

The Wild trees and plants in Oman

Oman boasts an environment characterized by arid desert landscapes and rocky mountain ranges, with a semi-arid climate and limited rainfall. Despite these challenging conditions, the region is home to several emblematic native trees. Oleander, Mango tree, and Common fig are three notable examples. These trees play a significant role in the cultural and ecological fabric of Oman, providing shade, mitigating desertification, and supporting local biodiversity. They are cherished for their resilience and ability to thrive in such harsh environments.

Since ancient times, Omani people have been linked to the surrounding environment, benefiting from its components of trees and plants. The Sultanate paid great attention to the plant environment, as a Ministry of Environment was established in 1984, various natural reserves were established, and research centers specializing in plants were established, such as the Oman Center for Animal and Plant Genetic Resources. This is in order to invest, preserve and protect these natural resources. In addition, in order to spread awareness of its importance and its main role in Omani life by holding national lectures and seminars in this field.

Oman is characterized by a unique environmental diversity of plant resources due to its distinctive geographical location and varying climate. The number of plant species found in Oman is estimated at about 1,200, of which 78 species are found in Oman only and cannot be found anywhere else. In addition, plants vary between those that grow in mountains, dry desert plants, plants growing in fertile areas, and coastal plants. Research also indicates the presence of poisonous and edible plants, as there are about 200 edible plants such as sedaf, daja, bot, thyme, and others.

Wild trees and plants have many benefits, some of which are eaten, some of which are used in medicine, some of which are used in washing, purification, beautification and others. For example, the Sidr tree, which reaches a height of about 12 meters, is used by the Omanis in the process of washing and purification, and they also benefit from its fruits and wood. Because of the importance of wild plants and trees, Oman is keen to preserve and protect them and prevent their cutting and destruction. It also called for the importance of educating citizens about their benefits and importance.

Identifying wild plants and trees is crucial to avoid burning, cutting and vandalizing them as well as to preserve the biodiversity of the Omani environment. However, identifying wild plants and trees is a difficult task that requires many skills, experiences, knowledge and information. Furthermore, identifying trees and wild plants is complicated due to the great diversity of trees and wild plants. Also, the environment and technical factors may affect the quality of images.

Top 20 most common trees in Oman:

1. Oleander
2. Mango tree
3. Common fig

4. Papaya
5. Singapore graveyard flower
6. Neem tree
7. Pomegranate
8. Apple of Sodom
9. Royal poinciana
10. Olive
11. Peacock flower
12. Sacred fig
13. Gary mangrove
14. Woman's tongue
15. Egyption-Privet
16. Umbrella thorn acacia
17. Mesquite
18. Vegetable hummingbird
19. Lemon
20. Corn plant