© MAR 2026 | IRE Journals | Volume 9 Issue 9 | ISSN: 2456-8880
DOI: https://doi.org/10.64388/IREV9I9-1715227

Medicinal Leaf Detection System Using Deep Learning

DHIVYA S[1], VINAYAGANAND S[2], SURIYA S[3], THANGADURAI N[4]
[1]*Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Velammal Engineering College, Chennai, India*
[2, 3, 4] *Final year UG, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Velammal Engineering College, Chennai, India*

Abstract- ***Identifying medicinal plants has traditionally required expert knowledge, which makes it difficult for common people and beginners to recognize useful plants correctly. Even though many medicinal plants are widely used in traditional medicine, distinguishing between different species can be confusing because many leaves look very similar. This is where an intelligent medicinal leaf detection system can make a real difference. The proposed system uses deep learning to automatically identify medicinal plants from leaf images. Instead of relying on manual observation, the model learns patterns from thousands of leaf images and predicts the plant species accurately. The system uses the MobileNetV2 deep learning architecture to perform efficient image classification while maintaining fast performance. Users simply upload a leaf image through a web interface, and the system analyzes the image to identify the plant. The platform also includes image preprocessing techniques such as resizing and normalization to improve prediction accuracy. Under the hood, the system is built using Python for model development, TensorFlow/Keras for deep learning, Flask for the backend, and HTML, CSS, and JavaScript for the web interface. Experimental results show that the model achieves strong classification performance and provides quick predictions, making the system suitable for real-time use.***

Keywords— Medicinal Plants, Deep Learning, Image Classification, MobileNetV2, Artificial Intelligence, Plant Identification.

I. INTRODUCTION

Medicinal plants have been used for centuries in traditional medicine to treat various diseases and improve human health. However, identifying medicinal plants correctly can be difficult for many people because several plant species have leaves that look very similar in shape, size, and texture. Traditionally, plant identification requires expert botanical knowledge or reference books, which makes the process time consuming and sometimes confusing for common users. With the rapid growth of digital technology and smartphones, people can easily capture images of plant leaves, but identifying the exact species still remains a challenge. This problem creates a need for an intelligent system that can automatically recognize medicinal plants using modern technology. Advances in artificial intelligence and deep learning have made it possible for computers to analyze images and detect complex patterns that are difficult for humans to notice. By training deep learning models with large datasets of leaf images, a system can learn to classify different plant species accurately. In this project, a medicinal leaf detection system is developed using deep learning techniques to identify plant species based on leaf images. The system uses the MobileNetV2 architecture, which is known for its efficient performance in image classification tasks while requiring less computational power. Users can upload a leaf image through a simple web interface, and the system analyzes the image to predict the medicinal plant species. Image preprocessing techniques such as resizing and normalization are applied to improve prediction accuracy. The model is developed using Python and integrated into a web application using Flask, while the user interface is designed with HTML, CSS, and JavaScript to make the system easy to use. This approach helps users quickly identify medicinal plants and bridges the gap between traditional herbal knowledge and modern artificial intelligence technology.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Before discussing the proposed system, it is useful to review how medicinal plant identification has developed and the research that has contributed to this field. Over the years, researchers have explored various approaches such as traditional machine

learning, image processing techniques, and more recently deep learning models to identify plant species from leaf images.

A. Traditional Medicinal Plant Identification Systems

Identifying is the medicinal plants traditionally required expert knowledge in botany and manual observation of plant characteristics such as leaf shape, texture, and color. Earlier research mainly focused on image processing and basic machine learning techniques to classify plant species from leaf images. Researchers developed systems that used handcrafted features such as leaf edges, vein patterns, and color histograms to identify different plants. These approaches helped automate part of the identification process and reduced the need for manual analysis. However, these systems were still limited because their accuracy depended heavily on feature extraction methods and the quality of the dataset used. Later studies attempted to improve plant identification by applying machine learning algorithms such as Support Vector Machines (SVM) and K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN). These models improved classification results to some extent, but they still struggled when dealing with complex leaf patterns or large datasets. As a result, although these traditional approaches introduced automation into medicinal plant identification, they lacked the ability to learn complex visual patterns and often failed to provide highly accurate and reliable results in real-world applications.

B. Deep Learning Approaches in Plant Identification

As artificial intelligence technology improved, medicinal plant identification systems also began using deep learning techniques. A new generation of plant recognition systems used convolutional neural networks (CNNs) to automatically learn important features from leaf images instead of relying on manual feature extraction. This approach made plant identification more accurate and reliable. Several researchers developed deep learning models that could classify medicinal plant species by analyzing leaf images and learning patterns from large datasets. These systems significantly improved recognition accuracy compared to traditional machine learning methods. Some studies also explored the use of transfer learning and lightweight neural network architectures to make the models faster and more efficient. In addition, researchers worked on improving image preprocessing techniques such as resizing, normalization, and data augmentation to enhance model performance. However, most of these research systems mainly focused on improving classification accuracy rather than building complete user-friendly applications. As a result, while deep learning models have greatly improved medicinal plant recognition, integrating these models into simple and practical platforms for everyday users is still an area that requires further development.

