WILD PLANTS USED AS MEDICINAL PURPOSE IN THE SOUTH PART OF IZMIT (NORTHWEST TURKEY)

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Abstract

In this study, local names, medicinal usage and methods of administration of 64 wild plant taxa belonging to 32 families in the south part of Izmit, which is the centre county of Kocaeli, are documented. The information for these plants, such as local names, their usages, used parts, methods of preparation, administration dosage and duration of treatments have been recorded. During the field studies informations were recorded and materials collected in the area surveyed with local people. All the settlements were visited (9 municipalities and 15 villages) which are in the study area. Collected plant specimens were identified and prepared voucher specimens were kept in the Herbarium of Istanbul University Faculty of Pharmacy (ISTE).

Key words: Medicinal plants, Izmit, Turkey.

İzmit'in Güney Kesiminde Tedavi Amacıyla Kullanılan Doğal Bitkiler

Bu çalışmada Kocaeli ilinin merkez ilçesi olan İzmit'in güney kesiminde tedavi amacıyla kullanılan 32 familyaya ait, 64 doğal takson saptanmıştır. Bunların yöresel isimleri, kullanılış nedenleri ve tedavide uygulanış şekilleri bizzat araştırılmıştır. Arazi çalışmalarında yöre halkından öğrenilen bilgiler derlenmiş, bitkiler bilgi veren kişiler ile birlikte doğadan toplanmıştır. Araştırma bölgesindeki bütün yerleşim birimlerine (9 belediye ve 15 köy) gidilerek 145 adet örnek toplanmıştır. Toplanan örnekler teşhis edilmiş ve hazırlanan herbaryum örnekleri İstanbul Üniversitesi Eczacılık Fakültesi Herbaryumu'nda (ISTE) saklanmıştır.

Anahtar kelimeler: *Tıbbi bitkiler, İzmit, Türkiye.*

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INTRODUCTION

The Turkish flora is estimated to contain more than 10000 species of vascular plants of which about 3034 (approximately 34 %) are endemic.

For a long time plants have played very important role for human life. Nowadays, the usage of plants as a way of treatment is still very important. The plants that used for medicinal purposes are also play an important role in Turkey (1).

Kocaeli is situated in the east part of Marmara region (Northwest Turkey). Izmit, which is the centre county of Kocaeli, has an area of 974 km² and its population is 373.034. The earthquake that struck western Turkey on 17.August.1999 caused an important population fluctuation. Izmit is a coast county which is established upon between the most important Asia and Europe transition line. The economy in the county mostly based on industry. It represents two different type climates with annual rainfall and avarage temperature 671.7 mm and 14.8°C respectively. Because of Kocaeli is an industry metropolis, the majority of the population consists of people whole around the Turkey, and also immigrants from Balkans and Caucasus.

The aim of this study was to collect information about the medicinal plants usages in the south part of Izmit. A survey of the literature (2, 3) revealed no papers have been published about the ethnobotanical and medicinal plants usages potential of Izmit. Thus, there is a need to record and document indigenous knowledge on medicinal plants in this county. With this study, the medicinal plants usages potential of Izmit has been determined before it is completely lost.

This is a part of a master thesis named "An Ethnobotanical Survey in The South Part of Izmit Gulf" (4).

EXPERIMENTAL

The field works was carried out between April 2006-September 2007. During this research 9 municipalities and 15 villages (Figure 1) have been visited and plant specimens were collected. The herbarium specimens are kept in the Herbarium of Istanbul University Faculty of Pharmacy (ISTE). The information for these plants, such as local names, their usages, used parts, methods of preparation, administration dosage and duration of treatments have been recorded to ethnobotanical data forms.

During the field works, all the settlements were visited in the south part of İzmit. 9 municipalities and 15 villages (Figure 1) are listed; Yuvacık Municipality: Serindere, Aksığın, Camidüzü, Kazandere, Servetiye Camii and Tepecik villages; Kullar Municipality: Doğantepe village; Arslanbey Municipality: Karatepe, Örnekköy, Merkez Sultaniye and Pazarçayırı villages; Bahçecik Municipality: Servetiye Karşı village; Hikmetiye (Büyük Derbent) Municipality: Balaban, Nusretiye and Şirin Sulhiye villages; Yeniköy Municipality; Suadiye Municipality; Maşukiye Municipality; Karşıyaka Municipality.

