

TAXONOMICAL REVISION AND DOCUMENTATION OF THE ENDOGENOUS SPECIES OF FAMILY MALVACEAE JUSS IN CAIM* WITH TWO NEW RECORDS TO THE FLORA OF EGYPT.

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ABSTRACT

This work includes the revision and documentation of the herbarium specimens of Family Malvaceae preserved in CAIM. These specimens revealed the presence of 9 genera and 23 species from which two species are new records to the flora of Egypt, these are *Abutilon indicum* and *Pavonia zeylonica*. In this revision the Latin names (Scientific names), the synonyms, specimens and the distribution of each species was provided. The Phyto-geographical regions were recorded from the herbarium specimens; also the Florestic categories were recorded. This family documentation was carried out by using high quality and affordable digital camera (BenQ DC C510) to give high-quality images to help in establishing database information for taxonomic researchers.

267 specimens were examined in this work to record the locality, date of collection, collector and specimen's number if it is present. Photographs for the examined herbarium dried plant specimens were taken and represented by a single sample for each species, in addition a CD contains the photographs of the 267 examined specimens was taken by the herbarium library of the Flora & Phyto-taxonomy Dept. to be available to all researchers for study and help to build a database system for the herbarium.

INTRODUCTION

Family Malvaceae is cosmopolitan, but especially tropical, herbs, shrubs or trees, usually stellate-hairy; leaves alternate, stipulate, lobed or divided, usually palmately lobed; flowers usually bisexual, actinomorphic, often conspicuous, axillary, solitary or in terminal inflorescences; epicalyx present or 0; sepals 5, rarely 3 or 4; petals 5, usually connate at the base and adnate to the staminal column; receptacle short or elongate into a central axis; stamens numerous, rarely 5, connate into a staminal column; anthers 1-celled; ovary superior, of 2-many carpels; placentation axile; style divided at apex into lobes or stigmas, as many as or twice the number of carpels; fruit a dehiscent capsule or schizocarp, rarely a berry; seeds usually hairy. 111 genera, 1800 species Mabberley 1997.

In Egypt, family Malvaceae according to Boulos 2000 comprises 10 genera and 32 species; while El - Hadidi *et al.* 1999, revised the indigenous taxa of Malvaceae represented in Cairo University Herbarium (CAI) and revealed the presence of 26 species belonging to 11 genera and four tribes; among these, *Malvella sherardiana* was a new record to the flora of Egypt.

The herbarium collections preserved in CAIM have been built up over the years by the efforts of numerous botanists and plant collectors who have searched from different localities to document the diversity and distribution of this family. Now, representatives of the examined species can be found in herbaria today, carefully mounted on sheets of archival quality paper, labeled with important information about them, and stored on shelves in cabinets.

* The Herbarium of the Flora & Phyto-taxonomy Researches - Agricultural Museum, Dokki - Egypt.