

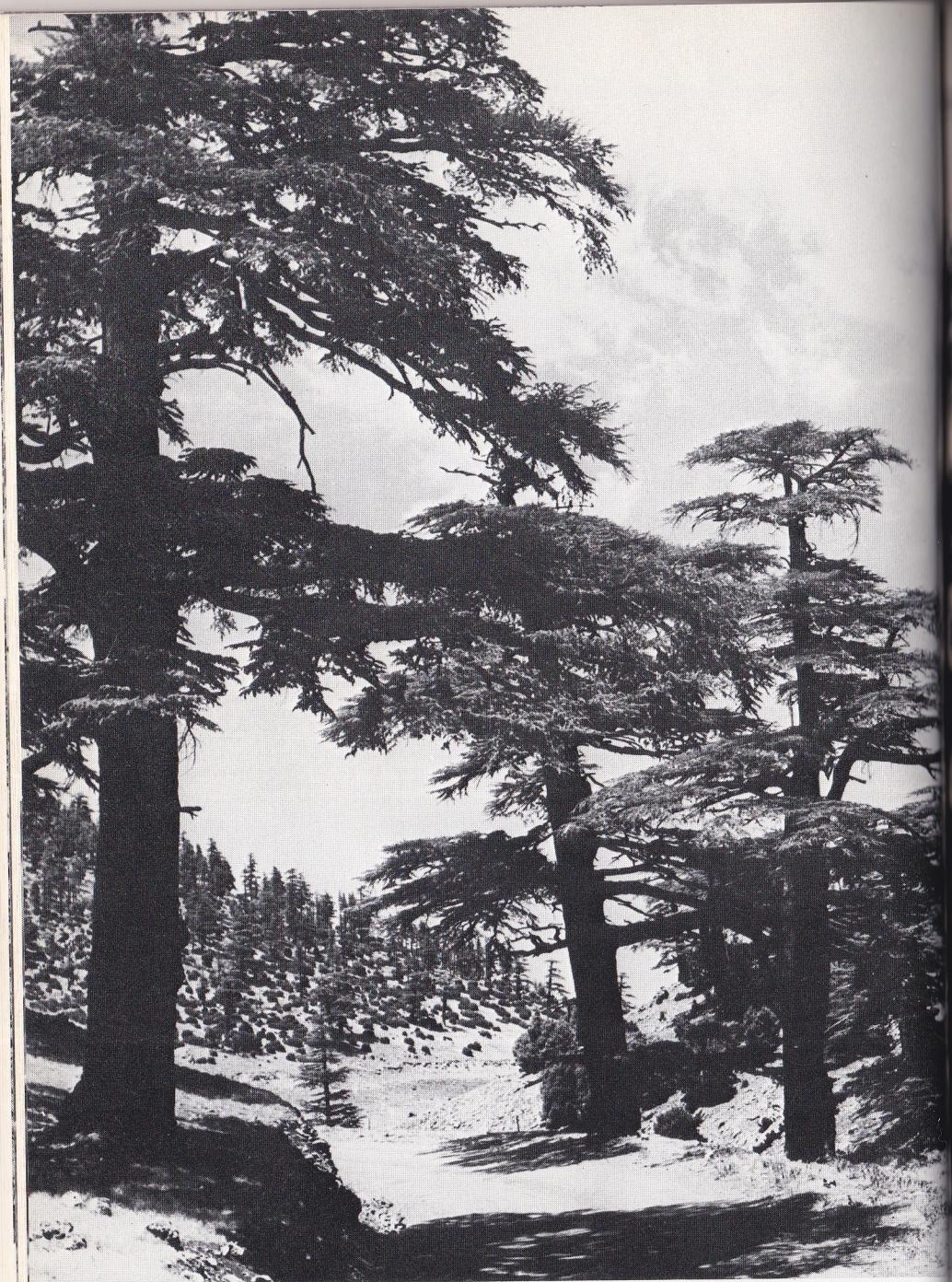
Odontospermum maritimum (right) is a very attractive perennial composite with golden flowers. It is a dwarf shrub found on rough ground at coastal localities. The buds are reddish-brown and flowering commences in February and extends into early summer.

The Squirting Cucumber, *Ecballium elaterium* (below), is the only species in the genus which is related to *Cucumis* (melons and cucumbers). It produces its yellow and white flowers over a long flowering season that extends through spring and summer. The flowers are followed by swollen hairy fruit which hang down when ripe and are spectacular in that they explode their seeds outwards when touched. This plant is commonly found on the Mediterranean coast of Morocco.



Gilia Italica (*G. segetum*) (upper left) is a very colourful but serious cornfield weed. It is found throughout Morocco, except above the frost line, and is associated with primitive agriculture. It multiplies both by its hard unwinged seeds and by the prolific production of large cormlets which may produce the characteristic carmine pink flowers in the first season after germinating. *Ornithogalum arabicum* (upper right) is one of the most handsome members of this large genus. In April it carries a dense flat-topped head of large fragrant cream flowers with striking black centres. *O. arabicum* is a characteristic plant of open grassland and is common in the north, west and centre of Morocco. Of the many species of *Convolvulus* found in Morocco (including some shrubby ones), *C. mauritanicus* (below) is one of the best. It is a prostrate perennial with soft white hairs which starts to bloom in March. The flowers are a rich mauve with lined white throats. By April the plants are so covered with blossoms that whole hillsides may be turned a violet-blue.





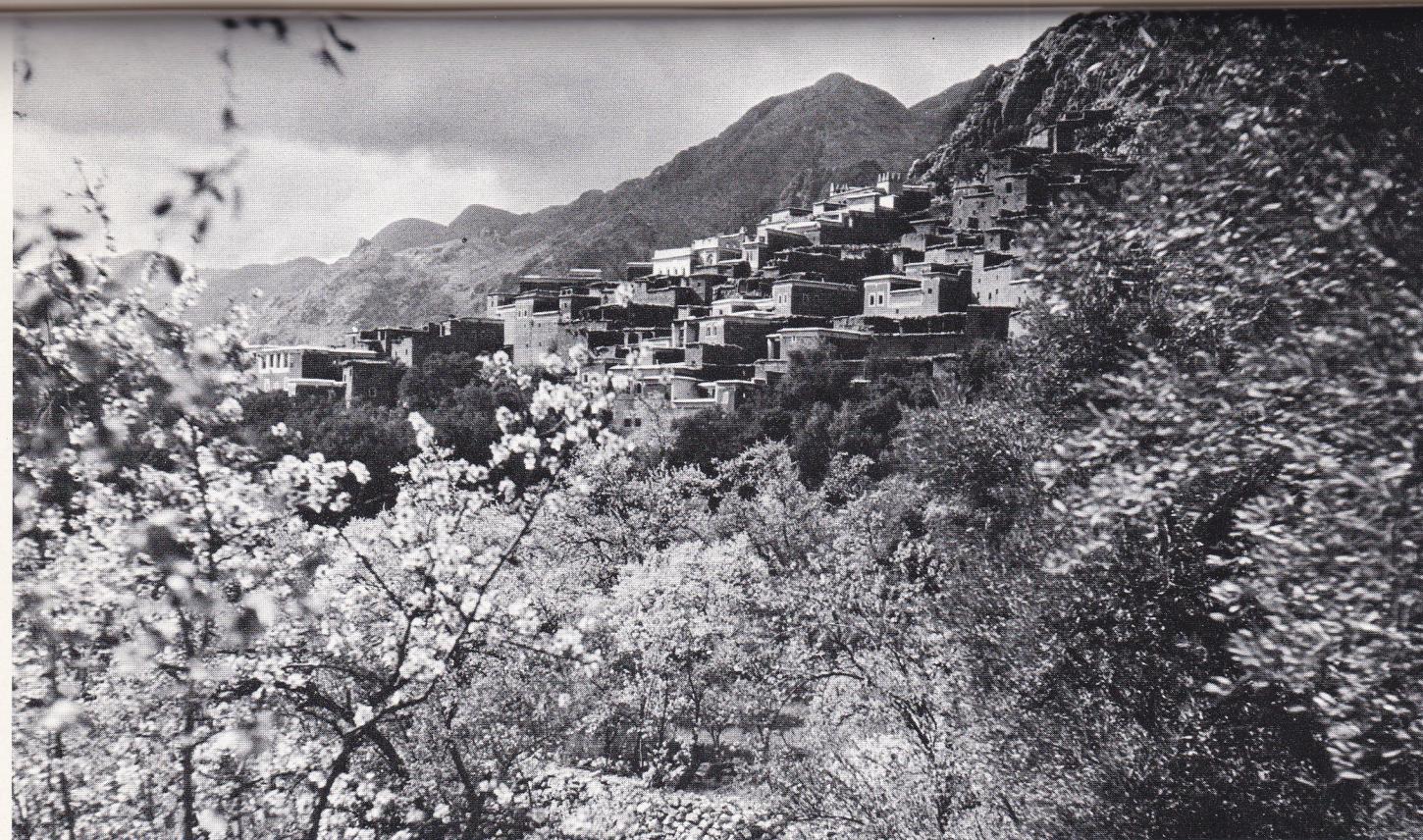
The Atlantic cedar, *Cedrus atlantica*, is a very striking tree of the high peaks and ridges of the Rif, Middle and High Atlas mountains. It forms the climax vegetation in moister localities around 5,000 feet. It is closely related to *C. libani* but differs by having more rapid growth when young and is pyramidal at this stage with an erect leading shoot. The characteristic flattened branches develop much later. The Atlantic cedar also has smaller cones than the Lebanon cedar. The trees shown here form part of the forest around the Col du Zad which links Azrou and Itzér.



