ABSTRACT

Utilization of plants as traditional medicines (herbs) have been known since long by Lembata society in general and the local community Kedang in particular. This process has been passed down from generation to generation from generation to generation, however, currently there is a tendency of this tradition is becoming obsolete, therefore, very important for us to dig back to the knowledge of plant species used as medicine by local communities Kedang. This study aims to conserve local knowledge (indigenous knowledge) and the divertisy of medicinal plants in local communites Kedang.

This study is a descriptive qualitative study with survey methods, semi-structured interviews and questionnaires. The number of study sample of 60 respondents, consisting of traditional medicine (Molan), chairman of the indigenous villages and communities that know and use medicinal plants. Respondents were taken Kedang which includes the District 2, District and Sub Omesuri Buyasuri. Each district was taken four sample villages. Subdistrict Buyasuri village consists of: Weikoro, Rumang, Atulaleng and Panama. Subdistrict Omesuri village consists of: Normal, Walangsawa, Arrive, and Hingalamamengi.

The results of this study indicate that there are 77 kinds of medicinal plants used by, local communities Kedang. The most widely used plants as medicine is a betel (Piper betle L.) from the tribe of Piperaceae and turmeric (Curcuma domestica) from the tribe of Zingiberaceae. Type of the most treatable diseases using medicinal plants is 59% non-communicable diseases, chronic diseases 16% and infectious diseases 6%. Apart from that, herbs are also used to maintain health by 19%. Part ot the most widely used plants for medicine are the leaves, by 40%, roots 30%, fruit 12%, 4% interest, seed 4%, 2% stems, rhizomes 4% and another 4%. Public use of medicinal herbs by boiling 67%, 39% crushed, and another 4%. Local communities Kedang obtain medicinal plants from the market by buying 24%, which grows wild 45% and cultivated 45%.