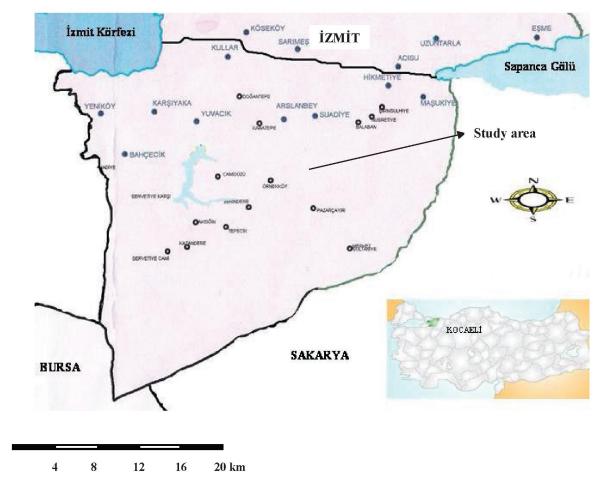


Figure 1. Study area: The South Part of Izmit District (Inset: Map showing the location of Kocaeli in Turkey).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

During the study 145 specimens were collected in the area. According to the results of the identifications, 64 wild plant taxa are being used as medicinal purposes in the south part of Izmit. The plants used as medicinal purposes in the study area, are presented in Table 1, arranged in alphabetical order of their botanical names. Some of these plants are also used in multiherbal recipies containing two or more species which are represented in Table 2. Some of these plants are also used in veterinary medicine which are represented in Table 3.

In local tradition, it is more common to use one species in each remedy; however, there are a few remedies consisting of several plants mixed together. Local people used different parts of plants to prepare herbal remedies. The most frequently used parts are leaves, aerial parts, fruits and flowers. The higher frequency of the use of aerial parts of plants in preparation of herbal remedies is largely due to the fact that they can be collected easily and they are readily available. Roots, bulbs, tubers and particularly seeds were used to a much smaller extend.

Most used families are Asteraceae with 12 taxa (18.7%), Lamiaceae with 8 taxa (12.5%), Rosaceae with 5 taxa (7.4%) and Malvaceae, Solanaceae, Hypericaceae with 3 taxa (4.7%).

The plants that used for medicinal purposes have been mostly used for the treatment of wounds (21.5%), cough (16.9%), skin disorders (abscess, wart, nappy rash, ringworm etc.) (15.4%), diabetes and kidney diseases (12.3%), common cold and asthma-bronchitis (10.8%).

Infusion and especially decoction are generally chosen for internal administration. For external administration fresh or dried material can be applied directly or after being cooked in a poultice form.

In a number of cases, some of the taxa are known under the same local name. For instance Lamium purpureum var. purpureum, Clinopodium vulgare subsp. vulgare as ballıbaba; Rubus sanctus, Rubus canescens var. canescens as böğürtlen, diken, mora; Malva nicaeensis, Malva sylvestris as ebegümeci, ebegömeç; Taraxacum scaturiginosum, Tussilago farfara as hindiba; Petasites hybridus, Verbascum speciosum as kabalak; Hypericum cerastoides, Hypericum perforatum as kantaron; Origanum vulgare subsp. hirtum, Thymus longicaulis subsp. longicaulis var. subisophyllus as kekik; Sambucus ebulus, Sambucus nigra as lor, lüver, sultan, şahmelek, piran; Mentha spicata subsp. spicata, Mentha longifolia subsp. typhoides var. typhoides as nane; Matricaria chamomilla var. recutita, Pulicaria vulgaris as papatya.

Some of the plants are used only in veterinary medicine (*Dipsacus laciniatus*, *Helleborus orientalis*), some of them are used in both veterinary and human medicine (*Petasites hybridus*, *Rumex pulcher*, *Sambucus ebulus*).

According to our results, usage of 9 taxa (Calepina irregularis, Clinopodium vulgare subsp. vulgare, Hypericum cerastoides, Pulicaria vulgaris, Senecio vernalis, Trifolium resupinatum var. resupinatum, Verbascum speciosum, Veronica persica and Viola gracilis) have not recorded in traditional medicine before (1, 5-22).

Most of the interviewers stated that they have learned the ethnobotanical usage of plants from their parents and elderly relatives.

The results of our study show that even in countrys that are situated in close proximity to metropolitan cities, the medicinal usages of plants and its applications are still alive. However, most of the knowledge acquired by the local people has been passed on to them by word of mouth from one generation to the next. Since written documentation is mostly lacking, this knowledge is in danger of being lost.

