

WHY ASTHMA IS ENDEMIC IN CITY

BANGALORE, January 24 (UPI):

IT was a unique combination of temperature, humidity and presence of weed pollen in the air which makes Bangalore the main centre of bronchial asthma in the country according to an eminent doctor here.

In a paper presented at the 40th joint annual conference of the association of physicians of India here Dr. V. Parameshvara, a well-known cardiologist said the garden city known for its salubrious climate showed an incidence of asthma in 1.31 per cent of the population. This was revealed in a survey of 1,47,805 persons during two consecutive years conducted by a group of general practitioners, he said.

While January was the best month for asthmatics here, July was the worst.

An initial survey confirmed that

more serious during night (31.1) but 21.5 per cent had asthma when.

Dr. Parameshvara confirmed that those who had never asthmatic themselves had developed asthma on moving Bangalore.

Bangalore cause of

BANGALORE, Jan. 25 (UPI) — A unique combination of temperature, humidity, wide fluctuations in climate and presence of weed pollen in the air which make Bangalore

It was a unique combination of wide fluctuations of temperature, humidity and presence of weed pollen in the air which makes Bangalore the main centre of bronchial asthma in the country according to an eminent doctor here.

In paper presented at the 40th joint annual

conference of the association of the physicians of India here Dr. V. Parameshvara, a well-known cardiologist said the garden city known for its salubrious climate showed an incidence of asthma in 1.31 per cent the population. This was revealed in a survey of 1,47,805 persons during two consecutive years by a group of general practitioners, he said.

While January was best month for asthmatics here, July was the worst.

An initial survey confirmed that over 50 per cent of the asthmatics obtained relief or mitigation of symptoms once they moved out of Bangalore.

Why Asthma Is Endemic In City?

By Staff Reporter.

The Times—January 25th 1985.

During the survey atmospheric pollen and fungal spores were collected over the flat roofs of eight to 20 metres high buildings at 21 different places in Bangalore including Cantoment Jayanagar, Malleswaram, Rajajingar, Basavangudi, Indiranagar and Majestic areas. Slides exposed and examined daily for two years identified 74 types of air borne pollen and 113 species of spores.

The highest collection of pollen was in July and the lowest in January. Asthma is an allergy and parthenium also called “congress grass” is one of its main causes.

The maximum quantity of pollen in Bangalore came from weeds, followed by that from trees and grasses. The highest amount of grass pollen was collected in September and October, while pollen from trees and weeds was found throughout the year.

The pollen of parthenium was the highest in quantity (41 per cent) followed by grass pollen (28 per cent) and that of cassica species (11 per cent). The weed pollens were more in the months of June and July. Trees blossomed in two seasons. April-June and October-December while grasses grew throughout the year.

Dr. Parameshvara said out of the 1940 asthma cases studied (104 men and 896 women) 730 (37.68 per cent) reported that they got relief from the disease when they moved out of Bangalore. Among women, housewives (37.01pc) were more susceptible to asthma. Office boys (40.31 pc) were more vulnerable to it than industrial workers (7.11pc) and retired persons.

Forty per cent of the asthma attacks occurred during winter followed by rainy season (20pc). Among those suffering from asthma 32.27 pc had a family history of allergic disorders and brochitis. The attack was more serious during night (31.15pc) but 21.5 per cent had continuous wheeze.

Dr. Parameshvara confirmed the belief that those who had never been asthmatics else where had developed asthma on reaching Bangalore.