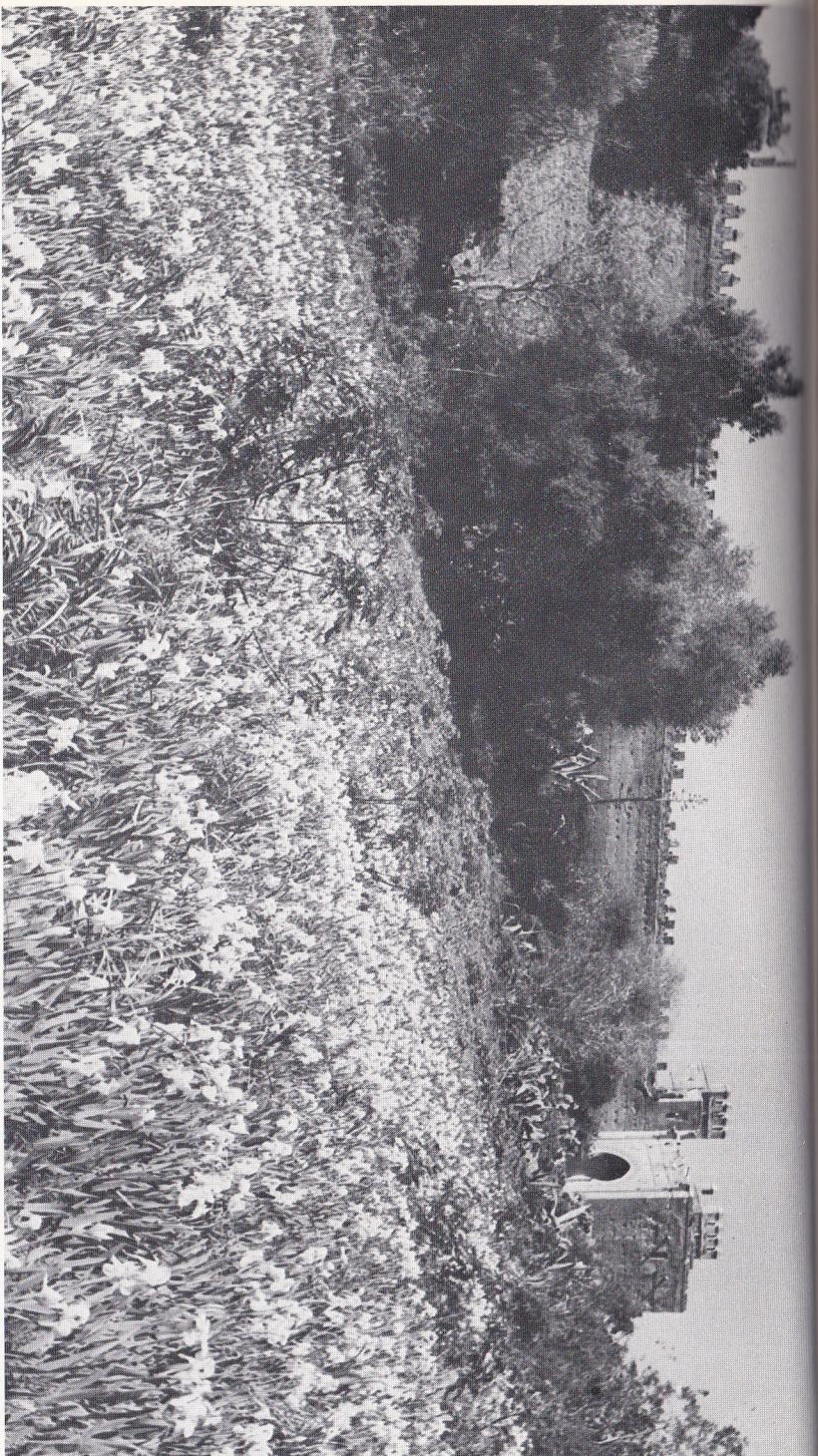
Ksars (fortified villages) are common in Morocco. The Ksar shown here is in part of the extensive palm groves of Tinerhir along the valley of the Oued Todra to the south of the High Atlas mountains. Every piece of flat ground is utilised to the maximum and beneath the Date palms crops of wheat are produced by irrigation from the nearby river.



The Date palm, *Phoenix dactylifera*, is common throughout Morocco. In the north it is used for ornamental purposes as the climate is usually too cool for regular fruiting. In suitable areas fruit set is achieved by hanging the male flowers in the crown of the female trees. In the south *P. dactylifera* is still a tree of considerable economic importance for, apart from its fruit, it is the source of sugar and fibres for thatch, mats and other woven products of rural communities. Probably native of Arabia, it is extensively planted and naturalized throughout the drier areas of North Africa. Here part of an extensive palm grove is seen near Ouarzazate in the Anti-Atlas mountains on the edge of the Sahara.



The Almond, *Prunus communis*, is very widely cultivated in the cooler areas of Morocco. It is native to an area extending from the eastern Mediterranean to central Asia. The large scale use in confectionery of the kernel of its sculptured nut makes the Almond a major crop in Morocco. Two main forms are grown: *P. communis* var. *amara* which is the Bitter Almond of commerce and *P. communis* var. *dulcis* which produces a sweet oil. The spring flush of Almond blossom is here seen by one of the Berber villages on the flanks of Jbel Lekst near Tafraoute in the Anti-Atlas mountains.



A common plant on Mohammedan graves throughout the Arab world, the white *Iris albicans* is here seen at Rabat. This site is the precinct of Chella in the necropolis of Morocco's fifteenth century sultans. *Iris albicans* is believed to be native of the Yemen but due to its wide introduction into Moslem burial grounds and its subsequent escape into the wild, the origins of this spring-flowering iris are obscure.

unidentified. Beyond the pass there is an afforested area of predominantly pine, oak and juniper species and then a long narrow gorge which leads to the Tizi-n-Tichka pass at the head of the watershed. From the car it was possible to see fine plants of *Leucanthemum atlanticum* covered with large white daisies growing in shady clefts and, just below the pass, I lunched beside a small green alp watered by melting snowdrifts. There was a wonderful patch of spotted purple *Orchis O. mumbiana*, mingling with *Draba hispanica*, *Leucanthemum depressum* coming into flower, and an unusual dwarf form of dark purple *Cerinthe major*.

On the south side everything was very dry until, nearing Amer Gane, I suddenly came upon a fertile valley where lush cornfields were crammed with *Gladiolus italicus* (*G. segetum*) in full flower; this made a fine picture with the snowy mountain wall behind. After a brief halt at Ouarzazate I passed on towards Skoura-des-Ahl-el-Oust and found that recent heavy rains had literally brought the desert to life. Much admired was a yellow statice, *Limonium bonducellii*, a little pink flushed asphodel, *Asphodelus tenuifolius*, and, of various small annuals that have adapted themselves to this precarious existence, I liked tiny blue *Echium pycnanthum* subsp. *humile*, *Euphorbia cornuta* with purple bracts, and an almost sessile pink daisy, *Picris coronopifolium*. There were many spiny species like *Bupleurum spinosum*, and murderous thickets of *Acacia gummifera* which seemed to have defeated even the local goats.

This is really exciting unspoilt country containing such natural wonders as the Gorges du Todra and Dadès and half-deserted ruined villages which look timeless in so lunar a landscape. The road marches eastwards with the High Atlas through stony upland desert whilst, southwards, there is nothing but the jagged multi-hued Jbel Sarhro. Many of the wadis were in flood and, as the fords were only concrete water splashes, I had some taut moments then, beyond El-Kelaa-des-M'gouna, there was deep mud to contend with on the unmetalled stretch to Goulimima. I camped by the roadside near Tinerhir in typical *Beau Geste* country and the sunset was unforgettable. Near the campsite grew a strange colony of hard cushion plants with huge tap roots which looked like some species of *Arenaria*.

