/ Ointment
<i>Senna hirsuta</i> (L.) H. S. Irwin & Barneby	Root	Mix powder with cold water & drink 3 times daily for at least 3 days
<i>Senna siamea</i> (Lam.) H. S. Irwin & Barneby	Root	Pound fresh roots. Squeeze out juice with a little water in a cup. Take one cup (about 500 ml) once a day for 3 days.

Scientific Name of tree species	Part used	Mode of Preparation and Administration
<i>Senna singueana</i> (Delile) Lock	Leaf	Decoction drunk
<i>Senna spectabilis</i> (DC.) H. S. Irwin & Barneby	Leaf	Decoction + Sugar
<i>Shirakiopsis elliptica</i> (Hochst.) Esser	Bark	Decoction drunk
	Bark	Boil in water or dry and obtain powder and mix with hot water and drink
	Leaf	Crush add water & bathe
<i>Spathodea campanulata</i> P. Beauv.	Bark	Pound, decoction drunk
	Root	Boil and bathe
		Decoction drunk
<i>Spathodea nilotica</i> Seem	Bark	Boiled in water for not less than 30 minutes
	Leaf	Decoction drunk
	Root	Powder in herbal tea
<i>Steganotaenia araliacea</i> Hochst.	Root/ Leaf/ Bark	Decoction/ Infusion
	Leaf/ Root	Decoction drunk
<i>Steriospermum kanthium</i> Cham.	Bark	Decoction drunk
	Root	Decoction drunk
<i>Symphonia globulifera</i> L. f.	Bark	Decoction drunk
<i>Syzygium cumini</i> (L.) Skeels	Leaf, Bark, Shoot	Decoction drunk
<i>Syzygium cordatum</i> Hochst.	Leaf	Crush and mix in vaseline and smear
		Decoction drunk
<i>Syzygium guineense</i> (Willd.) D. C.	Bark	Decoction drunk
<i>Tabernemontana holstii</i> (K. Schum) Stapf.	Bark	Decoction drunk
	Leaf	Decoction drunk
<i>Tamarindus indica</i> L.	Bark, Leaf, Fruit	Decoction drunk
<i>Tarenna pavettoides</i> (Harv)	Leaf	Boil in water and drink
<i>Teclea nobilis</i> Del.	Leaf	Boil with afromomum and drink
<i>Terminalia schimperiana</i> Hochs t. ex Delile	Leaf	Decoction drunk
<i>Tetradenia riparia</i> (Hochst.) Codd	Leaf	Pound mix in water and bathe
<i>Tetrochidium didymostemon</i> (Baill.) Pax & K. Hoffm	Leaf	Crush add to water and drink
	Bark	Decoction drunk
<i>Thevetia peruviana</i> K. Schum Omusenene (Ru)	Root	Boil with rock salt and give 3 table spoons daily
<i>Toona ciliata</i> M. Roem.	Root	Pound, mix with water & drink only once
<i>Trichilia ematica</i> Vahl.	Root	Root extract mixed with that of <i>Momordica foetida</i> Schumach. Treats sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and relieves pain in AIDS patient, dysentery, worms. Root extract of this plant mixed with that of <i>Vernonia grantii</i> Oliv. is drunk to treat impotence
<i>Vangueria apiculata</i> K. Schum.	Leaf	Infusion/decoction drunk; infusion bathed
<i>Vitellaria paradoxa</i> C. F. Gaertn.	Root, Seed	Decoction drunk
<i>Vitex doniana</i> Sweet	Leaf, root	Oral
<i>Warburgia ugandensis</i> Sprague	Leaf, Bark, Root	Decoction/Ointment

Scientific Name of tree species	Part used	Mode of Preparation and Administration
	Leaf	Boil and bathe or add powder in Jelly and smear affected area
	Bark	Use 1 tablespoon of powder in 500 ml water and drink 2 table spoons 3 times a day
	Root/ Bark	Boil fresh roots mix with beef soup and eat; pound fresh bark add honey and drink extract
	Bark	Decoction drunk
Zanthoxylum chalybeum Engl.	Root	Pound, add water & drink
	Root, bark	Sniff/Tea
Zanthoxylum gillettii (De Wild)	Bark/Root	Pound and mix with cold boiled drinking water and drink or chew

Key: ** means information not provided by the author.

