

Professor Ekhlās M.M. Abdel Bary

The *Flora* of Qatar

Volume 1: The Dicotyledons

November 2012, Doha



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Environmental Studies Center



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The
Flora
of Qatar

Volume 1: The Dicotyledons

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Preface

The material presented in this work displays the present status of our knowledge of the flora of Qatar. This is the outcome of numerous studies and collections by academic and non-academic individuals and as well specimens deposited at the Herbarium of the Department of Biological & Environmental Sciences, Faculty of Arts & Sciences, Qatar University.

This work is intended for a twofold function:

- ◆ To document what plants exists up to date in Qatar providing an illustrated flora with data pertaining to their taxonomy, habitat, distribution vernacular names and local uses for scientific studies in the fields of taxonomy and ecology and for future monitoring and,
- ◆ To provide the much-needed information of the existing plants on the web.

For those who are interested to pursue further studies on the plants of Qatar, the data provided is comprehensive and set in an easy format. As far as possible each entry is supplemented with photographs of the plant that give a glimpse of the plant in situ to show its habitat and as well, close ups to highlight the details of the most diagnostic features of each species. Voucher specimens of all material exist in the Herbarium at Qatar University but some species known to occur in Qatar and were mentioned in earlier floras could neither be traced nor encountered in the numerous collection field trips undertaken.

The flora of Qatar is set in two volumes representing the two major groups of flowering plants. **Volume One** covers the **Dicotyledons** and **Volume Two** deals with the **Monocotyledons**. The first few pages included in both volumes incorporate a detailed introduction outlining the main features of Qatar's landform and vegetation with some changes pertaining to the contents of each volume.

Acknowledgments

Gathering information for any inventory is a major task and we are grateful to all who provided plant material and photos and those who made this work possible.

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My thanks to Professor David Mabberly Keeper of the Herbarium, Library, Art & Archives, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew for permission to use the Herbarium and Library. Thanks are also due to Dr. Mark Carine for arranging the visit to the Herbarium of the Natural History Museum and for his help with the genus *Convolvulus*.

I am most grateful to Dr. Shaheena Ghazanfer at Kew Herbarium for giving her time to review the Manuscript. Her invaluable comments and suggestions have been taken into consideration. Dr. Shaheena is the author of the Flora of Oman and at present is working on the Flora of East Africa at the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew.

Mr. Khalid A. Al Bakri, Information Officer at the E.S.Center, QU undertook the arduous task of the keep and updating of the images and the follow up with the design of both volumes. He will be responsible for the posting of the flora on the Website of Qatar University.

Ekhlas M.M.Abdel Bary
Doha, June 2012.

About this book

No floristic work is complete. With time species names change as well as those of higher categories including families and orders and additions and corrections to taxa is a continuous process. It is now over 30 years since the most used flora (Batanouny, 1981) was published bearing in mind that the plants on which the flora was described were collected between September 1978 to April 1980. None of the specimens of the earlier collectors (Obeid (1975), Boulos (1978) and Al Amin (1983) were traced locally. The latter reported that a duplicate collection was deposited in Qatar at the then “newly established herbarium in Qatar”. These were not traced. In January 2011 only very few specimens of Qatar’s flora were examined at Kew including specimens collected as early 1970 by an artist Cherry Willcox. Duplicates of the collections of Obeid, Boulos and Batanouny were deposited in the Cairo Herbarium. Few specimens were received after the death of Professor M. Obeid dispatched to Khartoum by the Royal Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh, Scotland.

At the local herbarium in the Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, Qatar University, Batanouny’s specimens are kept in separate folders since on these his flora was detailed.

Qatar is changing the face of its mainland fast with an advanced network of roads and highways and is expanding its infrastructure. Being a very small country not much remains of the landforms particularly the depressions that supported the vegetation and harbored the limited wealth of its flora. Sooner or later this present flora will have to be rewritten or updated. Hopefully till then it will remain a working flora for those interested in the plants of Qatar.

In this book the APG III system (Angiosperm Phylogeny Group III system) is recognized and followed.

Different from previous treatments dealing with the flora of Qatar the genus *Cleome* is split from the Capparaceae and recognized as a genus in the family Cleomaceae. The genus *Cuscuta* is recognized as a genus in the family Convolvulaceae. The genus *Neurada* as in the family Neuradaceae and not the Rosaceae and both *Herniaria* and *Paronychia* previously genera in the family Illecebraceae have now been transferred back to the Caryophyllaceae.

Sectional and tribal divisions are included for selected families.

The description of taxa includes besides morphological descriptions, life form, habitat and distribution, origin and local names in Arabic script as well as how best they sound in English.

In the text, terminology was limited to use of simple terms to enable non-taxonomist to follow up the descriptions. Focus on the plates was on how the plants appear in the field and in their habitat and close ups of the main diagnostic features whether these are of flowers, fruits or seeds are included where available. Where plates are unavailable replacements are included in form of shadows or illustrations. Only scientific names are given in italics. Synonyms are included to update changes in names for over 30 years in local floras. Types are not included as many websites detail types.

Wild plants may be seasonal, annual or perennials. The perennials may be short-lived perennials or trees and shrubs. Because of the harsh desert arid conditions, most plants have a short life span being within the range of ephemerals-annuals. Woody species are fewer. The habit of each species is given. Since all annuals and the short-lived perennials flower after the onset of the rains, flowering time is not included. Acacia species flower by April-May and fruit in spring but the fruits are ripe by late June to mid-July.

Habitats of the wild plants are either open field habitat or plants are collected from cultivated land or gardens. These would normally be growing on soils commonly fertilized either by chemical fertilizers or animal manures. Plants in the wild occur on all types of landform. Depressions sometimes have clayey silty soils and sometimes sandy loam or cracking clays. Depressions usually retain rain water and are thus a favored habitat for most wild plants. Locally they are referred to as *roda /rawda/rawdah/ (ruwad/ rawdat (Pl))*.

A large number of the species are new introductions with promotion of agriculture in Qatar. Some species are escapes that become naturalized. Indigenous species are limited and include typical desert plants and elements of the Mediterranean flora.

Local uses are not known for each and every plant. For local uses the plants given as **Fodder** include most weed species in field, gardens and tree plantations; those given as **Range** include only wild species in open land. Pre-1980, many homes kept some of their domestic animals in annexes to their homes. These were for the daily provision of milk and its byproducts. Camels are no more seen in Doha except for parades. In established farms weeds are given to those who weed the fields and are collected as fodder. With fewer homes with home-kept animals, weeds are no more collected from the tree plantations along Doha's roads.

Attempt has been to include ALL species given in the different contributions to the flora of Qatar noting name changes and first records. There are doubts as to the occurrence of some species in Qatar and

whether these were misidentifications. Unfortunately with no herbarium material available these could not be checked. Some of the species mentioned by Obeid in 1975 such as *Hygrophila auriculata* (Schum.) were never seen again.

In the local herbarium there are about 600 specimens of Batanouny's collection. These are of 138 species of the 301 species described in his book. Recently Norton *et al.*, 2009 included species as first record for the flora. These also include species listed for Qatar by Miller & Cope 1996. No specimens of these are available locally: *Carrichtera annua* (L.) DC., *Cleome noeana* Boiss., *Bienertia cysloptera* Bunge & Boiss., *Traganum nudatum* Delile, *Lathyrus inconspicuus* L. Species that are of exotic origin listed in some contributions are not included in this book. Invasive and now naturalized species are detailed in the text. The record of *Plicosephalus acacia* (Zucc.) Wiens and Polhill in Al Madeed (2004) is a misidentification. Al Madeed did not collect specimens but documented plants by photography for his book on wild plants of Qatar. His book focuses on the Arabic names of the plants, their origin and verses or poems that describe them. The plates are of good quality.

Notes on selected taxa

The most variable and difficult of all recorded genera and comparatively one of the most common in shallow depressions in the stony desert is the genus *Convolvulus*. In the flora *Convolvulus* includes twiners and non-twinning taxa. The twiners are not a taxonomic problem whereas the phenotypic variations in the non-twinning species of *Convolvulus* are enormous particularly the two species *Convolvulus prostratus* and *C. pilosellifolius*.

Part of this variability is phenotypic plasticity since growth conditions have been observed to have a strong effect on the plant appearance. There is also the possibility of genetic variations and the possibility of hybridization.

Variations include colour (white to rose to deep pink and pale yellow) petal margins (round, mucronate and star-shaped), indumentum (from glabrous to very hairy, fluffy white, yellow or rufous) and leaves of various shapes in particular basal leaves.

Previously, a number of species were recognized for these variations since some of these characters are very distinct and are rather strict diagnostic characters.

A number of previously recognized species have since been sunk in *Convolvulus prostratus*. *Convolvulus cephalopodus* is a rare species similar to them these two but is distinct.

Another problematic genus in Qatar is the genus *Pulicaria*. Four species were recognized for the genus *Pulicaria* in Qatar: *Pulicaria crispa*, *P.gnaphalodes*, *P.sicula* and *P.undulata*. Recently *Pulicaria crispa* has been sunk in *P.undulata* and as such they have been treated in this flora. However, observing the plants in the field for many years there is no doubt there are 2 distinct species or perhaps subspecies. Further, field observation proved that *Pulicaria gnaphalodes* has two different seasonal forms one resembles what used to be known as *P.crispa*. There is need to carry out a detailed study on the local species and perhaps the present treatment and decision on lumping all as *P.undulata* will be reverted.

The legumes are of 3 main groups which are sometimes treated as families or subfamilies or others depending on the different systems. Recently, they are recognized as belonging to one family - the Fabaceae and with 3 subfamilies. The family Fabaceae belongs to the Order Fabales which comprises 4 families: the Fabaceae, the Polygalaceae, the Quillajaceae and the Surianaceae. The characters used to distinguish between the subfamilies of the Fabaceae does not change and the best key character is the aestivation of the petals where the subfamily Faboideae has papilionaceous (pea-like) flowers with a standard, wings and keel.

According to information from NPGS/GRIN there are 26 tribes in the subfamily Faboideae. Of these only 11 are represented by the 21 genera in the Faboideae in the flora of Qatar: Cicereae: *Cicer*; Crotalariaeae: *Lotononis*; Fabeae: *Scorpiurus*, *Vicia*; Galegeae: *Astragalus*; Genisteae: *Argyrolobium*; Hedysareae: *Alhagi*, *Taverniera*; Indigoferaeae: *Indigofera*; Loteae: Hippocrepis, *Hymenocarpus*, *Lotus*, *Scorpiurus*; Phaseoleae: *Rhynchosia*, *Vigna*; Psoraleeae: *Cullen*; Trifolieae: *Medicago*, *Melilotus*, *Ononis*, *Trifolium*, *Trigonella*.

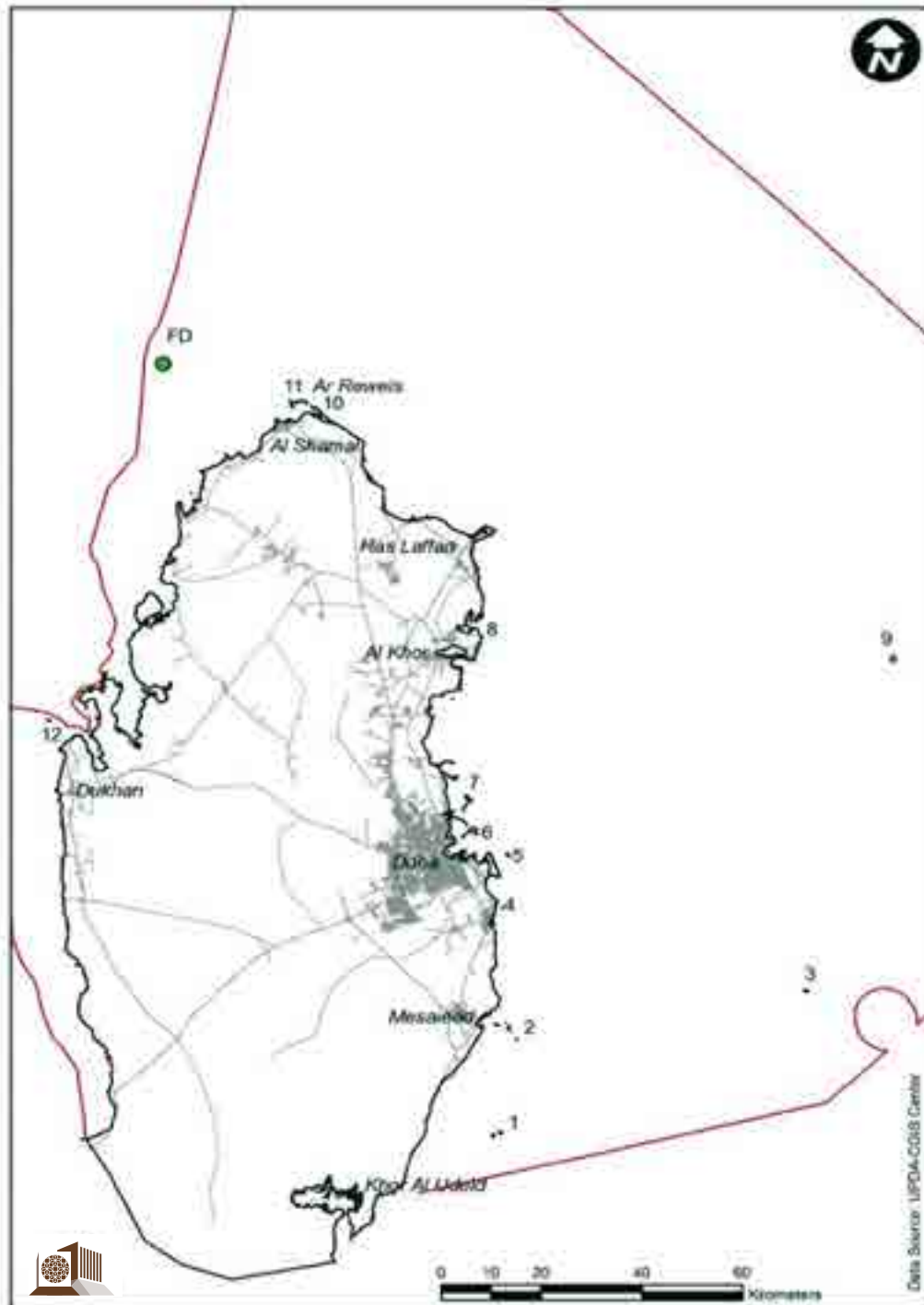
Introduction

Qatar is an oblong-shaped peninsula lying on a north-south axis alongside the center of the eastern coastline of Saudi Arabia, separated from it by Salwa Bay on the eastern side and is attached to it by a total distance of 60 km at its most southern end (Figure 1).

Qatar is small in size with a maximum length of 185 km and a maximum width of 85 km. The latest estimate of the total length of its coastline is over 700 km attributed to the very variable nature of its coastline characterized by bays, undulations, spikes, etc. and including as well a number of private jetties.

At the extreme southeastern coastline, lies the Inland Sea (Khor Al Udeid) which has been proposed as a World Heritage to preserve and conserve its uniqueness. Equally at the southern end lie the magnificent sand dunes of Qatar that line the coastline.

Twelve islands belong to the state of Qatar. These are Halul (the only inhabited island in Qatar), Al Besheireya, Sheraouh, Al Ashat, Al Alia, Al Safleya, Amshat (also known as Banana Island), Umm Al Far, Umm Tais, Ras Rakan , Al Nakheel and Janan. All islands except Janan are located on the east and the north of Qatar. Amshat and Al Nakheel are both artificial islands originally sand bars and In the vicinity of most islands are sand bars of varying sizes. There are also numerous fashts in Qatar marine zone (QMZ). Fashts are raised coral reefs such as Fasht Al Debil in NW Qatar.



Map of Qatar showing the position of the islands: 1. Halul, 2. Al Besheireya, 3. Sheraouh, 4. Ashat, 5. Al Alia, 6. Al Safleya, 7. Am Shat, 8. Umm Al Far, 9. Umm Tais, 10. Ras Rakan, 11. Al Nakheel and 12. Janan. FD-Fasht Ad Debil.

Soils and Landform in Qatar

The most detailed study on the geology of Qatar was presented by Claude Cavelier in 1970. Maps of Qatar's soils prepared for studies on aspects of the nature of the soils are patchy and in many cases focus on specific areas. However, a UNESCO (Qatar) publication (UNDP/FAO – 1973) detailing the soil types in Qatar is available.

Historically the land of Qatar is considered as 80% of Tertiary deposits and 20% Quaternary & Recent deposits. Paleozoic era deposits were only detected in Halul Island and Sheraouh Island. Sabkhas, sand accumulations, calcareous sands, sand terraces, etc. are all features of a Recent Age.

Qatar is basically flatland with slight undulation and a tilt from the west (Jebal Dukhan) towards the east. Any land feature that exceeds 60-70 m in height is referred to as a jabal (Ar. for hill/mountain). The land rises to a maximum of 103 m at one point only north of Sudanathil known as Taur Al Humair and is below surface at 6 m at Khor Al Udeid (a total relief of 109 m). Qatar's mainland is a stony desert with depressions of varying sizes and areas of rocky outcrops.

Landform classification as given by Batanouny (1981), details 6 landform types and later on gives 12 different landform types (Batanouny, 1986). In Abulfatih et al., (2001) seven physiographic and soil type regions were recognized: Rocky desert, Depressions and seasonal waterways, Salt flats and salt marshes, Sand formation, Intertidal areas, Islands and Cultivated land. Detailed studies on sabkhas (salt pans) and sand dunes in Qatar (both in Arabic) were undertaken by M.M.Ashour et al., and N.S.Umbabi and M.M.Ashour in (1983) and ((2 parts:1983, 1985) respectively.

The main recognized landforms are rocky and conglomerate hamdas (stony ground) and rocky ridges (together forming 87.86% of Qatar's mainland), depressions (including shallow depressions and deep depressions/rawdat) form 2.44%; sabkha formation is estimated as 6.06% and sand dunes form 3.12% of Qatar's mainland.

Qatar soil types, their total areas and percentages

Serial number	Soil Category	Series	Area in hectare	Percentage
1	Rawda Soils	A	23100	2.05
2		A	4520	0.39
3	Sabkha Soils	B	6517	0.58
4		B	63607	5.48
5	Stony/Rocky Soils	C	958072	82.44
6		C	62925	5.42
7	Sandy Soils	D	4775	0.42
8		D	31392	2.70
9	Cultivated land		6057	0.52
10	Total		1160965	100.00%

Source: M.H.Mudkur & S.M. Al Sheik (1973).

Generally the landform includes jabal formations, sand dunes and sabkhas which together contribute to near 15% of the mainland. Meanwhile, the main soil type [stony fragments impregnated with wind-blown sands and rocky outcrops] forms over 85% of the mainland.

Natural vegetation

Natural vegetation is sparse and confined to specific landforms. Most of the year round few trees and shrubs exist in depressions, along runnels and wadis. There are 9 trees in Qatar: *Prosopis cineraria* (Ghaf) an endangered species, *Acacia ehrenbergiana* (Salam), *Acacia tortilis* (Samr), *Ziziphus nummularia* (Sidr), *Ziziphus spina-christi* (Areen), the two epiphytes: *Cocculus pendulus* (Kheneiq) and the gymnosperm *Ephra foliata* (Alanda), the mangrove *Avicennia marina* (Qarm) and the naturalized invasive species *Prosopis juliflora* (Ghuweif).

Beside trees, a number of shrubs and undershrubs occur in Qatar. *Lycium shawii* (Awsaj) a member of the family Solanaceae, is the most common shrub in Qatar and may reach a maximum height of over two meters under shade and in favorable conditions. *Tetraena qatarense* (Harm Qatari) is the most common undershrub in Qatar. It covers large areas of the mainland of Qatar and exists on all types of soils. It is the most common on vegetated areas of the stony desert. Other woody species include *Ochradenus baccatus* (Qardi), *Salsola imbricata* (Hamd zefir) and *Heliotropium bacciferum* (Ramram) all dominating on disturbed locations and by roadsides everywhere in Qatar.

Along the coastline where soil salinity is high, members of the chenopods dominate. These include *Halopeplis perfoliata* (Khureiz), *Suaeda vermiculata* (Suweid), *Suaeda aegyptiaca* (Ikhreet), *Arthrocnemum macrostachyum* (Qulam) and *Halocnemum strobilaceum* (Gulam). *Limonium axillare* (Qataf), a member of the family Plumbaginaceae occurs on compact, hard, saline-shelly coastal soils.

Perennial grasses, sedges and reeds of saline soils include *Sporobolus ioclados* (Sukham), *Aeluropus lagopoides* (Ikrish), *Cyperus conglomeratus* (Rasha), and *Juncus rigidus* respectively. There are few perennial grasses in Qatar which occur inland on sandy soils and include *Panicum turgidum* (Thumam), *Pennisetum divisum* (Thaymoom) *Cymbopogon commutatus* (Askhabar), *Lasiurus scindicus* (Daa), *Chrysopogon species* (Kureiz) and *Dichanthium species* (Halta).



Coastal vegetation on sandy soils forming dense growth of *Cyperus conglomeratus* (Ras Laffan NE Qatar).



Stony desert with *Tetraena qatarense* (C. Qatar).



Depression with compact sandy soils and with the perennial grass *Cymbopogon commutatus*. Note barren surroundings (red arrow)

Slight variation in soil type and salinity results in an apparent zonation in the vegetation whether this is on coastal areas or on hilly ground. At Al Dhakhira in areas further away from the seafront but within the sabkhas zone, the ground is drier and therefore more saline. Such saline shelly grounds support plant communities of *Limonium axillare*.



***Limonium axillare* on saline soil at Al Dhakhira.**

At Dukhan, a very distinct zonation pattern is attributed to altitude, soil type and plant species.



Panicum zone is quite distinct on the lower strata of the Dukhan jabals.

The Stony Desert

The stony desert also known as desert pavement (Barr Qatar/Hamad (Ar.)) is the dominant feature of Qatar's mainland. Hamad (Ar.) means the land that is unproductive/ unfruitful since its composition is stony fragments and pebbles (Hassa (Ar.)).

The stony desert varies in its composition and general features from one location to another. In some areas the whole stretch of land is covered with small fragments and is barren.



View of a barren stony desert (20 km N. of Al Khor).

Some areas are covered with different shaped and coloured pebbles on top of a sandy firm ground; other sites are composed of rock fragments and fragments of fossil gastropods or coloured pebbles.

Stony outcrops are equally common and may be barren or sometimes covered with crustose lichens. Though these are mostly barren, there exist desert plants thriving on the scanty soils trapped in-between the stony fragment. Further, within this harsh landform, natural and man-made depressions of various depths retain enough rain water to sustain growth of annuals and a few woody species. However, plant cover is generally sparse and limited in species richness.



Stony desert with rock fragments and fossil gastropods.



Stony desert with rock fragments and coloured pebbles.



Crustose lichens on limestone rock.

Rocky outcrops, hilly ground and Dahl formations

Hilly ground varies in altitude and bedrock formation. Most bedrock in Qatar is limestone. Dukhan jebels are in the range of 40 – 80 m high. In the vicinity of Zikreet, Mesa (Table formation)) are common and are highly eroded. All the lower strata are constituted of soft limestone and are wind eroded leaving the hill exposed with the top more compact surface in tact thus creating the characteristic “figures” of Zikreet jebels.

The dissolution of layers of the soluble limestone bedrock is due to a process referred to as Karst which results in the appearance of sinkholes or dolines. Rain combines with atmospheric CO₂ and forms a weak carbonic acid which dissolves the limestone (Calcium carbonate) causing its dissolution. As the limestone bedrock dissolves a void is created which leads to the collapse of the upper surface. Collapsing earth sometimes forms sinkholes referred to as Dahl (Ar.) which are in fact shallow caves. In some dahls rain water is retained forming small pools. Dahl Al Hamman in Doha is locally well known and is inhabited by feral pigeons.



Views of Dahl Al Hamam, Doha, Qatar.



A Dahl at Halul Island.

In S. Qatar, hilly ground extends over a very large area. Wind erosion exposes the soft sandy lower strata and with time the top surface collapses creating large excavations. With time wind-blown sands settle in these are they may support annual growth and few woody species.



Large shallow depressions with good plant cover after the seasonal rains. Surrounding higher grounds are barren (S. Qatar).



Sandy soils with seasonal growth NE Qatar.



Sandy mound followed by barren sabkhas in NE Qatar.

Shallow Depressions

The most common shallow depressions are roadside depressions. In Doha and main towns, roadside depressions are usually with rubble and few individuals of low woody species. Along the main network of the roads recently constructed are various depressions varying in sizes, depths, soil composition and plant species.

Low depressions retain rain water and support few shrubs and short-lived perennials. *Pulicaria undulata* is common in shallow depressions that retain rain water for longer periods. However, the most common species is the succulent xerophytic undershrub *Tetraena qatarense* deserving the country's sake name in being the most common plant in Qatar.



Depression with *Pulicaria undulata*.

T. qatarense appears in shades of green to deep orange and is tolerant of all types of soils but does not favor extreme salinity.



Roadside depression with seasonal growth dominated by *Stipa capensis* and *Picris cyanocarpa* (en route to Umm Bab).



Roadside depression with annual grasses and *Tetreana qatarense* (en route to Salwa).



Inland depression in Doha with annual growth of *Convolvulus prostrates* (vicinity of Qatar University, Doha).



Shallow depression with wind-blown sands and plant growth dominated by perennial grasses (S. Al Wekeir).



Dense plant growth on a roadside slope and scanty growth at the center of a sandy depression (Doha – Al Shahaneya road).

Rawda Depressions

A deep depression is referred to as a Rawda (rawda/ roda/ rodah/ rawdat (pl.)). These may reach a maximum depth of 1.5 m and are filled with fine soil and rain-washed litter and are the best naturally occurring well-drained sandy-loamy soil in Qatar. They support the few large trees occurring in Qatar as well as undershrubs and seasonal growth.

Rawdas are scattered all over Qatar but are more frequent on the northeastern side of the mainland. In the past their fine soils were removed to use in farmlands. Gratefully, the Ministry of Environment (MoE ex Supreme Council for the Environment and Natural Reserves) set rules prohibiting removal of soils.



Rawda depression with mature *Acacia* species at Al Karaana.



Rawda depression with mature *Ziziphus spina-christi* in S. Qatar.



Large rawda depression with mature *Ziziphus spina-christi* and beyond it a large established farm near Al Jumailia.

Sand Dunes

Sand dunes in Qatar are either of marine origin characterized by the presence of shell fragments mixed with calcareous coarse sands or of land-origin and wind-blown recognized by their high content of quartz and variable sand grains. The sand dune fields near Mesaieed are referred to as the Nijyan and are Aeolian sands. Crescent-shaped sand dunes are referred to as Barchans.



Sand dunes in S. Qatar.



Sand dunes in S. Qatar.



Low sandy mounds at Al Hamala (vicinity of Umm Bab) and semi-wild date palm trees.

Wetland

All wetland in Qatar are freshwater ponds of recycled water. These ponds support by their edges dense growth of reeds, Tamarix and species of disturbed locations. The water attracts many species of birds that feed on their organisms. The largest freshwater pond is at Abu Nakhla and is outside Doha. Smaller ponds of recycled sewage are in all large towns.



Abu Nakhla pond.



Phragmites reed near Al Khor on a wetland stand.

Sabkhas

Salt pans are known as sabkhas. These sabkhas maybe vegetated with halophytes common along the coastline or when hypersaline, they are barren. The vegetated sabkhas vary in their species richness and species abundance. They may be with over 80% cover and composed of a single species. The majority of the local halophytic species are members of the family Amaranthaceae Subfamily Chenopodioideae. *Halopeplis perfoliata* stands as the most tolerant species of high salinity as compared to other halophytes and can form pure stands in sabkha depressions.



Sabkha with *Halopeplis perfoliata* community (Ras Laffan, NE Qatar).

Along the northeastern coastline, higher grounds representing the edge of the stony desert may end abruptly in a sabkha depression. These sabkhas are barren and gradually integrate into a vegetated sabkha, creeks and a mangrove forest beyond which lies the open sea. Such land formation occurs at Al Dhakhira on the northeastern coastline of Qatar.



Views showing gradation from raised stony desert via barren sabkhas to the mangrove forest.



Vegetated sabkhas dominated by *Arthrocnemum* and *Halocnemum* at Al Dhakhira, NE Qatar.

Mangrove Forests

Naturally occurring and planted mangrove woodlands occur along the northern and eastern coastline in the intertidal zone at locations where the substrate is of a muddy-clayey sandy constitution. Only one mangrove species occurs in Qatar and is *Avicennia marina* [Garm (Ar.)]. Naturally occurring mangroves are few. In the eighties the Ministry of Municipality and Agriculture embarked on mangrove plantation all around the coastline of Qatar. Success was mainly on the northeastern coastline (Al Dhakhira, Al Khor, Fewairet, Al Wakra and Ar Reweis) and poor growth was at a number of locations. Unsuccessful plantations were attributed to the nature of the sediment or higher salinity of the seawater (the southern and the western coastlines). Very dense mangrove forests are at Al Dhakhira and Fewairet. Those at Al Reweis (by the Port) and at Al Wakra have since been removed. Mature mangrove saplings, bushes or trees cannot be transplanted because of their intricate anastomosing network of their root system. Establishing mangrove growth in Qatar is only practiced by seedling plantations.



First stages in the establishment of a natural mangrove forest.



Seedlings and saplings of mangrove in NE Qatar.



Mangrove forest established with a large network of pneumatophores (breathing roots).



Mature mangrove forest at Al Dhakhira reserve.

Seasonal rains and annual growth

Qatar experiences very harsh arid climatic conditions in summer. The short winter period brings rains, coolness and growth of desert annuals. Though rains are erratic and scanty, they result in drastic changes of scenery in the desert and all forms of life surviving on it.

Perennials produce new shoots and last season's seeds germinate. Ephemerals and annuals grow and flowers producing various colors and shapes in shallow and deep depressions and on the few cm of trapped soil in the crevices of the stony desert.



First seasonal rains in 2011- 2012 rainy season.





Desert flowers of Qatar.



The winter season with its short spell of coolness and availability of seeds and fruits brings to Qatar a large number of migrant birds: some passing over and others to breed on the coastline, coastal woodlands and the uninhabited islands. All islands have been reported as nesting grounds for local birds and migrant birds. Terns (*Sterna* spp.) nest on Amshat Island (Banana Island) and Al Besheireya Island. Herons nest on Al Besheireya and Socotra cormorants nest on Al Alia Island. Al Alia Island is a nesting location for the Socotra cormorant. At the same period flamingoes, seagulls, herons and tyerns may be encountered feeding on the shallow waters in the vicinity of the island. Umm Al Far Island, near Al Dhakhira, is also known as a nesting location, Some locals set traps (Kuweikh) on some islands and coastal areas to capture price birds such as eagles and falcons which will fetch a good price as hunting birds.



Socotra cormorant with eggs and chicks at Al Alia Island (N. of Doha).



Eggs of the Reef Heron at Al Besheireya Island.



Sterns with eggs and chicks on the ground at Al Beshireya Island.





Bird trapping at Al Dhakhira (above) and Umm Al Far (below).



The cool winter is also a time for family recreation. Locals camp in tents all over Qatar to enjoy the scenery, greenery and the coolness of the weather. People of all ages usually group as families and friends during the spring season in search of Nature's gifts in the form of the much priced Faqaa (the desert truffles), Atar/Yarawa (fruits of *Glossonema varians*) and edible leaves of Huwa (*Launaea capitata*) and Malbo (*Convolvulus prostratus*).



Camping by the eastern coast in NE Qatar.



Gifts from the desert (*Huwa* [1], *Yarawa* [2] and *Desert truffles Fagaa* [3]).

Qatar is a country with a wealth of domestic animals particularly camels, goats and sheep. During the season of plant growth animals graze on the natural vegetation. These animals are fed most of the year round however, locals believe that grazing on natural range plants improves their animals' health. There is no doubt that some practice of range management is necessary since the natural vegetation cannot sustain the continuous increase in the members of domestic animals and the adverse effects of over grazing are evident at some locations. Recently a law has been passed prohibiting grazing on natural vegetation. There is no doubt this will improve the situation of the natural vegetation.



Sheep and goats (the most destructive grazers), grazing on semi-desert scrub in S.Qatar.



Overgrazing by goats and sheep causing total degradation of this coastal sandy dune which was vegetated with *Cyperus conglomeratus* on coastal sands.



Camels grazing on scanty semi-desert plant cover.

Invasive woody species in Qatar

Over the years a number of exotic trees and shrubs have been introduced to Doha City and other major towns. Few of these woody species have since managed to establish themselves along various roadside routes in Qatar. These include *Ziziphus* spp., *Parkinsonia aculeata*, *Acacia nilotica* subsp. *indica*, *Acacia cyanophylla*, *Pithecellobium dulce*, *Moringa oleifera*, *Leuceana glauca* and *Prosopis juliflora*. The last two taxa are the most invasive species in Doha. This list does not include species that have spread particularly in farms such as *Prosopis farcta*. However, they all remained in major residential areas where water seepage helped to maintain them except for *Ziziphus* species and *Prosopis juliflora* which have since appeared outside towns mainly by roadsides of highways. *Prosopis juliflora* has since spread further and is now found in all types of habitats. The species is well known as an invasive species and is now included in the flora as a naturalized species.



***Prosopis juliflora*.**



Common *Ziziphus* spp. planted in Doha with great variations in fruit size and taste and trees with variations in leaf size and texture. Trees are either unarmed or armed (some with the characteristic prickles).

THE PLANT KINGDOM

A Note on the Classification of the Plant Kingdom

The Plant Kingdom comprises the Bryophytes, the Ferns, the Gymnosperms and the Flowering Plants.

In the flora of Qatar, there is one species of each of the first 3 groups which collectively are referred to as the non-flowering plants and about 400 species of flowering plants.

The Bryophytes are non-vascular plants including the Hornworts, the Liverworts and the Mosses. The Ferns include the Whisk ferns, the Club mosses, the Horsetails and the ferns. These have a vascular system but do not produce seeds (except for the seed ferns).

The Gymnosperms have a more advanced vascular system they are non-flowering but they produce seeds. The gymnosperms comprise the Cycads, Ginkgoes, Conifers and the Gnetophytes.

The Flowering plants are of 2 groups commonly known as the Dicotyledons and the Monocotyledons based on the number of cotyledons (seed leaves) inside the seeds which appear when the seeds germinate.

The Dicotyledons (dicots) are the Class Magnoliopsida with 6 subclasses:

1. **Magnoliidae,**
2. **Hamamelididae,**
3. **Caryophyllidae,**
4. **Dilleniidae,**
5. **Rosidae and**
6. **Asteridae.**

The Monocotyledons (monocots) are flowering plants considered as more advanced than the Dicotyledons. They are commonly recognized as of 3 distinct groups:

1. **Those with different coloured perianth: commonly green sepals and coloured petals,**
2. **Those with a perianth of tepals (both of same colour) and,**
3. **Those without petals or sepals but a perianth modifies into bracts or scales or are with naked flowers.**

Taxonomically the monocots are the Class Liliopsida of the Angiosperms or flowering plants and comprise 5 subclasses:

1. **Alismatidae with 4 orders and 16 families,**
2. **Arecidae with 4 orders and 6 families,**
3. **Commelinidae with 7 orders and 16 families,**
4. **Zingiberidae with 2 orders and 9 families and**
5. **Liliidae with 2 orders and 19 families.**

Ten families have been recorded in the flora of Qatar. The majority of the recorded species belong to the grass family Poaceae (Gramineae). These are the grasses with their special fruit known as grain where the seeds are part of the pericarp (fruit). Grains are not seeds though treated as seeds. Beside the grasses, species richness is low, usually 1-3 species in a genus. The 10 monocot families in order of advancement are as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Hydrocharitaceae | 6. Palmae |
| 2. Zannichelliaceae | 7. Typhaceae |
| 3. Asphodelaceae | 8. Commelinaceae |
| 4. Liliaceae | 9. Gramineae = Poaceae |
| 5. Juncaceae | 10. Cyperaceae |

Floras worldwide are arranged according to one of the renowned systems. Systems including those of Engler and Prantl, Hutchinson and Cronquist are based mainly on morphological characters with additional information such as phytogeography, ecology. etc. Recently systems are based on more substantial information i.e. their core constitution – genetics being a more diagnostic stable character.