Next day I reached Goulimima early and found the stark contrast between the preceding desert and the luxuriant green of the oasis so striking that one could fully understand the extreme pleasure that splashing water gives to all Arab peoples. At Ksar-es-Souk I turned northwards into the Gorges du Ziz and stopped at the Tunnel du Légionnaire to scramble up the cliffs where *Chrysanthemum mawii* flourished, together with an attractive dock, *Rumex vesicarius* var. *rhodophysa*, whose stems bore numerous membranaceous wings enclosing fruit of a bright red-rose. Near Midelt there were vistas of snowy Jbel Ayachi and, just short of the town, I examined some scrub-covered slopes having the appearance of virgin ground. Peeping out from the protection of *Cistus* and rosemary bushes were dainty pink flowers of a rock rose, since identified as *Helianthemum aegyptiacum*, which is also found in the Sierra Nevada and on some banks a neat milfoil, *Achillea leptophylla*, formed dense patches of gold. Two interesting crucifers, mauve *Moricandia arvensis* and a small grey-leaved stock, *Matthiola tristis*, in shades of violet-lilac, were revelling in the glue-like *terra rossa* and I quite admired *Astragalus gumbo*, which grows in the shape of a spidery rosette not unlike an overfed *Morisia* and seems well named.

THE MIDDLE ATLAS

From Midelt there is a long ascent to the Col du Zad opening up on to the undulating high plateau of the Middle Atlas and, for some miles of this approach, the roadsides were lined by *Adenocarpus bacquei* whose pubescent stems and scented flowers are most handsome and tall stems of *Ferula tingitana* supporting huge umbels of golden rain. What a paradise for birdwatchers too: egrets and storks stood in the fields; great raptors wheeled overhead and colonies of bee-eaters and rollers in their gorgeous colours sat demure and unperturbed on the telegraph wires. Nearing the Col I had my first glimpse of the magnificent forests of Atlantic cedar, *Cedrus atlantica*, showing welcome signs of good husbandry and natural regeneration.

The grassy glades between the stands of these elegant trees were alive with colour, the centrepiece composed by big groups of *Paeonia coriacea* whose green and glaucous leaves are a perfect foil to the large showy pink inflorescences. Round them was a host of scarlet Pheasant's eyes, yellow composites and such perennials as *Anchusa hybrida* and *Geranium atlanticum*. Numerous ground orchids grew in shadier ground, under holly, *Quercus ilex* and Laurestinus, *Viburnum tinus*, the latter hidden in cascades of pale pink and white flowers.

Above Azrou the country becomes more open and small plains circled by conical cedar-covered hills are cropped by enormous flocks of sheep tended by nomadic Bedouin living in long black tents of a decidedly Asiatic appearance.

In one spot there were some vast cushions of *Erinacea anthyllis* (*E. pungens*) half-hidden in a sea of blue pea flowers and, besides *Romulea bulbocodium* in flower, some excavating revealed other bulbs which appeared to be *Crocus salzmannii* and some form of *Narcissus bulbocodium*. Remembering the latitude, it was hard to believe that this is a popular ski-ing centre most years, as evidenced by the numerous little ski-lifts.

I spent some days camped in the great cedar forest above Azrou which is most beautiful country stretching for miles. A site was chosen under a vast cedar which formed an almost perfect umbrella during a heavy storm. On one day I made a sortie southwards to see the impressive Barrage de Bine-el-Ouidane.

Excepting *Limonium ornatum*, a feathery pink statice growing in marshy land, there was nothing remarkable seen until I started on the climb up from Afourer to the dam. A few damp places contained misty blue panicles of *Trachelium angustifolium*, and amid the dense scrub on the dry hillsides I sighted the Strawberry Tree, *Arbutus unedo*, the Bladder Senna, *Colutea atlantica* and *Cytisus battandieri*, the latter a spindly ragged creature with scrawny yellow inflorescences compared to the magnificent wall plant grown so surprisingly well in England.

The dam is very beautiful, an azure lake encircled by lofty brown mountains, and is a great achievement for it has brought lasting economic benefits to the whole area. The plant life was rather disappointing as endless mounds of *Euphorbia echinus* are scarcely exciting. However, the day was redeemed by the discovery of rich purple mats of *Thymus saturoides* and *Globularia eriocephala* with blue button heads.

Back again in the Middle Atlas, two days were spent exploring the Jbel Hebri in the vicinity of the old crater of Miscliffen where most of the botanical trove is found. It is a lovely walk through the cedars to the lip of the crater. *Tuberaria guttata* (*Helianthemum guttatum*), smothered in butter yellow flowers, grew in large masses and there was a dainty pale blue flax, *Linum austriacum* subsp. *mauritanicum*, and, of course, *Paeonia coriacea*.

Of bulbs, a small tulip, probably *Tulipa celsiana*, was just appearing and a *Romulea* and a *Muscari* were in flower. A striking outcrop of weathered limestone was host to various alpines, amongst them a mossy saxifrage, *Saxifraga pedemontana* type, with neat white sprays and a bluebell, *Endymion hispanicus* var. *algeriensis* poked out of narrow cracks.

From this vantage point there is a breathtaking view to the south-east where, immediately beneath, stood magnificent cedars of immense spread, a small lake gleamed on the edge of a wide plain and, beyond, range upon range of hills rolled away to the horizon. I descended finding it hard to take my eyes off the great trees, many of which had been severely shattered by lightning, perhaps enhancing their dignity. A white thrift, *Armeria plantaginea*, and the little pink *Dianthus caryophyllus* var. *arrostii* were in flower in the grass and the edges of the lake were half-covered by a white pondweed. Nearby I located several of the better Moroccan endemics; *Ranunculus calandrinooides* still showing a few bluish-pink flowers, the procumbent blue thistle *Carduncellus rhabonticoides* and the remains of *Asphodelus acaulis*.

At Tizi-n-Tretten, near the old French hill station of Ifrane, there is another fruitful area of undulating plain and rocky limestone outcrops where *Anacyclus pyrethrum* var. *depressus* is extremely common. The profusion of marguerites, undertinged with crimson, make this a very desirable plant but it is best grown

from seed, since it is almost impossible to collect without damaging the deep tap roots. Close by there was a rather lovely vetch, *Vicia onobrychioides*, covering all and sundry with light blue pea flowers.

Further northwards, the direct road from Fès to Ouezzane is very beautiful in April and May. Hillsides are transformed blue by *Convolvulus tricolor* and fields scarlet by the wondrous silken flowers of *Malva maroccana* and, in a few places, I saw *Triguera ambrosiaca*, that rare solanaceous annual whose deep violet flowers are eye-catching and it seems curious that it does not appear to have been introduced into cultivation.

There are several low ranges of hills to be crossed and, besides the bright crimson roadside groups of *Anthyllis vulneraria* and *Anagallis monelli* ssp. *collina*, the hedgerows of Myrtle were almost smothered in white curtains of *Rosa sempervirens*, a fine rambler in this habitat.

CHECHAOUEN

Beyond Ouezzane I renewed contact with the Lusitanian flora, typified by a scrub of *Arbutus*, *Pistacia*, Heath and *Cistus* on the slopes above the gorges (where, incidentally, there is fine swimming in the deep pools) and, on higher ground, by dense cork forests. The next town of importance is Chechaouén, an ancient religious centre nestling on a shelf beneath the precipices of Jbel Tisouka. Having only recently been opened to Europeans this little city still retains much of its original charm and the excellent Parador is a good centre from which to explore the winding streets of the old kasbah and watch the chattering unveiled women drawing water from the many springs that gush out of this mountain.

I camped below in a delectable spot amongst cork trees by the riverside where there were many annuals and one, *Tolpis barbata*, like a tiny, dark-eyed *Coreopsis*, took my fancy. Masses of pink *Centaurium erythraea* grew fully 2 feet high and there were albino forms too. Some of the finest cistaceous species are found in this area; *Cistus ladanifer* produces a succession of floppy white flowers, *C. crispus* displays different shades of red and dense scrub smothered in canary yellow flowers the size of florins was a species of *Haltimium*.

On my last visit to Chechaouén in mid-May I made a brief foray into the Jbel Tisouka, a huge limestone massif rising to nearly 7,000 feet. Due to the heat an early start was essential and at dawn I was stumbling up a steep path through the olive groves as the first rays were piercing the seas of mist in the valley below. Many of the olives were infested with the red mistletoe, *Viscum cruciatum*, an attractive plant at any time and especially so in berry. *Rosa sempervirens* was scrambling over everything and new to me was a neat member of the *Gentianaceae* with leek green foliage and cymes of golden flowers, since identified as *Blackstonia perfoliata*. The track was now getting exceedingly steep as it threaded its way through a gorge and up to bare dry slopes above. This was obviously a favourite haunt of bindweeds; *Convolvulus mauritanicus* formed compact blue mats amongst the dry grass; lilac *C. althaeoides* was obviously revelling in the scree and there was a smaller species, *C. pitardii* var. *glaourum*, that bears trumpets with pink lips and four pairs of purple blotches in the throat. I paused for a while to talk to a cheerful group of shepherds and woodcutters who seemed vastly amused at the interest shown in their plants and one could not but resist the sneaking feeling that, despite their rags, they were a deal healthier and happier than our commuters and industrial workers with all their so-called affluence.