3.3. Ethnobotanical Studies in Uganda Focusing on Tree Species

In the present systematic review, it is indicative that Ethnobotanical studies have been conducted in all the regions of Uganda. These regions are central, western, eastern, southern, west Nile, and northern regions of Uganda. The districts in these regions in which

the studies were done were 32 in number and they included; Wakiso, Kampala, Bundibugyo, Soroti, Serere, Pader, Kitgum, Kaberamaido, Kaabong, Tororo, Buikwe, Mukono, Kayunga, Kamuli, Ssembabule, Kabale, Gulu, Mbarara, Isingiro, Bushenyi, Kasese, Rakai, Ibanda, Kiruhura, Mbale, Arua, Dokolo, Iganga, Luwero, Mpigi, Oyam, and Apac district. Based on this review, it is clear that majority of studies on medicinal plants have been conducted in western and central Uganda compared to other regions (Figure 2).

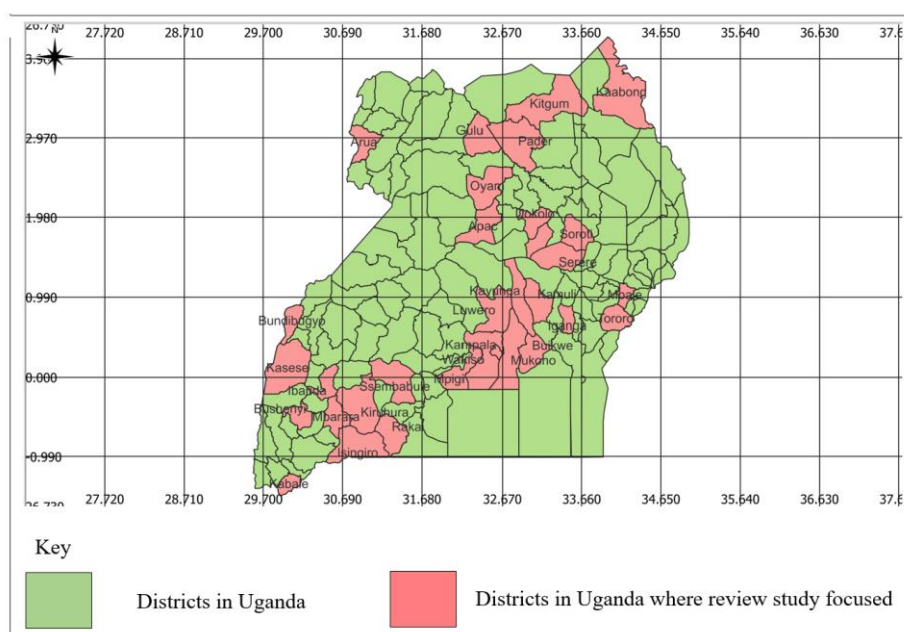


Figure 2. Map of Uganda showing regions where studies on medicinal tree species have been conducted from 1995 to 2023.

3.4. Parts Used on Medicinal Tree Species

Diverse parts on medicinal plants were being used. Specifically, leaves (34.7%) were highly depended on (Figure 3).

The bark (32.0%) (including stem and root bark) and roots (19.7%) were also commonly used. Additionally, other parts that were infrequently used included; stems, sap, twigs, flowers, shoots, fruits, seeds, and tubers.

