

Review article

Diseases and traditional medicine in the Central Middle Atlas (Morocco)

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ABSTRACT

Today, despite the development of synthetic chemistry, the use of medicinal plants remains widespread due to their effectiveness in many therapeutic practices. At the same time, poverty and lack of access to modern medical care are driving a large proportion of the world's population to turn to traditional medicines to meet their primary healthcare needs. With the aim of highlighting the medicinal plants of the central Middle Atlas region, we carried out an ethnobotanical and floristic study to identify the medicinal plants used by the local population to treat various illnesses. This study has enabled us to draw up a catalog of 267 medicinal species belonging to 79 botanical families and 211 genera. Analysis of the data showed that each pathology is treated by several plants, but with different frequencies: The results of the study has been presented and discussed in the paper.

Keywords: Central Middle Atlas, disease, ethnobotanical survey, medicinal plant, Morocco.