The ground now became much more rugged. *Cynoglossum pictum* was still in flower, as were a few *Cistus salvifolius* and *C. albidus* in the maquis and some patches of blue in a line of cliffs were found to be *Salvia lavandulaefolia* and *Lithospermum fruticosum* subsp. *diffusum*, the combination of azure blue flowers and silky leaves make the latter a very good plant. After further sweat and toil I reached the fringes of a great forest and found it composed of *Abies numidica* instead of the cedars that I would have half-expected.

It seemed incredible but presently came the sound of running water and the hitherto dry boulder-strewn water course changed abruptly into a tumbling stream whose source lay near the summit a mile or so distant. A small blue bellflower crept along damp ledges and, after climbing round a small waterfall,

I came upon tall clumps of purple columbine, *Aquilegia vulgaris* var. *ballii*, and the forget-me-not, *Myosotis sylvatica* var. *rifana*, growing with ferns and willow; what a different world from the scorching country beneath.

All about was an almost virgin forest, the trees being really far too large for local felling and removal and, in spaces between them, dwelt holly, hawthorn and *Daphne laureola* var. *latifolia* laden with juicy black berries. *Paeonia coriacea* was ubiquitous and small seedlings growing in leaf mould with a white candytuft, *Iberis taurica*, were easy to gather. I was disappointed to find no signs of daffodils as I am sure that montane forms exist here, in addition to the common snow white *tazetta*, *Narcissus serotinus* and *N. viridiflorus* found all over the plains and valleys of northern Morocco.

I descended rapidly in company with three old crones—straight from *Macbeth*—who, although bowed down with immense bundles of firewood, were exceedingly cheerful and seemed delighted at having their photographs taken.

TETOUAN

From Chechaouèn to Tetouan there is impressive scenery as one climbs up to the pass at Souk-el-Arba-des-Beni-Hassan, then a sudden descent to the deep valley of the Hajera and finally, Tetouan itself; the most unspoilt of the northerly Moroccan cities where a few hours spent wandering round its labyrinths are well repaid.

Like everywhere else in Morocco the commercial parts of the cities do not come to life until the evening when some of the sweltering midday heat has been dissipated and this is the time to explore them. The old quarter of Tetouan is a veritable rabbit warren, it being all too easy to get lost in some of the covered souks and I have found a pocket compass invaluable on occasions to help keep orientated.

Among a great deal of trashy goods offered vociferously to visitors there are some real bargains to be made but careful examination of them and an ability to haggle patiently is needed. The hammered brass and copper work is especially craftsmanlike and an old copper plate, or cooking pot, can often be picked up cheaply and is most ornamental when polished up. Moroccan amber is of a high quality and the silver worked-in filigree is unusual and most attractive. From observation it is quite obvious that Moroccan women, although still veiled and rather confined, expect and receive frequent gifts of jewellery from their husbands and it is not unusual to see ladies with half a dozen gold or silver bangles on each wrist. It will, of course, be realised that for people who do not use banks this is as good a way as any to keep their wealth. In the modern part of Tetouan there are several good hotels close to the fine main square.

CEUTA (Sebta)

Soon after leaving Tetouan the Mediterranean comes into sight at Mdiq where a flourishing holiday industry is being built up. This piece of coastline, especially between Martil and the Spanish enclave at Melilla, is very fine and, in less than a decade, it will become another *Costa del Sol*. The road from Tetouan follows the coast to Ceuta (Sebta) and, behind a long sandy beach, low sandhills covered in pine and *Tamarix africana* provide an admirable site for a final picnic or night on Moroccan soil. *Erica umbellata* is again locally abundant and, growing in the dunes, were colonies of a minute blue sheepbit, *Jasione corymbosa*, low bushes of *Diotis candidissima* with woolly stems covered with yellow cotton-heads and the inevitable little stock, *Malcolmia littorea*.

Ceuta remains Spanish and is another of those Mediterranean fortresses with a long and turbulent history which makes for fascinating reading. The town is very well laid out, with a good shopping centre and the great citadel built above on Monte Hacho is impressive. A few hours later the castles and watch towers of Ceuta slowly dwindle astern as the excellent ferry speeds towards Algeciras and each time I have felt a powerful yearning to return again and see still more of this beautiful country.

CHAPTER X

GARDENS AND GARDENING ON THE COSTA DEL SOL

There are many imaginatively designed and beautiful gardens to be seen along the *Costa del Sol*. These can be conveniently divided into town or villa gardens and those in the country. Due to the proximity of the sea and the protection afforded by the coastal range of mountains, temperatures only very rarely descend below 40°F (5°C) and this enables a large number of near tropical species to be grown. On the other hand, summer temperatures are too high for many of our English garden favourites and it is a waste of time trying to grow them. It is therefore necessary to restrict the choice of plants to those hailing from parts of the world with a similar climate to southern Spain, such as South Africa, Australia and California. Such species will have adapted themselves to hot dry summers and developed a mechanism which reduces transpiration and allows them to remain dormant for long periods. Fortunately, there are fairly adequate supplies of water along this coast and further dams are being built to ensure this, despite all the recent building and development. This does help the effects of the summer drought to be mitigated and, by a judicious selection of plants, permits a succession of flowers throughout the year. Though a garden of sorts could be constructed without using artificial supplies of water, its availability is essential if anything worthwhile is to be achieved. The Moors came very near to perfection in the gardens of the *Generalife*, where the tinkling sound of water is never absent.

There are numerous fine examples of the Spanish or Moorish style gardens to be seen round Marbella, Torremolinos or Málaga. In these the gardens really start in the *patio* which should, I believe, be the focal point and from which there should be easy access through an arch, or iron gateway, into the rest of the garden. Essential requirements are seclusion, greenness and water. Too much colour destroys the essence of a *patio*, which is that it should be a cool green refuge from the glaring heat of the sun. In many *patios* sufficient shade is provided by high walls or by a few Mediterranean cypresses, *Cupressus sempervirens* f. *sempervirens*, whose fastigate habit is ideal for such a purpose. Alternatively, an orange or lemon tree makes a perfect centrepiece, the foliage always having a green and glossy appearance. Then there is the delicious scent of their blossoms to be looked forward to, which are followed by beautiful fruit. The Seville orange, *Citrus aurantium*, is often pruned into a shapely umbrella habit for this purpose. Other variations that I have seen are a small pool with water lilies, or a fountain emerging from a ferny base, beneath an overhead trellis covered by vines or wisterias. The walls of the *patio* too should be covered by climbing plants but they need to be chosen carefully, or they will 'run amuck', and smother everything; beware of bougainvilles in this respect. Where there is sun, I have seen roses put to very good use. The double yellow Banksian rose, *Rosa banksiae* var. *lutea*, is the great favourite and I would also try the hybrids 'Albertine' and the lovely *Rosa x anemonoides* which has pink flowers not unlike a camellia. Other suitable climbers are the well-known Blue Dawn flower, *Pharbitis learii* (syn. *Ipomoea learii*), a charming little blue snapdragon, *Maurandya barclaiana*, and perhaps, *Stephanotis floribunda*, the Clustered Wax flower which has dark green leaves and waxy white flowers which are delightfully fragrant. For the shady corner a variegated ivy (*Hedera*), one of the *Cissus*

species (e.g. the Kangaroo vine), or, better still, *Monstera deliciosa* (syn. *Philodendron pertusum*) with huge perforated ovate leaves, are ideal.

In many *patios* and enclosed gardens further colour can be supplied by plants grown in pots or tubs. These have an advantage in that, being portable, the changes can be rung. Bulbous genera, like *Canna*, *Agapanthus*, *Clivia* and the Bird of Paradise flower, *Strelitzia reginae*, are suitable for this purpose. I have also seen fuchsias and pelargoniums treated in a similar manner.

