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A SHORT SURVEY OF HORMOZGAN PROVINCE VEGETATION (IRAN)

by

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The Hormozgan province with an area of ca. 66780 square kilometers is located in the South Iran, bordered from North by Fars, Kerman and Sistan and Baluchestan provinces, from South by the Persian Gulf and Oman Sea, from East by Sistan and Baluchestan provinces and from West by Buhsher and Fars provinces.

TOPOGRAPHY

The highest mountains of the province are Kuh-e Hemag located at the N. of Bandar-Abbas and S.E. of Hajiabad with the altitude of 3267 m from sea level, Kuh-e Shab near Bastak and Lar with the altitude about 2681 from sea level and Kuh-e Genu just N. of Bandar-Abbas, with the altitude about 2347 m. Besides, there are many mountain ridges from West to East which are the continuation of Zagros mountains. The lowest parts of the province are the Sea coastal plains. The Sea coastal border has a length of about 1200 km. The province includes 13 big and small Islands: Jazir-e Gheshm (the largest one), Tounb-e Bozorg and Kuchek, Kish Aboumousa and Hormoz at the mouth of Oman sea and Persian Gulf.

CLIMATE

The most part of the province is a Subtropic region. The average of annual precipitation is about 160 mm; the annual rainfall is more than 200 mm for three years in every ten years period. Most of the time the rain starts as occasional showers and quickly runs off, so it is not very usefull for the vegetation growth.

From the climatical point of view the province can be divided into three characteristic regions: Coastal area, subtropic steppic region including foothhills, and high mountains region.

According to the opinion of the phytogeographers (EIG) the province belongs to Saharo-Sindian territory.

Maximum temperature degree is about 40-46°C per year and minimum about 9-11°C, but in the northern part of the province sometime it reaches to 1°C. The winters are short, mild and frost free, the summers are long, dry and hot.

RIVERS

There are many rivers in the province but most of them are seasonal, having salty water; only Minab river is permanent with fresh water, which is used by people of Bandar-Abbas and Minab for drinking and irrigation of farms and gardens.

Some other big seasonal rivers are Hasan langi and Jallabi (between Minab and Bandar-Abba), Gabrik and Jagin (between Bander-e Jask and Chahbahar).

SOILS

All Coastal parts of the province have sandy formation with alluvial saline soil and wet saline and alkaline soils. The plateau soils are sierozem together with Rigosoul.

GEOLOGY

Oldest formations belong to Cambrian with fifty salty domes, most part of the high lands belong to Neozoic, alluvial quarternery are spread everywhere in the plain.

VEGETATION

Because of the various climatic conditions (average of rainfalls, temperature degree, topographic condition) the province has a very rich flora. From physiognomical criteria, vegetation in Hormozgan province belong to the subtropical type, and is dominated by pea family (Leguminosae) and grass family (Gramineae). Therefore one can see at least one or two species of these families every where.

In the autumn goose foot family (Chenopodiaceae) is dominant and at most places you can see *Hammada salicornica* besides of other species of this family. Although sunflower family (Compositae) covers a high percentage of the vegetation (in number and species variation) it is not domi-

nant, nevertheless in some parts of the province (foot hills with low altitude) *Platychaete glaucescens* has high density.

Hormozgan province is divided into five parts based on physiognomical, ecological and florestic criteria as follows:

1. Mangrove forests.
2. Vegetation of coastal dunes and low altitude borders.
3. Vegetation of the vast plains and foot hills.
4. The vegetation of the halophytic communities and salty places.
5. Plant formations of the mountain regions.

At the end besides to plant species of the provinces exotic horticultural and ornamental species are listed.

1. MANGROVE FORESTS

The Mangrove forests consits mainly of one species *Avicennia marina* on coastal area near Bandar-e Jask, Tyab, Pol, Khamir, Jazir-e Gheshm mixed with some *Rhizophora mucronata* at the Bandar-e Sirik.

This is rather pure stand without any inferior stratum of vegetation. Only at the Bandar-e Khamir and Tyab one can see rarely wet saline and alkaline plants, *Halocnemum strobilaceum*, *Salicornia ssp.*, *Salsola ssp.*, *Suaeda sp.*, which have a special tolerance against the highwater tables.