Herbaria worldwide are now reshuffling their earlier arrangements to follow the **APG III** system agreed upon by the Angiosperm Phylogeny Group.

The flora of Qatar is a small flora up to date not exceeding 440 species of mostly annual and ephemeral desert species and a number of weeds. In 1981, Batanouny in his “Ecology and Flora of Qatar” followed the system of Engler and Prantl. He recognized families and within each family he followed an alphabetical order for genera and species. In 1982, Al Amin followed an alphabetical order throughout. Equally in neighboring Saudi Arabia, Al Hadidi and Collenette followed an alphabetical order.

In the newly accepted **APG III** system the earlier classification of flowering plants has changed particularly at the higher categories. These have been included in this book. However for ease of use to all those seeking plant names of Qatar’s flora, an alphabetical order is followed.

Of the clades and orders in the **APG III** system prescribed for the monocotyledons, the species in the flora of Qatar fall under 10 families belonging to 5 orders.

Within the Clade Monocots, the Order Alismatales with 3 families (Cymodoaceae, Hydrocharitaceae and Potamogetonaceae) and the Order Liliales with only one family occur in the flora. Within the Clade Commelinids, 3 orders with 6 families occur in the flora. These are: Arecales (Arecaceae), Commelinales (Commelinaceae) and Poales with 4 families: Cyperaceae, Juncaceae, Poaceae and Typhaceae.

Of all these families the maximum representation in species number is the family Poaceae. Tribal classification is included in the description of the taxa.

Non-flowering plants in the flora of Qatar

The Bryophytes

Desert and arid conditions as are experienced in Qatar do not support the growth of bryophytes which need moist habitats to flourish. Yet one moss species – *Funaria*, a cosmopolitan species was collected from various locations during the rainy season including nurseries, potted plants and surfaces of clay water pots.



Moss (*Funaria*).

The Ferns or Pteridophytes

Only one species was recorded in Qatar. *Ophioglossum polyphyllum* occurs on wind-blown sands in central and on coarse sands in northeastern Qatar. Throughout its records it occurs on high mountains whereas in Qatar it is encountered at 20 – 40m above sea level.



Fern (*Ophioglossum polyphyllum*).

The Gymnosperms

Only one gymnosperm species is recorded in Qatar. *Ephedra foliata* is relatively rare and occurs in rawda depressions in Central Qatar. *Ephedra* is much favored by camels. It can only be detected by its rope-like twined stem below the trees on which it is an epiphyte.



Gymnosperm (*Ephedra foliata*).

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Clade
**Core Eudicots/
 Asterids/Lamiids**

Order
Lamiales

Family: Subfamily
**Acanthaceae:
 Acanthoideae**

Scientific Name & Syns.

Blepharis ciliaris (L.) B.L. Burtt., Notes Roy. Bot. Gard. Edinb. 22:94 (1956).

Syns.

Blepharis persica (Burm. f.) Kuertze, Revis Gen. Pl. 2:483 (1891); ***Ruellia ciliaris*** L. (basionym).

Habit

Annuals or short-lived perennials.

Description

Small erect, low spiny herb appearing as a rosette of leaves with spiny margins and flowering spikes. Flowers attractive purple with dark veined nectar guides; fruit bilocular capsules enclosed in spiny bracts.

Habitat

Depressions and runnels with sandy stony soil.

Distribution

Frequent in depressions in mid and north Qatar. Common in the vicinity of Al Shahaneya.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range plant [grazed at seedling and young stage].

Vernacular Names

Nejayae, Shouk Al Dab; نجيع، شوك الضب





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Lamiales

Family:Subfamily

**Acanthaceae:
Avicennioideae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Avicennia marina (Forssk.) Vierh., Denkschr. Kaiserl. Akad. Wiss., Wien. Math. – Naturwiss. Kl. Lxxi. 435 (1907). Subsp. *marina*

Syn.

Sceura marina Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. 37 (1775).

Habit

Mangrove tree.

Description

Evergreen mangrove with cable network of breathing roots; leaves dark green, glossy above, scaly below. Flowers small, dull orange; fruit large, germinating on the mother plant.

Habitat

Muddy tidal zone.

Distribution

Northeastern coastline. Large stands at Al Dhakhira, Fewairat and Al Reweis.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous. Natural and planted.

Local Use

Good camel fodder but semi-protected.

Vernacular Names

Shoura, Garam; شوره ، قرم





Class
Dicots

Order
Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily
Aizoaceae:
Aizooideae

Scientific Name

Aizoon canariensis L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 488 (1753).

Habit

Annual to short-lived perennial herb.

Description

Prostrate herb with woody base; green fleshy leaves. Flowers small, yellow inset in axils and congested at the centre of the star-shaped plant; fruit a capsule.

Habitat

On all types of soils after the onset of the rain.

Distribution

Widespread throughout Qatar particularly on slightly saline soils. Very common in Doha roadsides and by walls of buildings.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Tender leaves and shoots edible.

Vernacular Names

Jafna; جفنه





Class
Dicots

Order
Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily
Aizoaceae:
Aizooideae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Aizoanthemum hispanicum (L.) H.E.K.Hartmann, Illustr. Handb. Succ. Pl.:Aizoaceae A-E 29 2002 (2001).

Syn.

Aizoon hispanicum L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 488 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Small erect herb with all plant succulent; leaves fleshy, opposite, sessile, oblong lanceolate. Flowers sessile, with tepals green below and white above. Fruit a capsule with many small seeds.

Habitat

On rocky ground.

Distribution

Rare in Qatar occurring on stony grounds with some salinity; occasional on stony higher grounds at Al Dhakhira.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range plant.

Vernacular Names

Jafna; جفنه





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

Aizoaceae:

**Mesembryanth
-moideae**

Scientific Name

Mesembryanthemum nodiflorum L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 481 (1753).

Habit

Annual to short-lived perennial herb.

Description

Prostrate-decumbent fleshy herb with falcate succulent sessile leaves. Flowers small apetalous, petaloid stamens many, white with yellow centre.

Habitat

Hard compact saline sandy-stony ground.

Distribution

Common north of Al Khor and along Al Shamal coastline.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Ghasoul (common name for all species); غاسول





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

Aizoaceae:

**Mesembryanth
-moideae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Mesembryanthemum forsskaolii Hochst. ex Boiss., Fl. Orient. 2:765 (1872).

Syn.

Opophytum forsskaolii (Boiss.) N.E.Br., Gard. Chron., ser.3, 84:253 (1928).

Habit

Annual succulent herb.

Description

Prostrate to decumbent fleshy herb; leaves comparatively long and thick; flowers with numerous petaloid stamens; fruit a capsule.

Habitat

Stony grounds.

Distribution

Localized.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Ghasoul; غاسول





Clade
Core Eudicots

Order
Caryophyllales

Family: subfamily
Aizoaceae:
Mesembryanthe
-moideae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Zaleya pentandra (L.) C. Jeffrey, Kew Bull. 14:258 (1960).

Syn.

Trianthema pentandra L., Mant. 70 (1767).

Habit

Annual to short-lived perennial.

Description

Prostrate herb with slightly fleshy leaves; leaf pairs equal, lanceolate. Flowers axillary, inset, small; fruit a capsule.

Habitat

Garden soil and fields.

Distribution

Weed of gardens and agricultural fields.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Vernacular Names

Tarba; تربة





Clade
Core Eudicots

Order
Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily
Azioaceae:
Sesuvioideae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Trianthema portulacastrum L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 233 (1753).

Syn.

Trianthema monogyna L., Mant. 69 (1767).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Prostrate herb; leaves one large and opposite smaller, orbicular, slightly fleshy. Flowers minute, apetalous, pale pink with purple tinge; fruit capsule opening horizontally.

Habitat

Moist garden and field soil.

Distribution

Weed of gardens and farms.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Amaranthoideae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Aerva javanica (Burm.f.) Juss. ex Schult. in Roem. & Schult., Syst. Veg. 5, 565 (1820).

Syn.

Iresine javanica Burm. f., Fl. Ind. 212 (1768).

Habit

Shrub.

Description

Erect, whitish grey shrub branching from the base; branches hairy, ending in compound spikes of bisexual floccose woolly flowers.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Widespread in central and south Qatar. Very common in Doha and Al Rayyan.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range plant. Floss used to be collected as cushion stuffing material.

Vernacular Names

Towayim, Tarfa; تويم، طرفه





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Amaranthoideae**

Scientific Name

Amaranthus caudatus L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 990 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect leafy herb distinct by its long terminal and axillary red and green compound spikes. Flowers small, sessile with green and purple bracts; seeds lens-shaped. The plant is a crop (keirah) cultivated for its seeds and hybridizes with *A. hybridus*.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Common garden and field weed.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Local Use

Collected as fodder.

Vernacular Names

Samghat reeh, Khaisa; صمغة ریح، خایسه





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Amaranthoideae**

Scientific Name

Amaranthus graecizans L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 990 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect-decumbent leafy herb; branches with axillary sessile green flowers and on long terminal spikes.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Weed of agricultural fields and gardens. Common in date palm plantations.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced with horticultural and agricultural seeds; now naturalized.

Local Use

Collected as fodder.

Vernacular Names

Samghat reeh, Khaisa; صمغة ريح، خايسه





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Amaranthoideae**

Scientific Name

Amaranthus hybridus L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 990 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect much branched herb with compound spicate terminal inflorescences with small reddish flowers.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Weed of gardens and cultivation. Very common by roadsides in Doha after the rain.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced with agriculture; grown by some as a vegetable crop.

Local Use

Collected as fodder and also eaten as spinach.

Vernacular Names

Samghat reeh, Khaisa; صمغة ريح، خايسه





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

Amaranthaceae:

Amaranthoideae

Scientific Name

Amaranthus viridis L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 990 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect leafy herb; inflorescences much branched with small green flowers.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Widespread weed of roadsides, wasteland and gardens.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced with agriculture.

Local Use

Collected as fodder.

Vernacular Names

Samghat reeh, Khaisa; صمغة ریح، خایسه





Clade Order Family: Subfamily
Core Eudicots Caryophyllales Amaranthaceae:
Salsoloideae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Agathophora alopecuroides (Delile) Fenzl ex Bunge,
Mem. Acad. Sci., Petersb. ser.7, 4, 11:92 (1862).

Syn.

Halogeton alopecuroides (Delile) Moq. Tand., Chenop.
Monogr. Enum. 161 (1840).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Succulent undershrub with basal branches; branches
white with short spatulate fleshy leaves.

Habitat

Rocky ground.

Distribution

Reported by Batanouny (1981) as rare in one locality
near Umm Slal but no specimen seen.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range plant.

Vernacular Names

Hamd; حمض





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Salsoloideae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Salsola setifera (Moq.) Akhani, Int. J. Pl. Sci. 168 (6): 946 (2007).

Syn.

Anabasis setifera Moq., Chenopod. Monogr. Enum. 164 (1840).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Low woody shrub with succulent tender pale green shoots; leaves opposite and decussate, slightly curved upwards. Flowers small, calyces winged in fruit; fruit wings pink.

Habitat

Moist saline soil.

Distribution

Widespread near coastal areas and inland on moist saline soils in Doha and other towns; common in vicinity of Al Khor.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

حمض الارنب، شعيران; Hamd al arnab, Shuaairan;





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Salicornioideae**

Scientific Name & Syns.

Arthrocnemum macrostachyum (Moric.) K. Koch, Hort.
Dendrol. 96, No. 3 (1853).

Syns.

Salicornia macrostachya Moric., Fl. Venet. 1:2 (1820;
Arthrocnemum glaucum (Delile) Ung.-Sternb., Atti
Cong. Bol. Firenze 1874: 283 (1876) nom. illeg.

Habit

Succulent undershrub.

Description

Low glaucous halophyte with articulated succulent
shoots forming extensive circular mats. Flowers minute;
anthers yellow, exposed.

Habitat

Tidal zone and sabkha depressions.

Distribution

Widespread on sandy muddy coastlines. Common in
north and central eastern coastlines where it occupies
the zones next to the mangrove forests.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Qulaam; قلام





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Chenopodioideae**

Scientific Name

Agriophyllum minus Fisch.& C. A. Mey., Bull. Soc. Imp. Naturalistes Moscou, 12:170 (1839).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Stiff herb with numerous branches covered with white hairs; lower branches decumbent, upper ones erect; leaves alternate, sessile, linear, subtending a group of minute leaves. Flowers small in axillary spikes.

Habitat

Sandy ground.

Distribution

Rare. Collected from Salwa and S. Qatar

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range plant.





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Chenopodioideae**

Scientific Name

Atriplex leuoclada Boiss., Diagn. Pl. Orient., ser. 1, 2(12): 95 (1853).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Ash grey low undershrub with triangular undulate leaves and slight purplish tinge. Flowers and fruits minute and crowded.

Habitat

Saline sandy soil.

Distribution

Sabkhas and coastlines. Frequent along Al Shamal road from Al Khor northwards.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Best natural camel fodder.

Vernacular Names

Raghal; رغل





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Chenopodioideae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Atriplex leucoclada Boiss., Diagn. Pl. Orient., ser.1,2 (12): 95 (1853), var. *turcomanica* (Moq.) Zohary, Fl. Palaest. 1: 147 (1966).

Syn.

Atriplex laciniata L. var. *turcomanica* Moq. in DC., Prodr. 13 (2) : 93 (1849).

Habit

Annual or short-lived perennial herb.

Description

Erect herbs branching from a woody base; leaves slightly bent backwards, ovate-deltoid with distantly serrate margin; lower surface greyish. Flowers unisexual in small axillary spikes; fruiting bracteoles deltoid, 5-toothed, the mid more pronounced.

Habitat

Roadsides.

Distribution

New record for Qatar collected from a densely vegetated roadside depression near Salwa.

Ind/Int/Cult

Possibly introduced.

Local Use

Fodder plant.

Vernacular Names

Raghal; رغل





Clade	Order	Family: Subfamily
Core Eudicots	Caryophyllales	Amaranthaceae: Camphorosmoideae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Bassia muricata (L.) Asch. in Schweinf., Beitr. Fl. Aethiop. I:187 (1867).

Syns.

Salsola muricata L., Mant. 54 (1767); *Kochia muricata* (L.) Schrad., Neues. J. Bot. 3, 3,4:86 (1809).

Habit

Ephemeral annual herb.

Description

Small cottony herb with fluffy yellow hairs and linear leaves. Flowers unlike in *Bassia eriophora* are exposed; fruiting perianth and branches with stellate hairs and plant is less woolly.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Rare in disturbed areas in N. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Ghubeira, Haytham; غبيرة، هيثم





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Chenopodioideae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Beta vulgaris L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 222 (1753) subsp.
maritima (L.) Arcang., Comp. Fl. Ital. 593 (1882).

Syn.

Beta vulgaris L. subsp. ***perennis*** (L.) Aellen in Hegi, Ill. Fl.
Mitt.-Europ., ed. 2, 3(1-2):554 (1960).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect herb with a rosette of ovate leaves and a long
inflorescence of small green flowers; fruit blackish.

Habitat

Agricultural fields.

Distribution

Common weed of agriculture.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade Order Family: Subfamily
Core Eudicots Caryophyllales Amaranthaceae:
Chenopodioideae

Scientific Name

Chenopodium album L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 219 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Leafy herb appearing with whitish stems and entire lanceolate leaves. Flowers minute, crowded, green.

Habitat

Agricultural fields and garden soil.

Distribution

Weed of lawns and fields. Less common than ***Chenopodium murale***.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Vernacular Names

Samghat reeh, Kheisa; صمغة ریح، خایسه





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Chenopodioideae**

Scientific Name

Chenopodium murale L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 219 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Green leafy herb with triangular-deltoid leaves with serrate margins. Flowers minute, clustered in compound spikes. This plant demonstrates great phenotypic plasticity linked to the environment it grows in.

Habitat

Sandy loamy soil.

Distribution

Most common weed in Qatar appearing everywhere in Doha and all main towns in gardens, lawns and fields.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Local Use

Fodder.

Vernacular Names

Samghat reeh, Kheisa; صمغة ريج، خايسه





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Salsoloideae**

Scientific Name

Cornulaca aucheri Moq., Chenopd. Monogr. Enum. 163
(1840).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Low spiny undershrub with rigid deflexed leaves; stem
thick but not succulent.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Coastal areas, Umm Bab, Salwa, Al-Khor.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Camel fodder.

Vernacular Names

Thalj; ثلج





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Salsoloideae**

Scientific Name

Cornulaca monacantha Delile, Fl. Aegypt Ill. 206, t 22, f. 3 (1814).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Low spiny undershrub with rigid deflexed leaves; stem thick but not succulent.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Coastlines. Common in south-western Qatar Salwa-Dukhan and Meisaeed on sand dunes.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Camel fodder used locally to remove buccal projections.

Vernacular Names

Thalj; ثلج





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Salicornioideae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Halocnemum strobilaceum (Pall.) M. Bieb., Fl. Taur.-Cauc. 3:3 (1819).

Syn.

Salicornia strobilacea Pall., Reise Russ. Reich. 1:412 (1771).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Mat-forming low olive green halophyte with articulated shoots on very woody easily breakable branches; leaves rudimentary. Flowers crowded in cone-like structures.

Habitat

Tidal zone and salt flats.

Distribution

Widespread on sandy muddy areas of northern and north central coastlines.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Hamd; حمض





Clade
Core Eudicots

Order
Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily
**Amaranthaceae:
Salicornioideae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Halopeplis perfoliata (Forssk.) Bunge. ex Schweinf. & Asch., Fl. Aethiop. (1):289 (1867).

Syn.

Salicornia perfoliata Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. 3 (1775).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Low sub-woody succulent halophyte with jointed beaded reddish leaves appearing like bunches of grapes.

Habitat

Highly saline sabkhas with sandy shelly soil.

Distribution

Widespread. Common in sabkhas northeastern and central coastlines (sabkhas).

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Khureiza, Inab al bahr (sea grapes); خريزه، عناب البحر





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Salsoloideae**

Scientific Name & Syns.

Haloxylon persicum Bunge ex Boiss. & Buhse, Nouv. Mem. Soc. Imp. Naturalistes Moscou 12:189 189 (1860).

Syns.

Arthrophytum acutifolium (Minkw.) Minkw., Rast. Turk. 360 360 (1915); *Arthrophytum ammodendron* var. *acutifolium* Repert. Spec. Nov. Regni Veg. 11:478 (1912).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Much branched undershrub with fleshy green segmented stems and clasping scale leaves; upper branches very soft, lower branches woody. Flowers small about 8 mm across, pale rose with 8-10 stamens and red 4-lobed stigma; fruit bright red, winged. Batanouny (!981) includes a plate that is no doubt this species but under the name of *Hamada elegans* a synonym of *Haloxylon salicornicum*. The plate is of a plant collected at the Saudi-Qatar borders.

Habitat

Stony soil overlain with wind-blown sand.

Distribution

The species is reported from south and south west Qatar nearer to the Saudi Arabia border.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Favored camel range plant.

Vernacular Names

Remith, Hamd; رمث، حمض





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Salsoloideae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Haloxylon salicornicum (Moq.) Bunge. ex Boiss., Fl. Orient. 4:949 (1879).

Syn.

Hammada elegans (Bunge) Botsch. in Novist., Sist. Vyss. Rast. 1: 362 (1964).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Much branched undershrub with fleshy green segmented stems and clasping scale leaves. Flowers small and calyces winged in fruit.

Habitat

Stony soil overlain with wind-blown sand.

Distribution

Widespread; more common in C. and S. Qatar and along Al Khor-Al Shamal route.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Favored camel range plant.

Vernacular Names

Remith, Hamd; رمث، حمض





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Salsoloideae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Caroxylon cyclophyllum (Baker) Akhani & Roalson Int. J. Pl. Sci. 168 (6) 947 (2007).

Syn.

Salsola cyclophylla Baker, Bull. Misc. Inform. Kew 1894:340 (1894).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Low undershrub with congested rudimentary leaves becoming floccose with age.

Habitat

Compact stony soils and hezooks.

Distribution

C. and W. Qatar. Common near Ras Usharig and Al Dhakhira.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range plant subjected to excessive grazing particularly by camels.

Vernacular Names

Hamd; حمض





Clade Order Family: Subfamily
Core Eudicots Caryophyllales Amaranthaceae:
Salsoloideae

Scientific Name Syns.

Caroxylon imbricatum (Forssk) Moq. Prodr. (DC) 13(2): 177 (1849).

Syns.

Chenopodium baryosumum Schult. ex Roem. & Schult., Syst.Veg.6:269 (1820); ***Salsola baryosoma*** (Roem. & Schult.) Dandy in F.W. Andrews, Fl. Pl. Anglo-Egypt. Sudan I:III (1950); ***Salsola imbricata*** Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. XCVII, CVIII, 57 (1775). ***Basionym.***

Habit

Succulent undershrub.

Description

Fish smelling unarmed succulent light green undershrub with rudimentary leaves on red and green branches. Flowers minute, green, bisexual with 5 stamens; calyces inflated in fruit forming transparent wings surrounding the fruit.

Habitat

Disturbed areas, saline soils and coastal areas.

Distribution

Most common undershrub in disturbed areas and in Doha.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Khereit, Hamd zephyr; خريط، حمض زفر





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Salsoloideae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Salsola schweinfurthii Solms, Bot. Zeitung (Berlin)
59(1):173 (1901).

Syn.

Darniella schweinfurthii (Solms) Brullo, Webbia 38:313
(1984).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Bush with fleshy leaves; tender branches white; leaves
opposite and decussate. Calyces papery in fruit.

Habitat

Saline soil.

Distribution

Rare in sabkhas in S. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Salsoloideae**

Scientific Name

Salsola soda L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 223 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Slender green-purple succulent halophyte with linear fleshy leaves. Flowers minute, axillary.

Habitat

Inundated tidal zones in vicinity of mangrove forests.

Distribution

Northeastern coastline. Common at Al Dhakhira, Al Khor and Fewairit during spring.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Salsoloideae**

Scientific Name

Salsola vermiculata L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 223 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Hairy small ash green herb branching from near the base; branches with sessile very hairy linear leaves. Flowers axillary, small and green.

Habitat

Depressions in disturbed areas.

Distribution

Widespread in Doha near gardens, farms and by roadsides; Frequent by Al Shamal coastline.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Hamd; حمض





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllale

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Salsoloideae**

Scientific Name & Syns.

Salsola rosmarinus (Ehrenb. ex Boiss.) Akhani, Int. J. Pl. Sci. 168 (6): 946 (2007).

Syns.

Seidlitzia rosmarinus Bunge ex Boiss., Fl. Orient. 4:951 (1879). *Suaeda rosmarinus* Ehrenb. ex Boiss., Fl. Orient. 4:951 (1879).

Habit

Succulent undershrub.

Description

Much-branched ash-green halophyte with succulent leaves and pale green-white branches.

Habitat

Coastal sand dunes.

Distribution

Common on coastal sand dunes in S.E. Qatar.
Widespread in the vicinity of Mesaieed Industrial City.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Twigs were used as soap substitute.

Vernacular Names

Shenan; شنان





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Suaedoideae**

Scientific Name & Syns.

Suaeda aegyptiaca (Hasselq.) Zohary, J. Linn. Soc. London, Bot. 55:635 (1957).

Syns.

Chenopodium aegyptiacum Hasselq., Iter Palaest. 460 (1757); *Suaeda hortensis* Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. 71 (1775) nom inval.; *S. baccata* Forssk. ex J.F. Gmel., Syst. Nat., ed. 13, 2: 503 (1791); *Schanginia aegyptiaca* (Hasselq.) Aellen (1964).

Habit

Succulent undershrub.

Description

Lush green undershrub with succulent shoots dying and drying to brown bushy growth; leaves cylindrical falcate, fleshy. Flowers minute, green on thick spikes; fruiting spikes green or reddish purple.

Habitat

Depressions with high water table and coastal areas.

Distribution

Common in Doha (Aug. – Oct.) in depressions and roadsides with high water table and saline soils along the northern coastline.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range plant; young plants are edible.

Vernacular Names

Juliman/Guluman, Ikhreet, Hamd; جلمان، إخریط، حمض





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family: Subfamily

**Amaranthaceae:
Suaedoideae**

Scientific Name & Syns.

Suaeda vermiculata Forssk. ex J.F. Gmel., Syst. Nat. ed. 13, 2:503 (1791).

Syns.

Suaeda fruticosa Forssk. ex J.F. Gmel., Syst. Nat., ed. 13, 2:503 (1791); *S. mollis* Delile, Fl. Atlant., 1:218 (1798).

Habit

Succulent undershrub.

Description

Mat-forming much-branched dark ash green halophyte with succulent leaves and tender green or purple shoots. Flowers and fruits minute and green.

Habitat

Moist saline soil in sabkhas and elsewhere.

Distribution

Widespread along coastlines with sandy soils and inland depressions with high water table.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Camels might graze on it.

Vernacular Names

Suwaid; سويد





Clade

Order

Family:

Subfamily

**Core Eudicots/Asterids/
Campanulid**

Apiales

**Apiaceae:
Apiioideae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Ammi majus L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 246 (1753).

Syn.

Apium ammi Crantz, Stirp. Austr. 3:109 (1767).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Robust umbellifer with masses of white flowers, ovary inferior; fruit bilocular schizocarpic capsules.

Habitat

Garden soil and tree plantations.

Distribution

Weed of cultivation in fields and tree plantations.

Ind/Int/Cult

Cultivated (escape).

Local Use

Medicinal for renal problems.

Vernacular Names

Khella shaitani; **خلة شيطاني**





Clade

**Core Eudicots/Asterids/
Campanulid**

Order

Apiales

Family: Subfamily

Apiaceae:

Apioideae;

Tribe Apieae

Scientific Name

Anethum graveolens L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 263 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Slender erect umbellifer with pinnatisect leaves.

Flowers small, yellow in compound umbels; fruit ovoid, olive green with a brown streak on long thin pedicels.

Habitat

Garden soils and roadsides.

Distribution

Very common along Al Shamal road associated with palm plantations; also weed of agriculture.

Ind/Int/Cult

Cultivated (escape).

Local Use

Medicinal and culinary herb.

Vernacular Names

عين جرادة, شبات; Ein jarada, Shabat;





Clade

**Core Eudicots/Asterids/
Campanulids**

Order

Apiales

Family: Subfamily

**Apiaceae:
Apiioideae;
Tribe Apieae**

Scientific Name

***Bupleurum semicompositum* L., Demonstr. Pl. 12 (1753).**

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Small umbellifer with simple narrow leaves (a rare character in the umbellifers). Flowers yellow green in sparse umbels appearing racemose; fruit bilocular schizocarpic capsules densely covered with tubercles on their surfaces.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Reported by Batanouny (1981) as a rare weed. Only one specimen seen.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.







Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Order
Apiales

Family: Subfamily
**Apiaceae:
Apioideae;
Tribe Apieae**

Scientific Name & Syns.

Foeniculum vulgare (L.) Mill., Gard. Dict. ed. 8, no. 1 (1768).

Syns.

Anethum foeniculum L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 263 (1753);

Foeniculum officinale All., Fl. Pedem. 2:125 (1785).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Slender much branched umbellifer with compound umbels of yellow flowers and inferior ovaries. Fruit of elongated dark green bilocular capsules.

Habitat

Garden and field soil.

Distribution

Weed of cultivation and gardens.

Ind/Int/Cult

Cultivated (escape).

Vernacular Names

Shamar, Shamaar; شمار, شمار





Clade
**Core Eudicots/
 Asterids/Campanulids**

Order
Apiales

Family: Subfamily
**Apiaceae:
 Apioideae;
 Tribe Scandiceae**

Scientific Name & Syns.

Torilis nodosa (L.) Gaertn., Fruct. Sem. Pl. 1:82, t. 20, f. 6 (1788).

Syns.

Tordylium nodosum L., Sp. Pl., ed. I, 240 (1753); ***Caucalis nodosa*** (L.) Scop., Pl. Carniol., ed. 2, 192 (1772).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Small herb with spiny fruit.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Weed of agriculture, gardens and residential areas; more frequent in Doha.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Gentianales

Family:Subfamily

**Apocynaceae:
Asclepiadoideae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Calotropis procera (Aiton) W.T. Aiton,, Hort. Kew., ed.2, 2:78 (1811).

Syn.

Asclepias procera Aiton, Hort. Kew., ed. I, I:305 (1789).

Habit

Shrub.

Description

Evergreen shrub with large mealy leathery leaves. Flowers lilac on dense branched cymes; fruit large inflated follicles; seeds with tufts of long silky hairs on apex.

Habitat

Loamy sandy soil.

Distribution

Localized in Doha in gardens, roadsides; invasive to most habitats.

Ind/Int/Cult

A recent introduction to Qatar which was become invasive.

Vernacular Names

Ushar, Ushaar; عُشار، عشار





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Gentianales

Family:Subfamily

**Apocynaceae:
Asclepiadoideae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Glossonema varians (Stocks) Benth. ex Hook. f. in Fl. Brit. Ind. 4:16 (1883).

Syn.

Glossonema edule N.E.Br., Kew Bull. 183 (1895).

Habit

Annual to short-lived biennial.

Description

Low greyish green hairy herb with white fleshy roots buried deep in the sands; leaves round with wavy margins. Flowers small, yellow-green; fruit tuberculate follicles with soft pappus; seeds with long silky hairs.

Habitat

Low depressions and shallow rain pools with sandy soil and sandy stony clayey ground.

Distribution

Widespread throughout Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Fruit edible fresh and cooked.

Vernacular Names

عتر، جراوة / يراوة; Attar, Jarawa/ yarawa;





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Gentianales

Family:Subfamily

**Apocynaceae:
Asclepiadoideae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Leptadenia pyrotechnica (Forssk.) Decne., Ann. Sci. Nat. ser. 2,9:270 (1838).

Syn.

Cynanchum pyrotechnicum Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.–Arab. 53 (1715).

Habit

Shrub.

Description

Tall shrub with slender long green upright branches and deciduous leaves. Flowers small, star-shaped, greenish yellow; fruit long follicles; seeds with tufts of soft hairs.

Habitat

Wadis with sandy soil.

Distribution

Forms stands of dense growth with perennial grasses in sandy wadis in southern Qatar near Saudi Arabia borders.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Good camel fodder.

Vernacular Names

Marakh, Shajaret al baroud; **مرخ، شجرة البارود**





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order

**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family

Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Amberboa crupoides (Desf.) DC., Prodr. 6 : 559 (1838).

Syn.

Centaurea sinaica DC., Prodr. 6:592 (1837).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Stiff plant with winged stem and with adnate leaves.
Capitula with white and very pale coloured tubular
(ligulate) florets; bracts spiny.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Occasional in Central Qatar and common in roadside
depressions en route to Salwa.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/Asterids/ Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Atractylis carduus (Forssk.) C. Chri., Dansk. Bot. Ark. iv (3):27 (1922).

Syn.

Centaurea carduus Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. 152 (1775).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Spiny semi-woody herb with spiny pinnatisect leaves adnate to the stem. Flowers in ovoid heads enveloped by spiny involucral bracts; achenes hairy, silky. Two forms are recognized one being stouter than the other.

Habitat

Stony sandy and gravelly soil.

Distribution

Occasional in central Qatar: Abu Samra, QU farm, Dukhan, Umm Bab and elsewhere.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Laymoni, Lumi al barr, Jalwa, Shuweikh;

ليموني، لومي البر، جلوه، شويخ





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Calendula arvensis L., Sp. Pl., ed. 2, 1303 (1762-63).

Syn.

Calendula micrantha Boiss., Diagn. Pl. Orient., ser. 2, 6:111(1859).

Habit

Ephemeral annual herb.

Description

Minute herb with orange yellow capitula; fruit large curved cypsela enclosed in soft hairy green to purple-tinged involucral bracts.

Habitat

Sandy loamy soil.

Distribution

In shallow depressions, roads and cultivated areas.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Hanwa; حنوه





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order

**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family

Asteraceae

Scientific Name

Calendula tripterocarpa Rupr., Bull. Phys-Math. Acad. St. Petersburg. 14:231 (1856).

Habit

Ephemeral annual herb.

Description

Minute herb similar to *Calendula arvensis* but much smaller. Flowers in buttercup yellow capitula.

Habitat

Sandy loamy soil.

Distribution

In shallow depressions in disturbed areas in Doha.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Hanwa; حنوه



Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/Asterids/ Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Carthamus eriocephalus (Boiss.) Greuter, Willdenowia
33 (1): 53 (2003).

Syn.

Carduncellus eriocephalus Boiss., Diagn. Pl.Orient., ser.
1, 10:100 (1849).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Much-branched spiny small thistle with pale yellow
flowered capitula enclosed by long spiny involucral
bracts; achenes glabrous with lateral hilum.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Rare in C. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name

Cichorium pumilum Jacq., Obs. Bot. 4:3, t. 80 (1771).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Few leaved straggly herb with much branched terminal inflorescences of blue capitula.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Rare weed of gardens and fields.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced with seeds of ornamentals and vegetables.

Vernacular Names

Shukouria; شوكوريا





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order

**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family

Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Conyza bonariensis (L.) Cronq., Bull. Torrey Bot. Club
70:632 (1943).

Syn.

Erigeron bonariensis L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 863 (1753).

Habit

Annual or short-lived perennial herb.

Description

Erect leafy ash-green softly hairy herb with linear-lanceolate leaves. Capitula truncate, white to very pale pink; achenes with soft white pappus.

Habitat

Moist garden soil.

Distribution

Widespread weed of cultivation, wastelands, roadsides and house gardens appearing late May and producing masses of cypselas by September.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.







Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order

**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family

Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Eclipta alba (L.) Hassk., Pl. Jav. Rar. 528 (1848).

Syn.

Eclipta prostrata L., Mant. Alt. 2:286 (1771).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Prostrate herb rooting at the nodes; capitulum of minute white ray and disk florets forming a solid compact disc.

Habitat

Moist soil in irrigated fields.

Distribution

Rare in fields on moist soil.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/ Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name

Filago desertorum Pomel, Nouv. Mat. Fl. Atlant. 1:46 (1874).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Minute cottony herb with congested leaves enclosing heads covered with soft long white hairs.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Widespread after the rain.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

قطينة، عالج البر، عالج الغزال; Gutaina, Alj al barr, Alj al ghazal;





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name
Filago prolifera Pomel, Nouv. Mat. Fl. Atlant. 1:47 (1874).

Habit
 Annual herb.

Description
 Erect small herb with cottony basal decumbent branches; leaves entire. Capitula cottony, forming dense head.

Habitat
 Sandy stony soils.

Distribution
 Reported by Obeid (1973) but not seen by others. A small group of few individuals was found under shade in a rawdah in Central Qatar. However, further collections are needed to confirm the existence of the taxon in Qatar or accept the material as synonym of *F. desertorum*.