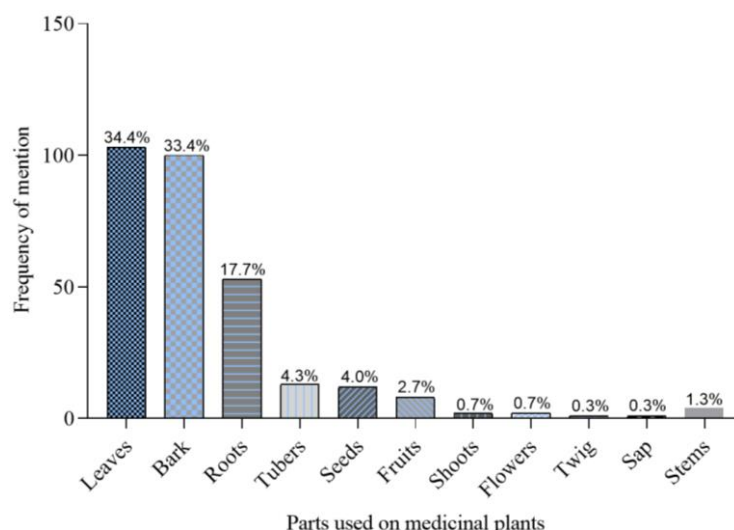


Figure 3. Parts used on medicinal plants against their frequency of mention.

3.5. Mode of Administration and Preparation

According to [Figure 4](#), herbal medicines were mainly prepared as decoctions (60.8%) and as teas (8.8%). This was followed by herbal bathe (5.1%), applying powder of herbal medicine on the affected part (4.6%), and chewing (4.6%).

The other methods of preparation and administration, such as steam bathe, sniffing, crushing and tying on the affected part, steaming on fire and chewing, and boiling, then sitting in the water were not frequently used ([Table 2](#)). During the preparation of the herbal medicine, some adjuncts such as milk and honey were added for different reasons.

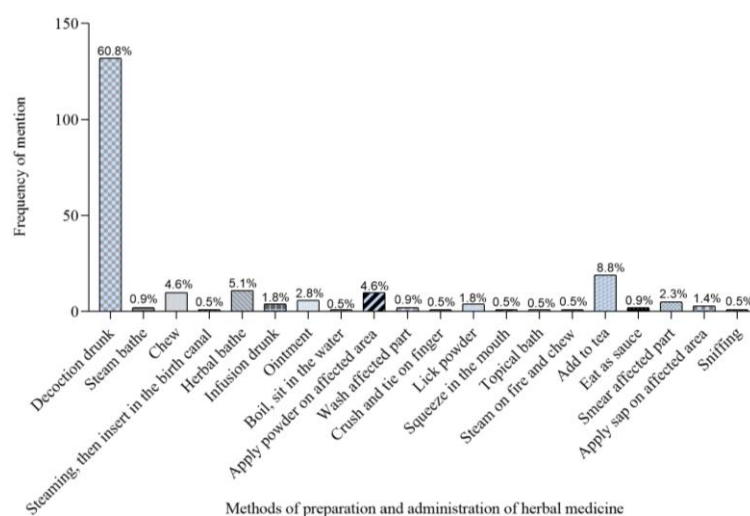


Figure 4. Method of preparation and administration of herbal medicine against frequency of mention.

3.6. Diseases and Disease Symptoms Managed Using Medicine Tree Species

Over 60 diseases (including disease symptoms) ([Table 1](#)) were reported to be managed using medicinal tree species. These diseases and disease symptoms were grouped into different categories such as sexually transmitted infections

(STIs), urinary tract infections (UTIs), cancers, lifestyle diseases, mental health illnesses, and digestive system related diseases and disorders, vector-borne diseases, respiratory related diseases, and skin infections. Animal bites and symptoms to some diseases were also reported. Most importantly, some tree species were being used to make herbal medicine used to cleanse blood in the body. Among the STIs, syphilis had the highest frequency of mention followed by HIV/ AIDs ([Figure 5](#)), implying that syphilis and HIV/ AIDs are some of

the STIs that are prevalent in Uganda and mostly in rural communities thus forcing people to rely on herbal medicine. For cancer, breast cancer had the highest frequency of mention followed by prostate cancer and cervical cancer (Figure 5). Pain

in the stomach, fallopian tube, chest, and joints was also reported with stomach pain topping among the pains (Figure 5).