2. VEGETATION OF COASTAL DUNES AND LOW ALTITUDE BORDERS

This vegetation depends directly on the influence of the humidity of the sea water, and is usually extending up to 700 m from sea level. It is a rich vegetation consisting of *Pennisetum divisium*, *Panicum turgidum communities* and other plants as follows:

Aerva javanica
Aizoon canariensis
Aristida adscensionis
Arnebia decumbens
Arnebia fimbriopetala
Asphodelus tenuifolius
Astragalus (Ammodendron) sp.
Astragalus spp. (annual)
Brassica tournefortii
Calligonum spp.
Calotropis procera
Fagonia bruguieri
Fagonia sp.
Halopyrum mucronatum
Heliotropium bacciferum
Indigofera intricata
Indigofera pauciflora
Lotus garcini
Lotus halophilus
Moltkiopsis ciliata
Neurada procumbens
Ochradenus baccatus

Citrullus colocynthis
Crotularia furfuracea
Cyperus conglomeratus
Dactyloctenium scindicum
Dipterygium glaucum
Ducrosia anethifolia
Eleusine compressa
Emex spinosa
Eragrostis cilianensis
Euphorbia cheirolepidioides
Plantago coronopus
Plantago ovata
Rhynchosia schimperi
Salvadora persica
Sphaerocoma aucheri
Tavernieria cuneifolia
Tavernieria spartea
Tephrosia persica
Tragus racemosus
Trianthema portulacastrum

3. VEGETATION OF THE VAST PLAINS AND FOOT HILLS

An area with very rich vegetation which forms the biggest part of the province containing:

- **Wood land stands between Minab and Bandar-e Jask with the following trees and shrubs:**

Acacia nilotica
Acacia nubica
Calotropis procera
Commicarpus stenocarpus
Hammada salicornica
Lycium shawii
Lycium sp.
Ochradenus baccatus
Prosopis spicigera
Salvadora persica
Tavernieria glabra
Ziziphus spina-christi

- **Rather pure community of Capparis decidua, Prosopis spicigera between Bandar-e Jask and Konarak together with**

Acacia farnesian
Acacia nubica
Salvadora persica
Tamarix spp.
Tavernieria spartea
Tavernieria cuneifolia
Tephrosia persica

- **Pseudosavanna communities in the coastal area of Persian Gulf between Bandar-e Lenge, Charak and Jazier-e Gheshm occupied by:**

Acacia ehrenbergiana
Acacia nilotica
Acacia nubica
Acacia tortilis
Aristida adscensionis
Calotropis procera
Cenchrus pennisetiformis
Chrysopogon aucheri
Cymbopogon olivieri
Convolvulus virgatus
Convolvulus leptocladus
Eremopogon foveolatus
Grewia tenax
Indigofera intricata
Lotus garcini
Ochradenus baccatus
Panicum turgidum
Pennisetum divisum
Salsola baryosma
Salsola spp.
Sporobulus arabicus
Stipagrostis plumosa
Tavernieria cuneifolia
Tavernieria spartea
Ziziphus spina-christi
Zygophyllum eurypterum
Zygophyllum propinquum

Together with many annual plant form pea and grass families.

- Rather pure stand of Euphorbia larica around Bandar-e Khamir together with:

Acacia farnesiana
Acacia nubica
Argyrolobium roseum
Cenchrus pennisetiformis
Chrysopogon aucheri
Convolvulus leptocladus
Convolvulus virgatus
Cymbopogon olivieri
Eremopogon foveolatus
Fagonia ssp.
Farsetia heliophila
Gaillonia aucheri
Gymnocarpus
Hammada salicornica
Helianthemum lippii
Hyparrhenia hirta
Indigofera intricata
Ochradenus baccatus
Pergularia tomentosa
Platychaete glaucescens
Salvia aegyptiaca
Salvia macilenta
Sporobolus arabicus
Tavernieria cuneifolia
Tavernieria spartea
Zygophyllum eurypterum
Zygophyllum propinquum

- River bed trees and shrubs consisting:

Nerium indicum
Rhazia stricta
Prosopis spicigera
Tamarix spp.
Ziziphus spina-christii

- Shrub land stands between Rudan and Kahnuj consisting:

Aerva javanica
Calligonum spp.
Cornulaca monacantha
Gaillonia aucheri
Haloxylon ammodendron
Hammada salicornica
Pycnocycla aucherana

Because of being very rich and vast, plant species of the region are reviewed and listed in alphabetical order.