Many of the coastal villas have magnificent displays of colour from climbers trained up their walls. Bougainvilleas are outstanding in this respect and there is now a wide choice of colour available from the cultivars of *Bougainvillea glabra* and *B. spectabilis*. They do, however, require regular pruning and a prickly task it is too, due to their tendency to leave masses of spiny dead wood beneath their annual growth. Plenty of other climbers are to be seen, such as *Campsis radicans* (syn. *Bignonia radicans* or *Tecoma radicans*) burgeoning scarlet trumpets, *Tecomaria capensis*, equally profuse with terminal racemes of scarlet flowers and then there are the exotic Passion flowers, *Passiflora caerulea* and *P. edulis* (*Granadilla*) amongst them. Most handsome too are the rose or violet bell-shaped corollas of *Pandorea jasminoides* (Bower Plant of Australia) and *P. pandorana* (Wonga-Wonga vine). Like *Campsis*, these two have also been placed in *Bignonia* and *Tecoma*. Also from the *Bignoniaceae* is the closely related South African *Podranea ricasoliana* (syn. *Tecoma mackenii*) whose generic name is, in fact, an anagram of *Pandorea*. This is quick-growing and very floriferous with reddish-veined soft pink trumpet flowers. It is a pity that more Australian representatives like *Clianthus* (The Glory Pea), *Hardenbergia* and *Kennedyia* from the *Leguminosae*, are not grown too. The grey leaves and orange panicles of *Buddleia madagascariensis* always excite comment and other showy woody climbers are the various *Solandra* species. Perhaps the best is *S. hartwegii*, the Cup of Gold from Mexico, which has chalice-shaped blossoms six to eight inches across the colour of which is reminiscent of ripe bananas; a suggestion that is enhanced by the regular brownish lines. The whole fruity effect is completed by their scent of apricots! For fascination the bent and inflated yellow-green flowers of *Aristolochia elegans* from Brazil can find few rivals. A very firm Spanish favourite is jasmine, especially *Jasminum grandiflorum*. The various coloured forms of the South African *Thunbergia alata* are only rarely seen but perhaps the most effective climber of all is *T. grandiflora*, The Bengal Trumpet from northern India. It carries harebell blue funnel-shaped flowers that smother a tough green vine and it blooms for months on end.

One or two formal beds are desirable and are often seen filled with the first class Spanish roses in a combination of standards and bushes. Elsewhere, beds of cannae or pelargoniums will be colourful for a long period and can be edged with *Mesembryanthemum* (syn. *Lampranthus*) species. An alternative edging can be made with small bulbous plants like the new *Freesia* and *Tritonia* hybrids or *Zephyranthes* species. Often seen are a mixture of gerberas, gazanias (Barbeton daisies) and the bigeneric hybrids of *Venidium* and *Arctotis*—the most brilliant members of the daisy family—and, with their long flowering period, are hard to excel.

The remaining parts of these gardens are generally planted with small trees and shrubs with, perhaps, a sprinkling of annuals sown directly into their flowering positions for spring colour. Members of the *Mesembryanthemum* family and zinnias are invaluable here as they are resistant to drought and last a long time.

A choice of shrubs from so large a selection is almost impossible to be dogmatic on and is best left to individual taste. In my opinion many gardens are spoilt by undue emphasis on such staples as *Plumbago*, *Hibiscus* and *Tecomaria*. A clump of banana—several *Musa* species are suitable—should have a place in gardens where there is not too much wind. Although the fruit is unlikely to quite ripen outside, the huge shining leaves have a graceful symmetry and the strange flowers, with their curved scarlet bracts, are most provoking. Some of the new oleander cultivars, *Nerium oleander*, with red, yellow or white flowers are extremely decorative and I would not be without a *Datura*, *Jasminum*

or *Pittosporum*; the fragrant flowers of *P. tobira* coming at a useful time in late summer. One or two fruit trees are frequently planted and *Citrus* species like lemon, grapefruit or orange (Washington Navel) are particularly apposite. The Japanese Loquat, *Eriobotrya japonica*, is a handsome tree which also carries delicious fruit and I would certainly favour the Pomegranate, *Punica granatum*, if only for its startling orange-scarlet flowers in both single and multipetal forms. Having a partiality for figs, *Ficus carica*, a place for one against a wall with a carefully restricted root run would have to be found.

In the country, where there is more space, gardens can be planned rather more boldly. A good water supply is even more essential here and in all the best gardens great care is taken to ensure that a simple method of irrigation is provided by means of a small stream, pool or water pumped through concealed sprinklers. In windy situations a belt of a quick growing blue gum, for instance *Eucalyptus globulus*, makes a perfect screen and a planting alongside them of a mimosa, like *Acacia longifolia*, will be a picture of gold in early spring. Of course, all the country houses have a *patio* and some wonderful ones there are; also, there is usually a small walled garden for intimacy where favourite flowers may be grown. A formal rose garden is very desirable and, if labour is available, its beds may be started off with directly sown, or pricked out, annuals which will be colourful until mid-May, when they can be replanted with *Begonia*, *Coleus*, *Celosia* and *Salvia* which will give a good account of themselves until the late autumn.

In the approaches to the house a really regal effect—but it will take time—is achieved by lines of date palms, either *Phoenix dactylifera* or *P. canariensis*, interplanted with mimosas, oleander and groups of *Iris*, *Amaryllis*, *Crinum* and *Nerine* round their bases.

The covering of open ground in this climate always presents something of a problem but the new hybrid grasses that have recently been produced, are able to survive and remain green throughout the summer months with only a minimum of watering. In such a setting specimen trees are best shown to advantage and it is hard to improve upon the Norfolk Island Pine, *Araucaria heterophylla* (syn. *A. excelsa*), *Grevillea robusta* or one of the huge evergreen figs such as *Ficus elastica*. A truly exotic picture is achieved by a group of Dragon trees, *Dracaena draco*, being placed in a bold position and in spring, nothing can be finer than the sight of Judas trees, *Cercis siliquastrum*, smothered in their bright purplish-rose flowers.

A particularly hot site or stony ground will furnish just the place for some representatives from the intriguing legions of cacti and other succulents. For ground cover most of the mesembryanthemums (including *Carpobrotus*) are perfect and in the background giants like *Agave americana* and *Furcraea longaeva* are invaluable. Other genera, such as *Aloe*, *Yucca* and *Beschorneria*, are commonly put to good use.

So far nothing has been said about the hosts of climbers, epitomised by the bougainvilleas, which are responsible for a greater blaze of colour than anything else. However, these do need careful handling, especially when trained against the house. In the wide context they are admirable as giant hedges, marking some sort of boundary, or growing over a long pergola above a walk. The "Heavenly Blue", *Pharbitis lamarckii*, is so often seen scrambling through trees or up walls, that it is forgotten how useful it can be for hiding anything unsightly which it will soon cover in green mounds dotted with its unique flowers.

There are quite a few first class nurseries along the *Costa del Sol* which have available a wide selection of the highest quality. At the end of this chapter are lists of many plants commonly grown in gardens along the coast. However, I have often felt that full justice has never really been done to the floral wealth of South Africa and Australia, much of which should do well in this climate. I have, therefore, included a number of species which keen gardeners should try. The seed can generally be obtained either by purchase from specialist growers or on an exchange basis from botanic gardens in these countries.

APPENDIX I

PLANTS COMMONLY GROWN ON THE COSTA DEL SOL

The following categories are approximate only and there is considerable overlap. This reflects the various horticultural treatments to which the genera are subjected. The lists of names are arranged alphabetically by column which may be divided over two pages.

PALMS (or Palm-like)

<i>Chamaerops humilis</i>	<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i>
<i>Cycas revoluta</i>	<i>Trachycarpus fortunei</i>
<i>Neananthe elegans</i>	<i>Washingtonia filifera</i>
<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>	

TREES

<i>Abies pinsapo</i>	<i>Ficus macrophylla</i>
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	<i>Grevillea robusta</i>
<i>Albizzia lophantha</i>	<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>
<i>Araucaria heterophylla</i>	<i>Lagunaria patersonii</i>
<i>Casuarina equisetifolia</i>	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>
<i>C. stricta</i>	<i>Melia azedarach</i>
<i>Cercis siliquastrum</i>	<i>Phytolacca dioica</i>
<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>	<i>Pinus pinaster</i>
<i>Diospyros kaki</i>	<i>P. pinea</i>
<i>Dracaena draco</i>	<i>Platanus granatum</i>
<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	<i>Punica orientalis</i>
<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>	<i>Sapindus marginatus</i>
<i>E. rostrata</i>	<i>Schinus molle</i>
<i>Ficus elastica</i>	

HEDGES

<i>Aloe arborescens</i>	<i>Myoporum laetum</i>
<i>Atriplex halimus</i>	<i>Myrtus communis</i>
<i>Bougainvillea glabra</i>	<i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i>
<i>B. spectabilis</i>	<i>Pittosporum tobira</i>
<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	<i>Plumbago capensis</i>
<i>Caesalpinia japonica</i>	<i>Punica granatum</i>
<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>	<i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i>
<i>Euonymus japonicus</i>	<i>Senecio cineraria</i>
<i>Lantana camara</i>	<i>Teucrium fruticans</i>

SHRUBS AND SMALL TREES

<i>Acacia cavenia</i>	<i>Dombeya x cayeyxii</i>
<i>A. cyanophylla</i>	<i>Duranta plumieri</i>
<i>A. dealbata</i>	<i>Eupatorium micranthum</i>
<i>A. farnesiana</i>	<i>Euphorbia pulcherrima</i>
<i>A. longifolia</i>	<i>Fatsia japonica</i>



The Alcazar at Sevilla is the largest garden in Spain with a Moorish influence. It is essentially a series of gardens laid out beside the fortress-palace. Although started in 1350, one hundred years after the Moors left Sevilla, the Catholic Spaniards appreciated the oriental style sufficiently to imitate it. Typical features are the fountain basins and coloured tile work which are common in Moslem gardens.