Table 1. Plants used as medicinal purposes in the south part of İzmit.

^a Scientific name Family (Voucher specimen)	Local names	Used parts	Usage	^b Preparation, administration dosage, duration of treatment	Other traditional usage reported earlier in Turkish ethnobotanical literature (1, 5-22)
Alcea setosa (Boiss.) Alef. Malvaceae (ISTE 84 029, ISTE 84 176)	Hatmi, Hatmiçiçeği, Karafatma, Yabanifatmagül	Flower	Cough	Decoction, int., 1 glass for day	Diuretic (1), cough (5)
Arbutus unedo L. Ericaceae (ISTE 84 051)	Andrana, Dağyemişi, Kocakarıyemişi, Kocayemiş, Ormançileği, Piyadin	Fruit	Intestinal and stomach disorders, prostate and kidney inflammation	Eaten, fresh fruits	Kidney disorders (14)
Arctium minus (Hill) Bernh. subsp. minus Asteraceae (ISTE 84 107)	Lahanaotu, Pıtrak, Pıtrakdikeni	Leaf	Itching	Decoction, ext.	Rheumatism, antipyretic (10), abscess (15), sunburn and burns (10, 14)
Arum italicum Miller Araceae (ISTE 84 151)	Çiçekotu, Tirşik, Yılanbıçağı, Yılanotu, Yılansoğanı, Yılanyastığı, Yılanzehiri, Zehirotu	Fruit Tuber	Cough Eczema Cancer Hemorrhoids	Decoction, int., crushed fruits Decoction, int., dried fruits Swallowed, 1 fruit Swallowed, 1 fruit before breakfast	Expectorant, purgative (1), woman diseases, cancer, ulcer (7), jaundice (14), hemorrhoids, eczema (6, 7, 14)
Bellis perennis L. Asteraceae (ISTE 84 121)	Beyazpapatya	Capitulum	Sore throat, common cold	Infusion, int., dried capitulums	Diuretic, purgative (1), eye disorders, tonsillar inflammation, common cold (14), bellyache (7, 14), cough (6, 14)
Calepina irregularis (Asso) Thellung Brassicaceae (ISTE 84 099)	-	Leaf	Stomachache	Eaten, boiled leaves as salad	-

Table 1. (continued)

Cynodon dactylon (L.)	Ayrıkotu, Beygirotu	Whole	Hemorrhoids, diabetes,	Decoction, int., before breakfast	Bellyache (8, 14), kidney
Pers. var. dactylon		plant	asthma, bronchitis,		stones and sands (6, 8, 14),
Poaceae			expectorant		diuretic (5, 6, 11, 13, 14)
(ISTE 84 053)		Aerial part	Hemorrhoids	Decoction, int.	
			Analgesic	Poultice, ext.	
Datura stramonium L.	Afyonotu, Eşekdikeni,	Seed	Hemorrhoids	Swallowed, 2-3 seeds in the	Narcotic, cough (1),
Solanaceae	Eşekotu			morning	hemorrhoids, eczema (17),
(ISTE 84 080)			Eczema	Swallowed, 1 seed before	toothache (6, 13), asthma
				breakfast	(1, 6, 13, 14)
Ecballium elaterium (L.)	Acıkavun, Cırtatan,	Fruit juice	Sinusitis	Dropped into the nostrils, ext.	Hepatitis (13), sinusitis (11,
A. Rich.	Ciritatan, Şeytankavunu,		Nasal inflammation	Dropped into the nostrils, 1 drop,	14), analgesic (5, 13),
Cucurbitaceae	Yabanhıyarı,			ext.	eczama (6, 11), wounds (5,
(ISTE 84 164)	Yabanikavun,				6), hemorrhoids (9, 13),
	Yabankavunu	Fruit	Sinusitis	Boiling, ext., boiled water	earache (7, 9, 14),
				dropped into the nostrils	rheumatism (6, 8, 13, 15)
Equisetum telmateia Ehrh.	Bebekotu, Çamotu,	Aerial part	Ureter disorders	Decoction or infusion, int.	Stomachache (9), kidney
Equisetaceae	Dereotu, Eklemotu,		Kidney stones and sands	Decoction, int.	stones and sands (13),
(ISTE 84 109)	Fenerotu, Kırkkilitotu,		Diuretic, kidney sands	Infusion, int.	rheumatism, expectorant
	Kuşkonmaz, Minareotu		Kidney disorders, woman	Boiling, ext., vapour bath	(17), diuretic (9, 17),
			diseases		eczama (5, 17), prostate
					disorders (7, 9, 13)
Filago vulgaris Lam.	Kuzaotu	Aerial part	Wounds on hands, warts	Decoction, int.	Diuretic (1)
Asteraceae		1	,	· ·	. ,
(ISTE 84 110)					
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Hypericum cerastoides	Kantaron,	Aerial part	Diarrhoea	Boiled and drinking crushed	-
(Spach) Robson	Küçükkantaron			juice every morning for 3 days,	
Hypericaceae				int.	
(ISTE 84 090)					
Hypericum montbretii	Mayasılotu	Aerial part	Eczema	Decoction, int., waited in a bottle	Wounds, burns (22)
Spach				for 3 days	
Hypericaceae					
(ISTE 84 074)					

