Phytosociological study on the deltaic part and the principal channel of Wadi Qena, Egypt

F.M. Salama and A.A. Fayed

Abstract:

Wadi Quena is one of the major wadis of the Eastern Desert in Egypt. It is unique in its north-south orientation among other wadis in this desert. Phytosociological study of this wadi is based on the analysis of vegetation in 21 stands, using the Zürich Montpellier technique. The vegetation survey indicated the prevalence of perennials in this wadi. Thirty-nine species comprising the vegetation of the wadi are segregated in two community types: 1. Anabasis setifera - Acacia ehrenbergiana and 2. Zygophyllum coccineum - Shouwia thebaica. The second community type has two subcommunities: a. Tamarix nilotica - Artemisia judaica and b. Cotula cinerea - Cleome droserifolia. Elements of the alliance Zygophyllaeion coccini previously recognized in other wadis of this desert are well represented in this wadi. The distribution of the communities recognized in this study seems to be dependent upon the moisture retention properties and on the soil depth.

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