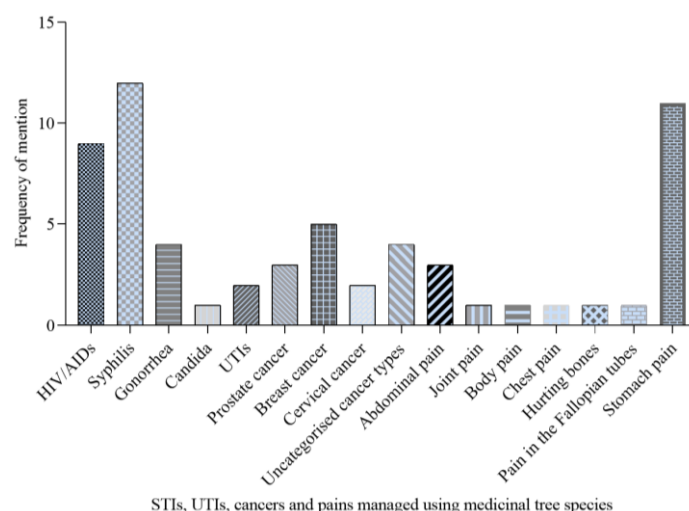
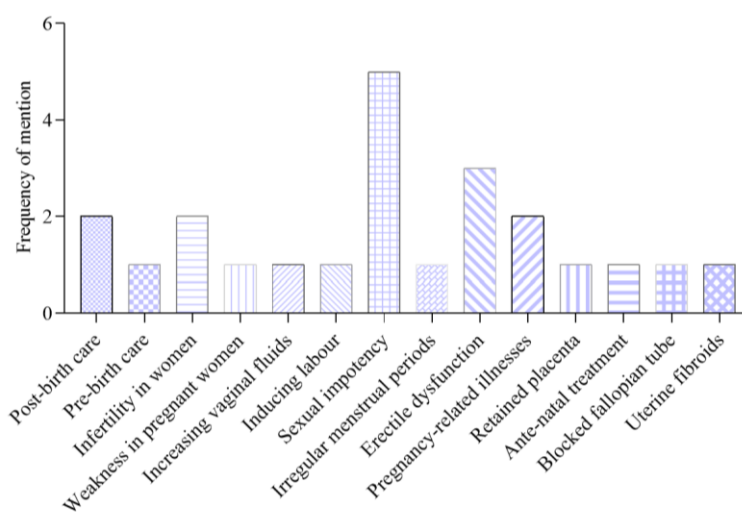


Figure 5. STIs, UTIs, cancers, and pains managed using medicinal plants against their frequency of mention.

Several reproductive health illnesses were reported, and among these, sexual impotency was highly prevalent, followed by erectile dysfunction in men, and infertility in women (Figure 6). The findings also revealed that medicinal tree species were

relied on to manage different pregnancy-related conditions but mostly for post-birth care and pregnancy-related illnesses (Figure 6).



Reproductive health illnesses and pregnancy related conditions managed using medicinal tree species

Figure 6. Reproductive health illnesses and pregnancy-related conditions managed using medicinal plants against their frequency of mention.

Diseases that are enhanced due to lifestyle were also reported and among these, diabetes had the highest frequency of mention (Figure 7). Among the digestive system diseases and

disorders reported, diarrhea had the highest frequency of mention, followed by ulcers (Figure 7). Mental health related illnesses and brain disorders such as epilepsy were also reported.

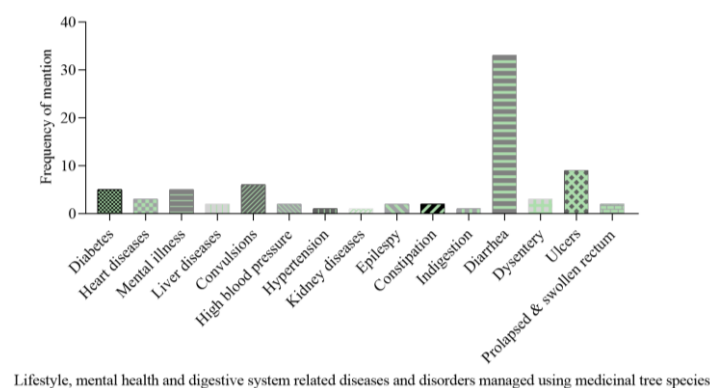


Figure 7. Lifestyle, mental health, and digestive system-related diseases and disorders managed using medicinal plants against their frequency of mention.