Vernacular Names
 Alj al barr, Alj al ghazal; عالج البر، عالج الغزال





Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order
**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family
Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Flaveria trinervia (Spreng.) Mohr., Contr. U.S. Nat. Herb. 6:180 (1901).

Syn.

Oedera trinervia Spreng., Bot. Gart. Halle 63 (1800).

Habit

Annual or short-lived perennial.

Description

Prostrate herb with large leaves; capitula yellow, congested.

Habitat

Garden weed of moist soil.

Distribution

Weed of cultivation and gardens; rare.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order
**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family
Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Glebionis coronaria (L.) Tzvelev, Bot. Zhurn. 84(7):117 (1999).

Syn.

Chrysanthemum coronarium L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 889 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect herb with yellow capitula. Leaves aromatic.

Habitat

Garden soil and roadsides.

Distribution

Rare; near residential areas in Doha.

Ind/Int/Cult

Garden escape.

Local Use

Ornamental plant.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order

**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family

Asteraceae

Scientific Name

Gymnarrhena micrantha Desf., Mem. Mus. Hist. Nat.
4:1,t.4 (1818).

Habit

Ephemeral annual herb.

Description

Minute dark green compact herb with a basal rosette
of sessile leaves.

Habitat

Depressions with sandy stony soil.

Distribution

Rare; collected from Rodat Al Faras (Government farm,
N. Qatar), Al Shahaneeya, and Al Karaana. The plant is
considered as poisonous (Al Amin, 1983).

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Ifloga spicata (Forssk.) Sch.- Bip. in Webb. et Berth.,
Phyt. Canar. 2:310 (1845).

Syn.

Chrysocoma spicata Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. LXXIII
(1775).

Habit

Ephemeral annual herb.

Description

Minute erect dark green spicate herb becoming
brownish by end of season. Flowers minute, whitish.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Widespread with onset of the seasonal rains (but
short-lived) on sand dunes and sandy soils. Common in
vicinity of Dukhan, Umm Bab, Abu Samra and Rodat Al
Faras.

Ind/Int/Cult

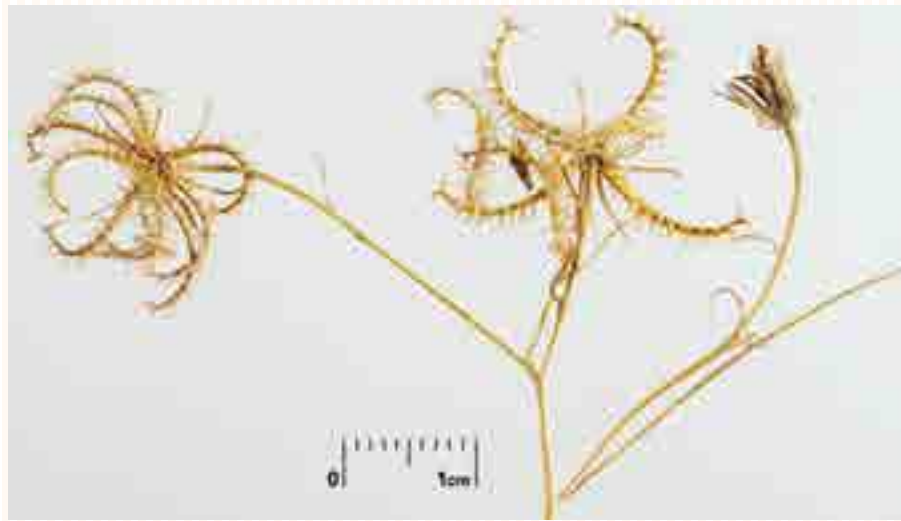
Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Shajaret al anz, Alj al anza, Alj al ghazal;

شجرة العنز، عالج العنزة، عالج الغزال





Clade

**Core Eudicots/Asterids/
Campanulids**

Superorder/Order

**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family

Asteraceae

Scientific Name

Koelpinia linearis Pall., Reise 3:755 (1776).

Habit

Ephemeral annual herb.

Description

Slender herb with linear leaves. Involucral bracts distinctly curved after release of fruit.

Habitat

Shaded sandy mounds.

Distribution

Very rare in shaded areas of rawdat. One specimen collected after a season of unusually heavy rains.

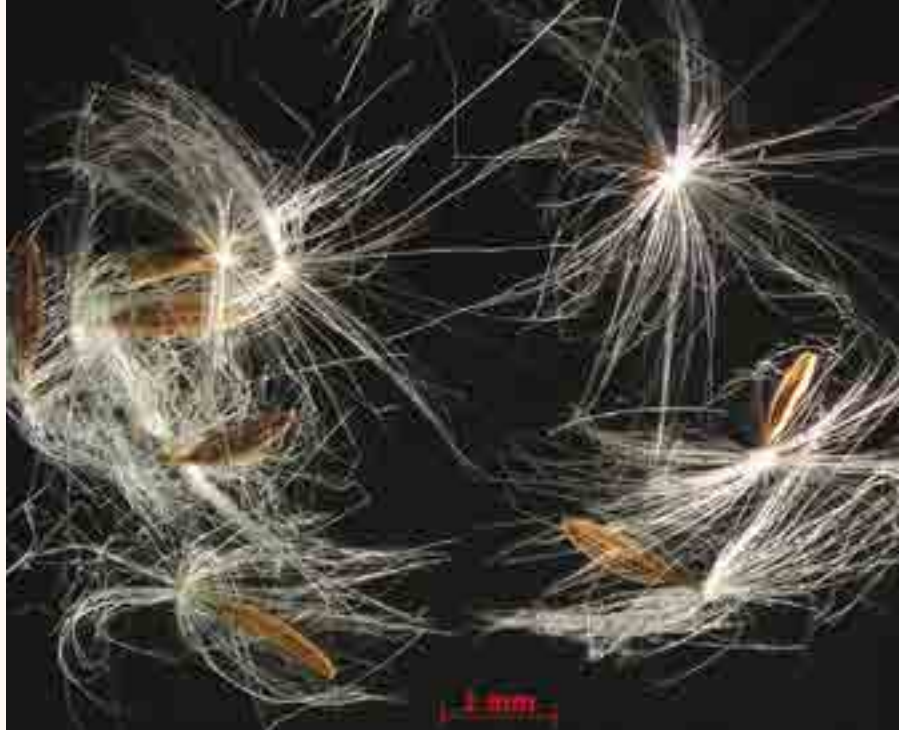
Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

دقن التيس; Dign al tais;





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name

Lactuca saligna L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 796 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect herbs up to 60 cm high usually with only one main stem and with a rosette of large obovate sessile basal leaves. Flowers pale yellow in small capitula in lax cymes.

Habitat

Waste ground.

Distribution

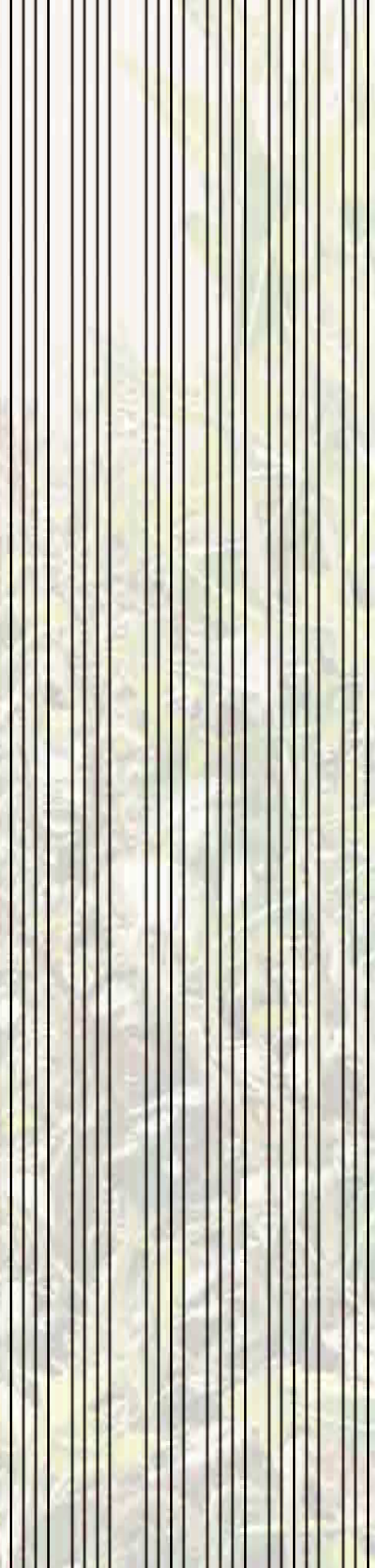
Roadsides, waste land, gardens and field weed.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Vernacular Names

Khas barri; خس بري





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name

Lactuca serriola L., Cent. Pl., 2 : 29, no. 189 (1756).

Habit

Annual or short-lived perennial herb.

Description

Tall leafy herb with basal braches. Leaves sessile, leathery, with sinuate margins. Flowers yellow, in much - branched inflorescences; capitula with parachute- like pappus.

Habitat

All types of non-saline habitats.

Distribution

Common tall leafy weed by roadsides and parks in Doha appearing in May-June.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Local Use

Tender leaves edible.

Vernacular Names

خس بري، خس البقر; Khas al bagar, Khas barri





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Laphangium luteoalbum (L.) Tzvelev., Byull. Moskovsk. Obschch-Isp Prir., Old. Biol. 98:105 (1994).

Syn.

Gnaphalium luteo-album L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 851 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect soft hairy herb with few decumbent branches and lanceolate sessile leaves. Capitula white, papery, with a pink tinge.

Habitat

Lawns and vegetable plots.

Distribution

Occasional weed appearing as single individuals or in dense stands if soil is moist. Common in Doha public gardens.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order

**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family

Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Launaea capitata (Spreng.) Dandy in F.W. Andrews, Fl. Pl. Sudan 3:40 (1956).

Syns.

Launaea glomerata (Cass.) Hook. f., Fl. Brit. Ind. 3:417 1881); ***Zollikoferia glomerata*** (Cass.) Boiss., Fl. Orient 3:826 (1848), comb. illeg.

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Prostrate herb with rosette of pinnately lobed green or red-tinged leaves. Flowering scape with congested yellow capitula.

Habitat

Sandy loamy soil.

Distribution

Widespread.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Tender leaves are eaten as salad.

Vernacular Names

Huwa, Huzan; حوى، حوزان





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order

**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family

Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Launaea mucronata (Forssk.) Muschl., Man. Fl. Egypt, 2:1057 (1912) subsp. *cassiniana* (Jaub. & Spach) N. Kilian, Willdenowia 25: 277 (1995).

Syns.

Zollikoferia cassiniana Boiss., Fl. Orient. 3:822 (1875); *Launaea cassiniana* (Boiss.) Kuntze, Revis. Gen. 1:350 (1891); *Leontodon mucronatus* Forssk. (basonym).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Stiff rough herb with rosette of pinnatisect leaves. Capitula large, yellow, on slender branched scapes.

Habitat

Sandy loamy soil.

Distribution

Occasional in disturbed areas, fallow land and fields. Frequent on coastal sandy mounds of northeastern Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Huwa ghazal; حوا غزال





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/ Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Launaea mucronata (Forssk.) Muschl., Man. Fl. Egypt, 2:1057 (1912) subsp. *mucronata*

Syn.

Leontodon mucronatum Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. 144 (1775).

Habit

Ephemeral herb.

Description

Similar to subsp. *cassiniana* but a more robust herb with rosette of long leaves giving erect divaricately branched slender shoots. Capitula large, yellow; involucral bracts with spiny margins.

Habitat

Sandy loamy and stony soil.

Distribution

Occasional in disturbed areas, cultivated fields and fallow land (Al Wakra, Umm Bab) and rare in Doha gardens.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Bagraa, Odeid; بقرءاء، عضيض





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order

**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family

Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Launaea nudicaulis (L.) Hook. f., Fl. Brit. Ind, 3:416 (1881).

Syn.

Chondrilla nudicaulis L., Mant. Alt. 278 (1771).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Prostrate to decumbent herb with basal rosette of soft lyrate leaves and prostrate spreading branches. Flowers in large pale yellow capitula; fruit with pappus. Plant similar to *L. procumbens*.

Habitat

Disturbed areas, garden soil and roadsides where moisture is available.

Distribution

Widespread.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Huwa ghazal, Huwa ghanam; حوى غزال، حوى غنم





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Matricaria aurea (Loefl.) Sch.-Bip., Bonplandia 8:369 (1860).

Syn.

Chamomilla aurea (Loefl.) Coss. & Kralik, Cat. Pl. Syr. Palest. 10 (1854).

Habit

Ephemeral herb.

Description

Small slender aromatic herb with pinnatisect cauline and basal leaves and decumbent branches terminating in semi globose capitula. Capitula disc-like, yellow, with wider disc florets; upper part of peduncle naked.

Habitat

Shaded sandy soil.

Distribution

Rare in rawdat. Few sightings along the Mekhainis-Umm Bab route under shade of large pipelines.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Herbal tea.

Vernacular Names

Baboonij, babonj; بابونج، بابونيچ





Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order
**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family
Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Matricaria rectita L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 891 (1753).

Syn.

Matricaria chamomilla L., Sp. Pl., ed. 2, 1256(1763) non L. (1753), nom. illeg.

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Slender herb with few finely pinnatisect leaves.

Capitula on long slender peduncles with white ray florets and yellow disc florets; fruit with chamomile scent.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Rare in disturbed areas in Doha and Shahaneya and as a garden weed possibly due to discarded household seeds.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced as a herbal medicine.

Local Use

Herbal tea.

Vernacular Names

Baboonij, babonj; بابونج, بابونج





**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Pallenis hierochuntica (Michon) Greuter, Fl. Medit. 7:47 (1997).

Syns.

Asteriscus pygmaeus (DC.) Coss. & Dur., Sert. Tunes, 26 (1857); *Asteriscus hierochunticus* (Michon) Wiklund, Nord. J. Bot. 5:307 (1985).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Minute herb with rosette of woolly leaves and a central star-shaped capitula with few yellow ray florets and a wide ring of disc florets; fruit woody.

Habitat

Stony gravelly soil.

Distribution

Widespread in depressions and rain pools in northeastern and C. Qatar (Rodat Al Arnab, Umm Bab, vicinity of Umm Weshah, QU farm, etc.).

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order

**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family

Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Pentanema divaricatum Cass. in Bull. Sci. Soc. Philom. Paris (1818).

Syn.

Vicoa pentanema Atch. & Hemel., Reich. Fl. Lowland Iraq 605 (1964).

Habit

Ephemeral herb.

Description

Much-branched slender weak small herb with dark brown stems and white yellow capitula and soft hairy involucral bracts.

Habitat

Sandy stony soil.

Distribution

Common in Rodat Al Magda, N. Qatar. Very common in Rodat Al Faras, QU farm and Al Khor area. Frequent in depressions in S. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Zameem al barr; زميم البر





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order

**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family

Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Picris asplenoides L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 793 (1753).

Syn.

Picris radicata (Forssk.) Less., Syn. Gen. Comp. 134 (1832).

Habit

Ephemeral herb.

Description

Small herb with rosette of leaves variable in height and flower size; basal leaves shallowly-lobed. Capitula pale yellow with red maroon centre and an involucre with long hairs.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Occasional on sandy soils. Collected from S. Qatar; very rare in vicinity of Doha.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order

**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family

Asteraceae

Scientific Name

Picris babylonica Hand.-Mazz. in Am. Nat. Hofmus.
Wein, xxvii, 453 (1913).

Habit

Ephemeral herbs.

Description

Small herb with rosette of basal leaves. Flowers in yellow capitula with red-maroon centre and involucral bracts with long hairs.

Habitat

Depressions with sandy soil.

Distribution

Rare in depressions and roadsides in Central Qatar;
collected from vicinity of Al Shahaneya race grounds.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name

Picris cyanocarpa Boiss. Diagn. Pl. Orient. Ser. 1,11:37 (1849).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect herb with decumbent branches and a rosette of lyrate sinuate basal leaves. Flowers in yellow capitula with dark centre in its early stages later opening up to reveal pigment on edges of ray florets; ray florets with serrate edges and involucral bracts with long hairs.

Habitat

Depressions with sandy soil.

Distribution

Rare; sometimes forming small stands in depressions and roadsides in Central Qatar (Mekeinis – Umm Bab road).

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Pluchea dioscoridis (L.) DC., Prodr. 5:450 (1836).

Syns.

Baccharis dioscorides L., Cent. Pl. 1:27 (1753); ***Conyza dioscorides*** (L.) Desf., Tab. Ecole Bot. ed. 2, 114 (1815).

Habit

Shrub.

Description

Aromatic leafy bush with sinuate leaves producing masses of pale pink capitula fruiting with masses of fluffy pappus.

Habitat

Moist areas.

Distribution

Common in disturbed areas in the vicinity of fresh water sources throughout Doha residential areas particularly by leaking water pipes and a widespread bush in cultivated fields

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order

**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family

Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Pulicaria gnaphalodes (Vent.) Boiss. in Walp. Repert.
6:144 (1844 - 47).

Syn.

Inula gnaphalodes Vent., Descr. Pl. Jard. Cels. 75, t.75
(1800).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Aromatic woolly herb with numerous branches usually
with dead branches at base. Flowers yellow, small, in
capitula carried on slender peduncles.

Habitat

Shallow depressions and rain pools with sandy stony
soil.

Distribution

Widespread; more common in NE. and C. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Herbal tea.

Vernacular Names

Nufaij; نفيع





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order

**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family

Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Pulicaria sicula (L.) Moris, Fl. Sardoia 2:363 (1840 - 1843).

Syn.

Erigeron siculum L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 864 (1753).

Habit

Short-lived perennial.

Description

Woolly aromatic herb with numerous upright branches ending in sweet-scented capitula much larger than in other *Pulicaria* species.

Habitat

Low depressions with sandy stony soil and edges of cultivation.

Distribution

Rare and localized. Few specimens collected from Al Shahaneya race grounds, Lejhaimiya and Al Ghareya farm.

Ind/Int/Cult

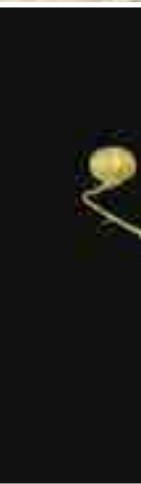
Indigenous.

Local Use

Herbal tea.

Vernacular Names

شاي الجبل, Shay al jabal,





Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order
**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family
Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Pulicaria undulata (L.) C. A. Mey., Verz. Pfl. Casp. Meer. 79 (1831).

Syns.

Francoeruria crispa (Forssk.) Cass., Dict. Sci. Nat. 34:44 (1825); ***Pulicaria crispa*** (Forssk.) Oliv. in Grant, Trans. Linn. Soc. London 29:96 (1873).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Aromatic low compact suffrutescent herb with numerous basal branches forming circular compact growth. Flowers in small yellow capitula on long peduncles. Field observations show that there are 2 distinct forms which were earlier recognized as ***P. crispa*** and ***P. undulata*** which now have been lumped under the single taxon.

Habitat

Low depressions and water catchment areas on sandy slightly saline soil.

Distribution

Widespread.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Herbal tea.

Vernacular Names

Jithjath / yethyas; جثجات / يثيات





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Reichardia picroides (L.) Roth., Bot. Abh. 35 (1787).

Syn.

Scorzonera picroides L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 792 (1753).

Habit

Annual or short-lived perennial herb.

Description

Similar to ***Reichardia tingitana*** but differs in the more robust and darker tips of the involucral bracts which are with transparent broader wings.

Habitat

Moist garden soil and fields.

Distribution

Occasional weed of gardens and fields.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Vernacular Names

Jeidaid; جعزيد





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order

**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family

Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Reichardia tingitana (L.) Roth., Bot. Abh. 35 (1787).

Syns.

Scorzonera tingitana L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 791 (1753);

Scorzonera orientalis L., Syst. Nat. ed.10, 2:1191 (1759).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Prostrate decumbent herb with basal rosette of leaves. Flowers in yellow capitula with central reddish blotch; involucral bracts reddish with white translucent margins.

Habitat

All types of soil but more common on loamy-clayey soil.

Distribution

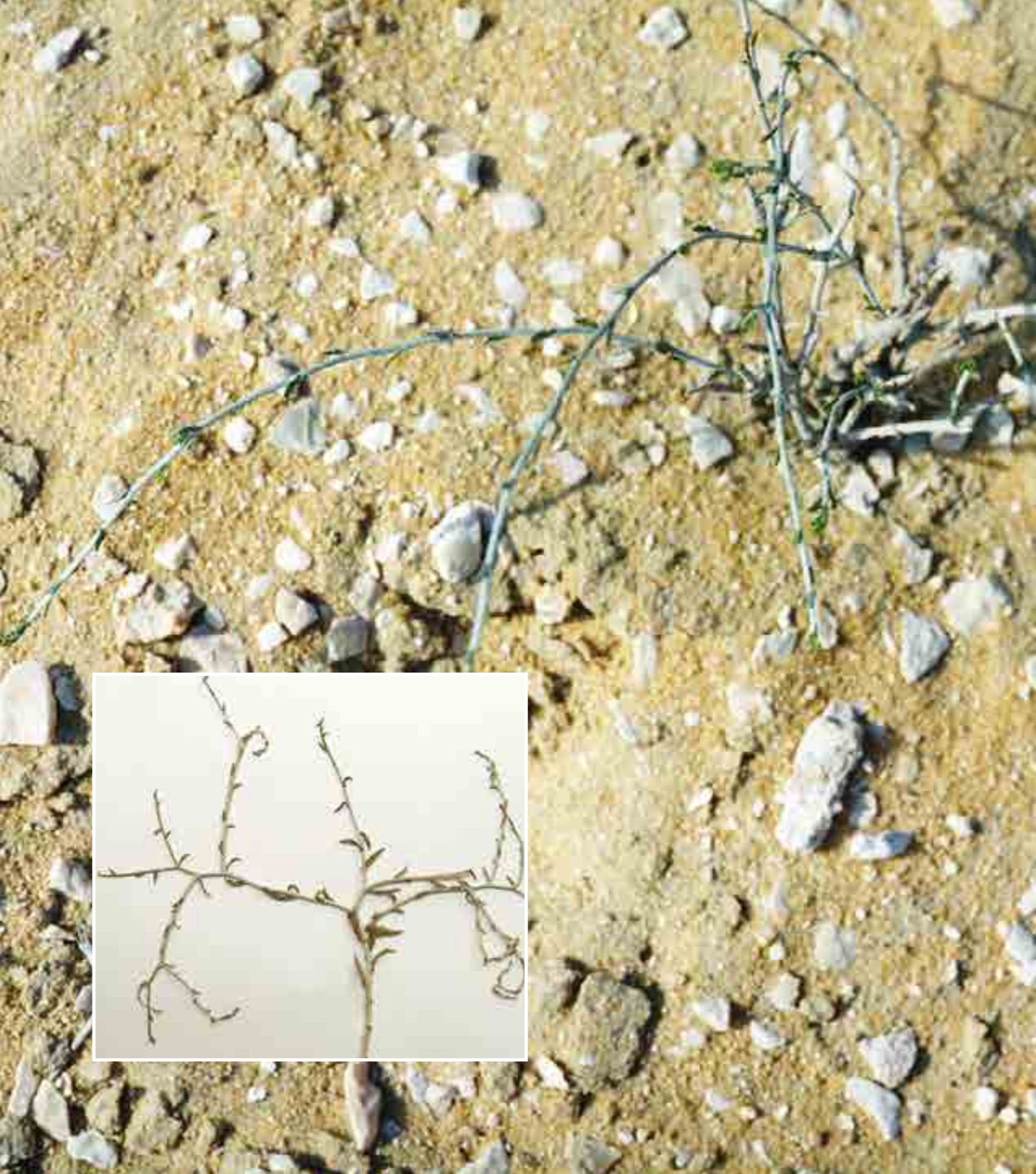
Widespread on disturbed areas and in all fields.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Murar, Mareer, Huzan; مرار، مريّر، حوزان





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name

Rhanterium epapposum Oliv., Ic. Pl. 1367(///).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

White-pale green plant with stout root and woody base; shoots white, soft, aromatic with minute adnate leaves. Capitula small yellow on long peduncles.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

The plant is rare in Qatar though it forms large communities in Saudi Arabia. Individuals were collected from Umm Salal, Umm Bab, Mekhenis, Karaana and S.W. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Good camel range plant.

Vernacular Names

Arfaj; عرفج





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Senecio glaucus L., Sp.Pl., ed.1, 868 (1753) subsp.
coronopifolius (Maire) C. Alexander, Notes Roy. Bot.
Gard. Edinb. 37:412 (1979).

Syn.

Senecio desfontainei Druce, Brit. Pl. List, ed. 2, 61 (1928).

Habit

Ephemeral herb.

Description

Attractive slender herb with slightly fleshy pinnatisect leaves and large yellow capitula.

Habitat

Coastal sandy soil on sandy beaches and sandy mounds.

Distribution

Common on coastlines in NE. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Mareer, Ramloug; مريّر، رملوق





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name

Senecio vulgaris L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 867 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Herb similar to *S.glaucus*. Capitula on short peduncles with woolly hairs; involucre bracts a tube with few basal adnate bracts, all black tipped; florets all tubular, small, yellow, hardly exceeding involucre; pappus similar to *Sonchus* species.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Reported by Batanouny (1981) as a rare weed of irrigated fields and Al Amin (1983) as a weed of cultivated fields and Doha gardens but no specimen seen.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order
**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family
Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Artemisia herba-alba Asso, Syn. Arog. 117 (1779).

Syns.

Artemisia inculta Delile, Egypte Hist. Nat. 264 (1814)
mon. nud; *Seriphidium herba-albam* (Asso) Sojak, Cas.
Nar. Muz. (Prague) 152 (1):22 (1983).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Suffrutescent aromatic herb with woody branches
and pinnatisect leaves. Flowers in terminal congested
axillary heads.

Habitat

Roadsides.

Distribution

Recorded once at Umm Sala Mohamed.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Local Use

Known medicinal plant in the Middle East and Asia.

Vernacular Names

Sheeh; شيه





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Sonchus asper (L.) Hill., Herb. Brit. 47, t. 34, f.2 (1769).

Syn.

Sonchus oleraceus L. var. *asper* L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 794 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect herb with rosette of pinnatisect leaves, cauline leaves auriculate. Capitula similar to *Sonchus oleraceus* but achenes are not rugose between the ribs.

Habitat

Moist ground.

Distribution

Rare weed of agriculture, parks and gardens.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Vernacular Names

Jeidaid (a common name for all *Sonchus* spp.); جعضيض







Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order

**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family

Asteraceae

Scientific Name

Sonchus oleraceus L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1,794 (1753).

Habit

Annual to short-lived perennial.

Description

Very variable erect herb with basal rosette of leaves. Scapes long ending in terminal few capitula producing heads of soft pappus; ligules and corolla tubes equal; achenes broad above tapering below, wrinkled and tuberculate rugose between the ribs.

Habitat

Moist ground.

Distribution

Widespread garden, field and roadside weed.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

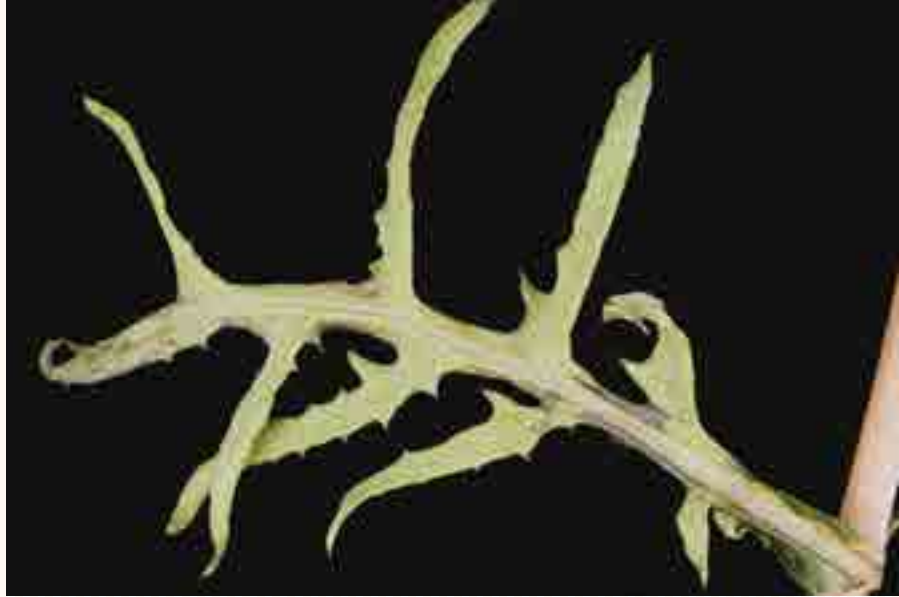
Local Use

Leaves edible.

Vernacular Names

Jeidaid, Khas al wiz; جعضيض، خس الوز





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name

Sonchus tenerrimus L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1,794 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect herb with rosette of pinnatisect sessile leaves. Capitula yellow on long scapes; ligules longer than corolla tubes; achenes broad above, tapering below, wrinkled and tuberculate rugose between the ribs.

Habitat

Moist ground.

Distribution

Weed of agriculture usually on wet areas near a water source.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Local Use

Leaves edible.

Vernacular Names

Jeidaid; جعضيض





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order

**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family

Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Symphyotrichum squamatum (Spreng.) Nesom,
Phytologia 77:292 (1994).

Syn.

Aster squamatus (Spreng.) Hieron., Engl. Bot. Jahrb.
29:19 (1900).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Slender herb with much branched inflorescences
carrying terminal very pale pink capitula and silky
white pappus.

Habitat

Garden and field soil.

Distribution

Weed of gardens and cultivated land. Common in Doha
gardens.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Campanulids**

Superorder/Order

**Asteranae/
Asterales**

Family

Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Tripleurospermum auriculatum (Boiss.) Rech.f., Fl.
Lowland Iraq 629 (1964).

Syn.

Chamaemelum auriculatum Boiss., Diagn. Pl. Orient.,
ser.1, 11:23 (1849).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Slender herb with few basal branches with cauline
pinnatisect leaves below and naked upper part ending
in solitary almost globose capitula with membranous
pappus.

Habitat

Wadis with sandy soil.

Distribution

Central Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Urospermum picroides (L.) F. W. Schmidt, Samml. Phys.-Okon. Ausfs. 1:275 (1795).

Syn.

Tragopogon picroides L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 790 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Robust herb with pinnatisect lobed sessile leaves.

Capitula large; involucre bracts with stiff hairs; cypselae falcate, tuberculate with stalked pappus.

Habitat

Moist ground.

Distribution

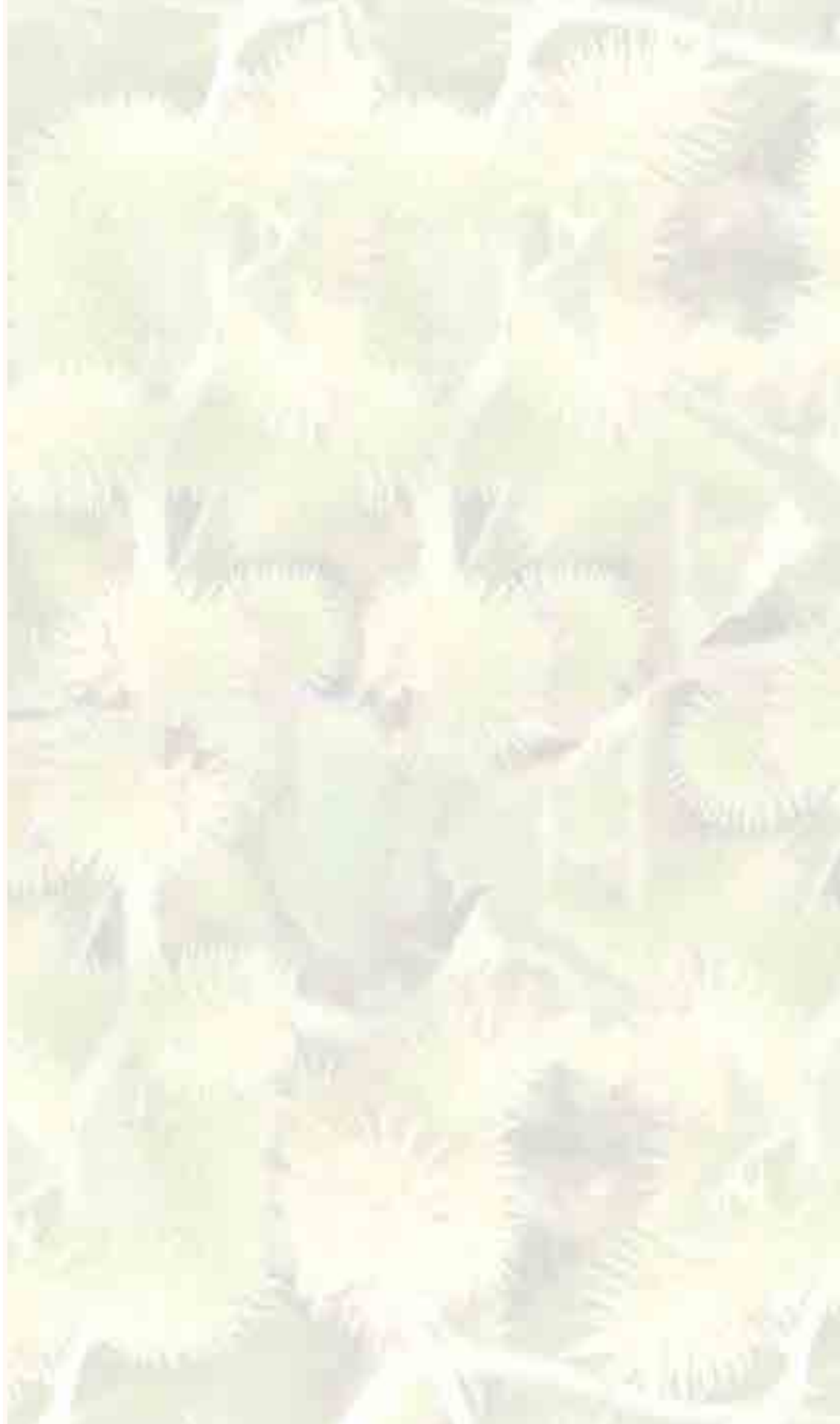
Weed of cultivation and gardens rapidly spreading by wind dispersal.

Ind/Int/Cult

Recent introduction.

Vernacular Names

Jeidaid; جعضيض





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Campanulids	Asteranae/ Asterales	Asteraceae

Scientific Name
Xanthium spinosum L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1,987 (1753).

Habit
Annual herb.

Description
Leafy herb with green spiny burrs (fruit); spines hooked.

Habitat
Moist ground.

Distribution
Rare garden and agricultural weed usually in outdoor potted plants.

Ind/Int/Cult
Introduced.

Vernacular Names
Shubait; شبيط





Clade	Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Lamiids	incertae sedis	Boraginaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Anchusa hispida Forssk., Aegypt,-Arab. 40 (1775).

Syn.

Gastrocotyle hispida (Forssk.) Bunge., Delect. Sem. Hort. Dorpat. 1849:2 (1849).

Habit

Annual or short-lived perennial.

Description

Prostrate-decumbent leafy hispid herb with alternate sessile leaves. Flowers axillary, minute, bright blue.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Widespread and common in Dukhan area.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Ainbacees, Rims; عنبصيص، رمس





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

incertae sedis

Family

Boraginaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Arnebia decumbens (Vent.) Coss. et Kralik in Bull. Soc. Bot. Fr. 4 (1857).