Table 1. (continued)

Matricaria chamomilla L. var. recutita (L.) Grierson Asteraceae (ISTE 84 167)	Papatya	Capitulum	Common cold, flu, expectorant, sore throat, cough	Infusion, int.	Diuretic, appetizer (1), asthma, bronchitis (13), sedative (1, 8), cough (9, 13), wounds (1, 13), rheumatism (6, 9), bellyache (9, 14), carminative (1, 13, 14)
Melissa officinalis L. subsp. altissima (Sm.) Arcangeli Lamiaceae (ISTE 84 070, ISTE 84	Oğulotu, Saçkıran, Yabanısırganı, Yabanidereotu	Aerial part	Bellyache Embolism	Boiling, ext., applied over abdomen and wrap Decoction and infusion, int., half of a teaglass 2 times per day for 20 days	Cough (5), cardiovascular disorders (6), woman diseaes (8), bronchitis (13), asthma (14), migraine (17), carminative (18),
073)		Leaf	Stomachache, ulcer	Swallowed, boiled with starch and taken as pill 3 times per day after meals	stomachache (1, 13), sedative (1, 6, 11, 17), diabetes (8, 13, 14)
Mentha longifolia (L.) Hudson subsp. typhoides (Briq.) Harley var. typhoides Lamiaceae (ISTE 84 059)	Nane, Yabaninane, Yabannanesi	Leaf	Common cold, flu Digestive	Decoction, int., with lemon Decoction, int.	Cough, wounds (11), asthma, bellyache (14), diuretic, kidney disorders, stomach disorders (15)
Mentha spicata L. subsp. spicata Lamiaceae (ISTE 84 187)	Nane, Yabaninane	Leaf	Nausea Toothache, halitosis	Decoction, int., with lemon Chewed	Cough, common cold, bronchitis, asthma, carminative (14)
Origanum vulgare L. subsp. hirtum (Link) Ietswaart Lamiaceae (ISTE 84 067)	Kekik, Kekikotu, Köfteotu	Aerial part	Nausea, bellyache, common cold	Decoction, int.	Cholesterol lowering (11), bellyache, ulcer, cough (13), hemorrhoids, stomachache (14)

Table 1. (continued)

Ranunculus constantinopolitanus (DC.) d'Urv. Ranunculaceae (ISTE 84 038)	Sakızotu	Flower	Analgesic (on legs)	Wrapping, ext., crushed flowers	Rheumatism (19)
Rosa canina L. Rosaceae (ISTE 84 041, ISTE 84 146)	Dikenbaşı, Köpekgülü, Kuşburnu, Öküzgötü, Yabanigül	Fruit Petal	Woman diseases, common cold, cough Diabetes, asthma Diabetes Flu Health-giving	Decoction or infusion, int. Infusion, int. Eaten, as marmalade Drinking prepared fruit juice, int. Eaten, in spring time	Kidney sands (5), cough (6), bronchitis, rheumatism, kidney and cardiac diseases (7), intestinal disorders (8), abscess (11), eczama, common cold, itching (13), digestive (15), sterility in woman (18), bellyache, diabetes (6, 14),
Rubus canescens DC. var. canescens Rosaceae (ISTE 84 144)	Böğürtlen, Diken, Hamdüspara, Karamuk, Mora	Root	To prevent abortion Itching, wounds on body	Cleaned and crushed roots' juice, int. Boiled in water and take a bath with this water for 2-3 weeks	hemorrhoids (7, 10) Anaemia, diarrhoea, wounds (14), diabetes, diuretic (16), hemorrhoids (6, 15)
Rubus sanctus Schreber Rosaceae (ISTE 84 145)	Böğürtlem, Böğürtlen, Börtlen, Diken, Dikenbaşı, Mora	Leaf Fruit Root	Wounds Strengthening Ureter disorders, skin disorders	Ext. Eaten, fresh fruits Decoction, int.	Diarrhoea, diuretic (1), digestive (5), bronchitis (6), sterility (9), acne, mycosis on foot (12), cancer (14), hemorrhoids (15), hemostatic (11, 15), sore throat, diabetes (1, 5, 14), wounds (1, 7, 9, 11, 12)
Rumex pulcher L. Polygonaceae (ISTE 84 159)	Çarşaf, Efelek, Efelik, Labada, Lapaza, Mancar, Mancarotu, Pancarotu, Yapalak	Fruit	Cough	Decoction, int.	Hemorrhoids, bronchitis (10)