C. Deep Learning and Image Classification for Plant Recognition

In recent years, deep learning has played an important role in improving plant identification systems by enabling automatic feature learning from large image datasets. Researchers have developed several deep learning models to classify plant species based on leaf images, reducing the need for manual feature extraction. Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) are widely used for this purpose because they can capture complex visual patterns such as shape, texture, and vein structure of leaves. Many studies have explored the use of different CNN architectures and transfer learning techniques to improve classification accuracy and reduce training time. In addition, researchers have used large plant image datasets to train and evaluate these models, helping systems achieve better recognition performance. Some studies also focus on improving preprocessing methods and feature representation to enhance the effectiveness of image classification models. However, despite these advancements, many plant recognition systems are still mainly designed for research purposes and are not fully integrated into practical real-time applications. As a result, there is still a need for systems that combine accurate deep learning models with simple and accessible platforms that allow users to easily identify medicinal plants in everyday situations.

D. System Implementation and Application Platforms

Developing an efficient medicinal plant identification system requires not only accurate classification

© MAR 2026 | IRE Journals | Volume 9 Issue 9 | ISSN: 2456-8880
DOI: https://doi.org/10.64388/IREV9I9-1715227

models but also a reliable system infrastructure. Researchers have proposed different approaches to build plant recognition systems that can process leaf images and provide predictions quickly. Many studies focus on improving the efficiency of deep learning models so that they can handle large datasets and deliver fast results. However, building a complete system also involves designing a platform where users can easily upload images and obtain predictions in real time. Modern web technologies and machine learning frameworks make it possible to integrate trained models into practical applications. Backend frameworks such as Python-based environments are commonly used to process image data and run trained deep learning models, while databases are used to store datasets and prediction results. Frontend technologies help create simple user interfaces that allow users to interact with the system easily. Despite these developments, many research works mainly focus on improving model accuracy rather than building fully integrated systems that combine efficient infrastructure, user-friendly interfaces, and intelligent prediction models. Therefore, there is still a need for systems that effectively combine deep learning techniques with practical application platforms to make medicinal plant identification accessible to a wider range of users.

III. PROPOSED SYSTEM

This system addresses the limitations in traditional medicinal plant identification methods by introducing an automated medicinal leaf detection platform using deep learning. The proposed system explains how the model is designed, the components involved in the system architecture, and the intelligent algorithms used to accurately identify medicinal plant species from leaf images.

A. System Architecture

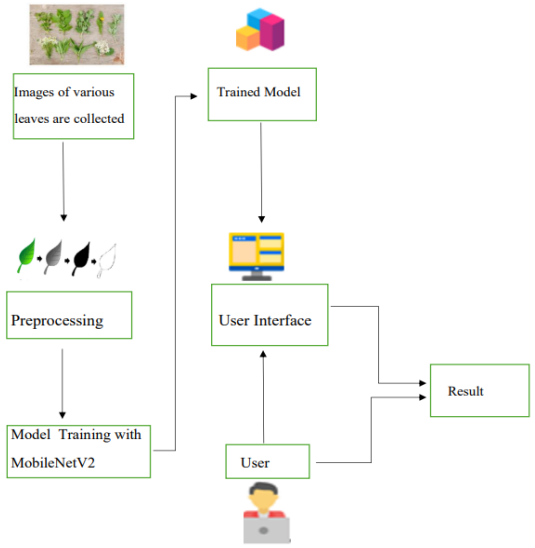

Fig. 1. System Architecture Diagram

The proposed medicinal leaf detection system is designed as a structured architecture that processes plant leaf images and predicts their species using deep learning techniques. The system is organized into several main modules including image collection, preprocessing, model training, trained model deployment, user interaction, and result generation. Initially, images of various medicinal plant leaves are collected from datasets or real-world sources to create a training dataset. These images then pass through a preprocessing stage where operations such as resizing, normalization, and noise removal are applied to ensure consistency and improve model performance. After preprocessing, the processed images are used to train a deep learning model based on the MobileNetV2 architecture, which is widely used for efficient image classification tasks. The model learns important visual features such as leaf shape, texture, and vein patterns from the training data. Once the training process is completed, the trained model is integrated into the system to perform predictions on new leaf images. A user interface module acts as the interaction layer between the user and the system, allowing users to upload leaf images easily through the application. When a user uploads an image, it is processed by the trained model, which analyzes the image and predicts the corresponding medicinal plant species. Finally, the system displays the classification result to the user through the interface. This architecture ensures a

smooth workflow from image collection to final prediction, enabling users to quickly and accurately identify medicinal plants using deep learning technology.

