

## Egypt country profile

Haggag M.Y.

in

Heywood V.H. (ed.), Skoula M. (ed.).  
Wild food and non-food plants: Information networking

Chania : CIHEAM

Cahiers Options Méditerranéennes; n. 38

1999

pages 115-119

Article available on line / Article disponible en ligne à l'adresse :

<http://om.ciheam.org/article.php?IDPDF=CI020532>

To cite this article / Pour citer cet article

Haggag M.Y. **Egypt country profile.** In : Heywood V.H. (ed.), Skoula M. (ed.). *Wild food and non-food plants: Information networking*. Chania : CIHEAM, 1999. p. 115-119 (Cahiers Options Méditerranéennes; n. 38)



<http://www.ciheam.org/>  
<http://om.ciheam.org/>

## EGYPT COUNTRY PROFILE

**M.Y. Haggag**

Pharmacognosy Dept.,  
Faculty of Pharmacy, Cairo University

---

### KEY-WORDS

EGYPT, WILD PLANTS, MEDICINAL AND AROMATIC PLANTS, PROTECTED AREAS, BOTANIC GARDENS

### MOTS-CLES

EGYPTE, PLANTES SAUVAGES, PLANTES MÉDICINALES ET AROMATIQUES, JARDINS BOTANIQUES

---

## GOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED IN WILD PLANTS CULTIVATION, CONSERVATION, USE AND BIODIVERSITY

### (1) Specialized Centres, Units or Departments in Faculties in most Egyptian Universities and their Branches

(Cairo University, Ain Shams University, Alexandria University, Asiat University, El-Mansoura University, Tanta University, Zagazig University, El-Monofia University and Southern Wadi University).

The following departments (in the respective Faculties) are involved:

#### *(a) Departments of Botany and Plant Taxonomy in the following Faculties of Science:*

1. Faculty of Science, Cairo University in Giza, Tel.No.: 202-5727022; 202-5727213  
Fax. No.: 202-5727213.

2. Faculty of Science, Cairo University (Fayoum), Tel .No.: 20084-244264;  
Fax No.: 20084-244264.

3. Faculty of Science University of Alexandria (Alexandria), Tel.No.: 203-4922918;  
203-4922919; Fax No.: 203-4911794.

4. Faculty of Science, University of Tanta (Tanta), Tel.No.: 20 040-344352;  
Fax.No.: 20040-350804.

5. Faculty of Science, University of Mansoura (Mansoura), Tel. No.20 050-342388;  
20050-346254; Fax.No.: 20 050-347900.

6. Faculty of Science, University of Demiatta (Demiatta), Tel. No.: 20 057-324205;  
Fax. No.: 20057-325802.

7. Faculty of Science, University of Zagazig (Zagazig), Tel.No.: 20055-323252; 20055-323490 .

8. Faculty of Science, University of Zgazig (Banha), Tel. No.: 20013-222578; 20013-225494; Fax.No.: 20013-222578.
9. Faculty of Science, University of Helwan (Helwan), Tel. No. ; 202-5552468; 202-5552467; Fax.No. 202-5552468.
10. Faculty of Science, University of El-Menia (El-Menia), Tel. No.: 20 086-323011.
11. Faculty of Science, University of Southern Wadi (Aswan) Tel .No.: 20 097-480446; 20097-480447; Fax.No.: 20097-480450.
12. Faculty of Science, University of Southern Wadi (Souhag), Tel .No. ; 20093-601159; Fax.No.: 20093-601159.
13. Faculty of Science, University of Monoufia (Shebin el-Koum), Tel.No.: 20048-221493
14. Faculty of Science, University of Suez Canal (Esmaelia, Tel. No. 20 064-326539; Fax. No.: 20 064-328543
15. Faculty of Science, University of Ain Shams (Abbasia), Tel. No.: 202-4821096; 202-4821633 Fax.No. ; 202-2842123
16. Faculty of Science, University of Asiut (Asiut), Tel. No. 020088-333833 ; 020088.332200; Fax. No.: 020088-312564.