- Rather dominant trees and shrubs and shrublets of the region are:

Abutilon fruticosum
Acacia ehrenbergiana
Acacia nilotica
Acacia numidica
Acacia tortilis
Aerva javanica
Amygdalus lycioides
Amygdalus scoparia
Anvillea garcini
Calligonum spp.
Calotropis procera
Capparis cartilaginea
Capparis decidua
Capparis spinosa
var. mucronifolia
Linaria macilenta
Lycium shawii
Lycium sp.
Nannorhops ritchiana
Nerium indicum
Ochradenus aucheri
Ochradenus baccatus
Oldenlandica retrosa
Olea ferrugina
Pergularia tomentosa
Periploca aphylla
Pistacia khinjuk
Platychaete aucheri
Platychaete glaucescens
Populus euphratica

Cassia italica
Chrozophora obliqua
Cocculus pendulus
Cotoneaster rechingeri
Dodonea viscosa
Ephedra foliata
Euphorbia larica
Ficus bengalensis
Ficus carica
Fortuynia garcini
Gaillonia aucheri
Grewia tenax
Gymnocarpus decander
Haloxylon ammodendron
Hammada salicornica
Helianthemum lippii
Hibiscus micranthus
Indigofera paucifolia
Indigofera intricata
Leptadenia pyrotechnica
Prosopis farcta
Prosopis spicigera
Pteropyrum aucheri
Pycnocycla aucherana
Pycnocycla bashagardiana
Pycnocycla nodosa
Rhazia stricta
Rynchosia schimperi
Sageretia thea
Salvadora persica
Tamarix aphylla
Tamarix spp.
Tavernieria cuneifolia
Tavernieria spartea
Tecomella undulata
Tephrosia persica
Vitex negundo
Zataria multiflora
Zygophyllum eurypterum

- Other annual and perennial plant of the region are:

Abutilon muticum
Acantholimon scorpiurus
Acanthophyllum bracteatum
Aegopordon berardioides
Aeluropus lagopoides
Aeluropus littoralis
Allium spp.
Ammi majus
Anastatica hierochuntica
Andrachne telephioides
Anticharis glutinosa
Antirrhinum orontium
Aphanopleura leptoclada
Argyrolobium roseum
Aristida abnormis
Aristida adscensionis
Aristida caerulescens
Arnebia decumbens
Arnebia fimbriopetala
Arnebia hispidissima
Asteriscus hierochunticus
Astragalus tribuloides
Astragalus corrugatus
Astragalus asterias
Astragalus laristanicus
Atractylis cancellata
Blepharis persicus
Blumea bovei
Boerhavia elegans
Brassica tournefortii
Bromus rubens
Bromus scoparius
Limonium iranicum
Linaria macilenta
Linum strictum
Lotonomis platycarpus
Lotus angustissimus
Lotus laricus
Lotus garcini
Lotus halophilus
Lotus schimperi
Matthiola longipetala
Medicago laciniata
Medicago minima
Melilotus indica
Mentha mozaffariani
Micromeria persica
Monsonia nivea
Moricandia sinaica
Nepeta ispahanica
Notoceras bicorne
Oligomeris linifolius
Oldenlandia retrorsa
Ononis reclinata
Ononis serrata
Onosma spp.
Outreya carduiformis
Parietaria alsinifolia
Paronychia arabica
Pennisetum orientale
Phyla divisum
Phyla nodiflora
Phalaris minor
Pimpinella barbata