Vector-borne diseases were also reported to be managed using herbal medicine prepared from tree species, with malaria being the most frequently mentioned disease, followed by yellow fever (Figure 8). Respiratory-related diseases caused by viruses and bacteria were also being managed using herbal

medicine, with cough having the highest frequency of mention followed by tuberculosis (Figure 8). Snake bites and skin infections were also being managed using herbal medicine from tree species.

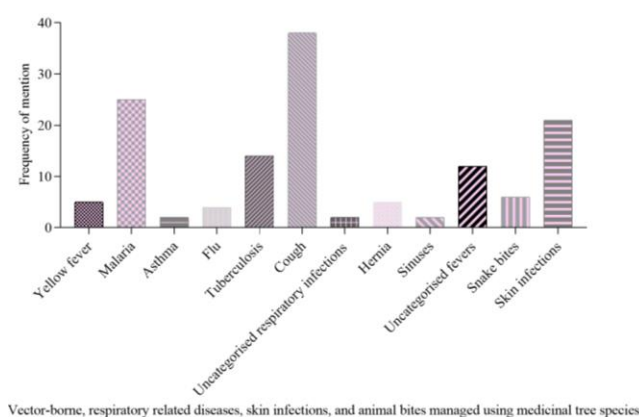


Figure 8. Vector-borne, respiratory-related diseases, skin infections, and animal bites managed using medicinal plants against their frequency of mention.

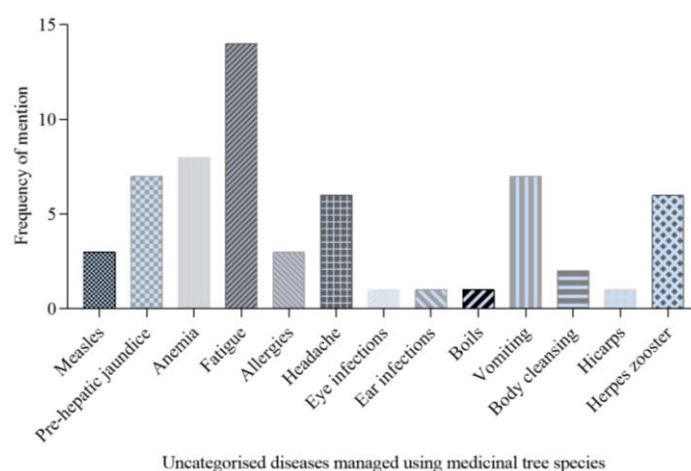


Figure 9. Uncategorized diseases managed using medicinal plants against their frequency of mention.

Some diseases managed using herbal medicine prepared from medicinal tree species were uncategorized as shown in Figure 9. Among these, fatigue was very common, followed by anemia, and pre-hepatic jaundice. Other diseases were also caused by viral infections; for example measles, herpes zoster, and flu.

4. Discussion

4.1. Common Plant Families Used to Manage Diseases in Uganda

The family with the most species was Fabaceae, followed by Euphorbiaceae, Rubiaceae, Myrtaceae, Meliaceae, and Moraceae. The plant family, Fabaceae had the most species and this finding has been reported in another study, which highlighted that this plant family was one of those with widely used by local indigenous communities of Mpanga and Mabira core forest reserves to treat diseases such as anemia, diarrhea, and cancer [37]. Other similar studies also reported the same finding [38, 25]. Additionally, plant species under the Fabaceae family have been proven to be effective in treating a number of infectious disorders [39].

4.2. Plant Parts Used to Manage Different Diseases in Uganda

Diverse parts on medicinal plants used to treat and manage different ailments were revealed in the present review. Leaves were highly depended on followed by bark and roots. Stems, sap, twigs, flowers, shoots, fruits, seeds, and tubers were however infrequently used. This finding aligns with that of other studies which highlighted leaves as being the frequently used plant parts, whilst seeds and fruits were not commonly used [29, 40, 38]. Similar findings have been described in Ethiopia [33, 41] and other African countries [42]. Studies highlighting the choice for leaves consider that their frequent use is due to their abundance together with the high content of phytochemicals [43].

