

Differences in the Traditional Use of Wild Plants between Rural and Urban Areas: The Sample of Adana

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ABSTRACT This study deals with reflections of sociocultural differences between the urban and rural settlers in Adana, on their use of medicinal plants. For this purpose, a face-to-face survey was employed so as to determine the plants used by the two groups from different sociocultural backgrounds and their intended use. A field study was carried first, in June 2013 and then in November 2014. The researcher interviewed 247 persons, out of whom 150 were from the country while 97 were from central Adana. The 10 most frequently used plants in ethnobotanical terms, as well as the most sold at herb shops were determined. At the end of the study, the 63 most local plants taxa used in ethnobotanical terms under 37 families were determined. *Mentha pulegium*, *Tilia tomentosa* and *Salvia cryptantha* are the most popular plants among herbal clients. The locals prefer plants like, *Juniperus drupacea*, *Rumex crispus*, and *Sideritis perfoliata* as medication for coughing, digestive disorders, and urological and gynaecological diseases, while the customers of herb shops use them in treatments relating to respiratory and digestive systems, as well as for skin diseases.