Table 1. (continued)

Solanum nigrum L. subsp. nigrum Solanaceae	Köpekdomatesi, Tarlaüzümcüğü, Üzümcük	Fruit	Aphtha	Eaten, fresh fruits	Analgesic (1), hemorrhoids (1, 14)
(ISTE 84 037, ISTE 84 049)					
Sonchus asper (L.) Hill. subsp. glaucescens	Çallıcaotu, Özsütlü, Sütlen, Sütlük, Sütlüotu	Leaf	Cancer	Decoction, int.	Wounds, cuts (13)
(Jordan) Ball Asteraceae (ISTE 84 042, ISTE 84 168)	Suiter, Suitak, Suitavia	Stem, leaf	Cancer	Eaten, boiled leaves as salad	
Tanacetum parthenium (L.) Schultz Bip. Asteraceae (ISTE 84 124)	Pireotu	Capitulum	Flu	Infusion, int.	Migraine, stomachache (14), headache, diuretic, digestive (16), strengthening, emmenagogue (1, 16), antipyretic (1, 14, 16)
Taraxacum scaturiginosum	Hindiba, Sarısütlü, Sütlüot	Capitulum,	Anti- inflammatory	Decoction, int.	Diabetes (20)
G. Hagl. Asteraceae (ISTE 84 154)	Suttuot	Leaf	Genital itching	Eaten, as meal with *Brassica oleracea var. acephala leaves	
Thymus longicaulis C. Presl subsp. longicaulis	Kekik	Aerial part	Stomach disorders	Infusion, int.	Stomachache (5), cancer (6), eczema (9), cough,
var. subisophyllus (Borbás) Jalas Lamiaceae (ISTE 84 132)			Diabetes	Infusion, int., before breakfast	sedative, diabetes (6, 13), asthma (9, 11)
Tilia argentea Desf. Tiliaceae (ISTE 84 054)	Ihlamur	Flower and bract	Cough, common cold, flu, pectoral	Infusion, int.	Cough (4), diuretic (23), bronchitis, stomachic (6, 14), expectorant (7, 8, 11), common cold (6-8, 11, 14)

Table 1. (continued)

Verbascum speciosum	Ayılahanası, Kabalak	Flower	Hemorrhoids, cough	Infusion, int.	-
Schrader		Root	Hemorrhoids	Swallowed, little pieces of root	
Scrophulariaceae				as pill 3 times per day	
(ISTE 84 189)					
Veronica persica Poiret	Mineçiçeği	Aerial part	Tonsillar inflammation	Decoction, int.	-
Scrophulariaceae					
(ISTE 84 101)					
Viola gracilis Sibth.&Sm.	Hercaimenekşe,	Flower	Wounds, abscess	Poultice, ext.	-
Violaceae	Menekşe		Wounds, burns	Salve, ext., waited in olive oil	
(ISTE 84 096)				with honey	
Viscum album L. subsp.	Çakum, Ökse, Ökseotu,	Leaf,	Diabetes	Decoction, int., drink in the	Hemorrhoids (10),
album	Yapışkanotu	branch		morning	diabetes, bronchitis (14),
Loranthaceae					headache (18), asthma,
(ISTE 84 088)		Leaf	Antihypertensive	Decoction, int., drink before	antihypertensive (7, 13),
				breakfast	ulcer, cardiac diseases (7,
			Being more healthy	Infusion, int.	13, 14)

^a Scientific name: *, cultivated plant
^b Preparation: Ext., external use; Int., internal use

Table 2. Multiherbal recipes used as medicinal purposes in the south part of İzmit.