Syn.

Lithospermum decumbens Vent., Descr. Pl. Nov. Jard. Cels. 4, t. 37 (1801).

Habit

Ephemeral annual herb.

Description

Erect small leafy greyish hispid herb. Flowers yellow, hairy on the outside only. Fruit of 4 nutlets.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Two species of *Arnebia* are reported to occur in Qatar. The difference is in the presence of hairs inside the corolla in *A. hispidissima*.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Hasheshat al arnab; حشيشة الأرنب





Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order
incertae sedis

Family
Boraginaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Arnebia hispidissima (Lehm.) DC. in A. DC., Prodr. 10:94 (1846).

Syn.

Lithospermum hispidissimum Lehm., lc. Descr. Stirp. 23, t. 39 (1821).

Habit

Ephemeral annual herb.

Description

Erect small greyish hispid herb with numerous yellow tubular flowers with hairs on the outside of the corolla and exposing 5 yellow anthers. Two species are recognized with a difference in the hairiness of the petals. *Arnebia decumbens* (Vent.) Coss. & Kralik differs from the above in having hairs inside as well as outside the petals. No specimen was seen of *A. decumbens*.

Habitat

Sandy stony soil.

Distribution

Widespread.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Kahal, Hasheshat al arnab; كحل، حشيشة الأرنب





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

incertae sedis

Family

Boraginaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Cordia sinensis Lam., Tabl. Encycl. 1: 423 (1792).

Syns.

Cordia rothii Roem. & Schult., Syst. Veg. 4: 798 (1819);

Cordia gharaf Asch., Sitz. Ges. Nat. Preunde Berlin 1879:46 (1879), nom. Inval.

Habit

Tree.

Description

Large shrub or tree; leaves sessile obovate. Flowers small with calyses with red-tinged margins, fruit ovoid half enclosed in persistent calyx, green turning orange-red with maturity and pulp sticky.

Habitat

Rodat depressions.

Distribution

Rare; localized in a rodat depression in N.Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Bamber (for all *Cordia* species); بامبر





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

incertae sedis

Family

Boraginaceae

Scientific Name

Echiochilon jugatum M.C. Johnst., J. Arn. Arb. 38 (1957).

Habit

Short-lived perennial.

Description

Small erect rigid hispid herb with stiff short leaves.
Flowers small, pale yellow.

Habitat

Sandy stony soil.

Distribution

Widespread in central Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Najmet albar, Kohail; نجمة البر، كحيل



Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

incertae sedis

Family

Boraginaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Echium horridum Batt., Bull. Soc. Bot. Fr. 39:336 (1892).

Syns.

Echium maccoccanum Murb., Contr. Fl. Tunis. 2:12 (1898); ***E. milillense*** Pau., Bol. Soc. Esp. Hist. Nat. 24:100 (1924).

Habit

Annual or short-lived perennial.

Description

Erect hispid herb. Flowers in scorpioid cymes and of mixed colours of pink, purple and white.

Habitat

Agricultural land and fallow areas.

Distribution

Rare plant reported by Batanouny (1981) as occurring in S. Qatar. No specimen seen.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced weed





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

incertae sedis

Family

Boraginaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Heliotropium bacciferum Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. 38 (1775).

Syns.

Heliotropium undulation Vahl, Symb. Bot. 1:13 (1790) nom. Illegi; ***Heliotropium crispum*** Desf., Fl. Atlant. 1: 151, t, 41 (1798).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

A polymorphic species appearing in various forms, recognized by various authorities into separate taxa. Generally a spreading scabrid dark green low undershrub with semi-fleshy leaves and white bristles. Flowers in cymes, small, white, tubular; fruits achenes.

Habitat

Saline sandy soil.

Distribution

Widespread on all types of soils and disturbed areas in Doha particularly by roadsides and by walls of buildings in residential areas.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Ramram, Danab al agrab; رمرام ، دنب العقرب





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

incertae sedis

Family

Boraginaceae

Scientific Name

Heliotropium curassavicum L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 130 (1753).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Glaucous green borage with fishy smell (cf *Caroxylon imbricatum*); leaves blue-green, obovate cuneate slightly fleshy. Flowers in scorpioid cymes usually a pair of cymes, white with yellow tinge.

Habitat

Fields.

Distribution

A newly naturalized weed and a new record for Qatar. Plant native of the Americas (Dwarf glasswort) and S.E.Asia and reported by the FDA (USA) as poisonous.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Vernacular Names

Ramram; رمرام





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

incertae sedis

Family

Boraginaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Heliotropium ramosissimum (Lehm.) Sieb. ex. A. DC.,
Prodr. 9:536 (1845).

Syns.

Heliotropium undulatum Vahl var. ***ramosissimum***
Lehm., Icon. Descr. Stirp.1, lcom. Asperif. 24, t. 40 (1831);
Heliotropium ramosissimum (Lehm.) Sieb. ex A. DC.
var. ***trichocarpum*** DC. in A. DC., Prodr. 9:537 (1845).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Spreading dark green low shrub with rather fleshy
leaves; similar to ***H. bacciferum*** but differs in the
arrangement of the flowers being along one row; fruit
4 nutlets.

Habitat

Sandy and sandy loamy soil.

Distribution

Occasional in cultivated and disturbed areas.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Ramram, Danab al Agrab; دمرب العقرب ، رمرام





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

incertae sedis

Family

Boraginaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Heliotropium zeylanicum (Burm. f.) Lam., Encycl. 3:94 (1789).

Syn.

Heliotropium curassavicum L. var. ***zeylanium*** Burm. f., Fl. Ind. 41, t. 16, f. 2 (1768).

Habit

Annual or short-lived perennial.

Description

Erect light green herb with narrow undulate leaves and very long cymose inflorescences of yellow slightly scented flowers.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Weed of cultivated fields.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced weed.

Vernacular Names

مررام, دنب العقرب; Ramram, Danab al grab;





Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order
incertae sedis

Family
Boraginaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Ogastemma pusillum (Bonnet & Barratte) Brummitt,
Kew Bull. 36: 680 (1982).

Syns

Anchusa spinocarpos Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.–Arab, 40
(1775); ***Echinosperrum spinocarpos*** (Forssk.) Boiss.,
Fl. Orient. 4: 249 (1875); ***Lappula spinocarpos*** (Forssk.)
Asch. ex Kunze, Act. Hort. Petrop. 10:215 (1887).

Habit

Annual to short-lived perennial.

Description

Hispid herb with woody base; branches prostrate-
decumbent; leaves minute.

Habitat

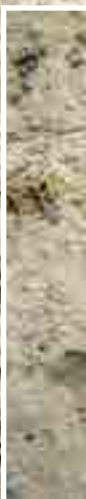
Sandy stony ground.

Distribution

Common at Umm Bab and Dukhan coastline and their
vicinity; C. and S. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Brassicaceae

Scientific Name

Anastatica hierochuntica L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 641 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Prostrate herb with a rosette of rather fleshy leaves; branches becoming woody and dry when mature and closed like a fist. Flowers white and small; fruit a dwarf 2-segmented silicula enclosed in the inwardly curved branches.

Habitat

Runnels and stony-gravelly soil.

Distribution

Widespread throughout Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Medicinal (Rose of Jericho) believed to relieve labor pains.

Vernacular Names

Kaf Mariam, Jefaiea; كف مريم، جفيعة





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Brassicaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Brassica rapa L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 1035 (1753).

Syn.

Brassica campestris L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 646 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Habitat

Sandy loamy soil.

Description

Erect herb ending in branched racemes with upper amplexicaul leaves and lower lyrate leaves. Flowers on upper part congested in corymbs, yellow; fruit short pods, beaked.

Distribution

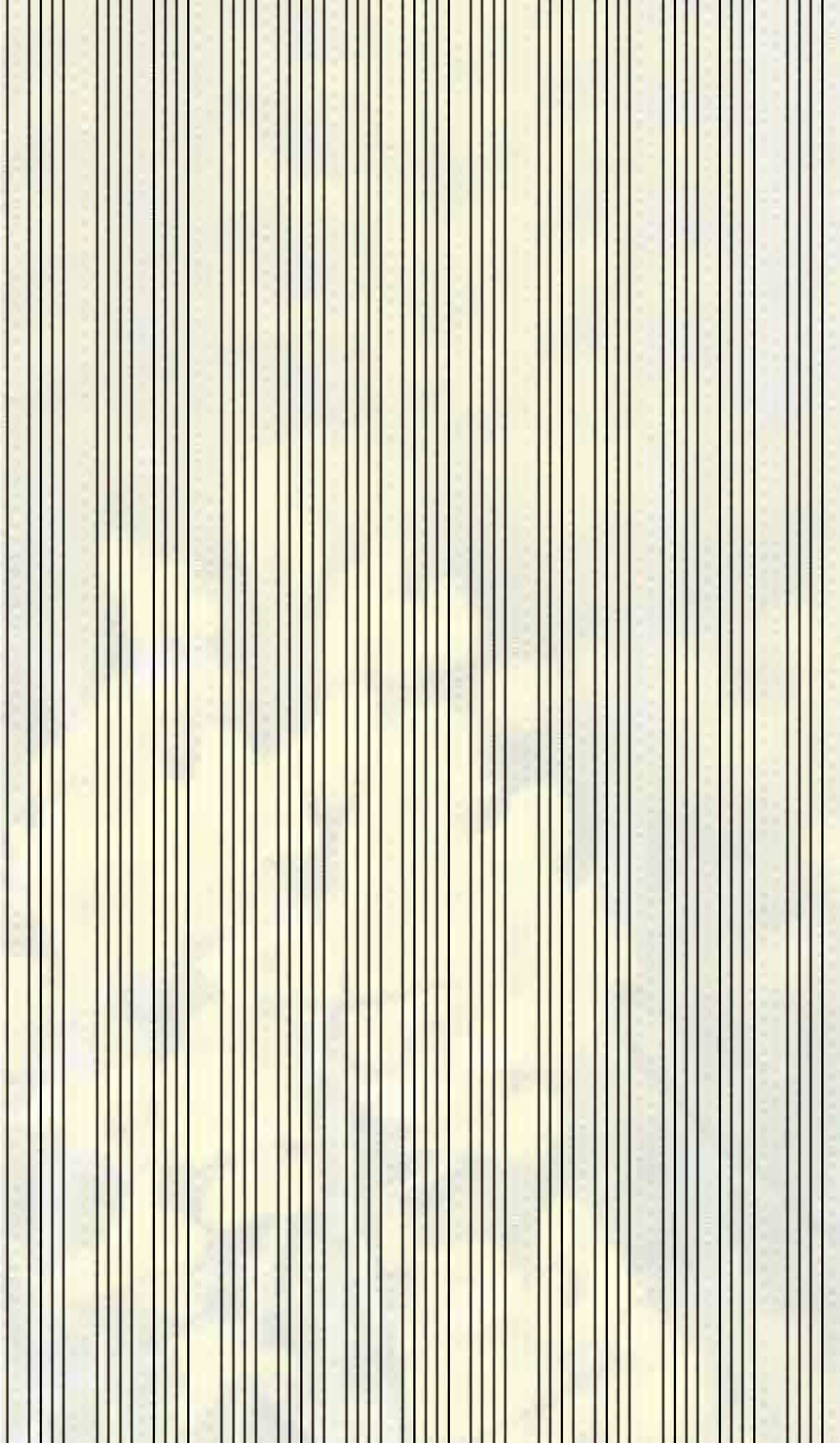
Common weed during cool season by roadsides and as a garden weed.

Ind/Int/Cult

Cultivated (escape).

Vernacular Names

Lift barri; **لفت بري**



Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Brassicaceae

Scientific Name

Brassica napus L., Sp. Pl., ed. i, 666 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Herb with napiform root and variable basal leaves, large up to 15 cm long, lyrate, cauline leaves smaller obovate lanceolate. Flowers small, yellow congested at the apex with fruits below; fruit flat more or less straight to slightly falcate, unsegmented, beaked and veined siliqua.

Habitat

Cultivated areas.

Distribution

Occasional weed of agriculture and gardens.

Ind/Int/Cult

Cultivated (escape).

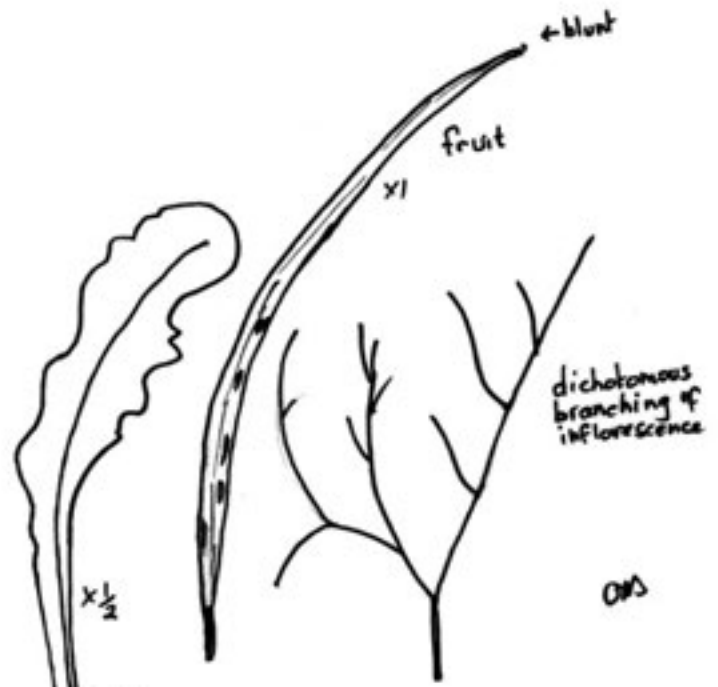
Local Use

Root vegetable.

Vernacular Names

Lift barri; لفت بري





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Brassicaceae

Scientific Name

Brassica tournefortii Gowan, Ill. Observ. Bot. 44, t. 20A (1773).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect stout branching hairy herb up to 30 cm tall with rosette of large rough lyrate deeply lobed acrid basal leaves about 15 cm long. Flowers tetramerous, pale yellow, on dichotomously-branched peduncle; fruit slender long-beaked silique; beak blunt.

Habitat

Sandy loamy soil.

Distribution

Occasional in Doha roadsides and agricultural fields.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade

Core Eudicots/

Order

Brassicales

Family

Brassicaceae

Rosids/Malvids

Scientific Name & Syns.

Eremobium aegyptiacum (Spreng.) Asch. ex Boiss., Fl. Orient. Suppl. 30 (1888).

Syns.

Malcolmia aegyptiaca Spreng. ***Cithareloma gedrosiacum*** Reb .f. et Eß and.; ***Eremobium aegyptium*** (Spreng.) Bois

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect stout branching hairy herb up to 30 cm tall with rosette of large rough lyrate deeply lobed acrid basal leaves about 15 cm long. Flowers with 4 petals and sepals, pale yellow, on dichotomously-branched peduncles; fruit slender, long-beaked siliqua; beak blunt.

Habitat

Sandy loamy soil.

Distribution

Occasional in Doha roadsides and agricultural fields.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Brassicaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Eruca vesicaria (L.) Cav. subsp. *sativa* (Mill.) Thell., G.
Hegi. III. Fl. Mitt_Eur. 4(1): 201 (1918).

Syns.

Eruca sativa Mill., Gard. Dict., ed. 8, no.1 (1768).;
Brassica eruca L.; *Eruca eruca* (L.) Ashers & Graebn; *E.
cappadoicica* Reut.

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect herb with large lyrate leaves. Flowers of 4 white
green-striped petals; fruit a beaked siliqua.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Weed by roadsides, of gardens and cultivated fields.

Ind/Int/Cult

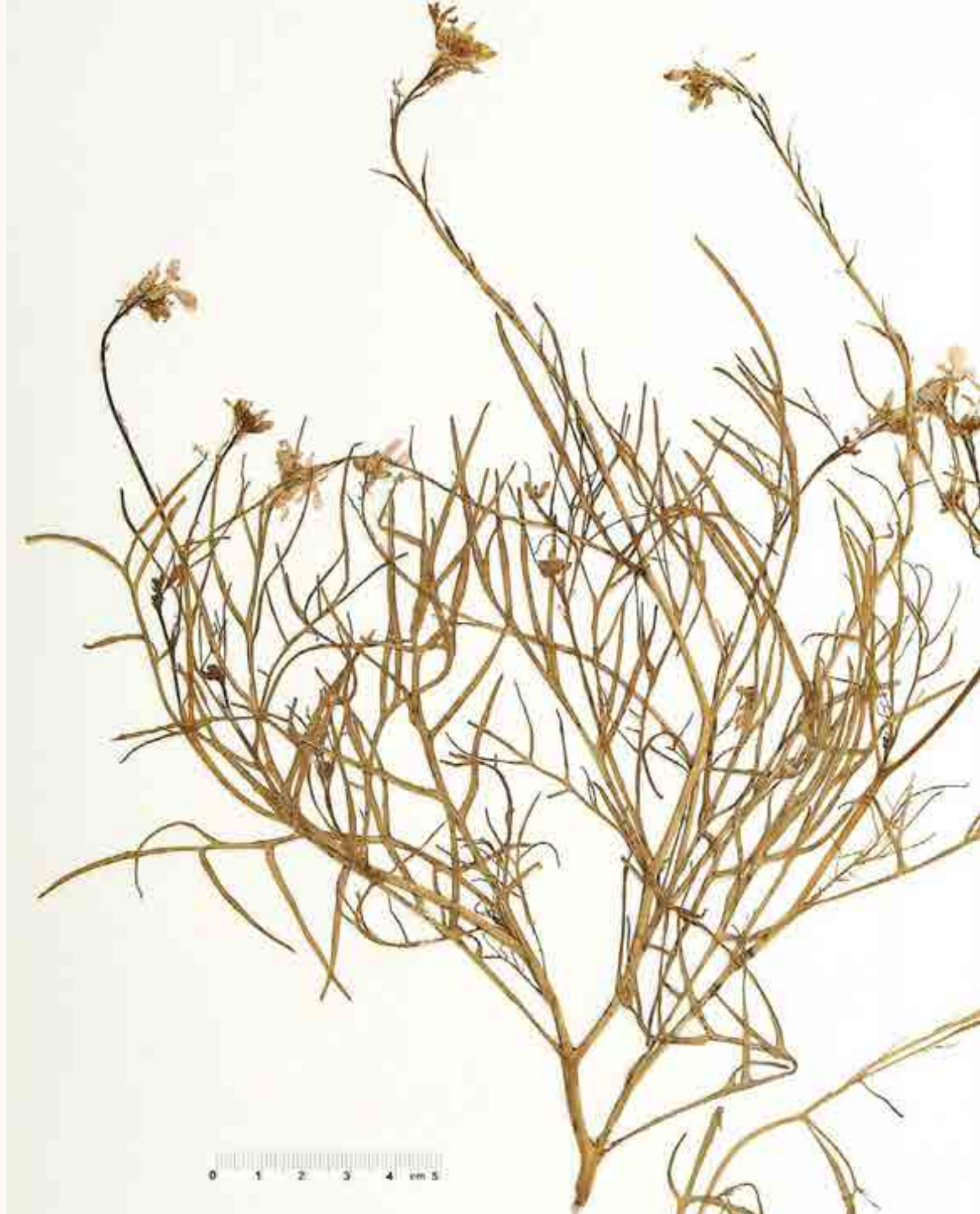
Cultivated (escape).

Local Use

Leaves are eaten as salad (Arugula/Rocket salad).

Vernacular Names

Jargeer; جرجير





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Brassicaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Erucaria crassifolia (Forssk.) Delile, Descr. Egypt, Hist. Nat. 244 (1814).

Syn.

Brassica crassifolia Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. 118 (1775).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Glabrous leafy herb with pinnatisect leaves. Flowers pink in narrow racemes; fruit silique (upper half 2-seeded, lower part flat).

Habitat

Rodat.

Distribution

Appearing only after good rainy seasons. Common in Al Khor and Al Magda (N. Qatar).

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Brassicaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Erucaria hispanica (L.) Druce, Bot. Exch. Club. Soc. Brit. Isles 3:418 (1914).

Syns.

Sinapis hispanica L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 669 (1753); *Erucaria latifolia* DC., Syst. Nat. 2:675 (1821).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Glabrous leafy herb with finely dissected pinnatisect leaves. Flowers attractive in dense racemes, mauve-pink to violet; fruit a 2-segmented beaked siliqua about 1 cm long with upper part swollen.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Rare; appearing only in good rainy seasons in wadis and sandy depressions.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.



Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Brassicaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Erucastrum arabicum Fisch. & C.A.Mey., Index Sem.
Hort. Petrop.5:35(1839).

Syn.

Brassica arabica (Fisch.& Mey.) Fiori., Nuovo Giorn.Bot.
Ital. ser.2,19:445(1912).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Hairy branched herb up to 40 cm high; basal leaves
lyrate, petiolate, pinnately lobed and unevenly dentate,
rather thick and glossy. Flowers bright yellow in
racemes; fruit an unsegmented, beaked tetragonous
silique with blunt end.

Habitat

Cultivated fields and gardens.

Distribution

Occasional weed of agriculture.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Brassicaceae

Scientific Name

Farsetia heliophila Bunge ex Coss. Fl, Atlant. ii:227 (1887).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Low ash grey herb with numerous basal branches ending in few-flowered racemes. Flowers maroon; fruit long slender siliqua with about 20 reddish brown seeds surrounded by hyaline rings.

Farsetia hamiltonii Royle, Illustr. Bot. Himalo 1:71 (1834), reported for Qatar is a synonym of ***F. stylosa*** R. Br.

Habitat

Sandy stony soil.

Distribution

Comparatively rare; sporadic in C. and N. Qatar along routes to Umm Bab, Abu Samra and Ras Al Matbakh.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Brassicaceae

Scientific Name

Lepidium aucheri Boiss., Ann. Sci. Nat. Bot. ser.2, 17:195 (1842).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Low purplish herb with stiff leafless branches. Flowers in congested narrow spikes; fruit silicula, compressed, 2-seeded.

Habitat

Sandy clayey compact soil.

Distribution

Rare; localized at Al Magda N. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Rashad barri; رشاد بري





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Brassicaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Lepidium didymum L., Mant. Pl. 1:92 (1767).

Syn.

Coronopus didymus (L.) Sm., Fl. Brit. :691 (1800).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Prostrate strong smelling herb with delicate pinnatisect leaves. Flowers dirty white, minute; fruit small bi-locular compressed indehiscent green silicula with 2 cocci.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Weed in Doha gardens and parks producing the characteristic smell of Doha's mown grass.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Local Use

Common in all Doha lawns and gardens.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Brassicaceae

Scientific Name

Lepidium sativum L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 644 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Much branched herb with terminal inflorescences.
Flowers small white; fruit a flat silicle; seeds reddish brown.

Habitat

Disturbed areas with moist ground.

Distribution

Localized near seed markets and residential areas as a result of discarded household seeds.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Local Use

Medicinal and culinary herb.

Vernacular Names

Habba hamra, Rashad; حبه حمراء، رشاد





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Brassicaceae

Scientific Name

Raphanus sativus L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 669 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Herb with lyrate leaves and storage roots. Flowers pink, in racemes; fruit indehiscent torulose pods.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Weed established from earlier plantations and escapes of cultivation.

Ind/Int/Cult

Cultivated (escape).

Local Use

Edible leaves and roots.

Vernacular Names

Ruweid, فجل، رويد





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Brassicaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Savignya parviflora (Delile) Webb, Giorn. Bot. Ital.
2(2):215 (1849).

Syn.

Lunaria pariviflora Delile, Descr. Egypte Hist. Nat. 248
(1814).

Habit

Ephemeral annual herb.

Description

Small slender herb with rather fleshy leaves. Flowers
white, few in racemes; fruit flat silicula with persistent
papery transparent centre; seeds winged.

Habitat

Sandy stony soil.

Distribution

Widespread in Central Qatar; common on stony deserts
(Hezoom) and the area between Mekhanis and Umm Bab.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Edible herb.

Vernacular Names

Jaljalan, Kanad al barr, Gulgulan, Girgees,;

جلجلان، كناد البر، قلقلان، جرقيس





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Brassicaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Schimpera arabica Hochst. & Steud. ex Boiss., Fl. Orient.
1:384 (1867).

Syn.

Schimpera persica Boiss., Diagn. Pl. Orient., ser.1,
1(6):18 (1845).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Glabrous herb becoming stiff and hairy with maturity;
leaves variable, basal leaves a rosette of lyrate leaves.
Flowers minute, yellow, many all along the peduncle
forming fruits below and new flowers above in a
corymb; fruit indehiscent, 2-segmented long-beaked
silicula lying horizontal and appearing as thick spines.

Habitat

Wadis with alluvial sandy soil.

Distribution

Between Umm Bab and Dukhan (Batanouny specimen
no 1201, 19.4.79 at K).

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Brassicaceae

Scientific Name

Sinapis arvensis L., Sp. Pl., ed. 2, 1:668 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Robust erect herb with amplexicaul upper leaves. Flowers numerous, terminal, yellow; fruit siliqua with round dark brown seeds.

Habitat

Sandy loamy soil.

Distribution

Doha roadsides and gardens.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced with culinary seeds and as discarded household spices. Reported as an invasive species.

Local Use

Seeds are the mustard spice.

Vernacular Names

Khاردال; خردل





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Brassicaceae

Scientific Name

Sisymbrium erysimoides Desf., Fl. Atlant. 2:84 (1798).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Extremely delicate small herb only few cm high with simple lobed leaves. Flowers small, yellow; fruit silique less than 2 cm long, slender; seeds minute.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Garden weed commonly found in nurseries and potted plants.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced and naturalized.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Brassicaceae

Scientific Name

Sisymbrium irio L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 659 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Slender herb with basal leaves and upright racemes.
Flowers yellow; fruit thin silique, 4-5 cm long.

Habitat

Garden soil.

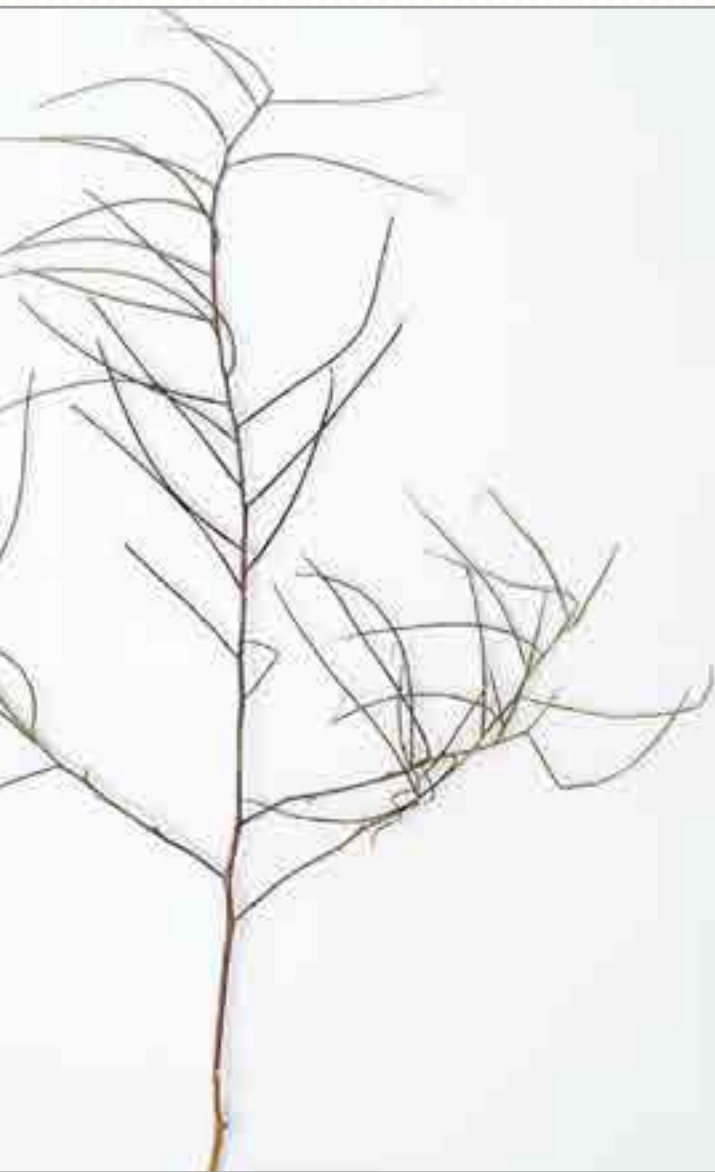
Distribution

Very common weed of gardens, lawns, fields and
roadsides.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced and naturalized.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Brassicaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Sisymbrium orientale L., Cent. Pl. 2:24 (1756).

Syn.

Sisymbrium colummae Jacq., Fl. Austriac. 4:12,t.323 (1776).

Habit

Annual or biennial herb.

Description

Herb with basal rosette. Flowers small, pale yellow in long racemes appearing congested at the apex forming a corymb; fruit elongated silique.

Habitat

Sandy–loamy soil.

Distribution

Doha roadsides, lawns and gardens and weed of cultivation.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Brassicaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Zilla spinosa (L.) Prantl in Engl. & Prantl, Naturl. Pflanzenfam. III, 2:175, f. 112 (1891).

Syn.

Bunias spinosa L., Mant. 96 (1767).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Low woody spiny suffrutescent herb with zigzag woody branches terminating in spines. Flowers large, tetramerous, pink-mauve; fruit silicula, compressed, indehiscent, 2-seeded.

Habitat

Sandy loamy soil.

Distribution

Rare in few rawdat under growth and becoming rarer by not regenerating due to selective grazing by domestic animals. Few individuals occur at Al Karaana area, Ras Laffan and Al Kharara.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range.

Vernacular Names

Shabram; شبريم





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Capparaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Capparis spinosa L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 503 (1753).

Syns.

Capparis aegyptia Lam., Encycl. 1: 605 (1785); *Capparis spinosa* L. var. *aegyptia* (Lam.) Boiss., Fl. Orient. 1:420 (1867).

Habit

Shrub.

Description

Prostrate shrub with long radiating spiny branches; spines curved downwards. Flowers showy, night-opening; flower buds ovate; fruit large splitting at maturity exposing red flesh and dark brown seeds.

Habitat

Low depressions with silt-sandy soil.

Distribution

Occasional in north and northeastern Qatar and widespread along Al Shamal road beyond Al Khor and west of Ras Laffan.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Flower buds and young fruits pickled (capper).

Vernacular Names

Shafalah; شفالح

Dyterogynum glaucum
Desne

Found: Abu Dhabi Town

Soil: salty sand

Flowers: June -

July 1970



Natural size
Spreading plant
height 1m
covered with
white bumps
yellowy/mossy
Seedling covered
with white app

Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Capparaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Dipterygium glaucum Decne. Ann Sci. Nat., Bot II, 4:67 (1835).

Syns.

***Cleome pallida* Kotschy** Sitzungsber. Kaiserl. akad. Wiss., Math.-Naturwiss. Cl., Abt. 1 52(1):262 (1866);

Dipterygium scabrum Decne. ex Boiss. Fl. Orient. 1:417 (1867).

Habit

Short-lived perennial herb.

Description

Erect subwoody herb with numerous basal branches appearing as a small *Leptadenia* plant; branches slim, olive green with leathery leaves. Flowers small with tubercles, yellow with pink tinge in few-flowered racemes; fruit/winged, pale green. The plate included is a drawing by Cherry Willcox.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Rare; one herbarium specimen from Umm Bab; recently reported by Norton *et al.* (2010) from Dukhan.

Ind/Int/Cult

Possibly introduced.





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family

Caryophyllaceae

Scientific Name

nr. *Arenaria serpyllifolia* L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 423 (1753).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Small soft herb with leafy growth and numerous basal branches; leaves petiolate, ovate. Flowers white minute in much branched cymose inflorescence; fruit a capsule with numerous back seeds.

Habitat

Shaded areas with rich garden soil.

Distribution

Rare in Doha nurseries in shaded areas.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced with horticultural plants.





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family

Caryophyllaceae

Scientific Name

Dianthus cyri Fisch. & C. A. Mey., Index Sem. Hort.
Petrop. 4:34 (1837).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect stiff herb with linear opposite leaves and terminal inflorescence. Flowers with an epicalyx and deep pink petals with purple nectar guides; fruit a capsule opening by apical teeth.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Very rare; collected from S. Qatar near Salwa.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

Order

Family

Core Eudicots Caryophyllales Caryophyllaceae

Scientific Name

Herniaria hemistemon J. Gay., Rev. Bot. Reccueil Mems. ii:371 (1847).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Soft small green prostrate hairy herb with minute leaves and axillary flowers on easily breakable branches. Two species were recorded for Qatar: the above which is recorded as a perennial herb and ***H. hirsuta*** L. which is recorded as a rare hairy annual. The above is an annual and is quite common. More material must be collected and investigated.

Habitat

Sandy stony soil.

Distribution

Widespread.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Ghubaira, Umm wajaa al kbid; غبيرة، أم وجع الكبد





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family

Caryophyllaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Paronychia arabica (L.) DC. in Lam., Encycl. 5:24 (1804).

Syn.

Illecebrum arabicum L., Mant. 51 (1767).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Small prostrate silvery herb with numerous branches forming a soft mat; leaves small with papery stipules. Flowers minute with papery bracts.

Habitat

Sandy soil and shallow depressions.

Distribution

Common in vicinity of Dukhan, Umm Bab, S. W. Qatar. Frequent by Doha roadsides.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family

Caryophyllaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Polycarpha repens (Forssk.) Asch. & Schweinf., Osterr. Bot. Z. 39: 126 (1889).

Syn.

Corrigiola repens Forssk., Fl. Aegypt. Arab. 207 (1775).

Habit

Annual or short-lived perennial.

Description

Low hairy spreading suffrutescent herb with woody base and spreading slender branches; leaves with rough stipules. Flowers small; fruit a capsule.

Habitat

Sandy stony soil.

Distribution

Occasional at Umm Bab, Al Kharara, Al Karaana, Al Zubara and elsewhere.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade Order Family
Core Eudicots Caryophyllales Caryophyllaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Polycarpaea robbairea (Kuntze) Greuter & Burdel,
 Willdenowia 12:189 (1982).

Syn.

Robbairea delileana Milne-Redh., Kew Bull. 3:t 452
 (1949).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Small delicate slender herb with basal rosette of obovate leaves and opposite cauline leaves. Flowers small on much branched lax cymes; calyces with transparent edges.

Habitat

Moist areas.

Distribution

Widespread in gardens and as a roadside weed appearing after the seasonal rains and a common weed of cultivated land.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Degaygah; دقيقه





Class

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family

Caryophyllaceae

Scientific Name

Polycarpaea spicata Wight & Arn., Ann. Sc. Nat. Hist., ser. 1(3):91 (1839).

Habit

Annual or short-lived perennial herb.

Description

Small plant with woody base and basal rosette of leaves; branches slender bearing terminal spikes. Flowers small; fruit a capsule.

Habitat

Coastal sandy soil and on wind-blown sand.

Distribution

Widespread near sandy coastlines and sometimes forming large stands. Common in Ras Laffan on coastal sandy mounds.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Class Order Family
Core Eudicots Caryophyllales Caryophyllaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Polycarpon tetraphyllum (L.) L., Syst. Nat., ed. 10, 2:881 (1759).

Syn.

Mollugo tetraphylla L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 89 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Minute leafy herb up to 5 cm long forming close mats with numerous individuals. Flowers small, white with white edges on the sepals.