Cenchrus pennisetiformis
Centaurium pulchellum
Centaurea bruguieri
Centaurea pseudosinaica
Chesneya parviflora
Cleome oxypetala
Chloris virgata
Chrysopogon aucheri
Cometes surratensis
Commicarpus stenocarpus
Corchorus trilocularis
Conringia orientalis
Convolvulus argyroacanthus
Convolvulus leptocladus
Convolvulus gonocladus
Convolvulus oxysepalus
Convolvulus sericeus
Convolvulus turrillianus
Convolvulus virgatus
Cousinia prolifera
Crotalaria furfuracea
Cutandia dichotoma
Cymbopogon olivieri
Cynodon dactylon
Dactyloctenium aegyptiacum
Dactyloctenium scindicum
Desmostachya bipinnata
Dianthus macranthoides
Diceratella canescens
Dichantium annulatum
Dicyclophora persica
Digitaria nodosa
Dipcadi unicolor
Diptolaxis harra
Eleusine compressa
Elionurus royleanus
Emex spinosus
Enneapogon brachystachys
Enneapogon persicus
Eragrostis cilianensis
Eremopogon foveolatus
Erucaria hispanica
Fagonia bruguieri
Fagonia indica
Farsetia heliophila
Ferula stenocarpa
Forsskola tenacissima
Gaillonia bruguieri
Gaillonia crucianelloides
Gaillonia sp.
Gymnarrhena micrantha
Haplophyllum tuberculatum
Helichrysum makranicum
Herniaria hirsuta
Heteranthelium piliferum
Pimpinella eriocarpa
Plantago amplexicaulis
Plantago ciliata
Plantago coronopus
Plantago ovata
Plantago psyllium
Plantago stocksi
Polygala erioptera
Portulaca oleracea
Pulicaria gnaphalodes
Psammogeton canescens
Psammogeton crinitum
Reaumuria stocksii
Reichardia tingitana
Reseda aucheri
Rumex vesicarius
Saccharum kajkaiense
Saccharum ravennae
Salvia aegyptiaca
Salvia macilenta
Salvia macrosiphon
Salvia sharifi
Saponaria barbata
Scabiosa olivieri
Scabiosa sp.
Schismus arabicus
Schweinfurthia papilionacea
Sclerocephalus arabicus
Scorzonera tortuosissima
Silene linearis
Solanum indicum
Solanum nigrum
Spergula fallax
Spergularia marina
Stachys inflata
Sporobulus arabicus
Stipa capensis
Stipa parviflora
Stipagrostis hirtigluma
Stipagrostis plumosa
Taeniatherum crinitum
Teucrium orientale
Teucrium polium
Teucrium stocksianum
Tetrapogon villosus
Tribulus longipetala
Tribulus terrestris
Trichodesma africanum
Trichodesma longipedicellatum
Trichodesma stocksii
Tricholaena tenerriffae
Trigonella uncata
Trigonella stellata

Hippocrepis bicontorta
Hippocrepis unisiliqua
Hirschfeldia incana
Hyparrhenia hirta
Ifloga spicata
Koelpinia linearis
Lagoecia cuminoides
Lasiurus hirsutus
Launea oligocephala
Lavandula stricta
Tragus racemosus
Urospermum picroides
Verbascum farsistanicum
Violoa stocksii
Withania somniferum
Zataria multiflora
Zoegea purpurea
Zumeria majdae
Zygophyllum simplex
Zygophyllum propinquum

4. THE VEGETATION OF THE HALOPHYTIC COMMUNITIES

Including pure *Halocnemum strobilaceum* community of Mehregan salty area, and *Salsola spp., Suaeda spp., Anabasis sp., Limonium cf. axillare* at the margines.

In coastal halopytic stand we can see following species:

Bienertia cycloptera
Halocnemum strobilaceum
Salicornia europaea
Suaeda sp.
Aeluropus lagopoides
Aeluropus littoralis

Also in the autumn everywhere in the province from Hajiabad to Bandar-e Abbas to B. Lenge and Minab to Bandar-e Jask the distribution of the *Hammada salicornia* is remarkable.

5. PLANT FORMATIONS OF THE MOUNTAINS AT THE NORTH OF THE PROVINCE

These are characterized by drought resistant species as *Amygdalus scoparia, Pistacia atlantica, Pistacia khinjuk, Acer monspessulanum* and many other species together with *Juniperus excelsa* at summit of Kuh-e Genu and Hemag. Plant speces of the region (Trees, shrub and herbaceous) are listed below:

Abutilon fruticosum
Acacia ehrenbergiana
Acacia nubica
Acer monspessulanum
Amygdalus eburnea
Amygdalus scoparia
Amygdalus wendelboi
Anvillea garcinii
Calotropis procera
Caparis cartilaginea
Caparis spinosa
var. mucronifolia
Ebenus stellata
Ephedra foliata
Euphorbia larica
Fagonia bruguieri
Ficus carica
Fortuynia bungei
Gaillonia aucheri
Grewia tenax
Helianthemum kahiricum
Helianthemum lippii
Periploca aphylla
Pergularia tomentosa

Cocculus pendulus
Convolvulus argyroacanthus
Convolvulus leiocalycinus
Convolvulus spinosus
Cotoneaster kotschyi
Cotoneaster rechingeri
Crepis kotschyi
Daphne mucronata
Daphne stapfii
Dodonea viscosa
Pistacia atlantica
Pistacia khinjuk
Prosopis spicigera
Sageretia thea
Tavernieria cuneifolia
Tecomella undulata
Tephrosia appolina
Zararia multiflora
Ziziphus spina-christi
Zygophyllum eurypterum

Annual and Perennial herbaceous species:

Acantholimon scorpiurus
Acantholimon stocksii
Acanthophyllum bracteatum
Aegilops crassa
Aegilops cylindrica
Aegopordon berardioides
Aizoon canarenis
Anagalis arvensis
Andrachne aspera
Anthemis odontostephana
Argyrolobium roseum
Aristida adcensionis
Aristida caerulescens
Artemisia spp.
Arundo donax
Asperugo procumbens
Aphodelus tenuifolius
Asteriscus pygmaeus
Astragalus tribuloides
Astragalus asterias
Astragalus (Leucocercis) mucronifolius
Astragalus (Microphysa) sp.
Astragalus (Tragacantha) spp.
Atractylis cancellata
Biscutella didyma
Blepharis persicus
Calendula persica
Caralluma edulis
Carthamus oxyacantha
Cenchrus ciliaris
Cenchrus pennisetiformis
Cerastium inflatum
Chorispora tenella
Chrozophora obliqua
Chrysopogon aucheri
Clypeola aspera
Convolvulus leptocladus
Convolvulus vigatus
Conringia planisiliqua
Cousinia stocksii
Crupinia crupinastrum
Lamarkia aurea
Lappula spinocarpus
Lithospermum tenuiflorum
Lotus schimperi
Malcolmia africana
Matthiola longipetala
Matthiola flavida
Medicago laciniata
Mentha mozaffariani
Micromeria persica
Minuartia meyeri
Moricandia sinaica
Nepeta depauperata
Noaea mucronata
Ononis sicula
Ononis viscosa
Outreya carduiformis
Parietaria judaica
Pennisetum orientale
Pentanema divaricata
Pentatropis spiralis
Peucedanum cupulare
Phagnalon nitidum
Pimpinella barbata
Pimpinella eriocarpa
Plantago amplexicaule
Plantago ovata
Plantago ciliata
Platychaete aucheri
Platychaete glaucescens
Poa sinaica
Podolotus hosackioides
Polygala erioptera
Pterocephalus wendelboii
Reseda aucheri
Rochelia disperma
Rosularia nodosa
Saccharum ravenae
Salvia aegyptiaca
Salvia macrosiphon
Salvia sharifi
Scabiosa olivieri

Cymbopogon olivieri
Delphinum saniculifolium
Dianthus macranthoides
Dicyclophora persica
Digitaria nodosa
Dionysia revoluta
Echinops spp.
Enneapogon persicus
Eragrostis cilianensis
Erodium cicutarium
Euphorbia granulata
Euphorbia indica
Euphorbia osyridea
Ferula stenocarpa
Forsskola tenacissima
Fumaria parviflora
Gaillonia bruguieri
Gaillonia calyptera
Gaillonia crucianelloides
Gastrocotyle hispida
Geranium rotundifolium
Geranium mascatense
Glossonema varians
Glaucium vitellinum
Haplophyllum canaliculatum
Haplophyllum tuberculatum
Helianthemum salicifolium
Helichrysum leucocephalum
Hippocrepis unisiliquosa
Hyoscyamus nutans
Hyoscyamus senecionis
Inula grantioides
Scorpiurus muricatus
Scorzonera pseudolanata
Scrophularia striata
Scutellaria ariana
Silene linearis
Silene apetala
Silene brahuica
Sisymbrium irio
Solanum incanum
Sonchus tenerrimus
Stachys inflata
Stipa capensis
Stipa parviflora
Telephium polyspermum
Tetrapogon villosus
Teucrium orientale
Teucrium polium
Teucrium stocksianum
Thymelaea passerina
Trachynia distachya
Trichodesma africanum
Tricholaena tenerriffae
Umbilicus intermedius
Urospermum picroides
Verbascum farsistanicum
Verbascum scoparia
Zoegea purpurea
Zumeria majdae

High altitudes and the top of Kuh-e Hemag are covered with cushion shaped formations consisting of *Onobrychis cornuta*, *Acantholimon sp.*, *Acanthophyllum* together with other plants as below:

Stachys acerosa, *Teucrium polium*, *Nepeta glomerulosa*, *Tulipa sp.*, *Colchicum sp.*, *Gagea sp.*, *Scariola orientalis*, *Astragalus (Malacothrix)*, *Astragalus (Caprini)*, *Poa sinaica*, *Poa bulbosa*, *Alyssum sp.*, *Veronica ssp.*, *Dionysia revoluta*.

Although Kuh-e Genu is very interesting because besides most of the above mentioned species there are rather pure community of *Artemisia lehmanniana* at altitude of 1600-2000 m, and sometimes one can see pure community of *Convolvulus argyroacanthus*.