Additionally, the wide usage of leaves, flowers, roots, and bark is an extensive habit in Uganda as recorded in central parts of Uganda [8], southern parts of Uganda [13], western parts of Uganda [23], areas near Kibale National Park [44], and Mpigi in central Uganda [45]. Similar practices have also been reported in different countries, such as Italy [46], Ethiopia [47], and in Tanzania [48]. The frequent use of leaves can also be attributed to their high regeneration rate and, in most situations, does not result in the plant dying, allowing the same plant to be constantly employed for a considerable amount of time [49].

4.3. Mode of Preparation and Administration of Herbal Medicine from Trees

Findings of the present review revealed decoctions as the most common method of preparing herbal medicine. This finding is consistent with another study [50, 51] carried in some East African countries and the African regions at large, where decoction was the most rampant method used to prepare herbal medicine. Decoctions may be reckoned when the plant part used is easily accessible [40]. Additionally, the extreme usage of water as a solvent is also linked to its availability [40]. Therefore, water serving as a natural solvent fuels the immediate retrieval of bioactive compounds during herbal medicine preparation [50]. Decoctions being the most mode of herbal medicine preparation may also be linked to the ease of preparation and administration for individuals using oral medications when compared to alternative routes of application and preparation options [52].

4.4. Diseases and Disease Symptoms Managed Using Medicinal Tree Species

Many diseases ranging from STIs, cancers, lifestyle diseases, mental health-related diseases, digestive system-related diseases, vector-borne diseases, respiratory system-related diseases, to skin infections, were being managed using herbal medicine from tree species. The high prevalence of syphilis followed by HIV/ AIDs calls for extensive measures to combat STIs. It is pivotal to highlight that syphilis is an important public health burden in low-income countries such as Uganda [53]. Since women can also be infected with syphilis, untreated early syphilis especially in pregnant women, can result in perinatal death in up to 40% of cases [54].

HIV/ AIDs, which is also rampant in Uganda [55], continues to be another universal public health issue as it has caused 42.3 million deaths so far [56]. Currently, STIs such as syphilis and HIV/ AIDs are likely to be on the rise in Uganda due to the cutting of financial aid provided by USAID to support HIV/ AIDs programs. This will in turn increase the harvesting of tree species that are known to be used to manage syphilis and HIV/ AIDs in Uganda.

For cancer, breast cancer having the highest frequency of mention followed by prostate cancer points out the increasing public health concerns posed by breast cancer and prostate cancer. This is because cancer is a major public health problem [57] and is responsible for one in six deaths worldwide [58]. Moreover, breast cancer and prostate cancer are among the top causes of deaths arising from cancer [59].

Reproductive health illnesses such as erectile dysfunction in men and infertility in women were also reported. This finding aligns with another study which reported that there are several reproductive ailments that local communities have been handling and treating [29]. Reproductive health illnesses such as erectile dysfunction and infertility may be enhanced

further by poverty [60]. Other diseases such as hernia reported in this review are neglected and yet they occur universally and pose a significant public health burden [61]. Epilepsy was among the neurological disorders (NDs) reported. It is alarming to report that such NDs are quite neglected in the modern healthcare systems [62]. Other diseases that are of great interest and had very high frequencies of mention were malaria (Figure 8) and diarrhea (Figure 7).

Malaria has and continues to be a serious global health burden in Uganda [63]. It remains the most important infectious disease globally, with about 214 million cases per year and over 438,000 deaths resulting from it [64]. Moreover, it is not only a health hazard in Uganda, but also one of the causes of major financial constraints [65]. There is thus a need for more effective approaches in Uganda to limit the distribution of malaria. As reported by this present study, the reliance on medicinal plants to manage malaria can be relied on, but this should be used alongside other malaria prevention methods. This will help to reduce the over-reliance on medicinal plants by people especially those who are far from modern healthcare facilities or can't even afford the costs charged in modern healthcare facilities. Fever (Figure 8), fatigue, and headache (Figure 9) reported in this review might have been due to malaria outbreaks [66]. Diarrhea, which was rampant based on the frequency of mention, accounts for more than 750,000 deaths in children under the age of 5 per year [67]. It is also the second leading cause of death in this population [67].