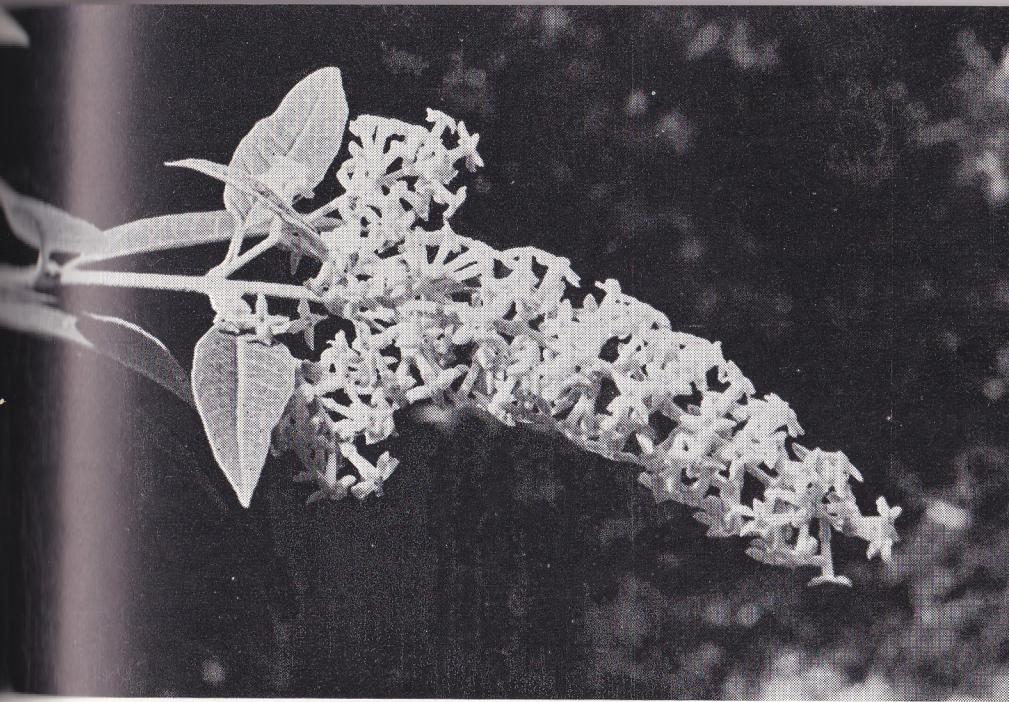
Part of the new gardens of the Generalife of the Alhambra. Clipped cypress forms the arch through which are seen long flower beds dominated by standard roses and specimen cypresses.



The Parque María Luisa in Sevilla was started in the 19th century by a Frenchman, Forestier, and has been continually developed up to the present. The Moorish influence is strongly represented by the coloured tile work and the sunken pools with lion fountains beneath the date palms.



This patio garden in Córdoba is hardly labour-saving! It represents a rather specialised form of patio horticulture as all its vegetation is in mobile containers, no trees are present and the largest shrubs are *Anthemis* and *Pelargonium*. Here shade which would normally be provided by trees, is obtained in the cloisters of the courtyard.



A very striking species of *Buddleia* suitable for Andalusian gardens is *B. madagascariensis* (above). Originating from the African off shore island which gives it its name, it carries spectacular bright orange racemes set off by silver foliage. The Japanese Loquat (*Eriobotrya japonica*—below), besides having handsome foliage produces very fragrant fruit over a long season.

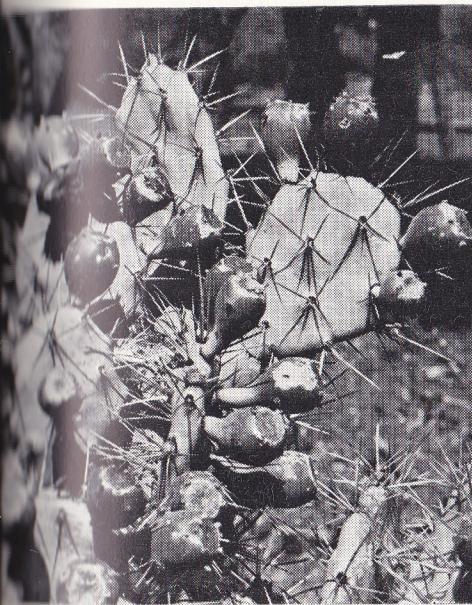




Two shrubs commonly seen in Andalusian horticulture. (Top)—*Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* from China will form a tree in suitable habitats. A very large number of coloured forms, often with multipetaled flowers are now grown. This one is a delicate pink. (Below)—*Lantana camara* from Jamaica is attractive but invasive. The flowers open pale and become darker with age and may span a whole range of shades from white or yellow through saffron, brick-red, lilac rose or blue.



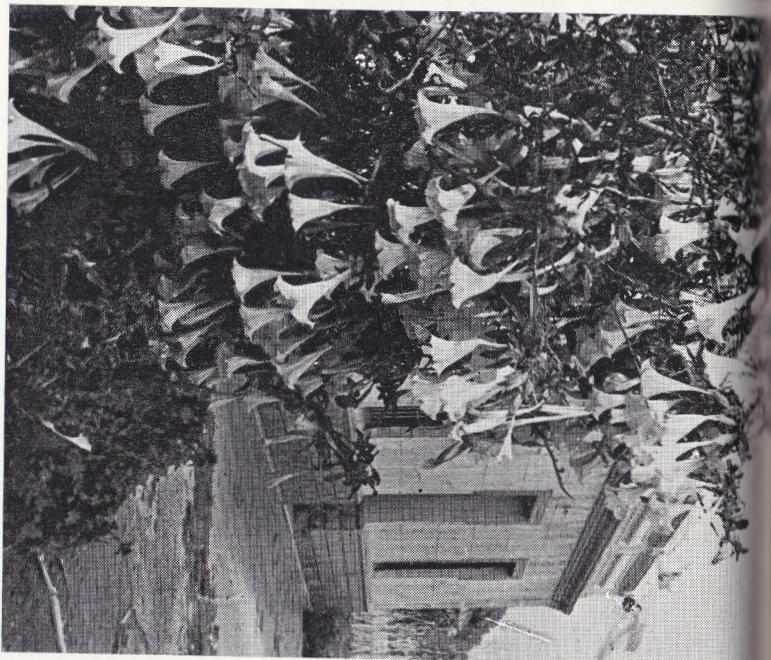
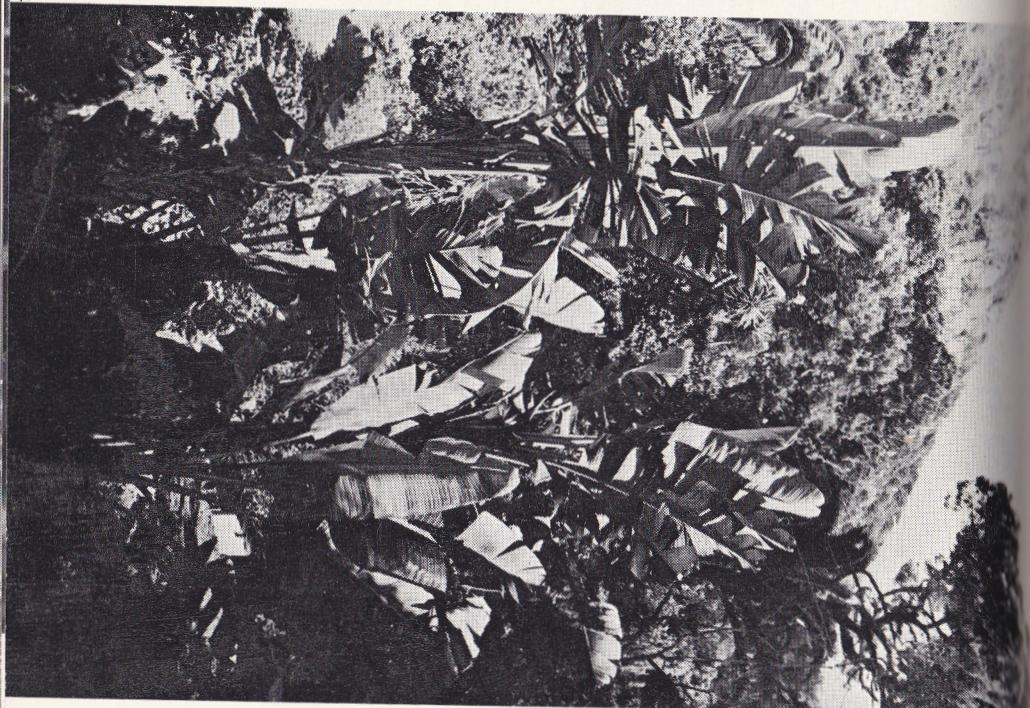
The pomegranate, *Punica granatum* (above), is native to an area from S. E. Europe to the Himalayas. Its various forms are grown in Andalucía, either for fruit or as a flowering shrub, in the cases of the multipetaled and dwarf types.