^a Scientific name	Used parts	Usage	^b Preparation, administration dosage, duration of treatment
Equisetum telmateia *Malus sylvestris Plantago major subsp. major Tilia argentea	Aerial part Leaf Leaf Flower and bract	Ureter disorders For bed wetting children	Infusion, int. Decoction, int., drinking with honey
Hedera helix *Allium cepa Malva sylvestris	Leaf Dried leaf Leaf	Sterility (woman)	Boiling, ext., vapour bath
Tanacetum parthenium Tilia argentea	Capitulum Flower and bract	Sore throat, aphonia	Infusion, int.
Hypericum perforatum Thymus longicaulis subsp. longicaulis var. subisophyllus	Aerial part Aerial part	Stomachache, stomach disorders Stomach disorders	Decoction, int. Infusion, int.
Clinopodium vulgare subsp. vulgare Lamium purpureum var. purpureum	Aerial part Aerial part	Bellyache	Boiling, ext., applied over abdomen and wrap
Melissa officinalis subsp. altissima Urtica dioica Malva sylvestris	Leaf / Aerial part Leaf Leaf	Being more healthy Kidney inflammation	Decoction, int., drink before breakfast Infusion, int., drink 1 glass before brekfast
Mentha spicata subsp. spicata Tilia argentea	Aerial part Flower and bract	Nausea, stomachache	Infusion, int.

Table 2. (continued)

*Cydonia oblonga Tilia argentea	Leaf Flower and bract	Common cold, cough	Infusion, int.
Rubus canescens var. canescens *Petroselinum crispum	Root Aerial part	Ureter disorders	Decoction, int.
*Robinia pseudoacacia Bellis perennis	Flower Capitulum	Common cold, bronchitis	Infusion, int.
Alcea setosa Tilia argentea	Flower Flower and bract	Pectoral, respiratory system disorders	Infusion, int.
Plantago major subsp. major Urtica dioica Mentha longifolia subsp. typhoides var. typhoides	Leaf Leaf Leaf	Embolism	Decoction, int.
Plantago major subsp. major Urtica dioica	Leaf Leaf	Laxative	Decoction, int.
Plantago major subsp. major Urtica dioica *Malus sylvestris *Cydonia oblonga	Seed Seed Fruit Fruit	Asthma, bronchitis, cough	Infusion, int.

^a Scientific name: *, cultivated plant
^b Preparation: Ext., external use; Int., internal use

Table 3. Plants used in veterinary medicine in the south part of İzmit.

Scientific name Family (Voucher specimen)	Local names	Used parts	Usage	^a Preparation	Other traditional usage in veterinary medicine reported earlier in Turkish ethnobotanical literature (1, 5-22)
Dipsacus laciniatus L. Dipsacaceae (ISTE 84 179)	Eşekkengeri	Aerial part	Wounds in mouth, for donkey	Add in fodder	-
Helleborus orientalis L. Ranunculaceae (ISTE 84 126)	Bohça, Bohçaotu, Çöpleme, Çöpotu	Leaf Rhizome	Diarrhoea Diarrhoea Cold	Feed Feed with bread Inserted in cow's ear	Oedema in legs (10), backache (13), difficulty in walking, against <i>Mycoplasma</i> <i>dysagalactia</i> (14), antiparazitic (1, 13), cold (7, 11, 13)
Petasites hybridus (L.) Gaertner Asteraceae (ISTE 84 116)	Ayıkulağı, Farafla, Kabakulakotu, Kabalak, Şemsiyeotu	Leaf	Inflammed wounds	Ext.	-
Rumex pulcher L. Polygonaceae (ISTE 84 159)	Çarşaf, Efelek, Efelik, Labada, Lapaza, Mancar, Mancarotu, Pancarotu, Yapalak	Fruit	Cough, illness	Add in fodder	-
Sambucus ebulus L. Caprifoliaceae (ISTE 84 184)	Lor, Lüver, Piran, Sultan, Şahmelek, Şahmelekotu	Leaf Stem	Chick's illness Tick purifying	Ext., heated and apply to chick's body Ext., crushed and apply to animal's skin	Sprains and strains (7), wounds (13, 15)

^a Preparation: Ext., external use; Int., internal use

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