

## ALPINE ENVIRONS AROUND KUMAUN AND GARHWAL IN CENTRAL HIMALAYA, INDIA WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO HERBAL RESOURCES

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*The alpine region of Kumaun and Garhwal in Central Himalaya has long been known as one of the world richest treasury of bioresources endowed with unique biodiversity with its diverse and extreme cold climatic conditions. The present study is the outcome of a decade survey (1980-1990) in alpine region above 3000 m. covering all virgin alpine areas of Uttar Pradesh Hills dealing with vegetation characteristics, interesting life forms adapted to the extreme cold climate, curious habitat, floristic patterns, vegetation types and the herbal resources and general environs around this region. It was observed that the biotic stress has affected the high mountains too. The serious efforts at national level are needed to conserve this bioresources with rich economic potential and needs to be protected from degradation. Further the vegetation of alpine region of this zone is imperfectly known at present and thus there is an urgent need not only for intensive botanical*

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