Habitat

Moist areas in fields and gardens.

Distribution

Widespread in Doha gardens and fields.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family

Caryophyllaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Pteranthus dichotomus Forrsk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. LXII, 36 (1775).

Syn.

Pteranthus echinatus Desf., Fl. Atlanl. 1 : 144 (1798).
nom. Illeg.

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Small herb with dichotomous branching. Flowers in dichasial cymes, crowded, sessile; calyces with winged appendages.

Habitat

Sandy stony ground.

Distribution

A new record for Qatar collected from N. Qatar from a sandy stony wadi on roadside to Al Zubara, Al Kharara. Reported as a problematic Mediterranean weed.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Class	Order	Family
Core Eudicots	Caryophyllales	Caryophyllaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Sclerocephalus arabicus Boiss., Diagn. Pl. Orient., ser. 1(3):12 (1843).

Syn.

Paronychia sclerocephala Decne., Ann. Sci. Nat. Bot., ser. 2, 3:262 (1835).

Habit

Ephemeral annual herb.

Description

Prostrate herb with slightly fleshy leaves and spiky heads.

Habitat

Sandy stony soil.

Distribution

Widespread all over the sandy stony desert as the spiny fruit is dispersed by animals.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Hasak, Thereisa; حسك، ثريسه





Class Order Family
Core Eudicots Caryophyllales Caryophyllaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Silene arabica Boiss., Fl. Orient. 1:593 (1867).

Syn.

Silene affinis Boiss., Diagn. Pl. Orient., ser. 2, 1:72 (1854), non Gordon. Mem. Sect. Med. Acad. Sci. Montpellier 1, 417 (1853).

Habit

Ephemeral annual herb.

Description

Small erect glandular viscid herb with narrow linear leaves. Flowers large, slightly scented, white with fused inflated calyces; fruit capsules opening by 6 teeth.

Habitat

Coastal sandy soil.

Distribution

Common on sandy soils in northeastern coastline, vicinity of Ghareyia and due north.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Terba; تربة



Class Order Family
Core Eudicots Caryophyllales Caryophyllaceae

Scientific Name

Silene conica L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 418 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect small herb with deep pink flowers; calyces multi-veined, tubular; fruit a capsule.

Habitat

Sandy stony soil.

Distribution

Very rare in Central Qatar recorded once near Umm Weshah.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced probably with fodder oats.





Clade
Core Eudicots

Order
Caryophyllales

Family
Caryophyllaceae

Scientific Name

Silene villosa Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. 88 (1775) var. *erecta* Tackh. & Boulos, Publ. Cairo Univ. Herb. 5: 17, f. 3 (1974).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect small glandular herb usually adhering sand grains on stems and leaves. Flowers large, white, with corona, slightly scented and night flowering.

Habitat

Coastal sandy soils.

Distribution

Common on Dukhan coastal sand, occasional in S. Qatar and on sandy mounds and beaches in northeastern Qatar. Rare inland.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Terba; تربة





Class	Order	Family
Core Eudicots	Caryophyllales	Caryophyllaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Spergula fallax (Lowe) E.H.L. Krause in Sturn, Fl. Deutschland, ed. 2, 5:19 (1901).

Syn.

Spergularia fallax Lowe, Hooker's J. Bot. Kew Gard. Misc. 8:289 (1856).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Slender herb with glandular hairs. Flowers small, white-rose on long glandular hairy pedicels.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Common weed of gardens, arable land and open fields; covers large areas after seasonal rains.

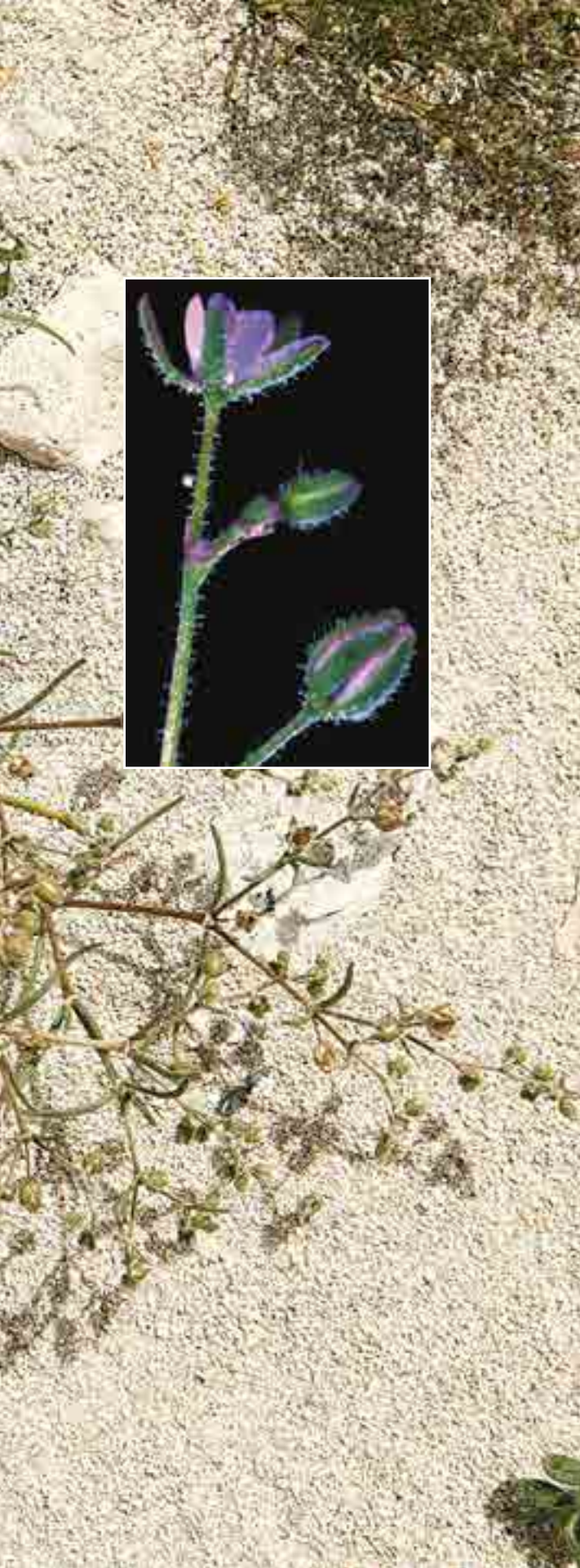
Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Degaygah; دقيقه





Class	Order	Family
Core Eudicots	Caryophyllales	Caryophyllaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Spergularia diandra (Guss.) Boiss., Fl. Orient. 1:733 (1867).

Syns.

Arenaria diandra Guss., Fl. Sicul. Prodr. 1: 515 (1827);

Spergula diandra (Guss.) Murb., Acta Univ. Lund 33 (12) (1897).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Slender herb with linear leaves. Inflorescences lax with white-rose flowers on long thin pedicels.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Common weed in gardens, fields and by roadsides.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Degaygah; دقيقه





Class

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family

Caryophyllaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Stellaria media (L.) Vill., Hist. Pl. Dauphine 3:615 (1789).

Syn.

Alsine media L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 272 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Slender herb with ovate-lanceolate leaves. Flowers white; fruit of small capsules.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Rare garden weed; recorded by Batanouny (1981) but no specimen seen.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Class

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family

Caryophyllaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Vaccaria hispanica (P. Mill.) Rauschert, Wiss. Zeitschr. Martin-Luther Univ. Halle-Wittenberg., Math. Naturwiss. Reihe 14:496 (1965).

Syns.

Vaccaria pyramidata Medik., Phil. Bot. 1:96 (1789);
V. vulgaris Host, nom. illeg.

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Slender herb growing up to half metre high flowering profusely. Flowers large pink with pyramidal calyces; fruit a capsule.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Occasional weed in gardens and fields.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced probably with imported fodder oats.







Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Superorder/Order

**Rosannae/
Malvales**

Family

Cistaceae

Scientific Name

Helianthemum kahiricum Delile, Descr. Egypt, Hist. Nat. 37 (1814).

Habit

Annual to short-lived perennial herb.

Description

Low sub-woody herb with yellow flowers. Similar to *H. lippii* but flowers pedicellate.

Habitat

Low depressions, runnels and wadis.

Distribution

Widespread.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Host plant of desert truffles.

Vernacular Names

Ragroug; رقروق





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Superorder/Order

**Rosannae/
Malvales**

Family

Cistaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Helianthemum lippii (L.) Dum., Cours., Bot. Cult. 3:130 (1802).

Syns.

Cistus lippii L., Mant. Alt. 245 (1771); *C. sessiliflorum* Desf., Fl. Atlant. 1:417, t. 106 (1798); ***Helianthemum sessiliflorum*** (Desf.) Pers., Syn. Pl. 2:78 (1806).

Habit

Annual to short-lived perennial herb.

Description

Low sub-woody herb with divaricately branched slender twigs terminating in few-flowered racemes. Flowers yellow.

Habitat

Low-depressions, runnels and wadis.

Distribution

Widespread.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Host plant of desert truffles.

Vernacular Names

Ragroug; رقروق





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Cleomaceae

Scientific Name

Cleome amblyocarpa Barratte & Murb., Acta Univ. Lund,
ser. 2 1(4):25 (1905).

Habit

Annual or short-lived perennial.

Description

Erect herb with pungent smell; leaves compound trifoliolate, mid leaflet obovate. Fruit long, glandular pods on carpophores; seeds hairy.

Habitat

Sandy coastal soil.

Distribution

Occasional in sandy wadis in S. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Cleomaceae

Scientific Name

Cleome brachycarpa DC., Prodr. 1: 240 (1824).

Habit

Annual or short-lived perennial.

Description

Gladular erect herb with pungent smell; leaves compound trifoliate, mid leaflet lanceolate. Fruit small pods on carpophores.

Habitat

Sandy soils.

Distribution

Rare in N.E. Qatar coastline.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.



Clade	Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Rosids/Malvids	Brassicales	Cleomaceae
Scientific Name & Syn.		
<i>Cleome scaposa</i> DC., Prodr. 1:239 (1824).		
Syn.		
<i>Cleome papillosa</i> T. Anderson, J. Proc. Linn. Soc., Bot. 5, Suppl. 1:3 (1860), nom. illeg.		
Habit		
Annual herb.		
Description		
Erect leafy glandular herb with simple ovate leaves on long petioles. Fruit small pods.		
Habitat		
Sandy soil.		
Distribution		
Rare in N.E. Qatar coastline; also recorded as a garden weed.		
Ind/Int/Cult		
Indigenous.		
Vernacular Names		
Zephra. Khaysa; زفرة ، خايسة		





Clade

**Eudicots/Asterids/
Lamiids**

Order

Solanales

Family

Convolvulaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Convolvulus arvensis L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 153 (1753).

Syn.

Convolvulus longipedicellatus Saad, Meded. Bot. Mus.
Herb. Rijks Univ. Utrecht 281:233 (1967).

Habit

Perennial twiner.

Description

Creeping and twining herb with alternate sagittate leaves. Flowers opening mornings, funnel-shaped, white or pink.

Habitat

Moist areas.

Distribution

Weed of cultivation and a notorious weed of fields and lawns.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced as an ornamental plant but has since turned into a nuisance. It is still grown as street ornamental because of its attractive flowers.

Local Use

Fodder plant (as all collected weeds of agriculture).

Vernacular Names

Oleiq; عليق





Clade

**Eudicots/Asterids/
Lamiids**

Order

Solanales

Family

Convolvulaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Convolvulus cephalopodus Boiss., Diag. Pl. Orient. 1, 7:24 (1849).

Syn.

Convolvulus undulifolius Parsa, Kew Bull. 214 (1948).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Prostrate herb with basal rosette of leaves and canaliculate cauline leaves with wavy margins. Flowers pink fruit a capsule.

Habitat

Sandy gravelly depressions.

Distribution

Rare in Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Possibly introduced from Iran. Batanouny (1981) considered it as first record for Arabia.





Clade

**Eudicots/Asterids/
Lamiids**

Order

Solanales

Family

Convolvulaceae

Scientific Name

Convolvulus fatmensis Kunze, Flora (Regensburg) 23: 172 (1840).

Habit

Annual or short-lived perennial.

Description

Trailing prostrate herb with slender branches; leaves sagittate-sinuate. Flowers axillary, minute, white, on long pedicels; fruit a capsule with 4 large black seeds.

Habitat

Rodrat depressions and fields.

Distribution

Rare in rodrat and an occasional weed of cultivation and arable land. Widespread in a sandy depression near Salwa.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Fodder plant.

Vernacular Names

Oleiq; عليق





Clade

**Eudicots/Asterids/
Lamiids**

Order

Solanales

Family

Convolvulaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Convolvulus glomeratus Choisy in A. DC., Prodr. 9:401 (1845).

Syn.

Convolvulus glomeratus Choisy var. *gymnospermus* Saad (1967).

Habit

Perennial twiner.

Description

Twiner with ovate leaves. Inflorescences glomerate, congested, subtended by large leafy bracts. Flowers white, closing mid-day; fruit a capsule.

Habitat

Sandy loamy soil.

Distribution

Occasional in rodent, fallow land and agricultural areas; occasional in QU grounds.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Fodder.

Vernacular Names

Oleiq, عليق





Clade

**Eudicots/Asterids/
Lamiids**

Order

Solanales

Family

Convolvulaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Convolvulus pilosellifolius Desr. in Lam., Encycl. 3:551 (1792).

Syn.

Convolvulus pilosellifolius var. *linearifolius* Sa'ad (1967).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Prostrate herb with slender softly hairy branches; hairs appressed, white. Flowers white and pink, rotate on long peduncles; fruit a capsule with hairy seeds.

Habitat

Sandy stony ground and more common in shallow sandy depressions.

Distribution

Widespread.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range plant. Leaves edible, cooked.

Vernacular Names

Rakham, Malbo; رخم , مالبو





Clade

**Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Solanales

Family

Convolvulaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Convolvulus prostratus Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. 203 (1775).

Syns.

Convolvulus microphyllus (Roth) Spreng. Syst. Vog. 1:611 (1824); ***Convolvulus deserti*** Hochst., et Steud., Unio Itin. no.783 (1837).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Prostrate yellow or rufous hairy herbs branching from the base with numerous stiff flowering divaricate branches carrying small sessile leaves. Flowers sessile, pink or white, funnel-shaped on very short peduncles; fruit a capsule.

Habitat

Sandy stony ground.

Distribution

Occasional in sandy depressions in the outskirts of Doha and in fallow and deserted fields.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range plant.

Vernacular Names

Khatmi; خطمي





Clade
**Eudicots/Asterids/
Lamiids**

Order
Solanales

Family
Convolvulaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Cressa cretica L., Sp. Pl., ed.2, 233 (1753).

Syn.

Senebiera didyma (L.) Pers., Syns. Pl. 2:185 (1806).

Habit

Annual or biennial herb.

Description

Radiating and mat forming green herb with minute leaves and soft prostrate branches. Flowers white.

Habitat

Moist saline soils and sabkhas.

Distribution

North and central Qatar. Common in vicinity of wetland.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Nedaiwa; نديوه





Clade

**Eudicots/Asterids/
Lamiids**

Order

Solanales

Family

Convolvulaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Cuscuta pedicellata Ledeb., Fl. Altaica 1:293 (1829).

Syn.

Cuscuta arabica Fresen., Mus. Senckenb. 1:165 (1834).

Habit

Obligate parasite.

Description

Slender yellowish twining stems over various hosts sometimes with extensive growth. Flowers in bunches with 4 cream to pale yellow petals, 4 green sepals and elongated stigmas; fruit capsules.

Habitat

Various cultivated and horticultural host plants (Arugla, Vinca and other common garden weed species).

Distribution

Common on leucerne in fodder fields and on vegetable plots.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced possibly with *Medicago sativa* and Arugla seeds.

Vernacular Names

Hamoul; Urooq; عروق، حامل





Clade	Order	Family
Eudicots/Asterids/ Lamiids	Solanales	Convolvulaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Cuscuta pentagona Engelman var. *pentagona* Amer. J. Sci. Arts 43:340 (1842).

Syns.

Cuscuta arvensis Beyr. & Engelm.; *Cuscuta campestris* Yunck

Habit

Obligate parasite.

Description

Leafless slender yellowish twining stems with cymose inflorescences. Flowers cream, sepals and petals 4 and capsules globose.

Habitat

Various cultivated and horticultural host plants.

Distribution

Common on leucerne.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Vernacular Names

Hamoul; حامول





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabid**

Order

Cucurbitales

Family

Cucurbitaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Citrullus colocynthis (L.) Schrad., Linnaea 12:414 (1838).

Syns.

Cucumis colocynthis L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 1011 (1753);

Colocynthis vulgaris Schrad., Ind. Sem. Hort. Gott. 2
(1832).

Habit

Perennial trailing herb.

Description

Tough prostrate hairy trailer with yellow-green male and female flowers. Fruit round bitter gourds with green stripes ripening to pale yellow; seeds brown, flat.

Habitat

Depressions with sandy stony soil.

Distribution

Common in wide wadis, khors, depressions and rodats throughout Qatar and on sands in N. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Medicinal plant.

Vernacular Names

Handal, Shary; حنظل, شري





Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabid**

Order
Cucurbitales

Family
Cucurbitaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Cucumis prophetarum L., Cent. Pl. 1:32 (1753) subsp. *prophetarum*

Syn.

Cucumis ficifolius A. Rich. var. *dissectus* (Naudin) Cogn. in A. & C. DC. Mongr. Phan. 3:494 (1881).

Habit

Perennial trailing herb.

Description

Prostrate trailer with greenish yellow male and female flowers and oval tuberculate fleshy fruit.

Habitat

Shallow depressions with sandy soils.

Distribution

Rare in rodats and shallow depressions in vicinity of Al Karaana and in C. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Henaidthlan, Hadaj; حنيظلان، حدج





Clade

Angiosperms

Order

Incertae sedis

Family

Cynomoriaceae

Scientific Name

Cynomorium coccineum L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 970 (1753).

Habit

Perennial parasite.

Description

Large fleshy underground rhizomes producing above ground large fleshy spikes with minute dark reddish flowers. Whole plant dries and turns black at end of season.

Habitat

Sabkhas where their host plants occur.

Distribution

Sabkhas. Parasitic on halophytes but mostly on ***Limonium axillare***.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Rhizomes used to be eaten.

Vernacular Names

Tarthouth; طرثوث





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Malpighiales

Family

Euphorbiaceae

Scientific Name

Andrachne telephoides L., Sp. Pl., ed. I, 1014 (1753).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Prostrate herb with minute cordate leaves. Flowers small, white; fruit green, trilocular giving 3 cocci.

Habitat

Sandy stony ground.

Distribution

Widespread in N. and C. Qatar. A frequent weed of wasteland, roadsides, fields and gardens.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Huweimda; هويمدة





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Malpighiales

Family

Euphorbiaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Chrozophora tinctoria (L.) Raf., Chlor. Aetn. 4 (1813).

Syns.

Croton tinctorius L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 1004 (1753);

Chrozophora obliqua (Vahl) A. Juss. ex Spreng., Syst. Veg. 3:851 (1826); ***C. verbascifolia*** (Willd.) A. Juss. ex Spreng., Syst. Veg. 3:851 (1826).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Suffrutescent low shrub with large rough ovate lanceolate leaves with undulate margins. Fruit trilocular with scales and forming 3 globose cocci.

Habitat

Sandy stony soil.

Distribution

Rare and localized in S. Qatar in stony depressions along the road to Salwa and Al Aameria.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.



Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Malpighiales

Family

Euphorbiaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Euphorbia arabica Boiss. in A. DC., Prodr. 15(2):33 (1862).

Syn.

Chamaesyce arabica (Hochst. Stend. ex Boiss.) Sojak, Cas. Nar. Maz. (Praha) 140 (3-4): 168 (1972).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Glabrous herb with white latex and slender reddish branches; leaves opposite, linear. Cynthia small.

Habitat

Stony ground.

Distribution

Rare and localized in depressions along the road to Salwa.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Malpighiales

Family

Euphorbiaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Euphorbia cyathophora Murray, Commentat. Soc. Regiae Sci. Golt. 7:81 (1786).

Syns.

Euphorbia heterophylla L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 453 (1753) var. *cyathophora* (Murray) Griseb., Fl. Brit. W. I. : 45 (1859).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Erect, dark green herb with sinuate leaves and with orange-reddish blotches; cyathia with trilocular cocci on exposed peduncles. Fruit forming 3 globose cocci. A similar species but without the reddish blotches is given the earlier name of *E. heterophylla* with the now recognized 2 species as variants

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

A rare weed considered as an ornamental plant.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Local Use

Ornamental plant.

Vernacular Names

Bint al qunsul (a name commonly applied to *Euphorbia pulcherima*); بنت القنصل





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Malpighiales

Family

Euphorbiaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Euphorbia dracunculoides Lam., Encycl. Meth. Bot. 2:428 (1780) subsp. *dracunculoides*

Syns.

Euphorbia lanceolata Spreng., Mant. Prim. Fl. Hal.:41 (1807); *Tithymalus dracunculoides* (Lam.) Klotzsch & Garcke, Abh. Konigl. Akad. Wiss. Berlin 1859:84 (1860).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Small herb with alternate sessile linear-oblong leaves; cymes relatively with few terminal cyathia. Cyathia sessile.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Localized in sandy depressions in S. Qatar near Salwa.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Lubaina (a common name for all Euphorbia weeds);
لبينة





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Malpighiales

Family

Euphorbiaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Euphorbia granulata Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. 94 (1775) var. ***glabrata*** (Gay) Boiss. in DC., Prodr. 15(2):34 (1862).

Syns.

Euphorbia forsskaolii J. Gay var. ***glabrata*** J. Gay in Webb & Berthel., Phyt. Canar. 3(3):243 (1847); ***Euphorbia turcomanica*** Boiss.

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Prostrate herb with white latex; leaves minute, opposite, sessile. Flowers males and females in axillary cyathia with white extra floral nectaries (petal-like appendages).

Habitat

Sandy clayey soil and sandy stony ground.

Distribution

More common in the wild than other *Euphorbia* species; frequent in depressions along Al Khor-Al Shamal road; also a weed of cultivated, wasteland and arable land.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Lubaina; لبينه





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Malpighiales

Family

Euphorbiaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Euphorbia hirta L., Sp. Pl., ed. 2, 454 (1753).

Syn.

Chamaesyce hirta (L.) Millspaugh.

Habit

Annual and short-lived perennial herb.

Description

Reddish tinged, erect-decumbent or prostrate, many – stemmed herb covered with long spreading yellow hairs; leaves opposite. Cyathia congested on short axillary peduncles; ovary trilocular, fruit formed of 3 small reddish green hairy cocci on long thick peduncles.

Habitat

Garden soil near wet areas.

Distribution

Widespread notorious weed, difficult to eradicate, spreading by vegetative growth and fruit germination, particularly in vicinity of pipes of drip irrigation.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Vernacular Names

Umm lubaina; أم لبينه





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Malpighiales

Family

Euphorbiaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Euphorbia indica Lamarck, Encycl. Meth. Bot. 2:423 (1786).

Syns.

Euphorbia hypericifolia sens. Tackh., Stud. Fl. Egypt, ed. 2, 323 (1974) non L.; *Chamaesyce indica* (Lamarck) Croizat; *Euphorbia indica* var. *angustifolia* Boiss.

Habit

Annual or biennial herb.

Description

Decumbent herb variable in size with ovate-lanceolate leaves. Cyathia axillary on long slim peduncles; floral nectaries white and ovaries trilocular; fruit globose, 3 cocci.

Habitat

Garden soil and fields.

Distribution

Widespread weed in gardens, nurseries and farms always on moist ground particularly shaded areas.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Vernacular Names

Lubaina; لبينه





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Malpighiales

Family

Euphorbiaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Euphorbia peplus L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 456 (1753).

Syns.

Ensula peplis (L.) Haworth.; *Tithymanus peplis* (L.)
Scop., Fl. Carniol., ed. 2, l:340 (1771).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Slender light green leafy herb with small terminal
green cyathia subtended by a pair of crescent-shaped
small leaves; cyathia with rim of hairs; fruit hairy.

Habitat

Gardens and fields.

Distribution

Widespread weed on moist grounds

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade Order Family
Core Eudicots/ Malpighiales Euphorbiaceae
Rosids/Fabids

Scientific Name & Syn.

Euphorbia prostrata Aiton, Hort. Kew., ed. 1, 2:139 (1789).

Syn.

Chamaesyce prostrata (Aiton) Small.

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Prostrate herb with minute leaves spreading and forming soft mats; similar to *E.granulata* but is a more delicate plant.

Habitat

Gardens soil.

Distribution

Widespread weed occupying moist areas by roadsides, in gardens, lawns including cracks in pavements.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced but now naturalized.

Vernacular Names

Lubaina; لبينه





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Malpighiales

Family

Euphorbiaceae

Scientific Name & Syns:

Euphorbia retusa Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. 93 (1775).

Syns.

Euphorbia rahirensis Raeusch., Nomencl. Bot., ed. 3, 140 (1797) nom. illeg; *E. cornuta* Pers., Syns. Pl. 2:17 (1806) nom. illeg.

Habit

Annual to short-lived perennial herb.

Description

Erect glabrous herb with sessile leaves branching from the base; bracts subtending fruit ovate - lanceolate with serrate margins.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Reported by Batanouny (1981) as rare in Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Malpighiales

Family

Euphorbiaceae

Scientific Name

Mercurialis annua L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 1035 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Small herb with opposite leaves; male and female flowers on different plants (dioecious). Male flowers well-exposed above the leafy growth.

Habitat

Waste ground and cultivated land.

Distribution

Collected from Umm Slal Mohamed, Al Sunu, Al Magda.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Malpighiales

Family

Euphorbiaceae

Scientific Name

Ricinus communis L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 1007 (1753).

Habit

Perennial shrub.

Description

Much branched shrub with very large palmately lobed leaves; plants unisexual, monoecious with male and female flowers on the same stalk. Female flowers above, with red styles; male flowers below, with yellow stamens; fruit 3 large cocci; seeds mottled with white-yellow aril.

Habitat

Gardens soil and fields with irrigation canals.

Distribution

Never found in the wild but always as an escape from nearby farms and gardens.

Ind/Int/Cult

Cultivated (escape).

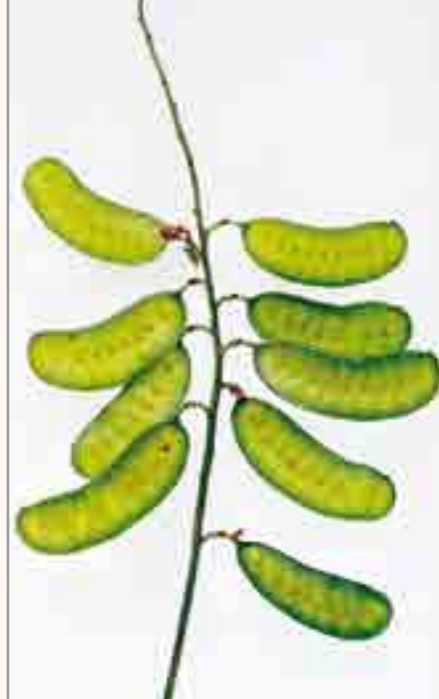
Local Use

Medicinal and ornamental shrub.

Vernacular Names

Khiriwi; خروج





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae:
Caesalpinioideae
Tribe: Cassieae**

Scientific Name & Syns.

Senna alexandrina Mill., Gard. Dict. ed. 8, no. 1 (1768).

Syns.

Cassia senna L.; *C. lanceolata* Forssk.; *C. acutifolia* Delile

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Low shrub with numerous erect branches ending in yellow flowered racemes similar to *Senna italica* but differs in absence of orange spots at the base of leaflets and fruits falcate, smooth-surfaced pods (unlike *Senna italica*).

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Localized at few residential areas in Doha.

Ind/Int/Cult

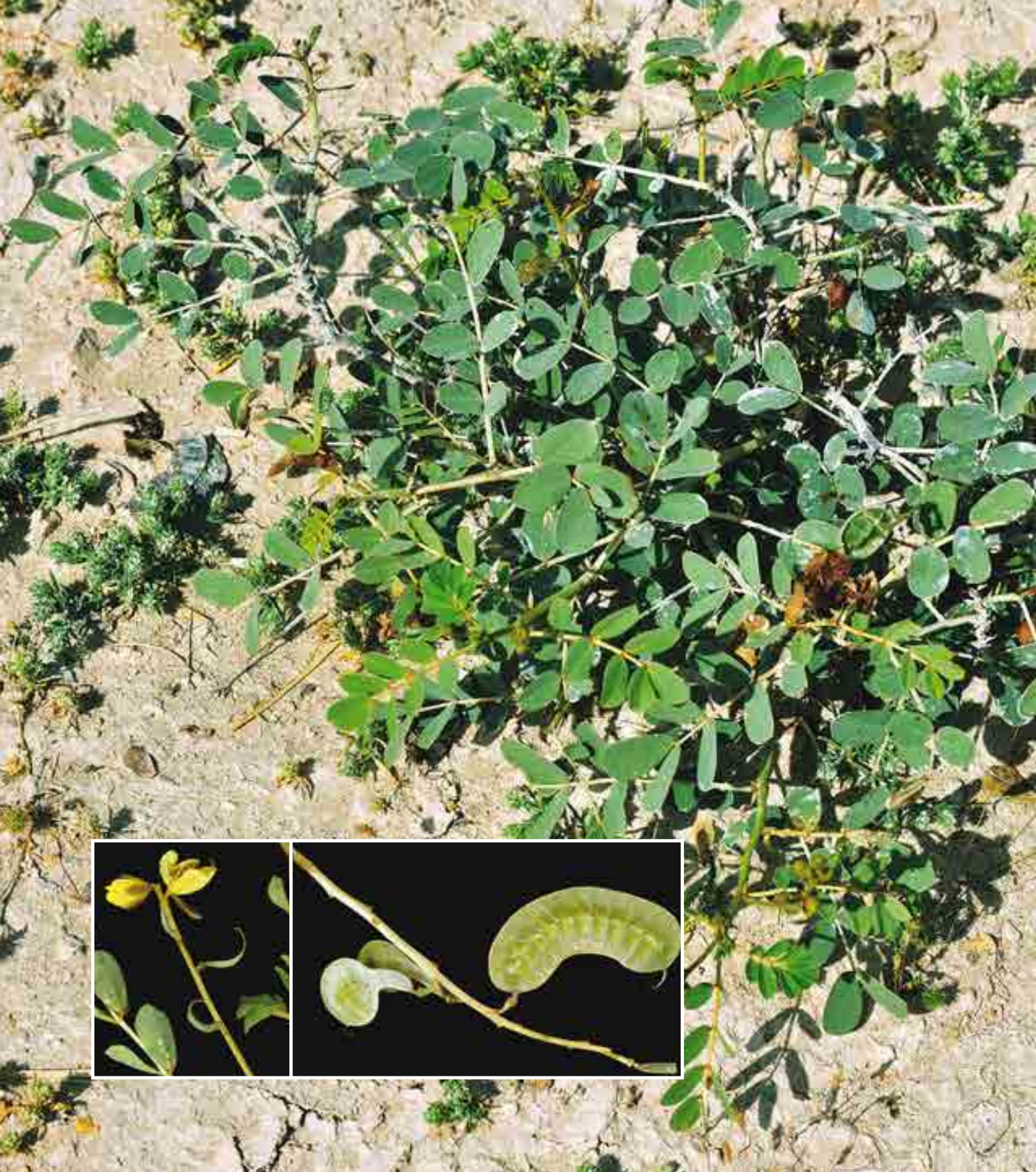
Introduced with seeds or escapes from seed markets or discarded household seeds.

Local Use

Medicinal plant (laxative).

Vernacular Names

عشرق، سنة، سنة مكّي; Ishrig, Senna, Senna mekki;





Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order
Fabales

Family:Subfamily
**Fabaceae:
Caesalpinioideae
Tribe: Cassieae**

Scientific Name & Syns.

Senna italica Mill., Gard. Dict. ed. 8, no. 2 (1768).

Syns.

Cassia aschrak Forssk.; *C. obovata* Collad.; *C. italica* (Mill) F.W. Andrews

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Leafy low shrub with numerous branches ending in terminal racemes of yellow flowers (distinct by the orange spots at the bases of the leaflets; fruits falcate tuberculed pods with persistent styles.

Habitat

Runnels, wadis and depressions.

Distribution

Occasional in C. Qatar and common by roadsides, rain pools and depressions along most major routes in Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Medicinal plant.

Vernacular Names

Ishrig, Senna, Senna mekki; عشرق، سنة، سنة مكّي





Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order
Fabales

Family:Subfamily
**Fabaceae:
Caesalpinioideae
Tribe: Cassieae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Senna occidentalis (L.) Link, Handbuch 2: 140 (1831).

Syn.

Cassia occidentalis L., Sp. Pl., ed. I, 377 (1753).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Erect subwoody plants with large compound pinnate leaves, the terminal pair larger. Flowers large, yellow, in terminal racemes; fruit falcate, smooth, pods; seeds dark brown.

Habitat

Moist soil.

Distribution

Weed of disturbed areas and gardens in Doha. Occasional at sewage disposal sites and wetland.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Cicereae**

Scientific Name

Cicer arietinum L., Sp. Pl., ed. 2:738 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect softly hairy leafy herbs; leaves alternate, imparipinnate; leaflets 1-6, subopposite, small, ovate, with serrate margins and impressed mid vein. Flowers pedicellate pod with soft hairs; seeds are the chick peas.

Habitat

Loamy-clayey soil.

Distribution

Roadsides.

Ind/Int/Cult

Cultivated (escape).

Vernacular Names

Humus, Nakhi; حمص، نخي





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Crotalarieae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Lotononis platycarpa (Viv.) Pic.-Serm., Webbia 7:331 (1950).

Syn.

Lotus platycarpus Viv., Pl. Aegypt. Dec. 4:14(1830).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Small prostrate herb with radiating basal branches; leaves compound trifoliate; flowers axillary, crowded, pale yellow; fruit minute pods.

Habitat

Sandy stony soil.

Distribution

Widespread after the winter rains in N. and C. Qatar. Frequent in cultivated fields.

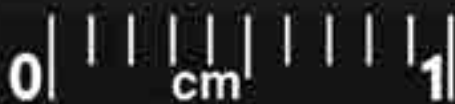
Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range herb.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Fabeae**

Scientific Name & Syns.

Vicia monantha Retz., Observ. Bot. 3: 39 (1783).

Syns.

Vicia biflora Desf., Fl. Atlant. 2:166 (1799); *Vicia calcarata* Desf., Fl. Atlant. 2:166 (1799).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Slender herb with pinnate leaves and terminal leaflet modified into a branched tendril. Flowers blue in few-flowered racemes; fruit pea-like, 6-8-seeded legume.

Habitat

Sandy-clayey soil.

Distribution

Al Magda area; possibly an agricultural weed from neighboring fields.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Vernacular Names

Duhraij; دحريج





Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order
Fabales

Family:Subfamily
**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Galegeae:
Section: Annularis**

Scientific Name

Astragalus annularis Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. 139
(1775).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Prostrate herb with few decumbent branches; leaves imparipinnate. Flowers few, minute, pink, in racemes; fruit a curved pod with red streaks.

Habitat

Sandy soil and shallow depressions in stony deserts.

Distribution

Occasional in depressions and wadis in N. and C. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range herb.

Vernacular Names

Halaq, Khanasir al arous; حلق, خناصر العروس





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Galegeae;
Section: Annularis**

Scientific Name & Syns.