*(b) Departments of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, as well as Crop Science in the following Faculties of Agriculture:*

1. Faculty of Agriculture. Cairo University (Giza), Tel. No . , 202-5724966 , 202-5724107; Fax No.: 202-5717355
2. Faculty of Agriculture. Cairo University (El-Fayoum), Tel. No.: 20084-343721; Fax No.: 20084 224964
3. Faculty of Agriculture. Alexandria University (Alexandria), Tel . No : 203-5965427, 203-5971862. ; Fax No.: 203-5972780
4. Faculty of Agriculture. Alexandria University (Saba Basha, Alexandria), Tel No.: 203-5870506; 203-5872646 ; Fax No . : 203-5872008
5. Faculty of Agriculture.Ain Shams University (Shobra , Cairo), Tel. No : 202-2208816; 202-2208813 ; Fax No.: 202-2214461
6. Faculty of Agriculture. Asiut University (Asiut), Tel. No . : 20088-32306; Fax No . : 20088-331384
7. Faculty of Agriculture. Tanta University (Tanta), Tel . No . , 20040-353335; Fax No . , 20040-359363
8. Faculty of Agriculture.El-Mansoura University (El-Mansoura), Tel. No.: 20050-345274; Fax No.: 20050-345368.
9. Faculty of Agriculture.Zagazig University (Zagazig), Tel. No.: 20055-322360; Fax. No.: 20055-347567.
10. Faculty of Agriculture. Zagazig University (Moshtohor, Tokh)
11. Faculty of Agriculture. El-Menia University (El-Menia, Tel . No.: 20086-322182
12. Faculty of Agriculture.Suez Canal University (El-Arish, Sinai, Tel No. 20068-240962.

13. Faculty of Agriculture, El-Monofia University (Shebin el-Koum), Tel. No.: 20048-221617; 20048-228187; Fax No.: 20048-2769495

**(c) Departments of Pharmacognosy and Medicinal Plants in the following Faculties of Pharmacy:**

1. Faculty of Pharmacy, Cairo University (Cairo), Tel. No. 202-3624917; Fax No.: 202-3624105; 202-3635140

2. Faculty of Pharmacy, Asiat University (Asiat), Tel. No.: 20088-333196; 20088-332397; Fax No.: 20088-332776.

3. Faculty of Pharmacy, Tanta University (Tanta), Tel. No.: 20040336007; Fax No. : 20040-335466.

4. Faculty of Pharmacy, El-Mansourah University (El-Mansoura), Tel. No. 2050-346253; Fax No.: 2050347900

5. Faculty of Pharmacy, Zagazig University (Zagazig), Tel. No.: 2055-324866

6. Faculty of Pharmacy, Helwan University (Helwan), Tel No.: 202-5542189 ; 202-5541601; Fax No.: 202-5541601

7. Faculty of Pharmacy, Suez Canal University

8. Faculty of Pharmacy, Alexandria University (Alexandria), Tel. No. 203-4831317; 203-4839056; Fax No.: 203-4833273.

**(2) Certain special units in some organisations**

(a) Natural Products and Medicinal Plant Units in National Research Centre (NRC).(Dokki, Tel.No . 202-3546532; Fax No. 202-3562820

(b) Natural Products and Medicinal Plant Unit in National Organization for Drug Research and Control (NODCAR) Dokki, Tel .No.: 202-3496087; Fax.No.: 202-3379445

(c) Institute for Desert Research (Tel. No.: 202-2435449 ; Fax . No.: 202-2457858.

**(3) Certain special units in the Ministry of Agriculture**

Agriculture Research Institute (Giza)

Field Crop Research Institute (Giza)

**PROTECTED AREAS IN EGYPT**

The Government of Egypt has established two funds to provide for the financial needs of protected areas in the country. These are the tourism and Environmental Service funds (Dr. Esam El-Badry, National biodiversity unit, EEAA). In Egypt, there are 16 protectorates, made by law under management of EEAA. Unfortunately, many of the protected areas are severely affected by human encroachment, overgrazing, hunting and fishing (El-Batanouny 1996; Plant Resources of Eastern Africa, World Conservation Unit IUCN).