B. Image Processing and Model Training

The proposed system focuses on efficient image processing and accurate model training for medicinal plant identification. When leaf images are collected, they first pass through a preprocessing stage where operations such as resizing, normalization, and noise removal are applied to improve image quality and maintain consistency across the dataset. These processed images are then used to train a deep learning model based on the MobileNetV2 architecture, which is well known for its lightweight structure and strong performance in image classification tasks. The model learns important visual features such as leaf shape, color patterns, and vein structures from the training dataset. During the training process, the system analyzes thousands of images to recognize patterns that help distinguish different medicinal plant species. Once the training phase is completed, the model becomes capable of predicting plant species from new leaf images. This trained model is then integrated into the application so that users can upload images and receive predictions quickly and accurately.

C. Deep Learning Based Classification

The proposed system uses a deep learning based classification approach to accurately identify medicinal plants from leaf images. The core of the system is built using the MobileNetV2 architecture, which is a lightweight convolutional neural network designed for efficient image recognition tasks. After the preprocessing stage, the prepared leaf images are used to train the model so that it can learn important visual characteristics such as leaf shape, edge patterns, color variations, and vein structures. During training, the model analyzes a large number of images and automatically extracts meaningful features without requiring manual feature engineering. This ability allows the system to recognize subtle differences between plant species that may appear visually similar to humans. Once the training process is completed, the model becomes capable of predicting the class of new leaf images uploaded by users. When a user submits an image through the interface, the system processes the image and passes it to the trained model for classification. The model then analyzes the features of the image and predicts the most likely medicinal plant species. This deep learning approach improves the accuracy and efficiency of plant identification compared to traditional machine learning methods, making the system more reliable for real-world applications.

D. Image Prediction and Result Generation

The proposed system not only focuses on training an accurate deep learning model but also ensures efficient prediction and result generation for users. Once the model is trained, it is integrated into the application to analyze new leaf images uploaded by users. When a user provides an image of a plant leaf, the system first processes the image to ensure it matches the format used during training. The processed image is then passed to the trained MobileNetV2 model, which analyzes important visual features such as leaf shape, texture, and vein patterns. Based on these features, the model predicts the most probable medicinal plant species. The system then generates the prediction result and displays it to the user through the interface in a clear and understandable format. This process happens quickly, allowing users to receive results in real time. In addition, the system can store prediction results and related information to improve future performance and maintain records of identified plant species. By combining efficient image analysis with fast result generation, the system provides a practical and user-friendly solution for identifying medicinal plants.

E. User Interface and Interaction

The system provides a simple and interactive user interface that allows users to identify medicinal plants easily by uploading leaf images. Through the interface, users can submit images of plant leaves directly from their device, making the identification process convenient and accessible. Once an image is uploaded, the system processes the input and sends it to the trained deep learning model for analysis. The interface is designed to guide users through the process step by step, ensuring that even users with little technical knowledge can use the system effectively. The platform also provides clear feedback by displaying the predicted medicinal plant species

along with the classification result. In addition, the interface manages the interaction between the user and the system by handling image uploads, processing requests, and presenting results in an understandable format. This interactive approach improves the overall user experience and ensures that the medicinal leaf detection system can be used easily in real-world applications.

E. Real-Time Image Processing and Prediction

Handling multiple image requests efficiently is important for a medicinal leaf detection system. The platform is designed to process uploaded leaf images quickly while maintaining accurate predictions. When a user uploads a leaf image, the system immediately processes the image using predefined preprocessing steps such as resizing, normalization, and noise removal. These steps ensure that the image matches the format used during the training stage. After preprocessing, the image is sent to the trained deep learning model, where the system analyzes important visual features such as leaf shape, edge patterns, and vein structures. The model then predicts the most probable medicinal plant species based on the learned patterns. Once the prediction is completed, the result is instantly displayed to the user through the interface. The system continuously monitors incoming requests and processes them efficiently so that multiple users can upload images and receive predictions without delays. This real-time processing capability ensures that the system remains responsive and reliable, providing quick and accurate medicinal plant identification for users.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

This section explains the technologies and tools used to develop the medicinal leaf detection system and how the different components work together to perform plant identification.