Several species of Prickly Pear, *Opuntia* (above), are used for hedges, particularly when animals are near. However, the flowers and fruit are sufficiently attractive to justify the inclusion of one or two species as specimen shrubs. The Dragon Tree, *Dracaena draco* (right), from the Canary Islands is grown as a prestige tree. This fine specimen is outside the Garrison Library in Gibraltar.



APPENDIX I



The fragrant hanging blossom of the Angel's Trumpet, *Datura* (above), produce an exotic fragrance on the night air. (Left)—A relative of the banana, *Strelitzia caudata*, a white "Bird of Paradise," species is less frequently grown than the usual *S. reginae*.

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<i>A. retinodes</i>	<i>Gleditschia triacanthos</i>
<i>Acalypha wilkesiana</i>	<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i>
<i>Adhatoda vasica</i>	<i>H. syriacus</i>
<i>Aeonium arboreum</i>	<i>Jasminum humile 'Revolutum'</i>
<i>Bauhinia galpinii</i>	<i>J. mesneyi</i>
<i>Buddleia madagascariensis</i>	<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>
<i>Callistemon rigidus</i>	<i>Morus alba</i>
<i>C. speciosus</i>	<i>M. nigra</i>
<i>Cassia alata</i>	<i>Musa ensete</i>
<i>Cestrum aurantiacum</i>	<i>M. paradisiaca</i>
<i>C. nocturnum</i>	<i>Nerium oleander</i>
<i>C. parqui</i>	<i>Phormium tenax</i>
<i>C. purpureum</i>	<i>Pittosporum tobira</i>
<i>Citrus aurantium</i>	<i>Romneya coulteri</i>
<i>Cortaderia selloana</i>	<i>Sparmannia africana</i>
<i>Datura cornigera</i>	<i>Tecoma stans</i>
<i>D. suaveolens</i>	<i>Thevetia ahouai</i>
<i>Dimorphotheca ecklonis</i>	<i>Yucca aloifolia</i>
CLIMBERS	
<i>Bougainvillea glabra</i>	<i>Pharbitis learii</i>
<i>B. spectabilis</i>	<i>P. purpurea</i>
<i>Campsis grandiflora</i>	<i>Podranea ricasoliana</i>
<i>C. radicans</i>	<i>Pyrostegia venusta</i>
<i>Doxantha capreolata</i>	<i>Rosa 'Albertine'</i>
<i>Hoya carnosa</i>	<i>Rosa x anemonoides</i>
<i>Jasminum azoricum</i>	<i>R. banksiae</i>
<i>J. officinale grandiflorum</i>	<i>Senecio scandens</i>
<i>J. polyanthum</i>	<i>Solandra grandiflora</i>
<i>Mandevilla suaveolens</i>	<i>Solanum wendlandii</i>
<i>Maurandia barclaiana</i>	<i>Stephanotis floribunda</i>
<i>Pandorea pandorana</i>	<i>Tecomaria capensis</i>
<i>P. jasminoides</i>	<i>Thunbergia alata</i>
<i>Passiflora caerulea</i>	<i>T. grandiflora</i>
<i>P. quadrangularis</i>	<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>

ANNUALS AND BIENNIALS

These terms are used loosely and include plants that are frequently treated as annuals or biennials although they may be perennials if left to themselves.

<i>Carpobrotus acinaciformis</i>	<i>Mirabilis jalapa</i>
<i>C. edule</i>	<i>Pelargonium hybrids</i>
<i>Echium fastuosum</i>	<i>Pentas lanceolata</i>
<i>Gazania hybrids</i>	<i>Ursinia anethoides</i>
<i>Gerbera jamesonii</i>	<i>Venidio-Arctotis hybrids</i>

Impatiens balsamina
Lampranthus rosea

PERENNIALS

Artemisia arborescens
Aster petiolatus
Begonia species and hybrids
Centaurea gymnocarpa
Chlorophytum capense var. *variegatum*
Chrysanthemum frutescens
Coleus blumei
C. thyrsoides
Eriocaphalus africanus
Felicia amelloides
Fuchsia species and hybrids
Gazania pinnata
G. rigens

Gazania x splendens
Gerbera jamesonii
G. viridifolia
Helichrysum petiolatum
Heliotropium peruvianum
Jacobinia suberecta
Lotus bertholetii
Pelargonium species and hybrids
Rosmarinus officinalis
Senecio cineraria
Tradescantia albiflora
T. fluminensis
Verbena x hybrida

PATIO PLANTS

Aspidistra elatior
Asplenium nidus
Cissus antarctica
Clivia miniata
Dieffenbachia picta
Fatsia japonica
Ficus elastica var. *decora*
Monstera deliciosa

BULBOUS PLANTS

Agapanthus africanus
Alstroemeria ligustrina
Amaryllis belladonna
Antholyza ringens
Canna hybrids
Crinum moorei
Crocosmia aurea
Freesia refracta and hybrids
Gladiolus species and hybrids
Hippeastrum species and hybrids

CACTI AND OTHER SUCCULENTS

Aeonium arboreum
A. balsamifera
A. haworthii
A. simsii

Venidium fastuosum
Zinnia elegans

A. undulatum
Agave americana
A. americana var. *marginata*
A. franzosinii
Aloe arborescens
A. barbadensis
A. ferox
A. saponaria
Bryophyllum daigremontianum
Cereus peruvianus
Crassula species
Echeveria species
Echinocactus grusonii
Echinocereus species

Furcraea species
Gasteria species
Haworthia species
Hylocereus species
Kalanchoe species
Lampranthus species
Mammillaria species
Mesembryanthemum species
Opuntia species
Sedum species
Yucca aloifolia
Y. gloriosa
Y. guatemalensis

SUGGESTED INTRODUCTIONS

TREES AND SHRUBS

Agathis australis
Banksia dryandrioides and other species
Beaufortia purpurea
Calothamnus longissimus
Carpenteria californica
Cassia corymbosa
Datura sanguinea
Dendromecon rigidum
Dryandra pteridifolia and other species
Erythrina crista-galli
Eucalyptus ficifolia and other species
Fremontia californica
Gardenia globosa
Greyia sutherlandii
Hakea laurina and other species
Indigofera species

CLIMBERS

Billardia variifolia
Bomarea edulis
Boronia heterophylla
Clianthes puniceus
Cobaea scandens
Hardenbergia comptoniana

BULBOUS PLANTS

Anigozanthus pulcherrimus
Eremurus robustus and other species

Haemanthus coccineus and other species
Hedychium gardnerianum and other species

WILD AND NATURALISED PLANTS LISTED BY MONTH

In the lists below, the plants are grouped in the months in which they give a good display of flowers. However, it should be noted that the groupings are approximate only and the flowering seasons of these plants may span several months as shown by the figures in brackets after each specific name. The precise time of flowering is determined by the altitude and aspect of the site and by the weather of the current season. When choosing a suitable time for plant hunting, readers are advised to study the lists of adjacent months also, in order to assess the degree of overlap. As a general rule, the best time of the year for spectacular floral displays are the eight weeks from mid-March to mid-May, with a peak about the second week in April.

