

- 8 Collecting at sites 23 - 27.
- 9 Return visit to the Mayor of Safawi, then return to Amman collecting at sites 28, 29 & 30 on the way.
- 10 Work in the herbarium.
- 11 Work in the herbarium.
- 12 Work in the herbarium.
- 13 Work in the herbarium. Evening reception.
- 14 Shopping in Amman
- 15 Return to U.K.

1.3 Summary of Results

Of the three and a half weeks spent in Jordan only nine full days and two half days were spent in the field. Thirty widely scattered sites were visited and 400 specimens were collected.

Some modifications had to be made to the original programme as a result of changing and unforeseen circumstances. It was unfortunate that the period of survey work coincided with a particularly full work schedule for Dr Al-Eisawi. The very short notice given to the botanical survey team of the desire to begin field work immediately after the winter rains meant that Dr Al-Eisawi was unable to reschedule his commitments. A disappointing two days were all that he and I could manage together in the field, and for the same reason we saw little of each other during my two spells in the herbarium.

Our original intention had been to make detailed floristic lists for each of the sites we visited, but this kind of approach needs and intimate knowledge of the plants. As Dr Al-Eisawi was, for the most part, unavailable and my knowledge of Jordanian plants is rather superficial, this procedure had to be abandoned. Once I was on my own, I could list only those species that I knew; all others present had to be collected on each occasion that they were seen in order for them to be identified later. Even this approach had soon to be abandoned, partly because of limited resources for drying specimens and partly because of the speed with which sites were visited. In the end, I restricted my collecting to those species not yet recorded and elected not to attempt any detailed listing or mapping.

The difficulties with continuing the mapping phase of the survey were exacerbated by the lack of maps and an unfortunate misunderstanding over the provision of a GPS survey receiver. As a consequence, I never knew with adequate precision where I was at any one time, and detailed species lists for selected sites were therefore of doubtful value. Work nonetheless continued with the regional inventory and collection of reference material for the Badia Herbarium.

The identification of specimens began very slowly. This is due in part to Dr Al-Eisawi's unavailability, though he did what he could for me when he could, but mostly to my own inexperience with the local flora. Some literature was at hand in the herbarium, as were many valuable specimens, but lack of resources at the University has meant that much of what Dr Al-Eisawi had collected over the years had not yet been processed and incorporated. It was essential, therefore, that the collections were sent to Kew, where other experienced botanists were able to help with the process of identification. Once this had been done, the specimens could be labelled and returned to the HCST.

A full list of sites visited is given in Appendix 1 and a list of specimens collected for the Badia Herbarium is given in Appendix 2. A full list of species noted for the Badia Region, some of which were not in suitable condition for collection, is provided in Appendix 3. The species-count for the Badia Region currently stands at 223, representing 167 genera in 41 families. Several taxa are newly recorded for Jordan and one may be new to science.

2. FUTURE SURVEY WORK

2.1 The Proposed Programme

2.1.1 Floristic Inventory

It is anticipated that the programme outlined in 1.1 will be continued for the duration of the Project. Work towards an inventory of the Badia flora has made a satisfactory start, and already we have more species listed than anticipated. However, an annual visit to the region in the spring of each year is not going to be sufficient; many species will be found flowering at other seasons and it is not possible for me to travel to Jordan at short and irregular intervals to accommodate them. Besides disrupting my own work schedule, this will be a very expensive undertaking considering the cost of air fares. It is therefore essential that all facilities made available to me for survey work be available at all other times for use by Dr Al-Eisawi. As my Jordanian counterpart on the Project, and the principal authority on Jordanian plants, Dr Al-Eisawi has agreed to continue the survey in my absence.

2.1.2 The Badia Herbarium