



UNIVERSITY OF
HOHENHEIM

North Cyprus

Botanical Excursion 2019



**Institute of Botany · University of Hohenheim · Stuttgart
March 21-31, 2019**

Report

Editors:

Ina Dinter with Reiner Zimmermann

Notes

The botanical excursion to the north of the island of Cyprus (TRNC) from March 21-31, 2019 was a course of the Terrestrial Ecosystems module (2101-230), Biology course, 5th semester Bachelor, under the direction of Dr. Ina Dinter. A preparatory seminar under her leadership had preceded it.

This excursion report was compiled according to the daily minutes of the participants. The species found were addressed in the area and were determined with the help of the photographic material of the participants. Herbarium specimens were not removed. Plant species names followed as far as possible HAND & al., eds. (2011– continuously updated): Flora of Cyprus – a dynamic checklist. In: <http://www.flora-of-cyprus.eu/>.

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Photo credits on the front page

Golden Beach
Karpaz Peninsula in Northern Cyprus (TRNC)
Photo: HARTL



Helianthemum obtusifolium Dunal
Buffavento Castle, Beşparmak Mountains in
Northern Cyprus (TRNC)



Photo: DINTER

Anemone blanda Schott & Kotschy
Buffavento Castle, Beşparmak Mountains in
Northern Cyprus (TRNC)
Photo: DINTER



Buffavento Castle
Looking west to the coast and the Mesaoria Plain,
Beşparmak Mountains in Northern Cyprus (TRNC)



Photo: KRUPP

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Foreword

In the spring of 2019, the University of Hohenheim's Institute of Botany held a botanical excursion to North Cyprus. This large island in the eastern Mediterranean is characterized by a segmented landscape with a large number of habitats, many endemic species and a high biodiversity.

During the excursion to this outstanding Mediterranean island all plant habitats of Northern Cyprus were visited. In the northern and eastern parts of the island the floristic composition of rocky and sandy shores was explored. The Beşparmak Mountains running from west to east with the widely visible Pentadactylos range were particularly impressive. The steep rocky slopes and the old Crusader castles built on exposed peaks harbor interesting botanical sites. The current land use was included in the botanical excursion and ranged from growing cereals to citrus orchards and irrigation fields in the Mesaoria plains to olive groves at Kalkanlı with up to eight hundred year old olive trees. The macchia and phrygana vegetation created by pasture and fire degradation of the forests were studied throughout the area. Remains of the original low-growing Mediterranean coastal forests with *Juniperus phoenicea* were seen on the Karpaz Peninsula. Extensive secondary forests with *Pinus brutia* characterized the Alevkaya Forest. The outstandingly interesting excursion was packed with botanical information and was rounded off by a morning of bird watching and ringing under the expert zoological guidance of Dr. W.J. FULLER and by visits to numerous archaeological and historical sites.

The planning and scientific direction of the excursion was the responsibility of Dr. I. DINTER, who, as a profound expert on the Cypriot flora, carried out the excursion with perfection and with extraordinary knowledge of the vegetation of Northern Cyprus. Ms. DINTER was professionally supported by Ms. I. RAAB-MARANCOS, the head of the local travel agency Kaleidoskop Turizm who ensured a smooth travel schedule. We would like to thank Prof. M. KÜPPERS from the Institute of Botany, University of Hohenheim, for his support. We also thank Ms. C. HESSENBERG for her excellent tour of all cultural sites and Dr. H.-P. STIKA for his competent guidance during the visit of the Kral Tepesi excavation site. Last but not least we very much appreciate the help and support of all who contributed to this English edition of the excursion report. We say a heartfelt "thank you" to everyone for their great commitment!

Hohenheim, January 2020

Reiner Zimmermann

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