The first protected area was established in 1974 at El-Omayed, 80 km west of Alexandria. Wadi Allaqui, is another protected area. Both El Omayed and Wadi Allaqui conservation area have been designated as UNESCO-MAB Biosphere Reserves, in 1981 and 1993 respectively (Batisse, M. , 1993 : The silver Jubilee of MAB and its revival. *Environment Conservation* 20: 107-112).



## NATIONAL CONSERVATION PLAN

Egypt has been concerned with the issue of sustaining natural resources, conservation of environmental systems . It has also been concerned with the preservation of the genetic resources. of living species, animals or plants that are threatened with extinction. A National Conservation Unit has been established, affiliated to EEAA. (EEAA, Dokki) Tel. No . 202-3753205; Fax . No.: 202-3784285

## INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

Egypt has signed a number of international conventions that commit the country to conservation of biological resources,e.g. Convention on Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the World Heritage Convention protocol concerning Mediterranean, especially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity Convention.

## NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY UNIT

In June 1992 ., Egypt signed the Convention on Biological Diversity. A special Biodiversity Unit (NBU) was established under the umbrella of the EEAA. This unit undertook the preparation of a country study on the status, costs, benefits and needs of biodiversity conservation in Egypt.

## BOTANICAL GARDENS

There are 16 botanical Gardens distributed in different localities of Egypt, including Cairo, Aswan, Alexandria and Guiza. Most Botanical gardens are managed by the Horticulture Research Institute of the Ministry of Agriculture. Examples of such gardens are:

*Orman Botanical Garden*, in Giza. It was established in 1873 to acclimatize and introduce new crop plants into Egypt. It contains 114 species including a palm section, rock garden, rose garden and also has a small herbarium and a seed bank.

*Aswan Botanical Garden*, at Aswan, located on an island in front of the town of Aswan. It was established in 1899. it contains mainly a collection of exotic tropical plants.

*Qubba Botanical Garden*, in Cairo, originally a palace garden and in 1960 it was designated as a botanical garden.

*El-Zohria Botanical Garden*, located in El-Gezira island, was established in 1868 and was originally a palace garden . It contains a collection of 329 species belonging to 142 genera and 75 families, mainly from temperate regions.

Other gardens include Nozha, Antoniadis, Rosery Gardens and Botanical Garden of the Faculty of Science, Alexandria University, all located in Alexandria and managed for ornamental purposes by the Horticulture Research Institute. Nozha garden is the oldest, established in 300 B.C.and contains mainly exotic species introduced in the 19th century. Antoniadis garden was established in 1980. The Botanical Garden of the Botany Department was created 50 years ago.

Ain Shams University, in Cairo, has a Botanical Garden established in 1954 and contains more than 800 species. The staff of this Botanical Garden prepared the first report on the status of National Botanical Gardens in Egypt.

## NATIONAL HERBARIA

There are 2 major herbaria and several minor ones located in specialized institutes and universities.. The following are main herbaria:

*The Herbarium of Cairo University* is the largest; it holds about 300,000 specimens.

*Herbarium of Horticultural Research Institute of the Ministry of Agriculture (CAIM)* is the first herbarium established in Egypt (in 1918) It is the second in importance and contains over 250 000 specimens.. This herbarium also contains a seed collection containing 1953 specimens representing 1409 species, belonging to 755 genera and 169 families.

*Asiut University* has 2 herbaria; the first was established in 1962 in Asiut and holds approximately 12 000 specimens; the second was established in 1980 at Aswan and holds about 10 000 specimens, mainly from west desert and Nile Valley . It is a modern computerized herbarium, and is linked with other herbaria and botanical gardens, such as Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and the East African Herbarium, Nairobi.

*Herbarium of Ain Shams University (CAIA)* was established in 1954 and contains 4000 specimens. A project is carried out in this herbarium for creation of a computerized data base (Database of Egyptian Flora, DEFA)

*The Botany Department, Faculty of Science, Alexandria University* has 2 herbaria established in 1940; the first contains 4000 specimens, most of them was collected from the Mediterranean region; the second holds about 1500 specimens.

*Herbarium of Department of Crop Science, Faculty of Agriculture, Alexandria University*, was founded in 1976, holds mainly common weeds growing among field crops in the north coast of Egypt.