Astragalus crenatus Schult., Observ. Bot. 186 (1809).

Syns.

Astragalus corrugatus Bertol., Rar. Ital. Pl. Dec. 3:33 (1810); *Astragalus cruciatus* Link, Enum. Hort. Berol. Alt. 2:256 (1822).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Prostrate herb with compound imparipinnate leaves. Flowers small on long pedicels; fruit curved pods with corrugated surfaces.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Occasional in depressions and wadis in N. and C. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range herb.

Vernacular Names

حلق, خواتم البر; Halag, Khawatim al barr;





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Galegeae;
Section: Falcinellus**

Scientific Name & Syn:

Astragalus eremophilus Boiss., Diagn. Pl. Orient. ser. 1, 2:54 (1843).

Syn.

Astragalus falcinellus Boiss., Diagn. Pl. Orient. 9:63 (1849).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Prostrate herb with compound imparipinnate leaves. Flowers small; fruit curved hairy legume. [Two subsp. are recognized: Subsp. *eremophilus* and subsp. *makranicus* Podlech].

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Sandy mounds and depressions in N. and C. Qatar; Al Karaana, Abu Samra.

Ind/Int/Cult

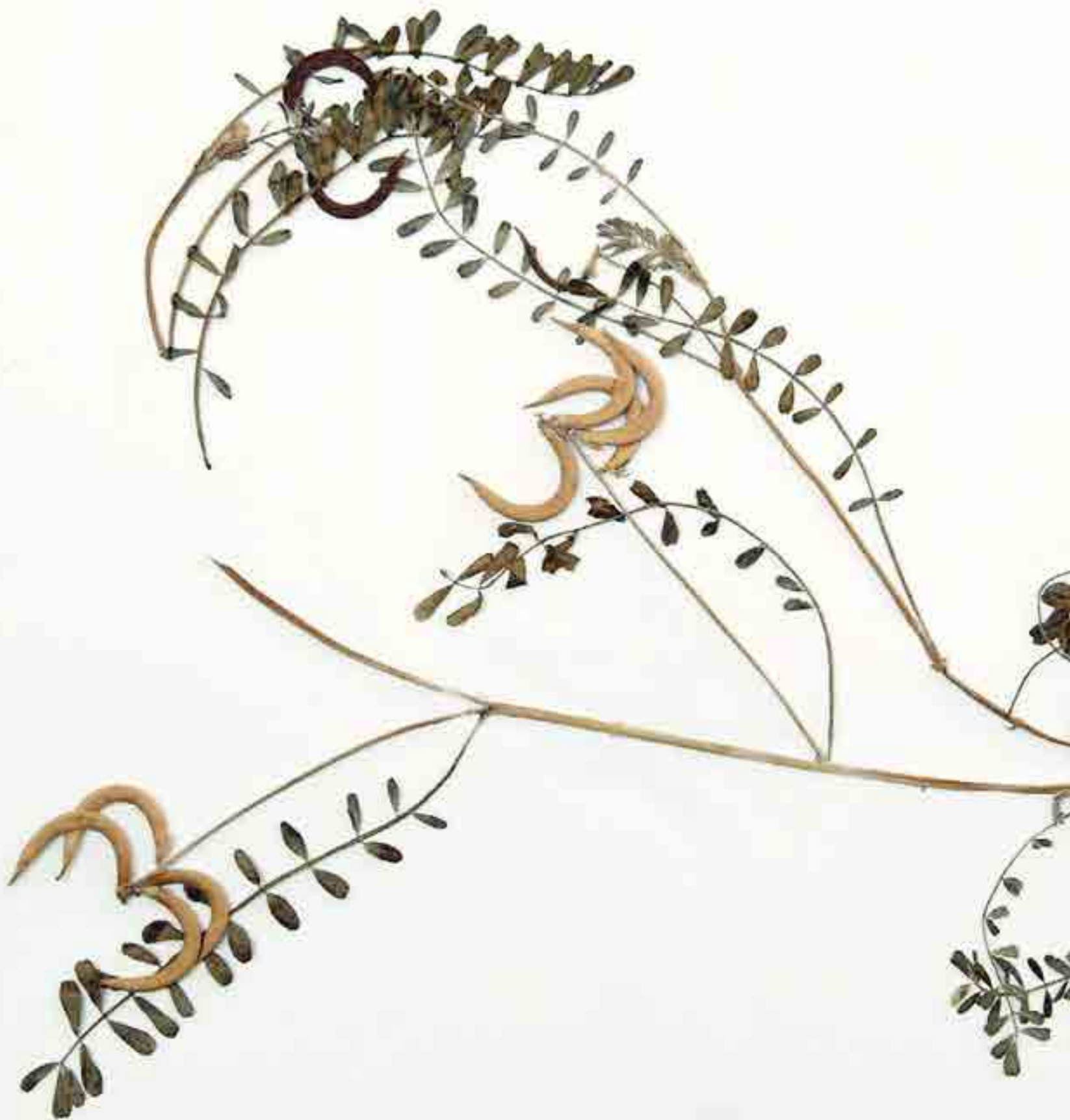
Indigenous.

Local Use

Range herb.

Vernacular Names

Halag; حلق





Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order
Fabales

Family:Subfamily
**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Galegeae;
Section: Buceratus**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Astragalus hamosus L., Sp. Pl., ed. I, 758 (1753).

Syn.

Astragalus brachyceras Ledeb., Index Sem. Hort.
Dorpat. 1833:3 (1822).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Prostrate herb with compound paripinnate leaves.
Flowers small, 1-4 on long peduncles; fruit upwardly
curved pod appearing as horns, pubescent.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Al Wabara.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range herb.

Vernacular Names

Halag; حلق





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Galegeae;
Section: Sesamei**

Scientific Name

Astragalus schimperi Boiss., Diagn. Pl. Orient., ser. 1, 2:53 (1843).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Prostrate hairy herb with basal branches and imparipinnate leaves. Flowers axillary, 4-5, pink, clustered on long peduncles; pod hairy, long, very slightly curved upwards.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Rare in rodent depressions; Al Wabara.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range herb.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Galegeae;
Section: Chronopus**

Scientific Name

Astragalus sieberi DC., Prodr. 2:295 (1825).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Semi-spiny rather woody tough herb with long pinnate leaves with a broad midrib. Flowers yellow, large; fruit very tough broad pod.

Habitat

Depressions, wadis and water catchment areas and as a weed.

Distribution

Rare in Central Qatar by roadsides on the road Doha to Salwa and Al Shamal (Roundabout).

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range plant.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

Fabaceae: Faboideae

Tribe: Galegeae

Section: Annulares

Scientific Name & Syns.

Astragalus arpilobus Kar. & Kir. subsp. *hauptianus*

(Boiss.) Podlech, Bell Soc. Imp. Naturalistes, Moscow 15: 336 (1842).

Syns.

Astragalus hauptianus Boiss., Diagn. Pl. Orient. 9:63

(1849). *Astragalus gyzensis* Bunge, Mem. Acad. Sci. Petersburg. 11 (16):14 (1868).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Small semi-prostrate or decumbent herb, hairy; leaves bipinnate, stipulate; leaflets 2 - 4 pairs with a terminal leaflet. Flowers few, pinkish, on a simple raceme; peduncles up to 2.5 cm long; fruit a falcate - curved pod, hairy.

Habitat

Sandy depressions.

Distribution

Rare in wadis and sandy depressions in S. Qatar. This is a first record for Qatar. Plants were collected from road to Sudanatheel.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Genisteae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Argyrolobium arabicum (Decne.) Jaub. & Spach. Sci.
Nat. Bot., ser, 2, 19:48 (1846).

Syn.

Cytisus arabicus Decne., Ann. Sci. Nat. Bot., ser. 2, 19:48
(1843).

Habit

Annual to short-lived perennial.

Description

Leaves trifoliolate. Flowers few; fruit 8-10-seeded flat
legume.

Habitat

Sandy stony soil.

Distribution

Rare; Reported by Obeid (1975) but no specimen seen.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Hedysareae**

Scientific Name & Syns.

Alhagi graecorum Boiss., Diagn. ser., 1, 9:114 (1849).

Sometimes reported as 2 distinct species but only one exists in Qatar.

Syns.

Alhagi maurorum Medikus, Vorles. Churpf. phys.-
oekon. Ges. 2:397 (1787); *Alhagi camelorum* Fisch., Cat.
Hort. Gor. :72 (1812).

Habit

Perennial with seasonal die back.

Description

Spiny low green stemmed herb appearing late May;
branches modified spines bearing small leaves, flowers
and fruits. Flowers red-pink; fruit small pod.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Occasional in cultivated areas; frequent in Shahaneya
farms.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced (Never seen in the wild).

Local Use

Medicinal.

Vernacular Names

Aagoal; عاقول





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Hedysareae**

Scientific Name

Taverniera aegyptiaca Boiss., Diagn. Pl. Orient. ser. 1, 9:113 (1849).

Habit

Shrub.

Description

Much branched bush with deciduous minute leaves. Flowers deep purple turning papery and enclosing the fruit; fruit small tuberculate, segmented pod.

Habitat

Sub-saline sandy-clayey soil.

Distribution

Occasional as sporadic stands and associates of mixed grasses in sabkhas near coastlines. Frequent in the vicinity of Ras Laffan, S. Al Zubara, Ras Ushaireq, Fewairet, S. W. Al Kharara and rare N. of Doha.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Fodder plant.

Vernacular Names

Elaijan, Daheer; عليجان، دهير





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

Fabaceae: Faboideae

Tribe: Indigofereae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Indigofera articulata Gouan, Ill. Observ. Bot. 49 (1773).

Syn.

Indigofera glauca Lam., Encycl. 3:246 (1789).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Small compact low woody undershrub with silvery pubescence; leaves minute, pinnate. Flowers small, attractive, red; fruit small legume.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Widespread and common in Dukhan and Al Reem reserve.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range plant.

Vernacular Names

Humeira; حميرة





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Indigofereae**

Scientific Name

Indigofera oblongifolia Forrsk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. 137 (1775).

Habit

Perennial shrub.

Description

Large leafy bush with compound leaves. Flowers clustered in long racemes, purple; pod reddish, falcate.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Seen only once in Doha Central Suk (Al Murkazi).

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced with commercial seeds.

Vernacular Names

Dahseer; دهسير





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Loteae**

Scientific Name & Syns.

Hippocrepis areolata Desv., Mem. Soc. Linn. Paris 4:329 (1826).

Syns.

Hippocrepis bicontorta Loisel., Pl. Gall. ed. 2, 2:162, 6:424 (1827); ***H. cornigera*** Boiss., Diagn., ser.1, 2:102 (1843).

Habit

Ephemeral annual herb.

Description

Slender prostrate herb with imparipinnate leaves. Flowers few, 2-4 on long axillary peduncles; fruit almost circular, segmented, horse-shoe shaped and segments horned.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

On sandy mounds and wadis in N. and C. Qatar; Umm Bab-Dukhan.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range herb.

Vernacular Names

Umm ghurein; ام غورين





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboidese
Tribe: Loteae**

Scientific Name

Hippocrepis constricta Kunze, Pug. Prim. Pl. 12 (1842).

Habit

Ephemeral annual herb.

Description

Slender prostrate herb with imparipinnate leaves (5 leaflets). Flowers 2-3, capitate; fruit flat, almost straight, segmented, horse-shoe shaped; segments open.

Habitat

Sandy clayey soil.

Distribution

On sandy mounds and wadis in N. and C. Qatar, Salwa road and Al Wabara.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range herb.

Vernacular Names

Umm ghurein; ام غورين





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboidese
Tribe: Loteae**

Scientific Name

Hippocrepis multisiliquosa L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 744 (1753).

Habit

Ephemeral annual herb.

Description

Slender prostrate herb with imparipinnate leaves. Flowers sessile, 5-7 on long axillary peduncles; fruit curved, segmented, horse-shoe shaped and segments open.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

N. and C. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range herb.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboidese
Tribe: Loteae**

Scientific Name

Hippocrepis unisiliquosa L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 744 (1753).

Habit

Ephemeral annual herb.

Description

Prostrate herb with imparipinnate leaves. Flowers minute, solitary or a pair, axillary, subsessile; fruit falcate, segmented, horse-shoe shaped and segments closed.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

On sandy mounds and wadis in N. and C. Qatar.

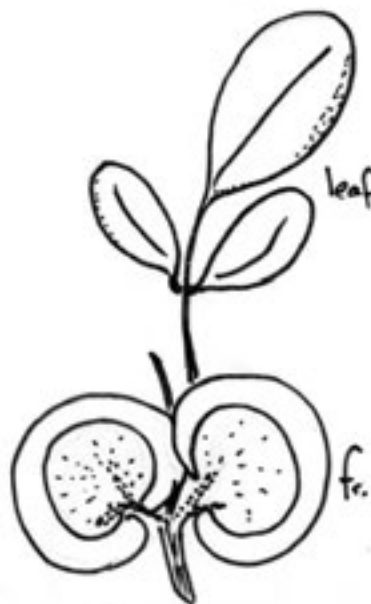
Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range herb.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Loteae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Hymenocarpus circinnatus (L.) Savi., Fl. Pis. 2:205 (1798).

Syn.

Medicago circinnata L., Sp. Pl., ed.1,778 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Small decumbent hairy herb about 5 – 15 cm with bright green slightly downy compound imparipinnate leaves; pinnae 3 – 5, the mid leaflet obovate, largest. Flowers few, axillary, deep yellow orange, a pair (with short and long pedicels) on long peduncles; fruit flat, rotate or orbicular, winged pods.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Rare in Qatar recorded in Doha by Batanouny (1981).

Ind/Int/Cult

Possibly an introduced weed.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Loteae**

Scientific Name

Lotus garcinii DC., Prodr. 2:212 (1825).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Small undershrub with minute trifoliolate leaves.
Flowers solitary, axillary, mauve; fruit small pods.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Rare in N. W. Qatar reported by Batanouny(1981) at Ras
Ushirig.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range plant.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Loteae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Lotus glinoides Delile, Ann. Sci. Nat. Bot., ser. 2, 7 :286 (1837).

Syn.

Lotus schimperi Steud. ex Boiss., Fl. Orient. 2:170 (1872).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Herb with compound imparipinnate leaves of 5 leaflets, the lower pair much smaller than the top. Flowers axillary, few and congested; fruit small cylindrical slightly curved pods with persistent styles.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Common at Al Shahaneeya.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Loteae**

Scientific Name & Syns.

Lotus halophilus Boiss. & Sprun. in Boiss., Diagn. Fl. Orient. ser. 1, 2:37 (1843).

Syns.

Lotus villosus Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab., 71, no.386 (1775); ***Lotus pusillus*** Viv., Fl. Libyc. Spec. 47 (1824).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Slender prostrate herb with very thin branches; leaves compound. Flowers yellow; pods slender, long, slightly curved, many seeded.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Widespread throughout Qatar after seasonal rains; more common on sands in northeastern Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

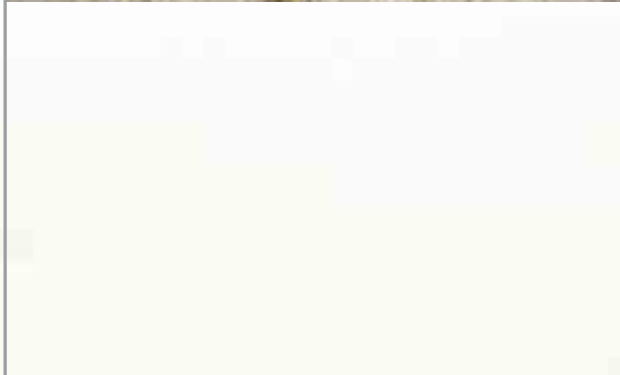
Range plant.

Vernacular Names

Garn al ghazal, Harbeth, Quroon al ghazal;

قرن الغزال، حربث، قرون الغزال





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Loteae**

Scientific Name & Syns.

Scorpiurus muricatus L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 745 (1753).

Syns.

Scorpiurus sulcatus L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 745 (1753);

Scorpiurus subvillosus L., op. cit.

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Large-leaved herb; leaves lanceolate-cuneate. Flowers few on very long peduncles; fruit scorpioid, coiled, tuberculate legumes.

Habitat

Sandy-clayey soil.

Distribution

Rare in N. Qatar in moist wet rodar; collected from Al Magda, and a Doha private garden.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

Fabaceae: Faboideae

Tribe: Phaseoleae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Vigna radiata (L.) R. Wilczek in Fl. Congo Belge 6:386 (1954).

Syns.

Phaseolus radiatus L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1 (1753); ***Phaseolus arvensis*** Roxb. (1832).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect herb with trifoliolate, petiolate leaves. Flowers yellow, papilionaceous; fruit long straight pod with twisted valves at maturity.

Habitat

Roadsides with clayey soil.

Distribution

Rare along roadsides.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced; possibly an escape of cultivated fields.

Local Use

Plant grown for its beans.

Vernacular Names

Lubia; لوبيا





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

Fabaceae: Faboideae

**Tribe: Phaseoleae/
Cajaninae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Rhynchosia minima (L.) DC., Prod. 2:385 (1825) var.
minima

Syn.

Dolichos minimus L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 726 (1753).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Prostrate-trailing herb with trifoliate leaves, the
terminal leaflet rhomboid. Fruit a 2-seeded brown pod
constricted between the seeds.

Habitat

Depressions with sandy-clayey soil.

Distribution

Rare, collected at Al Magda possibly a weed of
agriculture from neighboring fields.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced

Local Use

Fodder plant.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Psoraleeae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Cullen plicatum (Delile) C.H. Stirt., Bothalia 13:317 (1981).

Syn.

Psoralea plicata Delile , Desc. Egypte Hist. Nat. 252 (1814).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Leafy aromatic plant producing basal radiating branches from a woody base; leaves trifoliate, stipulate, with long petioles and undulate margins. Flowers few, congested, standard pale violet, wings and keel deep purple; fruit short pod.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Al Kharara area and vicinity of Al Karaana. Once a large stand at Al Karaana during the late seventies, now becoming rare due to selective grazing by camels.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range plant heavily grazed by all livestock..

Vernacular Names

Hama; حما





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Trifolieae**

Scientific Name & Syns:

Medicago laciniata (L.) Mill., Gard. Dic., ed. 8, no. 4/5 (1768) var. *brachyacantha* Boiss., Diagn. Pl. Orient., ser.1, 9:10 (1849).

Syns.

Medicago polymorpha var. *laciniata* L.; *Medicago aschersoniana* Urb., Verh. Bot. Vereins. Prov. Bradenb. 15:77 (1873).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Prostrate herb with radiating branches and trifoliate leaves. Flowers yellow; fruit coiled, spherical with interlocking spines; fruit spines comparatively tender and slim.

Habitat

Garden soil and on wind-blown sand.

Distribution

Common on sandy mounds, roadsides and depressions all over Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range herb.

Vernacular Names

Nafal abu hasak, Hassak, Jet barri;

نفل ابو حسك، حسك، جت بري





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

Fabaceae: Faboideae

Tribe: Trifolieae

Scientific Name

Medicago polymorpha L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 779 (1753).

Habit

Ephemeral annual herb.

Description

Prostrate to erect herb with trifoliate leaves. Flowers yellow in clustered racemes appearing as head inflorescence; fruit spiny coiled pod forming a disc- like structure.

Habitat

Sands soil and garden soil.

Distribution

Widespread after seasonal rains along roadsides in Doha and a weed of gardens and fields; collected at Al Magda.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Fodder herb.

Vernacular Names

Jet barri, Hassak; حسك، جت بري





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Trifolieae**

Scientific Name

Medicago sativa L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 778 (1753).

Habit

Annuals or short-lived perennial herb.

Description

Erect leafy herb with trifoliate stipulate leaves; flowers numerous, small, purple in pyramidal racemes; fruit a 3-leveled coiled pod on short pedicels.

Habitat

Sandy stony ground and garden soil.

Distribution

Escapes of cultivation in the vicinity of agricultural fields, house gardens and roadsides.

Ind/Int/Cult

Cultivated (escape).

Local Use

Fodder herb.

Vernacular Names

Jet, Barseem; جت، برسيم





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

Fabaceae: Faboideae

Tribe: Trifolieae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Melilotus albus Medik., Vorles Churpfalz. Phys.-Ocon. Ges. 2:382 (1787).

Syn.

Melilotus argutus Rchb., Fl. Germ. Excurs. 499 (1832).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect herb with trifoliolate leaves. Flowers many, small, white, on long racemes; fruit oblong pods with reticulate surface.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Less common than *M.indicus* occurring in parks, avenues, gardens, etc. and tends to reappear on the same site every season (QU grounds).

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced weed.

Local Use

Fodder herb.

Vernacular Names

Handagog abiad; حندقوق أبيض





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Trifolieae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Melilotus indicus (L.) All., Fl. Pedem. 1:308 (1785).

Syn.

Trifolium indicum L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 765 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect much-branched herb with trifoliolate leaves.
Flowers, minute, yellow on long narrow racemes; fruit
very small oblong pod.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Weed of parks, avenues, gardens, etc.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced with impure seeds of agriculture and
horticulture.

Local Use

Fodder; all leguminous weeds are collected for fodder.

Vernacular Names

Handagog asfar; حندقوق أصفر





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

Fabaceae: Faboideae

Tribe: Trifolieae

Scientific Name

Ononis reclinata L., Sp. Pl., ed. 2, 1011 (1763).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Small glandular hairy herb with trifoliate leaves.
Flowers axillary, solitary, pink-blue; fruit pendulous
deflexed hairy pods exposed from persistent calyces.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Very rare and a small stand was at Ras Laffan.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous



Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Trifolieae**

Scientific Name

Ononis sicula Guss., Cat. Pl. Hort. Boccadfalco 78
(1821).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Soft pale green leafy viscid herb; leaves trifoliolate with the mid leaflet longer. Flowers axillary, solitary, yellow; fruit small pendulous legumes about 1.5 cm long, exposed.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Reported by Batanouny (1981) but no specimen seen.

Ind/Int/Cult





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Trifolieae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Trifolium resupinatum L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 771 (1753).

Syn.

Trifolium suaveolens Willd., Hort. Berol., t.108 (1812);

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Prostrate slender weak-stemmed herb with many basal branches. Leaves trifoliate. Flowers about 15, deep pink, in congested racemes with densely hairy calyces becoming cottony in fruit; fruit legumes enclosed in inflated calyces.

Habitat

Roadsides and fields.

Distribution

Rare weed of wet fields and gardens; one specimen collected from the State Guest Palace (Boulos 11212) was examined at Kew.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

Fabaceae:Faboideae

Tribe:Trifolieae

Scientific Name

Trigonella anguina Delile, Descr. Egypte Hist. Nat. 254 (1814).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Much branched herb with compound trifoliate leaves. Flowers small, congested; fruit bunches of twisted torulose pods.

Habitat

Sandy stony areas and depressions and frequent in cultivated fields.

Distribution

Common weed of cultivated areas and moist ground appearing mostly after the seasonal rains.

Ind/Int/Cult

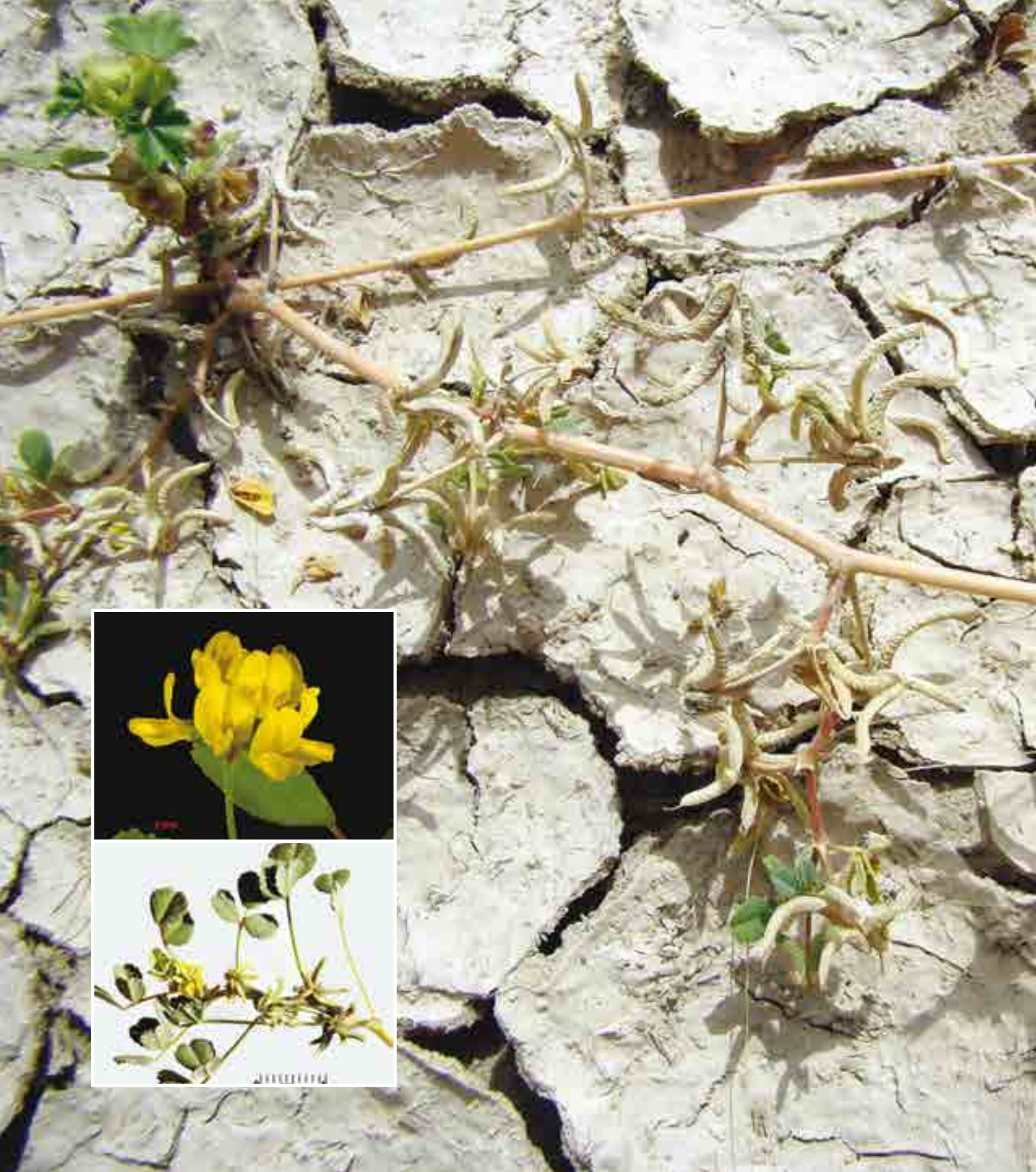
Indigenous.

Local Use

Fodder herb.

Vernacular Names

Nafal barri; نفل بري





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Trifolieae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Trigonella glabra Thunb., Prodr. Pl. Cap. 137 (1800).

Syn.

Trigonella hamosa L., Syst. Nat. ed. 10:1180 (1759).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Much-branched herb with yellow flowers in compact racemes; fruit a bunch of deflexed pods.

Habitat

Sandy loamy soil.

Distribution

Widespread in depressions where moisture is retained and a common weed of gardens and fields.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Fodder herb.

Vernacular Names

Nafal barri; نفل بري





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

Fabaceae: Faboideae

Tribe: Trifolieae

Scientific Name

Trigonella monantha C.A. Mey., Verz. Pflanz. Cauc. 137
(1831).)

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Decumbent herb with numerous basal branches. ;
leaves trifoliolate with obovate leaflets. Flowers yellow;
fruit hairy pods.

Habitat

Sandy-clayey soil.

Distribution

Reported by Batanouny (1981) as of rare occurrence
but no specimen seen.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Vernacular Names

Nafal barri; نفل بري





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Faboideae
Tribe: Trifolieae**

Scientific Name

Trigonella stellata Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. :140 (1775).

Habit

Annual herb to short-lived perennial.

Description

Sweet-scented prostrate herb with compound trifoliolate leaves. Flowers yellow on congested racemes; fruit clustered, falcate pods.

Habitat

Sandy stony soil and moist garden soil.

Distribution

Widespread after winter rains and a common weed of lawns overtaking planted lawn grasses.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range herb.

Vernacular Names

Nafal barri; نفل بري





Clade Order Family:Subfamily
Core Eudicots/ Fabales Fabaceae: Mimosoideae
Rosids/Fabids Tribe: Acacieae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Acacia ehrenbergiana Hayne, Getreue Darst. Gew. 10:t. 29 (1827).

Syn.

Acacia flava (Forssk.) Schweinf. var. *ehrenbergiana* (Hayne) Roberty.

Habit

Tree.

Description

Armed tree with bipinnate leaves and long white stipular spines. Inflorescences deep yellow heads; fruit falcate pod.

Habitat

Sandy loamy soils more common in deep rodats in Central Qatar.

Distribution

Widespread in open places and rodats.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Shade, firewood and fodder plant.

Vernacular Names

Sallam; سلم





Clade	Order	Family:Subfamily
Core Eudicots/ Rosids/Fabids	Fabales	Fabaceae: Mimosoideae Tribe: Acacieae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Acacia tortilis (Forssk.) Hayne, Getreue Darst. Gew. 10:t
31 (1827) subspecies *tortilis*

Syn.

Mimosa tortilis Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. 176 (1775).

Habit

Tree.

Description

Armed small multi-stemmed trees with umbrella-shaped crown and numerous thorns and prickles. Flowers white to pale yellow head; fruits coiled pods.

Habitat

Sandy loamy soils, rodats, wadis and depressions.

Distribution

Widespread in runnels, depressions and rodats and all open space; with *Lycium shawii*, they represent the most common woody species in Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Firewood and fodder plant and a natural shade for resting animals.

Vernacular Names

Samur; سمر





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Mimosoideae
Tribe: Acacieae**

Scientific Name & Syns.

Prosopis cineraria (L.) Druce Rep. Bot. Exch. Club Soc. Brit. Isles 3:422 (1914).

Syns.

***Prosopis spicigera* L.; *Pspicata* Burm f.; *Mimosa cineraria* L.**

Habit

Tree.

Description

Large tree with large round crown; leaves pinnate. Flowers yellow in slender cylindrical spikes; fruit long narrow cylindrical brown pods slightly constricted between the seeds; seeds reddish brown.

Habitat

Depressions with sandy soil.

Distribution

Al Ghafat (a stand of 8 trees), sporadic in N. Qatar and >10 trees in rod at in N. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous (Endangered species).

Local Use

Range (Heavily grazed by camels).

Vernacular Names

Ghaf; غاف





Clade	Order	Family:Subfamily
Core Eudicots/ Rosids/Fabids	Fabales	Fabaceae: Mimosoideae Tribe: Acacieae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Prosopis farcta (Banks & Sol.) J. F. Macbr., Contr. Gray Herb., ser. 2, 59:17 (1919).

Syns.

Mimosa farcta Banks & Sol. in Russel, Nat. Hist. Aleppo, ed. 2, 2:226 (1794); *Lagonychium farctum* (Banks & Sol.) Bobrov in Komarov, Fl. SSSR 11:14 (1945).

Habit

Shrub.

Description

Spiny shrubs variable in size according to growth conditions; leaves compound pinnate. Flowers yellow on long spikes; fruit indehiscent thick torulose brown pods.

Habitat

Sandy-clayey soil.

Distribution

Common in agricultural fields in N. Qatar and rare in moist wasteland elsewhere.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced possibly from Syria or Iran.

Local Use

Fodder shrub.

Vernacular Names

Yanbout; ينبوت





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family:Subfamily

**Fabaceae: Mimosoideae
Tribe: Acacieae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Prosopis juliflora (Sw.) DC., Prodr, 2: 447 (1825).

Syn.

Prosopis chilensis (Molina) Stuntz emend. Burkart, J. Arnold. Arb. 57:450-525 (1976).

Habit

Tree.

Description

Trees with large crown and drooping branches. Flowers yellow on long pendulous spikes; fruit indehiscent, pale yellow long pods with sweet pulp.

Habitat

All types of habitats but less common on extremely saline soil.

Distribution

Widespread. Initially planted as avenue and hedge plant in the fifties and has since spread all over Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced but now naturalized and invasive.

Local Use

Shade, hedge and avenue trees.

Vernacular Names

Meskeet, Ghweif; مسكيت، غوييف





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family

Frankeniaceae

Scientific Name

Frankenia pulverulenta L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 332 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Mat-forming prostrate herb with minute leaves and pale rose flowers with yellow anthers.

Habitat

Moist saline soil.

Distribution

Depressions and cultivated fields. Common in N. E. Qatar and Al Shamal coastline.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Meleiha; مليحه





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Gentianales

Family

Gentianaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Centaureum pulchellum (Swartz) Druce, Fl. Berkshire 342 (1898).

Syn.

Gentiana pulchella Swartz, Kongl. Vetensk. Akad. Nya Handl. 4:85 (1783).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Slender herb with few erect basal branches; leaves opposite, linear with short petioles. Flowers axillary, solitary, deep pink with long sepals.

Habitat

Moist garden soil.

Distribution

A weed initially localized at Rodat Al Faras, N. Qatar but now in other farms.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Gentianales

Family

Gentianaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Enicostema axillare (Lam.) A. Raynal, *Adansonia* ser. 2, 9:75 (1969).

Syn.

Gentiana axillaris Lam., *Tabl. Encycl.* 1:487 (1793).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Small leafy herb with squared stem and long linear leaves. Flowers axillary, small, white, congested at apices.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Localized (seen once in Qatar University car park).

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Geraniales

Family

Geraniaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Erodium glaucophyllum (L.) L'Her. in Aiton. Hort. Kew., ed. 1, 2:416 (1789).

Syn.

Geranium glaucophyllum L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 679 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect leafy herb with numerous branches. Flowers deep pink with 5 stamens; fruit large with feathery mericarps.

Habitat

Moist sandy loamy soil.

Distribution

Occasional in depressions along roadsides in C. and N. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

كرش، إبرة الراهب; Ibrat al rahib, Kersh





Clade	Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Rosids/Malvids	Geraniales	Geraniaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Erodium laciniatum (Cav.) Willd., Sp. Pl., ed. 4, 3:633 (1800).

Syns.

Geranium lacinatum Cav., Diss. 228 (1787); ***Erodium affine*** Ten., Index Sem. Hort. Neapol 1830:13 (1830).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Small decumbent light greyish few-leaved herb. Flowers pink with deep pink nectar guides; fruit elongated producing seeds with long pappus.

Habitat

Shallow depressions with sandy soil.

Distribution

Widespread appearing after the rains throughout N. and C. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Qarnawah, Ibrat al rahib; قرنة، إبرة الراهب





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Geraniales

Family

Geraniaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Erodium neuradifolium Delile, Mem. Acad. Sci.,
Montpellier, Sect. Med. 1:425 (1853).

Syns.

Erodium aegyptiacum Boiss., Diagn. Pl. Orient., ser. 2,
1:111 (1854); *E. aragonense* Loscos, Trat. Pl. Aragon 2:
228 (1880).

Habit

Ephemeral herb.

Description

Decumbent low herb; leaves simple lobed with
undulate margins. Flowers deep pink with 5 stamens;
fruit opens from base upwards.

Habitat

Sandy stony soil.

Distribution

Widespread in sandy depressions after seasonal rains.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Ibrat al rahib; إبرة الراهب





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Geraniales

Family

Geraniaceae

Scientific Name

Erodium oxyrhynchum M. Bieb., Pl. Taur.-Caucas. 2:133 (1808) subsp. ***bryoniifolium*** (Boiss.) Schonb.-Tem. in Rech. F., Pl. Iran. 69:43 (1970).