JANUARY

- Arbutus unedo* (10–4)
Clematis cirrhosa (11–4)
Erica mediterranea (1–2)
Narcissus jonquilloides (1–2)

- N. papyraceus* (12–2)
N. polyanthus (1–2)
Romulea clusiana (1–2)

FEBRUARY

- Aeonium arboreum* (1–3)
Anagyris foetida (2–3)
Aristolochia baetica (12–4)
Colchicum triphyllum (2–3)

- Narcissus bulbocodium* (1–4)
N. gaditanus (2–3)
Scilla odora (2)

MARCH

- Anemone coronaria* (1–4)
Cynoglossum clandestinum (1–5)
Gynandriris sisyrinchium (2–4)
Helleborus foetidus (12–4)
Himantoglossum longiflorae (2–4)
Iberis gibraltarica (3–4)
Iris fontanesii (3)
Laurus nobilis (3–4)
Leucojum trichophyllum (1–4)
Lygos monosperma (3–4)
Muscari botryoides (3–4)
Narcissus jonquilla (3–4)
N. longipathus (3)

- N. pseudo-narcissus* (3–4)
N. requienii (3–4)
Ophrys speculum (3–4)
Oxalis pes-caprae (2–4)
Ranunculus calandrinoideus (3–4)
Romulea bulbocodium (1–4)
R. ramiflora (1–4)
Ruscus hypophyllum (3–4)
Scrophularia sambucifolia (2–4)
Triglochin amboinica (3–4)
Viola odorata (3–4)
Viscum album (3)

APRIL

- Abies pinsapo* (4–5)
Adonis dentata (2–6)
Allium triquetrum (2–5)
Anemone palmata (2–6)
Arisarum vulgare (4–5)
Aristolochia longa (2–5)
Arum italicum (4–5)
Asperula hirsuta (4–5)
Asphodelus tenuifolius (4–5)
Astragalus lusitanicus (3–5)
A. massiliensis (4–5)
Centaurea pullata (2–6)
Cerinthe major var. *purpurascens* (2–6)
Chrysanthemum catananche (4–5)

- Cneorum tricoccon* (4–5)
Convolvulus meonanthus (3–5)
C. tricolor (3–5)
C. valentina subsp. *glauca* (2–5)
Crocus nevadensis (3–5)
Draba hispanica (4–5)
Ephedra fragilis (2–5)
Erica australis (2–5)
E. scoparia (12–6)
Euphorbia rigida (2–5)
Fedia cornucopiae (2–6)
Genista umbellata (4–5)
Gladiolus italicus (4–5)
Hedysarum coronarium (3–5)

- Helianthemum aegyptiacum* (3–5)
Iberis linifolia (4–6)
Iris tingitana (4–5)
Jasione corymbosa (4–5)
Juniperus sabina (4)
J. thurifera (4–5)
Lavatera maritima (2–5)
Linaria broussonetii (3–5)
Lunaria rediviva (4–5)
Narcissus nevadensis (4)
N. watieri (4)
Ophrys fusca (4–5)
O. lutea var. *lutea* (3–5)
O. scolopax (4–5)
O. tenthredinifera (2–5)
Orchis italica (3–5)
O. mascula subsp. *olbiensis* (3–5)
O. papilionacea (3–5)
O. tridentata (3–5)
Ornithogalum arabicum (4–5)
Phillyrea angustifolia (3–5)
Pinus pinea (4–5)
Polygala microphylla (3–5)
Quercus coccifera (3–5)
Ranunculus rupestris (4–5)
Saxifraga globulifera var. *gibraltarica* (3–5)
Tetragonolobus purpureus (2–5)
Teucrium fruticans var. *azureum* (3–5)
Viburnum tinus (2–6)
Vinca difformis (2–5)
Viola arborescens (4)

MAY

- Adonis aestivalis* (4–6)
A. vernalis (4–5)
Allium roseum (4–6)
Anchusa hybrida (3–6)
Anthericum liliago (4–6)
Anthyllis cytisoides (4–6)
Antirrhinum majus (3–8)
Aquilegia vulgaris var. *ballii* (4–6)
Arenaria montana (3–6)
Aristolochia pistolochia (4–6)
Asphodelus acaulis (5)
A. fistulosus (3–6)
Berberis hispanica (5–6)
Calicotome villosa (3–6)
Centaurea incana (5–6)
Chamaerops humilis (3–6)
Chrysanthemum coronarium (4–6)
Cistus albidus (4–6)
C. clusii (5–6)
C. crispus (4–6)
C. ladanifer (4–6)
C. libanotis (5–6)
C. monspeliensis (3–6)
C. populifolius (5–6)
C. rosmarinifolius (5–6)
C. salvifolius (4–6)
Convolvulus althaeoides (4–6)
C. juncea (3–6)
C. undulatus (5–6)
Cynoglossum arundinaceum (4–6)
Cytinus hypocistis (3–6)
Cytisus battandieri (5–6)
C. linifolius (3–6)
C. scoparius (5–6)
Daphne laureola var. *latifolia* (4–6)
Drosophyllum lusitanicum (4–6)
Echium albicans (4–6)
E. creticum (4–6)
Endymion hispanicus (5)
Erica arborea (3–6)
Erinacea anthyllis (5–6)
Euphorbia characias (3–6)
E. spinosa (4–6)
Gagea polymorpha (4–6)
Genista cinerea (3–7)
G. floridæ var. *maroccana* (3–7)
G. triacanthos (3–8)
Gladiolus communis (4–6)
G. illyricus (4–6)
Gleditschia triacanthos (5–6)
Halimium atriplicifolium (4–6)
H. ocymoides (5–6)
Helianthemum hirtum (3–7)

Aceras anthropophorum (4-7)
Adenocarpus decorticans (6-7)
Adiantum capillus-veneris (6-7)
Alchemilla major (6)
Allium moly (6)
Anarrhinum laxiflorum (5-7)
Anchusa azurea (4-8)
Anthyllis montana var. *rubra* (6-7)
Aphyllanthes monspeliensis (4-7)
Armeria villosa (6-7)
Borago officinalis (4-9)
Campanula specularioides (6-7)
C. velutina (6-7)
Capparis spinosa (5-7)
Carduncellus caeruleus (5-7)
Carpobrotus acinaciformis (4-7)
C. edule (4-7)
Cephaelanthera longifolia (4-7)
Cerastium boissieri (4-8)
Chrysanthemum segetum (4-8)
Cistus incanus (6)
C. laurifolius var. *atlanticus* (6-7)
Cotyledon arborescens (4-7)
Daphne oleoides (6-7)
Delphinium pentagynum (6-7)
Dianthus caryophyllus (6-7)
Digitalis obscura subsp. *laciniata* (6-7)
Dipcadi serotinum (6)
Echium pomponium (4-7)
Epipactis helleborine (5-7)
E. umbellata (4-7)
Ferula tingitana (6)
Frankenia thymifolia (5-7)
Genista hispanica (5-7)

JUNE

Lathyrus tingitanus (4-7)
Limodorum abortivum (4-7)
Linaria maroccana (6)
L. platycalyx (6)
Linum austriacum subsp. *mauritanicum* (6-7)
L. suffruticosum (5-7)
Lithospermum diffusum (4-7)
L. prostratum var. *erectum* (4-7)
Lobularia maritima (4-8)
Malcolmia littorea (5-7)
Malope malacooides (6-7)
Narcissus bulbocodium var. *nivalis* (4-7)
Opuntia ficus-indica (4-7)
Oritnithogalum pyrenaicum (6)
O. unifolium (6)
Paeonia broteroi (6-7)
P. coriacea (6)
Pallenis spinosa (4-7)
Pancratium maritimum (6)
Papaver rupifragum (6)
Pistacia terebinthus (4-7)
Prunus prostrata (6-7)
Ptilotrichum purpureum (6)
Rosa sempervirens (6-7)
Salvia bicolor (6)
Santolina chamaecyparissus (6-7)
Sempervivum atlanticum (6)
Silene psammnitis (5-7)
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APPENDIX III

GENERAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

This includes a list of major botanical references for the areas covered in *Andalusian Flowers and Countryside*. For additional information the reader is referred to Appendix IV of this book and the literature lists mentioned in the publications that follow.

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Plant's Name

Locality and Date

Comments

SPANISH LINEAR MEASUREMENTS

The standard of length is the metre (*metro*).
 1 *metro* (m) = 1.0936 yd = 39.37 in = 3.2808 ft.
 There are 100 *centímetros* (cm), or 1,000 *milímetros* (mm) to the *metro*. There are also 1,000 *metros* to the *kilómetro* (km), which is .62137 (or roughly $\frac{5}{8}$) of a mile.

CENTIMETROS—INCHES

Cm	In or Cm	In
2.540	1	0.394
5.080	2	0.787
7.620	3	1.181
10.160	4	1.575
12.700	5	1.969
15.240	6	2.362
17.780	7	2.756
20.320	8	3.150
22.860	9	3.543
25.400	10	3.937
50.800	20	7.874
127.000	50	19.685
254.000	100	39.370

METROS—FEET

M	M or Ft	Ft
0.304	1	3.281
0.609	2	6.562
0.914	3	9.843
1.219	4	13.124
1.524	5	15.405
1.828	6	19.686
2.133	7	22.967
2.438	8	26.248
2.743	9	29.529
3.047	10	32.808
6.094	20	65.616
15.235	50	154.040
30.473	100	328.078
304.734	1000	3280.780

KILOMETROS—MILES

Km	Miles or Km	Miles
1.609	1	0.621
3.218	2	1.242
4.827	3	1.864
6.437	4	2.485
8.046	5	3.107
16.093	10	6.214
32.186	20	12.428
40.232	25	15.535
48.279	30	18.642
80.465	50	31.070
160.930	100	62.136
321.860	200	124.272
804.650	500	310.680