4.5. Conservation Status of Medicinal Tree Species

Some of the tree species included in this review have been listed as threatened. For example, *Milicia excelsa* Welw. CC Berg as near threatened, *Afrocarpus usambarensis* (Pilg.) C.N.Page is listed as endangered. *Prunus africana* (Hook. f.) Kalkman and *Vitellaria paradoxa* CF Gaertn have also been listed as vulnerable in the wild. There is thus an urgent desire to ensure that much as these tree species are still relied on as sources of treatment and management of different diseases, their existence through cultivation and sustainable harvesting should be highly encouraged.

5. Limitations of the Study

There are many biases that arise while collecting ethnobotanical data, and these impact the reliability of research findings. For example, the reliance on limited studies which are also localized results into collection of a narrow segment of traditional medicine knowledge [68]. Another common bias is recall bias, where informants describe medicinal plants based on memory instead of critical observation [69].

The review did not consider the phytochemistry and bioactivity of the 151 tree species. Furthermore, the review did not cover aspects of toxicity yet some of the tree species included in the review are toxic. For example, *Warburgia ugandensis*

Sprague is highly cytotoxic to U87 cells [70, 71], cytotoxic to intestinal epithelial cells IEC-6, with IC50 values < 50 µg/ml [72]; *Albizia coriaria* Welw. ex Oliv has minimal acute toxicity in mice, LD50 = 3.2 g/kg [73], is highly cytotoxic to U87 cells [74]; *Erythrina abyssinica* Lam has minimal toxicity on the liver, kidney, and hematopoietic tissue [75]; *Tamarindus indica* L. is cytotoxic to liver tumour cells [76]; *Senna siamea* (Lam.) H.S.Irwin & Barneby has alkaloids which are often toxic to man and may have dramatic physiological activities [77]; for *Melia azedarach* L., poisoning may occur which may further result in gastrointestinal, respiratory, cardiovascular, /neurological effects, and death in severe cases [78]; for *Artocarpus heterophyllus* Lam., low acute toxicity with zero lethality [79] may occur; for *Zanthoxylum chalybeum* Engl., it has showed a high potent toxicity in Brine shrimp lethality assay [80].

6. Conclusions

Diverse tree species in Uganda have been used to treat and manage a number of ailments. This research puts forth that although a number of tree species are greatly being relied on for medicinal purposes, many other tree species with medicinal importance still remain undocumented and with this immeasurable ethnobotanical knowledge remaining in the hands of the ancestors. Some tree species are also being destroyed by anthropogenic activities. The study thus recommends thorough sustainable harvesting of these medicinal tree species.

Abbreviations

NDs	Neurological Disorders
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infections
UTI	Urinary Transmitted Infections
HIV/	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired
AIDs	Immunodeficiency Syndrome

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Author Contributions

Thomas James Wanyama: Conceptualization, Data curation, Formal Analysis, Methodology, Visualization, Writing – original draft, Writing – review & editing.

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Data Availability Statement

The data generated from the present study is within the manuscript.

Conflicts of Interest

The author declares no conflicts of interest.

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Biography



Thomas James Wanyama is a graduate student at Makerere University where he is currently pursuing a Master’s degree in ethnobotany (particularly herbal medicine development). As an upcoming researcher, Mr. Thomas has been engaged in international projects such as a project that focused on “Traditional Medicine in Transition”. Though still a student, Mr. Thomas works with the teaching staff of the Department of Plant Sciences, Microbiology, and Biotechnology, School of Biosciences, Makerere University, Uganda. Thomas James Wanyama has been awarded an offer by the Erasmus body to go for a mobility exchange program at the Nicolaus Copernicus University, Torun, Poland from 17th February 2026 to 2nd July 2026.

Research Field

Thomas James Wanyama: ethnobotany, ethnomedicine, ethnopharmacology, data analysis, machine learning, deep learning.