Habit

Ephemeral annual herb.

Description

Decumbent small herb with lobed leaves. Flowers pink with distinct nectar guides and 5 stamens; fruit opens from base upwards.

Habitat

Sandy stony soil.

Distribution

Widespread after winter rains on sandy mounds and sandy depressions throughout N. and C. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Ibrat al rahib; إبرة الراهب





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Geraniales

Family

Geraniaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Geranium molle L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 682 (1753).

Syn.

Geranium stipulare Kunze, Flora (Regensburg) 29: 698 (1846).

Habit

Ephemeral annual herb.

Description

Herb with palmately lobed leaves. Flowers deep pink with central dark blotches and 10 stamens; fruit opens from base upwards.

Habitat

Sandy stony soil.

Distribution

Central Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.







Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Geraniales

Family

Geraniaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Monsonia heliotropioides (Cav.) Boiss., Fl. Orient. 1: 897 (1867).

Syns.

Geranium heliotropioides Cav., Diss. 220 (1787);

Monsonia hispida Boiss., Diagn. Fl. Orient., ser. 1, 8:120 (1849).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Small very hairy greyish green herb; leaves simple, ovate-deltoid with sinuate margins. Flowers small, pink, crowded in umbels on long hairy axillary peduncles, with 15 stamens; fruit with plumose beaks.

Habitat

Sandy–stony soil.

Distribution

Rare in shallow sandy depressions in S. Qatar appearing after the rain.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range herb.

Vernacular Names

Dahma, Qerienwa, Qarno دهمة ، قرينوه ، قرنو





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Geraniales

Family

Geraniaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Monsonia nivea (Decne.) Webb, Fragm. Fl. Aethiop.-
Aegypt. 59 (1854).

Syns.

Erodium niveum Decne., Ann. Sci. Nat. Bot., ser. 2, 3:285
(1835); *E. bonacellii* Pamp., Agric. Colon. 22:365 (1928).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Small, erect herb with simple leaves, impressed
nerves and sinuate margins. Flowers axillary on long
peduncles, pink, with 15 stamens; fruit opens from
base upwards.

Habitat

Sandy-stony soil.

Distribution

Widespread after seasonal rains in sandy depressions
throughout Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range herb.

Vernacular Names

Dahma; دهمة





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Lamiales

Family

**Lamiaceae
(Labiatae)**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Leucas urticifolia (Vahl) R. Br., Prodr. Fl. Nov. Holl. 504 (1810).

Syn.

Phlomis urticifolia Vahl, Symb. Bot. 3:76 (1794).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect much branched herb with square stem; leaves opposite and decussate, petiolate. Flowers white, bilabiate with 4 orange stamens, in many-flowered verticillaster, fruit enclosed in persistent calyces, of 4 nutlets.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

A new weed in Doha gardens.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced possibly with garden soil.





Clade	Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Lamiids	Lamiales	Lamiaceae (Labiatae)

Scientific Name & Syn.

Salvia aegyptiaca L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 23 (1753).

Syn.

Salvia pumila Benth., Lab. Gen. Sp. 726 (1834).

Habit

Short-lived perennial.

Description

Suffrutescent aromatic herb with very attractive blue-purple bilabiate flowers with a mottled lower lip; fruit with small black seeds.

Habitat

Water catchment depressions.

Distribution

Widespread in rain pools and low depressions throughout Qatar. More common in N. and C. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Food and medicinal plant.

Vernacular Names

Naeem, Beraiho (seeds); (اللبذور) نعيم، بريهو





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Lamiales

Family

**Laminaceae
(Labiatae)**

Scientific Name

Teucrium polium L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 566 (1753).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Aromatic low woody herb with silvery branches ending in heads of minute flowers.

Habitat

Saline and sub-saline soils and shallow depressions.

Distribution

Widespread; more common in N-N E. Qatar. Common in dried rain pools along Mekeinis-Umm Bab road.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Medicinal herb.

Vernacular Names

Jaad, Yaad; (جعد) (يعد)





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Malpighiales

Family

Linaceae

Scientific Name

Linum strictum L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 279 (1753).

Habit

Ephemeral annual herb.

Description

Slender erect much branched herb with opposite linear leaves. Flowers in compound congested cymes subtended by linear bracts.

Habitat

Coastal sandy mounds.

Distribution

North-eastern Qatar, Ras Laffan, Fuwairit.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous; plant disappeared from many of its locations.

Vernacular Names

Katan barri; كتان بري





Clade

**Eudicots/Rosids/
Malvids**

Order

Malvales

Family:Subfamily

**Malvaceae:
Grewioideae**

Scientific Name & Syns.

Corchorus depressus (L.) Stocks., Proc. Linn. Soc. 1:367 (1848).

Syns.

Anticharis depressus L., Mant, 46 (1767); ***Corchorus antichorus*** (L.) Raesssch., Nomencl. Bot. ed. 3, 158 (1797).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Prostrate woody herb; leaves minute with wavy margins. Flowers axillary, small, pale yellow; fruit falcate capsules.

Habitat

Low depressions with compact sandy clayey soil.

Distribution

Widespread in depressions with compact soil and forming stands of appressed individuals tightly fixed in the soils.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range plant.

Vernacular Names

Sutaih, Rukbat al jamal; سُطَيْح, رُكْبَةُ الْجَمَل





Clade

**Eudicots/Rosids/
Malvids**

Order

Malvales

Family:Subfamily

**Malvaceae:
Grewioideae**

Scientific Name

Corchorus olitorius L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 529 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect leafy herb similar to the cultivated species but generally much smaller; leaves tailed. Flowers small, yellow; fruit long capsules with black-bluish seeds.

Habitat

Fields and gardens.

Distribution

Weed of cultivation.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Local Use

Cultivated species edible.

Vernacular Names

Molokheya barria; ملوخيه برية





Clade

**Eudicots/Rosids/
Malvids**

Order

Malvales

Family:Subfamily

**Malvaceae:
Grewioideae**

Scientific Name & Syns.

Corchorus trilocularis L., Mant. 77 (1767).

Syns.

Corchorus serraefolius DC., Prodc., 1:504 (1824); Sond., Fl. Cap. 1:229 (1860); *C. triflorus* Bojer, Hort. Maurit. 43 (1837); *C. asplenifolius* E. Mey. ex Harv. and Sond.

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect leafy herb; leaves tailed similar to the cultivated species but leaves and fruit narrower and fruit with 3 divergent projections.

Habitat

Agricultural land.

Distribution

Very rare in vegetable plots.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Vernacular Names

Mollokheia barria; ملوخية برية





Clade
**Eudicots/Rosids/
Malvids**

Order
Malvales

Family:Subfamily
**Malvaceae:
Grewioideae**

Scientific Name
Sida alba L., Sp. Pl., ed. 2, 960 (1763).

Habit
Annual or perennials herb.

Description
Erect leafy herb up to 40 cm high, similar to the cultivated species of *Chorchorus* but leaves not tailed and generally much smaller; leaves alternate, stipulate, long-petiolate, ovate, 3-4 cm x 2.5 cm. Flowers axillary, solitary, small, white; fruit round capsules.

Habitat
In *Chorchorus* fields.

Distribution
Weed of cultivation.

Ind/Int/Cult
Introduced with moulukhia seeds.





Clade

**Eudicots/Rosids/
Malvids**

Order

Malvales

Family:Subfamily

**Malvaceae:
Grewioideae**

Scientific Name

Sida ovata Forssk., Fl. Aegypt-Arab.:124 (1775).

Habit

Annual or perennial herb .

Description

Erect leafy herb similar to *Sida alba* but leaves grey covered with dense hairs. Flowers about 2.5 cm across, peach – orange with a short staminal tube at the center; fruit a capsule.

Habitat

In fields.

Distribution

Weed of cultivation. Rare; collected from Al Shafahleyia.
New record for Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced with imported agricultural seeds.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Malvales

Family: Subfamily

**Malvaceae:
Malvoideae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Abutilon fruticosum Guill. et. Perr. in Guill. et *al.*, Fl. Seneg. Tent. 70 (1831).

Syn.

Abutilon denticulatum (Fresen) Webb, Fragm. Fl. Aethiop. –Aegypt. 51 (1854).

Habit

Perennial shrub.

Description

Bush with large cordate leaves. Flowers yellow; fruit truncate, schizocarpic with few mericarps (less than 10).

Habitat

Sandy clayey soil.

Distribution

Agricultural farms and fallow land.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Vernacular Names

قرقدان; Gargadan;





Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order
Malvales

Family: Subfamily
**Malvaceae:
Malvoideae**

Scientific Name

Abutilon figarianum Webb, Fragm. Fl. Aethiop.- Aegypt.
52 (1854).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Shrub over a metre high; leaves large, cordate, softly hairy. Flowers axillary, yellow with no central blotch; fruit rounded, scizocarpic; mericarps many with hairy apices and seeds positioned near base.

Habitat

Fallow land and sandy clayey soil.

Distribution

More common in agricultural fields. Rare by roadsides in C. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Vernacular Names

Gargadan; قرقدان





Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order
Malvales

Family: Subfamily
**Malvaceae:
Malvoideae**

Scientific Name

Abutilon pannosum (Forst. f.) Schltld., Bot. Zeit. (Berlin) 9:828 (1851).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Bush with large cordate leaves. Flowers with dark central blotch; fruit rounded, schizocarpic with numerous mericarps; mericarps 3-seeded; seeds spaced.

Habitat

Sandy clayey soil.

Distribution

Agricultural farms and fallow land.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Vernacular Names

Gargadan; قرقدان





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Malvales

Family: Subfamily

**Malvaceae:
Malvoideae**

Scientific Name

Althaea ludwigii L., Mant. 98 (1767).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Decumbent herb with palmately lobed leaves on slender long petioles. Flowers axillary and terminal in congested racemes, densely hairy; fruit capsules opening lengthwise with 5 valves.

Habitat

Agricultural land.

Distribution

Weed of agriculture.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Medicinal plant.

Vernacular Names

Khatma; ختمية





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Malvales

Family: Subfamily

**Malvaceae
Malvoideae**

Scientific Name

Malva nicaeensis All., Fl. Pedem. 2:40 (1785).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Low herb with large cordate leaves similar to *Malva parviflora* but with broader epicalyx segments and larger petals.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Rare weed of farms, gardens and lawns.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Vernacular Names

Khubaiza; خبیزه





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Malvales

Family: Subfamily

**Malvaceae
Malvoideae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Malva parviflora L., Demonstr. Pl. Hort. Upsal. 18 (1753).

Syn.

Malva flexuosa Hornem., Hort. Hefn. 2: 655 (1815).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Low herb with large cordate leaves. Flowers white to pale pink; fruit schizocarpic with numerous mericarps.

Habitat

Wasteland and agricultural fields.

Distribution

Widespread in Doha and disturbed areas. One of the most common agricultural weeds.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Leaves eaten as spinach.

Vernacular Names

Khubaiza; خبيزة





Clade	Order	Family
Eudicots	Ranunculales	Menispermaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Cocculus pendulus (J.R. & G. Forst.) Diels. in Engl. Pflanzen. Nr. 46:237 (1910).

Syn.

Epibaterium pendulum J.R. & G. Forst., Char. Gen. Pl. 108, ed. 4 (1776).

Habit

Woody climber (liane).

Description

Scandent scrub spreading on tall tree canopies or forming bushy growth of entangled shoots. Flowers small and green; fruit orange-red.

Habitat

Rodats and wadis with sandy loamy soil.

Distribution

Widespread in N. and C. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Khuneigh; خنيق





Clade	Superorder/Order	Family
Core Eudicots	Caryophyllanae/ Caryophyllales	Molluginaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Mollugo cerviana (L.) Ser. in DC., Prodr. 1:392 (1824).

Syn.

Pharnaceum cerviana L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 272 (1753).

Habit

Ephemeral annual herb.

Description

Tiny delicate herb with rosette of basal leaves and small few-flowered terminal Inflorescences.

Habitat

Sandy stony soils with crust of clayey layer.

Distribution

Widespread after the seasonal rains and by roadsides.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Degayga; دقيقه





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Malvales

Family

Neuradaceae

Scientific Name

Neurada procumbens L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 441 (1753).

Habit

Annual or biennial herb.

Description

Prostrate herb with thin tap root usually with fruit remains. Branches basal, leaves petiolate with dentate margins. Flowers axillary, solitary, small; fruit disc-shaped smooth beneath and tuberculate above.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Common and widespread in southern Qatar, Dukhan–Umm Bab.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Fodder plant and young plants edible.

Vernacular Names

Saeed saydan, Sadan; سعدان, سعيد سعيدان





Clade
Dicots

Superorder/Order
**Caryophyllanae/
Caryophyllales**

Family
Nyctaginaceae

Scientific Name
Boerhaavia erecta L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 3, (1753).

Habit
Annual or short-lived perennial herb.

Description
Erect, glabrous, much branched herb with lax inflorescences of small pale pink flowers turning to glabrous indehiscent fruits.

Habitat
Garden soil.

Distribution
Rare weed.

Ind/Int/Cult
Introduced.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Lamiales

Family

Orobanchaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Cistanche phelypaea (L.) Cout., Fl. Port. 571 (1913).

Syn.

Lathraea phelypaea L., Sp. Pl., ed. 2, 606 (1753).

Habit

Perennial parasite.

Description

Total parasite with swollen underground rhizomes and flowering above ground after rains. Flowers yellow and purple tinge on swollen fleshy peduncles; fruit capsules with numerous dark-brown minute seeds.

Habitat

Sabkhas where their host plants occur.

Distribution

In vicinity of shrubby halophytes and rarely on *Tetraena qatarense*. Common host plant is *Arthrocnemum macrostachyum*.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Rhizomes used to be eaten roasted. Camels relish it.

Vernacular Names

Zanoon; ذنون





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Lamiales

Family

Orobanchaceae

Scientific Name

Orobanche ramosa L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 633 (1753).

Habit

Annual parasite.

Description

Total parasite with swollen base producing fleshy peduncles of racemes with purple flowers.

Habitat

Gardens and fields with ornamental annuals and vegetables of the family Solanaceae.

Distribution

Garden soils with seasonal *Petunia* and fields of Solanaceous vegetables.

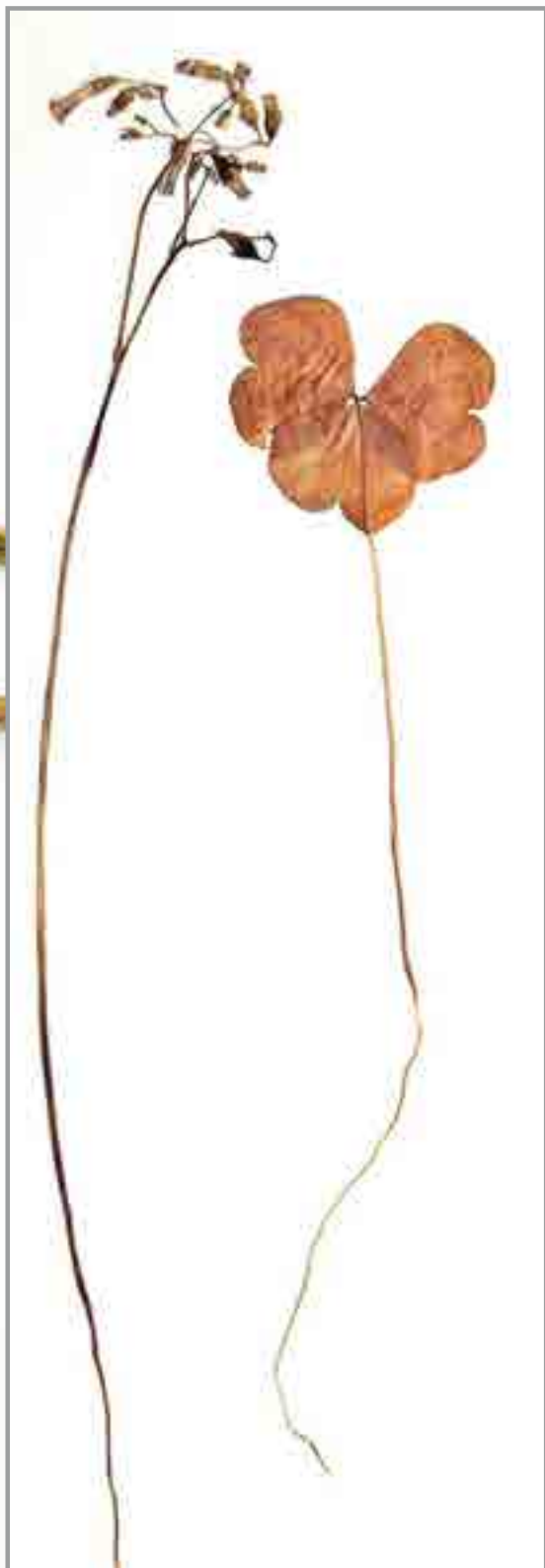
Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced as impurities of imported tomatoes and petunia seeds.

Vernacular Names

Haluke; هالوك





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Geraniales

Family

Oxalidaceae

Scientific Name

Oxalis anthelmintica A. Rich., Tent. Fl. Abyss. 1:124
(1847).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Creeping - prostrate herb with vegetative growth by bulbils; leaves trifoliolate with heart-shaped leaflets. Flowers blue in terminal lax cymes on long basal peduncles; fruit globose capsules.

Habitat

Sandy-clayey soil.

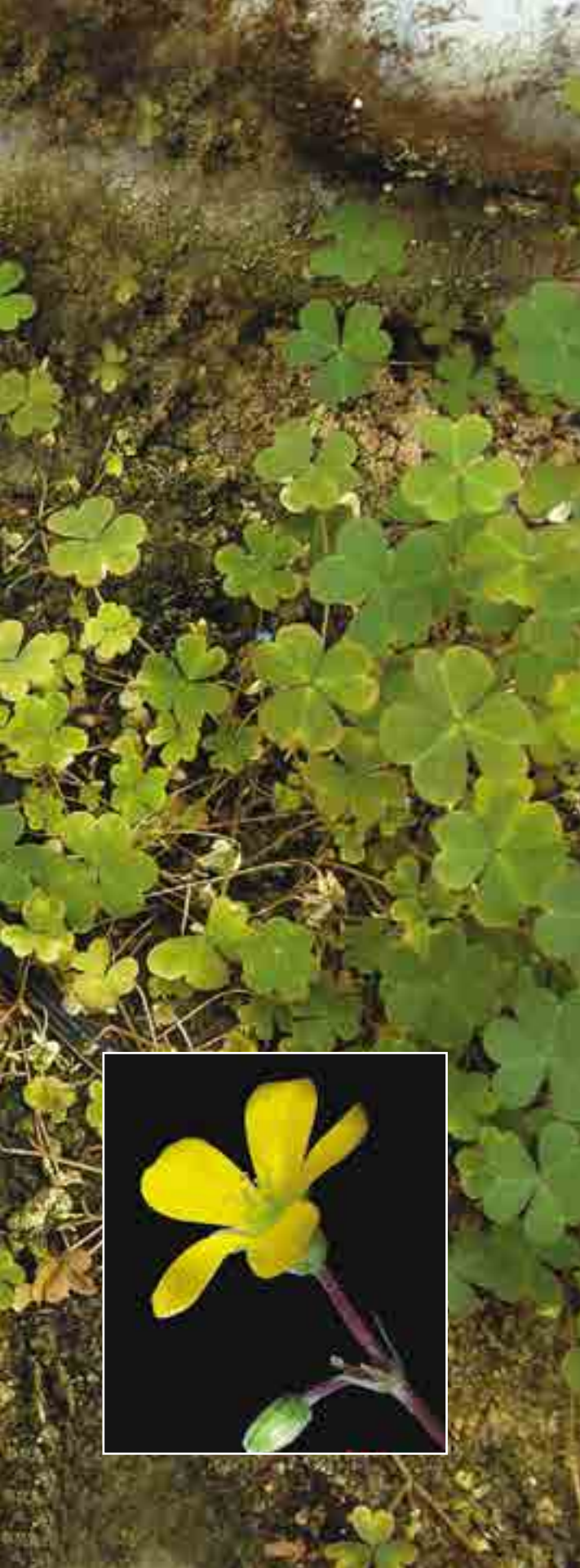
Distribution

Rare weed of cultivation; Al Khor.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced plant





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Geraniales

Family

Oxalidaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Oxalis corniculata L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 435 (1753).

Syn.

Oxalis repens Thunb., Diss. Oxalis 16 (1781).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Small prostrate to decumbent herb rooting at lower nodes, leaves trifoliolate, heart-shaped on long petioles. Flowers yellow on long peduncles; fruit oblong capsules.

Habitat

Moist garden soil.

Distribution

Common garden weed difficult to eradicate because of vegetative reproduction.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced with horticultural plants.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Geraniales

Family

Oxalidaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Oxalis pes-caprae L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 434 (1753).

Syn.

Oxalis cernua Thunb., Diss. Oxalis 14 (1781).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Herb growing from underground stems with bulbils; leaves trifoliate on very long petioles; leaflet narrow, heart-shaped. Flowers many, yellow, on congested compound cymes.

Habitat

Moist garden soil.

Distribution

Rare garden weed collected at QU gardens and reported as a weed of irrigated tree plantations at Al Khor.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced with potted horticultural plants.





Clade
Eudicots

Order
Ranunculales

Family
Papaveraceae

Scientific Name

Papaver rhoeas L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 507 (1753).

Habit

Annual herbs.

Description

Slender herb with dark green pinnatisect leaves. Flowers solitary on long peduncles, bright red with black base; fruit capsules with apical pores.

Habitat

Disturbed areas and roadsides.

Distribution

Rare by roadsides at Al Shahaneeya and in vicinity of Doha residential areas (Al Azizya and Al Rayyan).

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced possibly with fodder grains.

Vernacular Names

Khaskhash barri; خشخاش بري





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Malpighiales

Family

Phyllanthaceae

Scientific Name

Phyllanthus nuriri L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect herb with minute oblong leaves arranged almost overlapping. Flowers unisexual pale green and transparent; fruit trilocular, globose appearing as droplets on the under surface of the leaves.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Common weed of gardens and agricultural land.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Vernacular Names

Iraq al nada; عرق الندي



Clade	Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Lamiids	Lamiales	Plantaginaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Misopates orontium (L.) Rafin., Autikon Bot.158 (1840).

Syn.

Antirrhinum orontium L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 617 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect small hairy herb 8-10 cm rarely reaching 30 cm high; leaves opposite, simple, linear lanceolate. Flowers axillary, zygomorphic, petals yellow with pink tinge; fruit capsule opening by apical pores.

Habitat

Irrigated fields.

Distribution

Weed of cultivated irrigated fields.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Local Use

Fodder herb.

Vernacular Names

Saysam; سيسام





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Lamiales

Family

Plantaginaceae

Scientific Name

Plantago amplexicaulis Cav., Icon. Descr. 2:22, t. 125 (1793).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Slender herb with rosette of long lanceolate curved leaves. Flowers on broad spicate compact heads forming large grain-like fruits.

Habitat

Moist depressions.

Distribution

Occasional in depressions near cultivated areas and rare in rodats.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range herb.

Vernacular Names

Rablat al mistah, Lesan al hamal; ربلّة المسطح، لسان الحمل





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Lamiales

Family

Plantaginaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Plantago arenaria Waldst. & Kit., Descr. Icon. Pl. Hung. 51 (1801).

Syn.

Plantago psyllium L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 115 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Leafy slender herb with linear lanceolate leaves clasping the main stem. Flowers on spicate compact heads on ancillary peduncles.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Occasional near cultivated areas and rare in rodats.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced. The species is cultivated elsewhere for its husks.

Local Use

Fodder plant.

Vernacular Names

Lesan al hamal; لسان الحمل





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Lamiales

Family

Plantaginaceae

Scientific Name

Plantago ciliata Desf., Fl. Atlant. 1:137 (1798).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Small reddish-yellow herb trapping sands with very woolly cover and small spikes.

Habitat

Windblown sands.

Distribution

Widespread throughout Qatar appearing after rains.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range herb.

Vernacular Names

Rabla, Lesan al hamal; ربلّة، لسان الحمل





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Lamiales

Family

Plantaginaceae

Scientific Name

Plantago coronopus L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 115 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Slender herb branching from the base with few branches. Flowers on elongated spikes on slim peduncles; spikes compact heads.

Habitat

Moist areas.

Distribution

Common in C. and N. Qatar after rain.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range herb.

Vernacular Names

Lesan al hamal; لسان الحمل





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Lamiales

Family

Plantaginaceae

Scientific Name

Plantago lanceolata L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 113 (1753).

Habit

Annual to short-lived perennial.

Description

Large herb with basal branches and long lanceolate leaves. Flowers on short compact spikes appearing at end of long peduncles.

Habitat

Moist areas.

Distribution

Rather rare in fields, gardens and moist areas.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Local Use

Fodder plant.

Vernacular Names

Lesan al hamal; لسان الحمل





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Lamiales

Family

Plantaginaceae

Scientific Name

Plantago ovata Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. 31 (1775).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Small slender herb with few basal branches; leaves linear with soft long hairs. Inflorescences spicate, compact heads on long scapes.

Habitat

Moist areas.

Distribution

Common in Central Qatar and Doha appearing after the seasonal rains.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

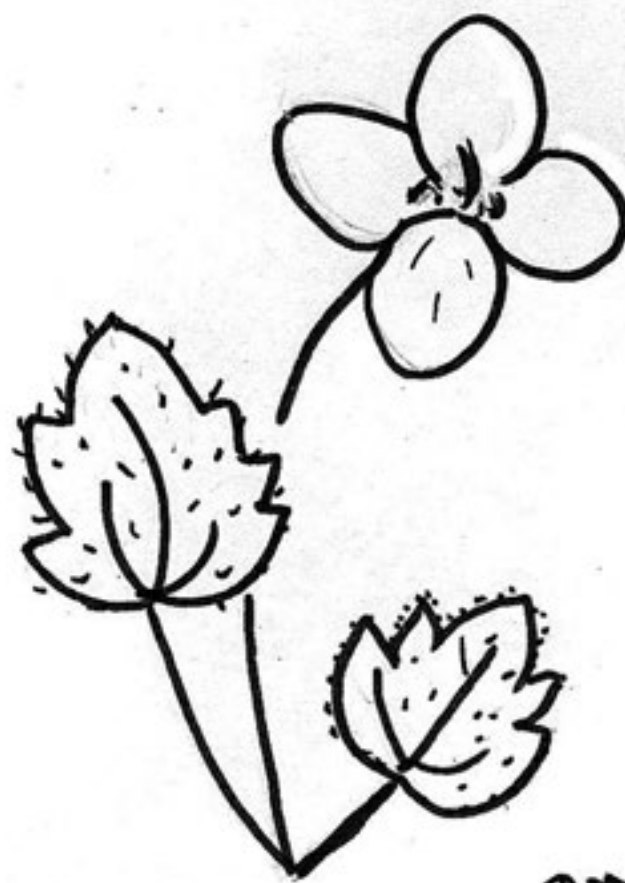
Range herb.

Vernacular Names

Lesan al hamal; لسان الحمل



XI



CMB



Herbar material
at Kew. GNM
11214

Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Lamiales

Family

Plantaginaceae

Scientific Name

Veronica cymbalaria Bod., Diss. 3 (1798).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Prostrate to decumbent weak-stemmed leafy slightly glandular herb with adventitious roots on lower branches; leaves alternate, triangular with a broad base, rather fleshy, margins serrate-dentate. Flowers axillary, small about 4mm across, pale blue or white with distinct nectar guides, on very long slim pedicels; fruit hairy.

Habitat

Garden soil in shady locations.

Distribution

Reported by Batanouny (1981) as a rare weed.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade Order Family
Core Eudicots Caryophyllales Plumbaginaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Limonium axillare (Forssk.) Kuntze, Revis. Gen. Pl. 1:395 (1891).

Syn.

Statice axillaris Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.–Arab. 58 (1775).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Low much-branched small bush with large fleshy leaves covered with salt glands. Purple and white flowers on much branched pyramidal inflorescences.

Habitat

Coastline with saline shelly soil.

Distribution

Widespread by the coastline; tolerates drought and salinity.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Qataf, Shelail; قطف، شليل





Clade

**Clade Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family

Polygalaceae

Scientific Name

Polygala erioptera DC., Prod. 1:326 (1824).

Habit

Annual or short-lived perennial.

Description

Slender herb with linear alternate leaves. Flowers axillary small with attractive mauve-purple petals.

Habitat

Sandy–stony soil.

Distribution

Rare in depressins in N. and C. Qatar and weed of gardens and fields particularly by water sources.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.



Clade

**Clade Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family

Polygonaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Calligonum comosum L'Heri., Trans. Linn. Soc. London
1:180 (1791).

Syn.

Calligonum polygonoides L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 530 (1753).
subsp. ***comosum*** (L'Heri.) Soskov, Nov. Sist. Vyss. Rast.
12:53 (1975).

Habit

Perennial shrub.

Description

Bush of many leafless (leaves deciduous) green
branches. Flowers small, white with > 12 stamens; fruit
red with bristles.

Habitat

Saline soil.

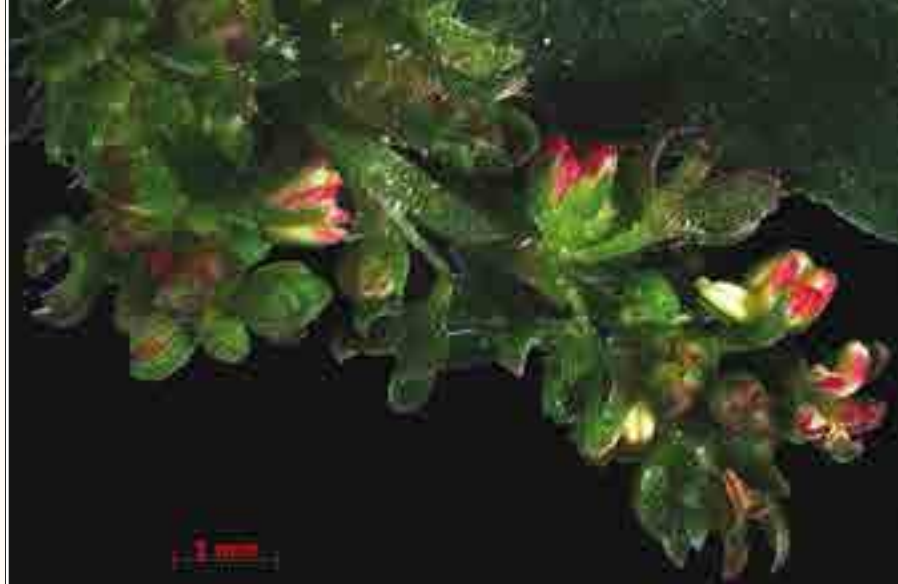
Distribution

Rare; Salwa coastline.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

**Clade Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Fabales

Family

Polygonaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Emex spinosa (L.) Campd., Monogr. Rumex 58, t. 1
1819).

Syn.

Rumex spinosus L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 337(1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Decumbent prostrate herb with large ovate leaves.
Flowers unisexual; fruits spiny.

Habitat

Moist saline soil.

Distribution

Weed of cultivation and arable/fallow land and sewage
disposal sites spreading by its spiny fruits on open
sandy ground after seasonal rains.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

ضرس العجوز، حنزاب; Drs al ajooz; Hanzab;



Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family

Polygonaceae

Scientific Name

Polygonum bellardii All., Fl. Pedem. 2:207 (1785).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Erect herb with ochrea on nodes and flowers on terminal spikes.

Habitat

Moist soil.

Distribution

Reported by El Amin (1983) on irrigation channels but not encountered by others.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Local Use

Fodder plant.



Clade	Order	Family
Core Eudicots	Caryophyllales	Polygonaceae

Scientific Name

Polygonum equisetiforme Sm., Fl. Graec. Prodr. 1:266 (1809).

Habit

Short-lived perennial herb.

Description

Slender herb.

Habitat

Depressions with sandy soil.

Distribution

Reported by Obeid (1975) but not recorded by others.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.



Clade	Order	Family
Core Eudicots	Caryophyllales	Polygonaceae

Scientific Name

Rumex cyprius Murb., Acta Univ. Lund., ser. 2, 2(14):20 (1907).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Herb with basal branching. Flowers and fruits in ring around nodes; fruit winged.

Habitat

Depressions with silty soil.

Distribution

Reported by Batanouny(1981) as rare.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family

Polygonaceae

Scientific Name

Rumex dentatus L., Mant. Alt. 2:226 (1771) subsp.
dentatus

Habit

Annual or short-lived perennial.

Description

Erect medium sized herb with lanceolate leaves.
Flowers in rings around nodes; fruit spiny.

Habitat

Moist wetland.

Distribution

Rare in Qatar occurring on moist ground and vicinity of
sewage ponds.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family

Polygonaceae

Scientific Name

Rumex vesicarius L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 336 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Small glabrous herb with sour fleshy triangular leaves. Flowers minute, green or pink; fruit winged; wings papery, pink or green with conspicuous veins.

Habitat

Sandy stony soil.

Distribution

Widespread after the rain and weed of cultivation, arable land and roadsides.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Collected as edible leaves and cultivated as salad.

Vernacular Names

Homeid; حميض





Clade
Dicots

Superorder/Order
**Caryophyllanae/
Caryophyllales**

Family
Portulacaceae

Scientific Name

Portulaca oleracea L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 445 (1753).

Habit

Annual or biennial herb.

Description

Green to reddish tinged decumbent herb with fleshy leaves similar to the cultivated Purslane and with inset yellow flowers and circumscissil capsules with small seeds.

Habitat

Moist areas.

Distribution

Common weed of agriculture and roadsides.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Local Use

Edible.

Vernacular Names

Barbeer, Rijla; بربير، رجه





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family

Portulacaceae

Scientific Name

Portulaca quadrifida L., Mant. Pl. 1:73 (1767).

Habit

Annual to short-lived perennial herb.

Description

Prostrate herb with slender branches rooting at the nodes and forming large mats; leaves small. Flowers axillary, small and attractive, yellow, tetramerous; fruit circumscissile capsules with numerous tuberculate reniform seeds.

Habitat

Gardens and fields.

Distribution

Weed of cultivated land occurring by the edges of ditches and waterways.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Vernacular Names

Beerbeer; بربر





Clade	Order	Family
Core Eudicots/Asterids	Ericales	Primulaceae

Scientific Name

Anagallis arvensis L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 148 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Attractive small herb with opposite and decussate ovate leaves. Flowers axillary, solitary, blue (var. *caerulea*) or orange (var. *arvensis*); fruit capsules with persistent calyces and numerous seeds.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Occasional weed of gardens and cultivated land. Both colour variants common in Doha gardens.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Vernacular Names

Ain al qit; عين القط





Clade

Eudicots

Order

Ranunculales

Family

Ranunculaceae

Scientific Name

Nigella sativa L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 653 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Small slender herb with much dissected pinnate leaves. Flowers comparatively large, white with numerous yellow anthers; fruit trilocular capsules with black seeds.

Habitat

Moist fields and garden soil.

Distribution

Vicinity of agricultural fields and seed markets in Doha.

Ind/Int/Cult

Escapes of cultivated fields and discarded seeds by local users.

Local Use

Medicinal and culinary herb also used in a mixture of alum, myrrh, etc. in Arab incense.