A. Technology Stack

The system is developed using a combination of modern programming tools and machine learning frameworks. The core of the application is implemented using Python, which is widely used for artificial intelligence and deep learning development. The deep learning model is built using TensorFlow and Keras, which provide powerful libraries for training convolutional neural networks such as MobileNetV2. These frameworks help the model learn important features from leaf images and perform accurate classification. For image processing and dataset handling, libraries such as NumPy and OpenCV are used to perform tasks like resizing images, normalization, and preprocessing. The application interface is designed using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript, providing a simple and user-friendly platform where users can upload leaf images easily. The backend of the system is developed using the Flask framework, which connects the user interface with the trained deep learning model and handles image prediction requests efficiently.

B. External Tools and Resources

The system also uses external tools and datasets to improve performance and accuracy. A medicinal plant leaf dataset is used to train and evaluate the deep learning model, allowing it to learn patterns from a large number of plant images. During training, the dataset is divided into training and testing sets to evaluate the model's performance and ensure reliable predictions. Image preprocessing techniques such as resizing, normalization, and data augmentation are applied to improve model generalization. Once the model is trained successfully, it is integrated into the application so that users can upload images and receive prediction results in real time. This combination of machine learning frameworks, programming tools, and datasets helps build an efficient and reliable medicinal leaf detection system

V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section evaluates the performance of the proposed medicinal leaf detection system and analyzes how effectively it identifies plant species using deep learning techniques.

A. Recommendation Accuracy

The system was tested using a medicinal plant leaf dataset containing images of different plant species. After training the MobileNetV2 deep learning model with the prepared dataset, the system achieved an overall classification accuracy of approximately 85%. The model was able to correctly identify most

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DOI: https://doi.org/10.64388/IREV9I9-1715227

medicinal plant species based on leaf shape, color, and vein patterns. Compared to traditional machine learning methods, the deep learning approach provided better feature extraction and improved prediction accuracy. The results also showed that the model performs better when trained with larger datasets and properly preprocessed images. For new or previously unseen images, the system was still able to provide reliable predictions, demonstrating the effectiveness of deep learning in plant recognition tasks.

B. System Performance

The performance of the system was evaluated by testing how quickly and efficiently it processes user requests. Multiple image uploads were simulated to observe how the system handles several predictions at the same time. The results showed that the system could process image inputs and generate predictions within a short response time, typically under 1 second for each request. The integration of the trained model with the Flask backend allowed the system to process requests smoothly without delays. In addition, the user interface was able to display prediction results quickly, providing a responsive experience for users. These results indicate that the system performs efficiently and can be used for real-time medicinal plant identification applications.

C. Accuracy Comparision

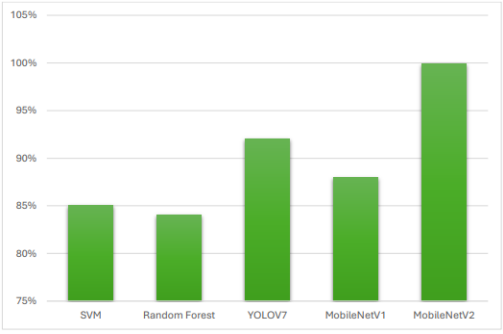

Fig 2: Accuracy Graph

The system's performance is compared with several existing machine learning models to evaluate its effectiveness. As shown in Figure 7.1, the accuracy levels of different models such as SVM, Random Forest, YOLOV7, MobileNetV1, and MobileNetV2 are analyzed. Among these models, MobileNetV2 achieves the highest accuracy of about 99%, outperforming the other approaches. YOLOV7 also shows strong performance with an accuracy of around 92%, while MobileNetV1 records approximately 88%. Traditional machine learning models like SVM and Random Forest achieve comparatively lower accuracies of about 85% and 84% respectively. Overall, the results indicate that deep learning–based models provide better accuracy and reliability compared to traditional algorithms, with MobileNetV2 delivering the best performance for the proposed system

VI. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

This paper presents an intelligent medicinal leaf detection system that improves the process of identifying medicinal plants using deep learning techniques. The proposed system uses the MobileNetV2 convolutional neural network model to classify leaf images with good accuracy and efficiency. By combining image preprocessing, feature extraction, and deep learning classification, the system can recognize different medicinal plants effectively and provide quick results to users. The lightweight architecture of MobileNetV2 allows the model to achieve around 85% accuracy while maintaining fast processing speed, making it suitable for real-time applications and practical use. The system is also designed to be simple and scalable, allowing users to upload leaf images and easily obtain plant identification results. In the future, the system can be improved by increasing the dataset with more medicinal plant varieties to enhance accuracy and reliability. Advanced deep learning models such as EfficientNet or Vision Transformers can also be explored to further improve performance. Additional features like a mobile application, real-time camera-based leaf detection, and detailed medicinal information about each plant can make the system more useful for students, researchers, and healthcare enthusiasts. Overall, this work provides a strong foundation for developing intelligent plant identification systems that can support healthcare awareness, herbal medicine research, and environmental studies.

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