Fruit trees and shrubs of the province which some of them are exotic are:

Citrus lemon
Citrus nobilis
Citrus sinensis
Cordya myxa
Elaeagnus angustifolia
Eugenia jambolana
Eugenia jambos
Ficus carica
Mangifera indica
Musa ssp.
Olea europaea
Phoenix dactylifera
Psidium guajava
Punica granatum
Terminalia catapa
Vitis vinifera
Ziziphus spina-christii

Ornamental trees and shrub which most of them are exotic are:

Albizia lebbek
Bougainvillea spectabilis
Caesalpinia griffitii
Dodonea viscosa
Euphorbia tirucali
Ficus bengalensis
Gossypium herbaceum
Hibiscus rosa-chinensis
Hibiscus syriacus
Ipomea pescapre
Ipomea crassifolia
Jasminum sp.
Leucena sp.
Melia indica
Merremia dissecta
Nerium oleander
Nerium indicum
Ocimum basilicum
Ocimum sanctum
Parkinsonia aculeata
Prosopis juliflora
Prosopis spicigera
Sesbania sesban
Tecomas ssp.
Terminalia catapa
Washingtonia filimentosa

In my study on Hormozgan province vegetation I come across to some new plant records and new species for the Flora of Iran.

New species:
Tavernieria echinata Mozaffarian
Verbascum scoparium Mozaffarian
Mentha mozaffariani Z.Jamzad
Pycnocycla bashagardiana Mozaffarian

New records:
Amberboa lippii
Anticharis glutinosa
Cotoneaster rechingeri
Dactyloctenium aegyptiacum
Elionurus royleanus
Helianthemum kahiricum
Scutellaria ariana
Trichodesma longipedicellatum

In this province we can see some species which do not occur in other provinces of Iran and some endemics which are indi cated by Asterisk (*).

**Mentha mozaffariani*
**Tavernieria echinata*
**Verbascum scoparium*
Carrichtera annua
Cotoneaster rechingeri
Elionorus royleana

**Zumeria majdae*
Agave littoralis
Anvillea garcini
Carralluma edulis
Lavandula stricta
Podolotus hosackioides
Rhyncosia schimperi
Scutellaria ariana

Typical Saharo-Sindian Territory elements are the followings:

Acacia sp.
Anastatica hierochuntica
Asphodelus tenuifolius
Blepharis persicus
Calotropis procera
Caparis decidua
Chrysopogon aucheri
Cleome brachycarpa
Cocculus pendulus
Convolvulus sp.
Cordya myxa
Crotalaria furfuracea
Cymbopogon olivieri
Enneapogon persicus
Eremopogon foveolatus
Euphorbia larica
Fagonia spp.
Farsetia heliophila
Ficus bengalensis
Gaillonia aucheri
Helianthemum lippi
Heliotropium bacciferum
Indigofera intricata
Leptadenia pyrotechnica
Lotus garcini
Moricandia sinaica
Nannorhops ritchiana
Ochradenus baccatus
Pennisetum divisum
Periploca aphylla
Prosopis spicigera
Saccharum kajkaiense
Salvadora persica
Salvia macilenta
Sphaerocoma aucheri
Sporobolus arabicus
Tephrosia persica
Tetrapogon villosus
Ziziphus spina-christi
Zygophyllum propinquum

CONCLUSION

In the Hormozgan province some families are very important because of the high number of species and the ecological variations. These families can be listed as below:

Pea family (Leguminosae) with ca. 65 species, Sunflower family (Compositae) with ca. 65 species, Grass family (Gramineae) with ca. 60 species, Mustard family (Cruciferae) with ca. 26 species, Borage family (Boraginaceae) with ca. 18 species respectively have a wide distribution in the province. But because of the special subtropic climatical conditions there are some other families which are peculiar to this territory. They have not so many species, but they are widely distributed and contribute much to the physiognomy of the vegetation. Some of these families are: Asclepiadaceae with *Calotropis procera* and *Periploca aphylla* which forms rather pure communities in some place, Tamaricaceae with many species specially in the river beds, Convolvulaceae with ca. 15 species in our province and with wide distribution and high density.

Apocynaceae with *Nerium indicum* which forms dense and conspicous communities rather in the river beds and *Rhazia stricta* with rather small stands in some places, and the Chenopodiaceae, the species of which are conspicous specially in the autumn and have a rather wide distribution.

Besides others the families Zygophyllacea, Plantaginaceae, Capparaceae, Rubiaceae, Caryophyllaceae, Resedaceae, and Aizoaceae have a special importance in the Flora of the region.

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