Vernacular Names

Kamoon aswad, Habat al baraka, Haba soda;

كمون أسود، حبة البركة، حبة سوداء





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Resedaceae

Scientific Name

Ochradenus baccatus Delile, Descr. Egypte, Hist. Nat. 63 (1814).

Habit

Perennial shrub.

Description

Dioecious bush with numerous leafless slender green branches. Flowers minute, yellow; female plants bearing yellow flowers and sweet white oval-round berries opening at apex and exposing black seeds; male flowers yellow. Plants sometimes monoecious.

Habitat

Disturbed areas.

Distribution

Occasional in rodats in Central Qatar. Common in disturbed areas in Doha. Birds eat berries and disperse seeds with their droppings.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Plant valuable as a food source to birds, insects and blow flies.

Vernacular Names

Qardi; قرصي





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Resedaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Oligomeris linifolia (Hornem.) J. F. Macbr., Confr. Gray
Herb., ser. 2, 53:13 (1918).

Syns.

***Reseda linifolia* Hornem.**, Hort. Bot. Hafn. 501 (1815);
Oligomeris subulata (Webb & Berthel) Webb, Fragn. Fl.
Aethiop.-Egypt. 26 (1854).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Short-lived slender plant with long slim terminal green
spikes and linear leaves. Flowers minute; fruit opens at
apex with few black seeds.

Habitat

Disturbed areas and sandy stony ground.

Distribution

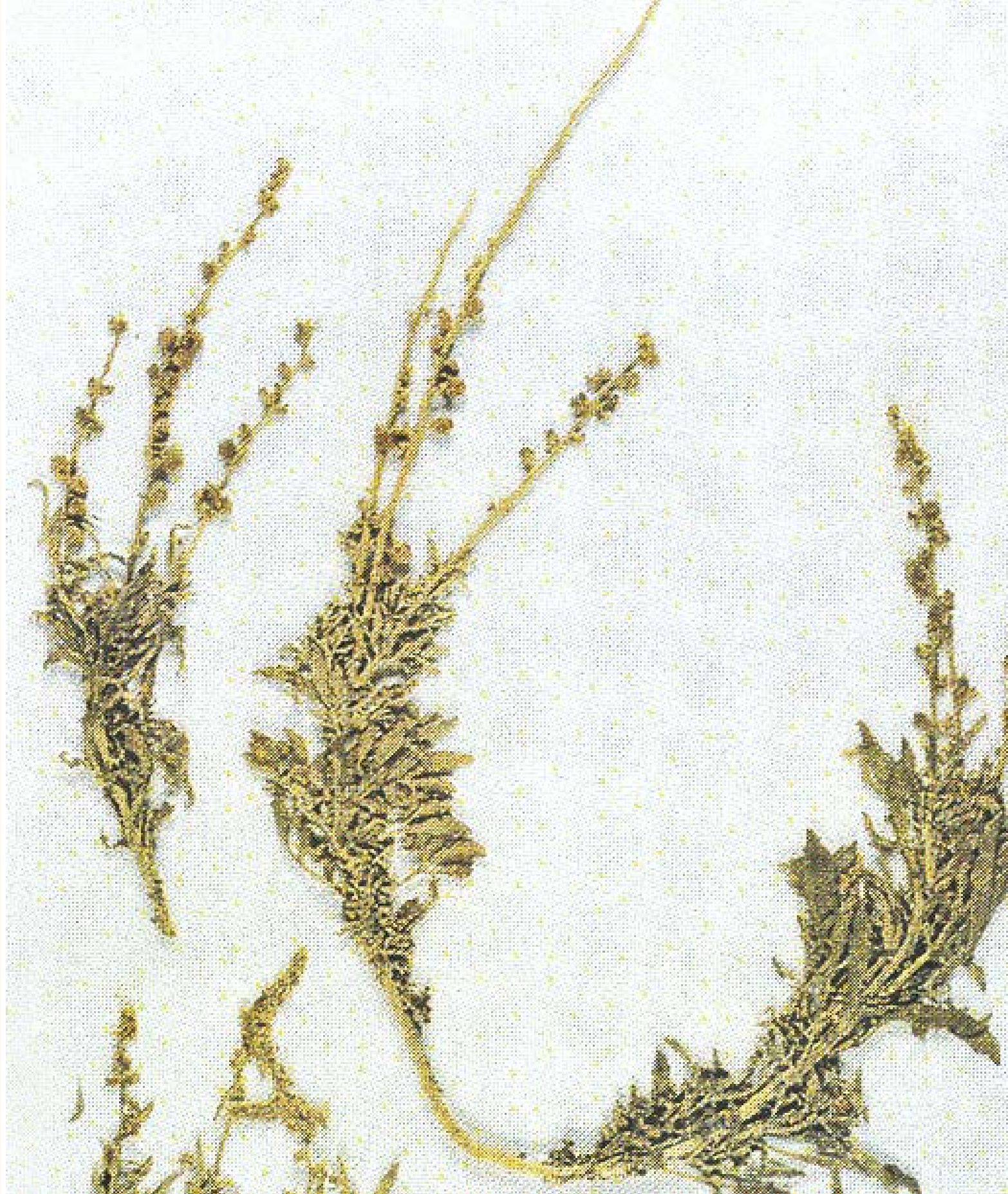
Widespread on coastlines roadsides and residential
areas throughout Qatar appearing after the onset of
the rains. Common at Al Wakra, Umm Bab, Abu Samra
and Doha.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Shawlah; شولة





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Resedaceae

Scientific Name

Reseda arabica Boiss., Diagn. Pl. Orient. ser. 1, 1:6
(1843).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Slender herb with lower undivided leaves and upper
divided leaves. Flowers peach-yellow in terminal spikes;
fruit given as pendulous with persistent calyces.

Plate provided is Batanouny's specimen [A79 from Al
Khor].

Habitat

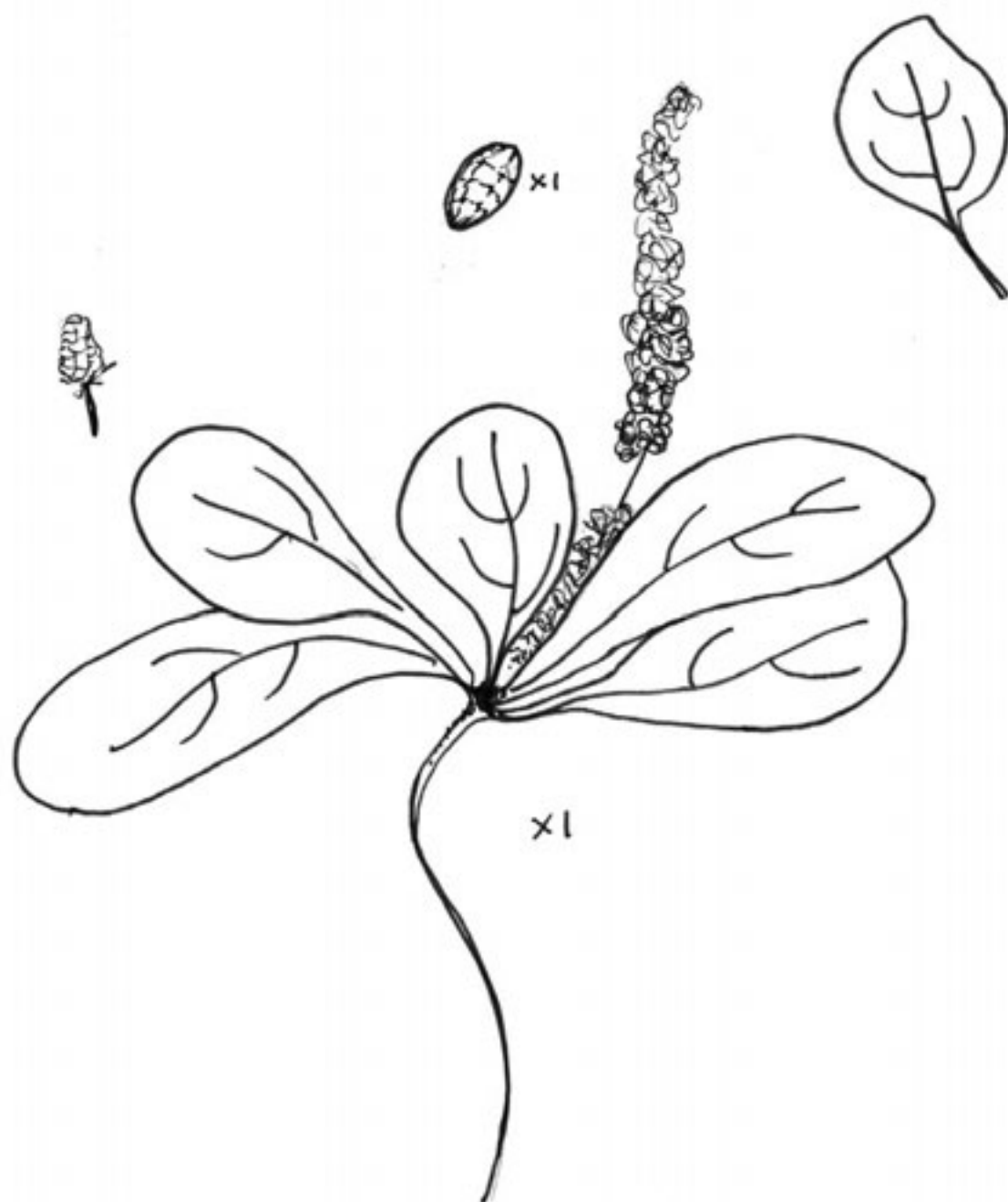
Compact ground with rock fragments and wind blown
sand.

Distribution

Rare.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.



Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Resedaceae

Scientific Name

Reseda aucheri Boiss., Fl. Orient 1:426 (1867).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Erect herb with basal branches; leaves lanceolate sessile. Flowers cream in terminal spikes

Habitat

Depression with sandy stony soil.

Distribution

Reported by Al Amin (1983) as found in Central Qatar but not mentioned by Batanouny(1981)

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Malvids**

Order

Brassicales

Family

Resedaceae

Scientific Name

Reseda muricata C. Presl., Abh. Konigl. Bohm. Ges. Wiss., ser. 5,3:438 (1845).

Habit

Short-lived perennial.

Description

Compact greyish green plant with tri-lobed leaves. Flowers in terminal racemes, flesh-coloured; fruit ovoid, opens at apex , enclosing few seeds.

Habitat

Depressions and rain pools with sandy clayey soil.

Distribution

Occasional in dried rain pool and shallow depressions in northeastern Qatar. Rare in Doha wasteland and elsewhere.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Showla; شولة





Clade	Order	Family
Eudicots/Rosida/Fabid	Rosales	Rhamnaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Ziziphus nummularia (Burm. f.) Wight et Arn., Prodr. 162 (1834).

Syn.

Rhamnus nummularia Burm. f., Fl. Ind. 61 (1768).

Habit

Shrub.

Description

Shrub with zigzagging spiny branches; spines a pair: one straight and one curved; leaves hairy on both surfaces, trinerved. Flowers small, star-shaped, yellow-green, with fruity smell; fruit globose, orange red when ripe.

Habitat

Rodats with depth and fine soil.

Distribution

N. and C. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous; Some are now naturalized.

Local Use

Range; fruit edible, some are bitter!

Vernacular Names

Sidr, Kanar (fruit); (الثمرة) سدر، كنار





Clade **Eudicots/Rosida/Fabid** Order **Rosales** Family **Rhamnaceae**

Scientific Name & Syn.

Ziziphus spina-christi (L.) Desf., Fl. Atlant. 1:210 (1798).

Syn.

Rhamnus spina-christi L. Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 195 (1753).

Habit

Tree.

Description

Evergreen tree with zigzagging spiny straight branches; spines a pair: one straight and one curved; leaves glabrous or pubescent on lower surfaces, trinerved. Flowers small, star-shaped, white-cream, with fruity smell; fruit globose, orange red when ripe, sweet.

Habitat

Rodats with depth and fine soil.

Distribution

N. and C. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous; planted in homes and avenues in Doha and all towns.

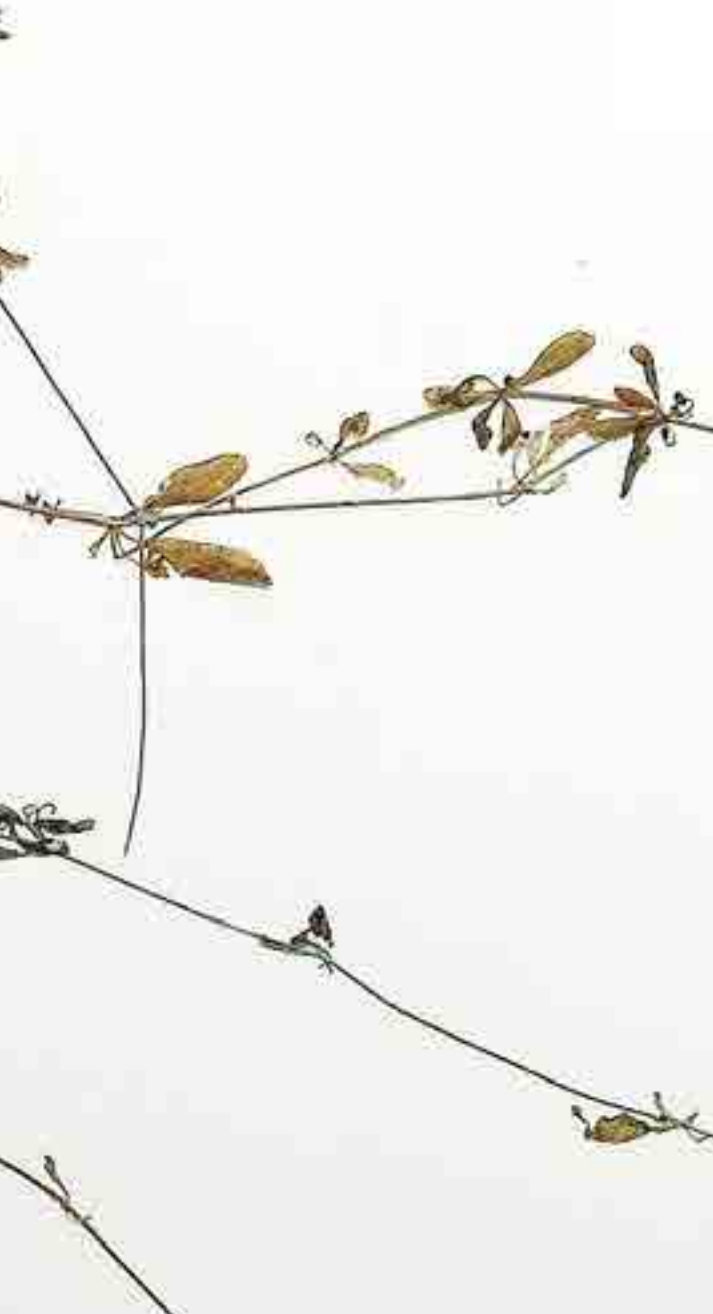
Local Use

Range; fruit edible

Vernacular Names

Areen, Kanar (fruit); عرين، كنار (الثمرة)





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Gentianales

Family

Rubiaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Galium tricornutum Dandy, Watsonia, 4:47 (1957).

Syn.

Galium tricornne Stocks in With., Bot. Arr. Brit. Pl. ed. 2, l:153 (1787). nom. illeg.

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Weak-stemmed herb entangled on nearby growth with whorled leaves. Flowers axillary, small, white with inferior ovaries; fruit dry mericarps on curved peduncles.

Habitat

Sandy-clayey soil.

Distribution

Rare in N. Qatar, Al Magda; also garden weed in moist shaded locations(nurseries and greenhouses).

Ind/Int/Cult

Possibly introduced with fodder seeds.





Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order
Gentianales

Family
Rubiaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Oldenlandia corymbosa L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, 119 (1753).

Syn.

Hedyotis corymbosa (L.) Lam., Tab. Encycl. 1:272 (1792).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Dwarf prostrate herb with numerous basal branches; branches decumbent with whorls of growth composed of opposite leaves, axillary new shoots and cymes; leaves about 1 x 3 cm, linear lanceolate. Flowers of 4 pale rose petals with pink streaks; 4 sepals with stiff margins, persistent in fruit and enclosing small black seeds.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

In lawns in Doha gardens.

Ind/Int/Cult

Possibly introduced with grass seeds.







Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/ Malvids**

Order
Sapindales

Family
Rutaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Haplophyllum tuberculatum (Forssk.) Juss., Mem. Mus.
Hist. Nat. Paris 12:528, t. 17, no.10 (1825).

Syns.

Ruta tuberculata Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.–Arab. 86 (1775);
Haplophyllum longifolium Boiss., Diagn. Pl. Orient., ser.
1, 8:127 (1849).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Unpleasant-smelling yellowish green much-branched
herb. Flowers small, yellow, with strong smell.

Habitat

Water catchment areas and depressions with wind-
blown sand.

Distribution

Occasional throughout Qatar, more common in N.E.
Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Medicinal herb.

Vernacular Names

Zeita, Kheisa, Mesaika; زيتة، خيسه، مسيكة





Clade	Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Asterids/Lamiids	Lamiales	Scrophulariaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Scrophularia deserti Delile, Descr. Egypte, Hist. Nat. 240, t. 33, f., 1 (1814).

Syn.

Scrophularia marginata Boiss., Diagn. Pl. Orient., ser.1, 4:72 (1844).

Habit

Short-lived perennial herb.

Description

A rosette of dark green leaves giving erect shoots terminating in deep red flowers.

Habitat

Shallow sandy depressions and rain pools.

Distribution

Common in water catchment areas in C. and N. Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Zeita, Efaina; زيتة، عفينة





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Solanales

Family

Solanaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Datura innoxia Mill., Gard. Dict. ed.8, no.5 (1768).

Syn.

Datura guayaquilensis H.B.K. (1918).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Suffrutescent herb with large cordate ovate leaves. Flowers very large, tubular, white; fruit tuberculate capsules.

Habitat

Cultivated fields.

Distribution

Weed of agriculture (selectively eradicated for its known narcotic properties).

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Vernacular Names

Datura, Sakaran; داتوره، سكران





Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order
Solanales

Family
Solanaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Lycium shawii Roem. & Schult., Syst. Veg. 4:693 (1819).

Syn.

L. arabicum Schweinf. ex Boiss. Fl. Orient. 4:289 (1879).

Habit

Shrub.

Description

Shrub with spiny branches and small obovate leaves.
Flowers purple; fruit pea-sized orange-red berries.

Habitat

Widespread on all soils except sabkhas; more common
in rodāt, wadis and runnels.

Distribution

Widespread being the most common shrub in Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range plant.

Vernacular Names

أوسج ، مصع (الثمرة); Awsaj, Masie (fruit);





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Solanales

Family

Solanaceae

Scientific Name

Physalis angulata L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 183 (1753).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Soft plant with ovate leaves and with serrate margins.
Flowers solitary, yellow; fruit berry enclosed in the
persistent papery calyx, edible.

Habitat

Garden soil.

Distribution

Reported by Batanouny as seen once in a Doha garden.
(A common plant on irrigated land).

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Solanales

Family

Solanaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Solanum coagulans Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. CVII, 47 (1775).

Syn.

Solanum dubium Fresen., Mus. Senckenb. 1:166 (1833).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Spiny woody herb; branching basal; leaves lanceolate; margins undulate. Flowers mauve; fruit berry.

Habitat

Sandy-clayey soil.

Distribution

Al Shafaleya ; collected from a private farm.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced (a recent introduction).

Vernacular Names

Jubain; جبين





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Solanales

Family

Solanaceae

Scientific Name

Solanum elaeagnifolium Cav., Icon. Descr. 3:22 t. 243
(1795).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Polymorphic herb with cymes of white star-shaped
flowers and bunches of orange berries.

Habitat

Moist ground.

Distribution

Weed of agriculture and roadsides. Frequent in wetland
in Doha and towns.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Vernacular Names

Inab al deeb; عنب الديب





Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order
Solanales

Family
Solanaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Solanum nigrum L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 186 (1753) var. *humile* (Bernh.) Asch. (1864).

Syn.

Solanum humile Bernh. ex Willd. non Lam., Willdenow(1809).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Polymorphic herb with white star-shaped flowers in crowded axillary cymes giving green berries ripening to black.

Habitat

Moist ground.

Distribution

Common garden, roadsides and agricultural weed on moist ground.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Local Use

Ripe berries edible.

Vernacular Names

Inab al deeb; عنب الديب





Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/ Lamiids**

Order
Solanales

Family
Solanaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Withania somnifera (L.) Dunal in DC Prodr. 13 (1):453 (1852).

Syn.

Physalis somnifera L., Sp. Pl. ed. 2 984 (1753).

Life Form

Annuals to short-lived perennial herbs.

Description

Bushy spreading leafy plant covered with grey pubescence all over. Flowers in crowded axillary cymes with inflated calyces; fruit globose shiny orange-red berries enclosed by papery persistent sepals.

Habitat

Moist shaded locations.

Distribution

Sporadic roadside weed on moist grounds. First record for Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Local Use

Ripe berries edible.

Vernacular Names

Sakaran, Sim al ferakh; سكران، سم الفراخ





Clade
Core Eudicots

Order
Caryophyllales

Family
Tamaricaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Tamarix aphylla (L.) H. Karst., Deutch. Fl. Pharm.-Med. Bot. 641 (1882).

Syns.

Thuja aphylla L., Cent. Pl. I: 35 (1755), pro part;
Tamarix orientalis Forssk. (1775); *T. articulata* Vahl (1791).

Habit

Shrub to small tree.

Description

Bushy growth due to suckering producing dense growth of leafless slender twigs. Flowers bisexual, pentamerous, white in dense twisted spikes; stamens 5; fruit hairy.

Habitat

Fields and gardens.

Distribution

Planted throughout Qatar as avenue shrubs and wind breakers.

Ind/Int/Cult

Initially introduced but now naturalized.

Local Use

Shade trees and wind breakers.

Vernacular Names

Athal, Tarfa; أثل، طرفه





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family

Tamaricaceae

Scientific Name

Tamarix passerinoides Delile Fl/ Aegypt. Illustr. 58/

Habit

Shrub or small tree.

Description

Bushy plants with dense growth suckering and forming extended ground cover; leaves minute on brown slender branches. Flowers comparatively large, pink; stamens 10; fruit pink-orange on long spikes.

Habitat

In fields with moist saline soil.

Distribution

Wild on saline areas S. Qatar and vicinity of water catchment sites in Doha and planted as a garden shrub.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Ornamental garden shrub.

Vernacular Names

Athal, Tarfa; أثل، طرفه





Clade

Core Eudicots

Order

Caryophyllales

Family

Tamaricaceae

Scientific Name

Tamarix ramosissima Ledeb., Fl. Altaic. 1:424 (1829).

Habit

Shrub to small tree.

Description

Ash-green small trees with bushy growth and minute alternate leaves. Flowers rose with 5 stamens and pink anthers in spicate inflorescences.

Habitat

Moist saline soils of agricultural fields and in depressions.

Distribution

Frequent in areas with high underground water in Doha and near coastal areas. Reported in S. Qatar and also planted.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Athal, Tarfa; أثل، طرفه





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosida/Fabids**

Order

Rosales

Family

Urticaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Forsskaolea tenacissima L., Oppobalsam. Decl. 18 (1764).

Syn.

Forsskaolea cossoniana Webb, Otia Hisp. 49, t. 45 (1839).

Habit

Annual to short-lived perennial herb.

Description

Densely hairy greyish herb with crowded sticky leaves; petioles purple. Flowers unisexual.

Habitat

Roadsides.

Distribution

Rare, collected from Doha roadsides.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

Eudicots/Rosida/Fabids

Order

Rosales

Family

Urticaceae

Scientific Name

Forsskaolea viridis Webb. in Hook., Niger Fl. 179 1849).

Habit

Annual to short-lived perennial herb.

Description

Rough greyish green leafy plant with stiff rough sticky irritant hairs.

Habitat

Roadsides.

Distribution

Rare recorded by Obeid (1975) but not encountered by Batanouny (1981) and Al Amin (1983). No specimen seen.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Rosales

Family

Urticaceae

Scientific Name

Parietaria alsinifolia Delile, Descr. Egypte, Hist. Nat. 137, t. 50, f.2 (1814).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Slender dark green hairy herb with dark green ovate leaves and acute apex on slim petioles. Flowers axillary, sessile, unisexual, minute and green supported by green bracts; fruit achenes.

Habitat

Sandy clayey depressions.

Distribution

Very rare collected from Al Magda area.

Ind/Int/Cult

Possibly an introduced weed.



Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order
Rosales

Family
Urticaceae

Scientific Name
Urtica urens Sp. Pl., ed. 2, 984 (1753).

Habit
Annual herb.

Description
Monoecious small green hairy herb with stinging hairs. Leaves lanceolate-ovate with 3 palmate veins and short petioles. Male and female flowers small in short congested spikes.

Habitat
Gardens and fields in shady moist locations.

Distribution
Very rare herb in gardens at Doha.

Ind/Int/Cult
Introduced.

Vernacular Names
Hikeik; حكيك





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Asterids/Lamiids**

Order

Lamiales

Family

Verbenaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Phyla nodiflora (L.) Greene, Pittonia 4:46 (1899).

Syns.

Verbena nodiflora L., Sp. Pl., ed.1,20 (1753); *Lippia nodiflora* (L.) Michx., Fl. Bor.-Amer. 2:15 (1803).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Prostrate herb with opposite sessile leaves forming mats. Flowers small, white with purple centres, in compact heads on long peduncles.

Habitat

Moist soil.

Distribution

Rare in cultivated fields by water source and leakage points in gardens and fields; seen by well point on roadsides at Doha and recorded also at Ras Ushirij.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Zygophyllales

Family

Zygophyllaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Fagonia bruguieri DC., Prodr. 1:704 (1824).

Syn.

Fagonia echinella Boiss., Diagn. Pl. Orient. ser. 1, 8:123
(1849).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Spiny sub-woody herb with spines longer than the leaves; leaves trifoliate. Flowers pink; fruit schizocarpic of 5 mericarps.

Habitat

Disturbed areas.

Distribution

Very common plant of wasteland and roadsides in main towns.

Ind/Int/Cult

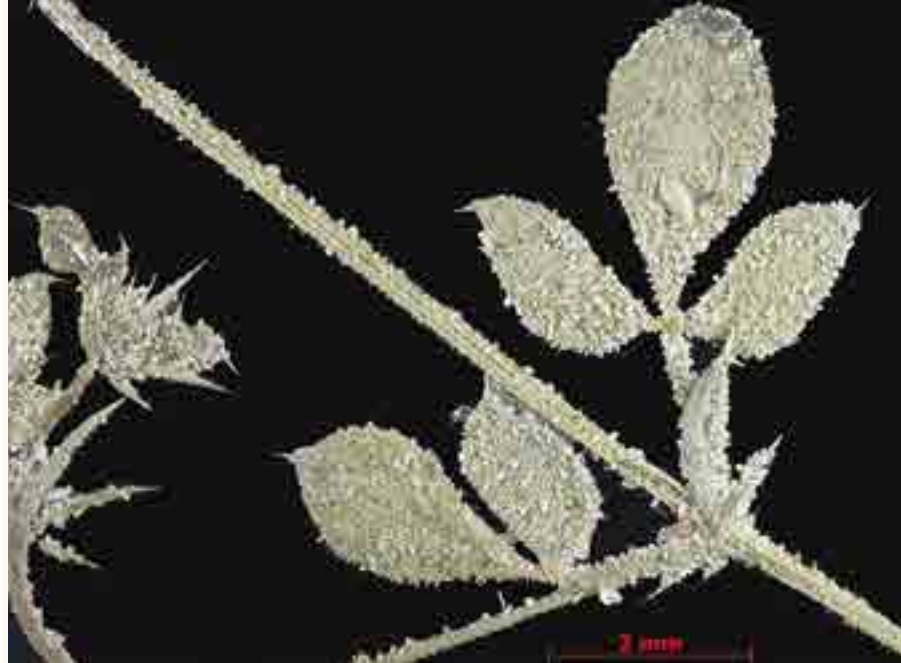
Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Dereima, Showeika, Shaki, Shoka;

دریمة، شویکه، شاکي، شوکه





Clade
Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids

Order
Zygophyllales

Family
Zygophyllaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Fagonia glutinosa Delile, Desc. Egypt, Hist. Nat. 76, t.27,f.2 (1814).

Syn.

Fagonia glutinosa Delile var. ***grandiflora*** Boiss., Fl. Orient. 1:905 (1814).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Suffrutescent spiny glandular viscid low woody herb with trifoliate petiolate leaves; tips of leaflets and stipules spiny. Flowers axillary, solitary; fruit schizocarpic capsules with soft hairs; mericarps with sharp apical points.

Habitat

Sandy stony ground.

Distribution

Central Qatar.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Dereima, Showeika, Shaki, Shoka;

دريمة، شويكه، شاكى، شوكه





Clade	Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Rosids/Fabids	Zygophyllales	Zygophyllaceae

Scientific Name

Fagonia indica Burm. f., Fl. Ind. 102, t. 34, fig. 1 (1768).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Erect divaricately much-branched suffrutescent spiny sub-woody herb with simple leaves. Flowers mauve, pentamerous; fruit schizocarpic.

Habitat

Disturbed areas and roadsides.

Distribution

Widespread along roadsides in Doha and central Qatar and as a weed in fields and gardens.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Derema, Showeika, Shaki, Shoka;

دريمة، شويكه، شاكى، شوكة





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Zygophyllales

Family

Zygophyllaceae

Scientific Name

Fagonia ovalifolia Hadidi in Rech., Fl. 98:2 (1972).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Erect spiny sub-woody herb; leaves simple ovate.

Flowers pink-mauve, petals rolled mid-day. Two

subspecies and one variety are represented in the flora:

ssp. *ovalifolia*, ssp. *pakistania* and var. *qatarensis*.

Habitat

Sandy soil.

Distribution

Widespread and common near Dukhan and Umm Bab.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Dereima, Showeika, Shaki, Shoka;

دريمة، شويكه، شاكى، شوكه





Clade
**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order
Zygophyllales

Family
Zygophyllaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Fagonia tenuifolia Steud. & Hochst. ex. Boiss., Fl. Orient. 1:909 (1867).

Syns.

Fagonia bicharorum Schweinf., Bull. Herb. Boissier 7, App. 2: 276 (1899); ***F. flamandii*** Batt., Bull. Soc. Bot. France 47:248 (1900).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Glabrous sub-woody herb with white stems becoming pale brown and furrowed when older; leaves trifoliate, petiolate with flattened and narrow leaflets, the central leaflet longer; stipular spines shorter than the leaves.

Habitat

Depressions with sandy loamy soil.

Distribution

Rare in N. Qatar, Al Magda.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Local Use

Range plant.

Vernacular Names

دريمة، شويكه، شاكى، شوكه; Dereima, Showuka, Shaki, Shoka;





Clade	Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Rosids/Fabids	Zygophyllales	Zygophyllaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Seetzenia lanata (Willd.) Bullock, Kew Bull. 19: 204 (1965).

Syns.

Zygophyllum lanatum Willd., Sp. Pl., ed. 4, 1:564 (1799);
Seetzenia africana R. Br., Narr. Trav. Afr. App. 231 (1826);
Seetzenia orientalis Decne., Ann. Sci. Nat. Bot. ser. 2, 3:281, t. 7 (1835).

Habit

Annual herb.

Description

Prostrate glandular viscid (collecting sands) herb with few basal branches; leaves opposite, trifoliate; leaflets triangular. Flowers axillary, apetalous; fruit schizocarpic with distinct furrows between the mericarps.

Habitat

Sandy stony ground.

Distribution

Sporadic in C. and S. Qatar, occasional on the Mekeinis-Umm Bab and Al Karaana-Abu Samra routes.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.





Clade	Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Rosids/Fabids	Zygophyllales	Zygophyllaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Tetraena qatarense (Hadidi) Beier & Thulin Pl. Syst. Evol. 240 (1-4):36 (2003).

Syn.

Zygophyllum qatarense Hadidi in Boul., Webb. 32, 2:394 (1978).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Low shrub with succulent leaves and petioles usually red-purple tinged. Flowers yellow; fruit, ovoid, schizocarpic.

Habitat

Sandy stony ground.

Distribution

Widespread being the most common plant in Qatar occurring in all types of habitats and forming large communities.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Harm Qatari; هرم قطري





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Zygophyllales

Family

Zygophyllaceae

Scientific Name & Syns.

Tetraena simplex (L.) Beier & Thulin, Pl. Syst. Evol. 240 (1-4):36 (2003).

Syns.

Zygophyllum simplex L., Mant. 68 (1767); ***Zygophyllum portulacoides*** Forssk., Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. 88 (1775).

Habit

Annual succulent herb.

Description

Low herb forming a circular mat with fleshy leaves. Flowers small, yellow; fruit small, pale yellow, schizocarpic capsules.

Habitat

Saline sandy soil and stony ground.

Distribution

Widespread.

Ind/Int/Cult

Indigenous.

Vernacular Names

Hureim; هریم





Clade	Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Rosids/Fabids	Zygophyllales	Zygophyllaceae

Scientific Name

Tribulus cistoides L., Sp. Pl., ed.1, (1753).

Habit

Undershrub.

Description

Prostrate herb with large yellow showy flowers and fruits.

Habitat

Disturbed areas.

Distribution

Collected once at Shahaneya race ground.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced most likely with oats from neighboring countries.

Names

Hasak; حسك





Clade	Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Rosids/Fabids	Zygophyllales	Zygophyllaceae

Scientific Name

Tribulus macropterus Boiss., Diagn. Pl. Orient., ser. 3, 11:31 (1843).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Prostrate herb with pinnate leaves and comparatively small yellow flowers; fruit schizocarpic, pentamerous; mericarps trapeziform.

Habitat

Disturbed areas.

Distribution

Common by roadsides in Doha and as a weed of gardens and fields.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Local Use

Fodder plant.

Vernacular Names

Hasak; حسك





Clade	Order	Family
Core Eudicots/ Rosids/Fabids	Zygophyllales	Zygophyllaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Tribulus megistopteris Kralik, Ann. Sci. Nat., ser.3, 11:32 (1847) subsp. *pterocarpus* (Ehrenb. ex C. Muell.) Hosni, Taekholmia 11:12 (1991).

Syn.

Tribulus pterocarpus Ehreimb. ex C. Muell. in Walp., Ann. Bot. Syst. 4:404 (1857).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Prostrate softly hairy herb with pinnate leaves. Flowers small, pale yellow; fruit nearly globose, winged and schizocarpic.

Habitat

Wasteland, fields and gardens.

Distribution

Common on moist locations, wasteland, fields, roadsides and gardens in Doha.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Local Use

Fodder plant.

Vernacular Names

Hasak; حسك





Clade

**Core Eudicots/
Rosids/Fabids**

Order

Zygophyllales

Family

Zygophyllaceae

Scientific Name & Syn.

Tribulus terrestris L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 387 (1753).

Syn.

T. lanuginosus L., Sp. Pl., ed. 1, 387 (1753); *T. robustus* Boiss. & Noe in Briss., Diagn. Pl. Orient., ser. 2, 1:112 (1854).

Habit

Perennial herb.

Description

Prostrate hairy herb with numerous spreading basal branches; leaves pinnate. Flowers axillary, small, pale yellow; fruit spiny on stout peduncles, schizocarpic, 5-merous.

Habitat

Disturbed ground and cultivated land.

Distribution

Localized, more common as a roadside weed in Doha and in vegetable fields.

Ind/Int/Cult

Introduced.

Local Use

All field weeds are collected as fodder.

Vernacular Names

Hasak; حسك

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