

Review of: "Ethnobotanical Documentation of Yerba Mate in Syria"

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The present work focuses on documenting the link that the population of Syria has with respect to the plant used for infusion known as “yerba mate”, belonging to the species *Ilex paraguariensis*. It is interesting to document the relationship between this species, which is so distant in terms of origin but very close in terms of its use and cultural significance. To carry out the objective, a virtual survey was conducted with 430 participants from different regions of Syria, collecting data on yerba mate consumption habits, social practices, reasons for use, perceived effects, and traditional preparation methods. Quantitative and qualitative data were analyzed using statistical software. The relative frequency of citations (RFC) was used to evaluate the prevalence of herbal additives in yerba mate preparations. The results show what the main reasons for the consumption of yerba mate are, the area of the people (urban or rural), what the frequency of consumption is, among other information. Likewise, information on the uses and properties of yerba mate is presented. Although interviews were not carried out with the entire population, the number surveyed is representative enough to provide an approach to ethnobotany and the link between people and this plant. I recommend delving deeper into this interesting topic through in-person surveys to also be able to characterize the botanical knowledge associated with yerba mate in Syria.