



Technische
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Ruderal plants in the archaeological area of Palmyra (Syria)

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April 2024

- In April 2002 we have had the opinion to visit the archaeological monuments of Palmyra and the modern town Tadmur.
- The oldest traces of man go back to around 75.000 years in this region. The oasis Tadmur was mentioned for the first time some 4.000 years ago. The location as a trading center was very favorable: The shortest way from the Syrian Mediterranean coast to Mesopotamia, Persia, and Central Asia and India lead through this oasis. The flowering time was in the Hellenistic Area. For details reference is made to the relevant literature.



The tower tomb of Elabel

Built in the 2nd. century AD, damaged by the ISIS (islamic state).
In the back ground the Arabian castle Qalaat ibn-Maan.



The modern town of Tadmur



Planted trees in Tadmur



Oasis with *Phoenix dactylifera* and *Olea europaea*

Irrigated olive groves and orchards:

Cultivated trees:

Olea europaea

Phoenix dactylifera

Punica granatum

Pistacia cf. mutica

Ruderals and weeds:

Calendula arvensis

Cardaria draba

Carduus spec.

Chenopodium murale

Convolvulus arvensis

Cynodon dactylon

Euphorbia helioscopia

Euphorbia peplus

Fumaria densiflora

Fumaria parviflora

Hordeum leporinum

Malva parviflora

Poa annua

Reseda spec.

Sisymbrium irio

Sisymbrium orientale

Sonchus oleraceus

Stellaria media agg.



Tower tombs in Palmyra (upper part of the photo). Note the contracted vegetation (▼) in the course of the wadi in the foreground.

Ruderals within the ruins in the desert

Alkanna orientalis

Arnebia linearifolia

Achillea wilhelmsii

Anchusa aegyptiaca

Andrachne telephoides

Astragalus spinosus

Astragalus cf. *tribuloides*

Biscutella ciliata

Calendula arvensis

Diploaxis harra

Echinops polyceras

Erodium glaucophyllum

Gagea cf. *circinnata*

Herniaria cf. *arabica*

Hyoscyamus aureus

Malva parviflora

Neotorularia torulosa

Peganum harmala

Phagnalon rupestre

Plantago abicans

Podospermum papposum

Prosopis farcta

Pseudodictamnus cf. *damascenus*

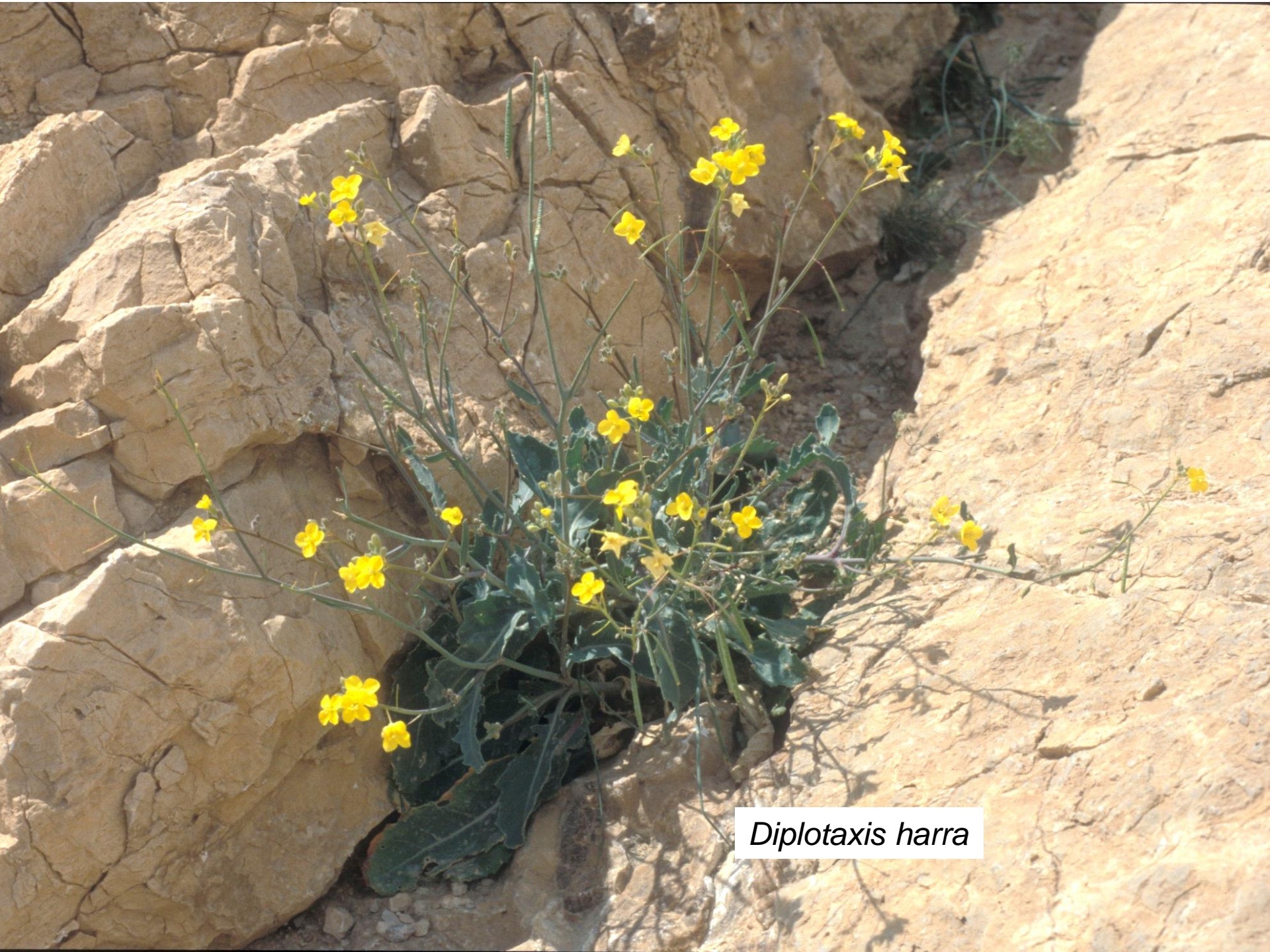
Ranunculus falcatus

Reichardia tingitana

Salvia lanigera

Scariola orientalis

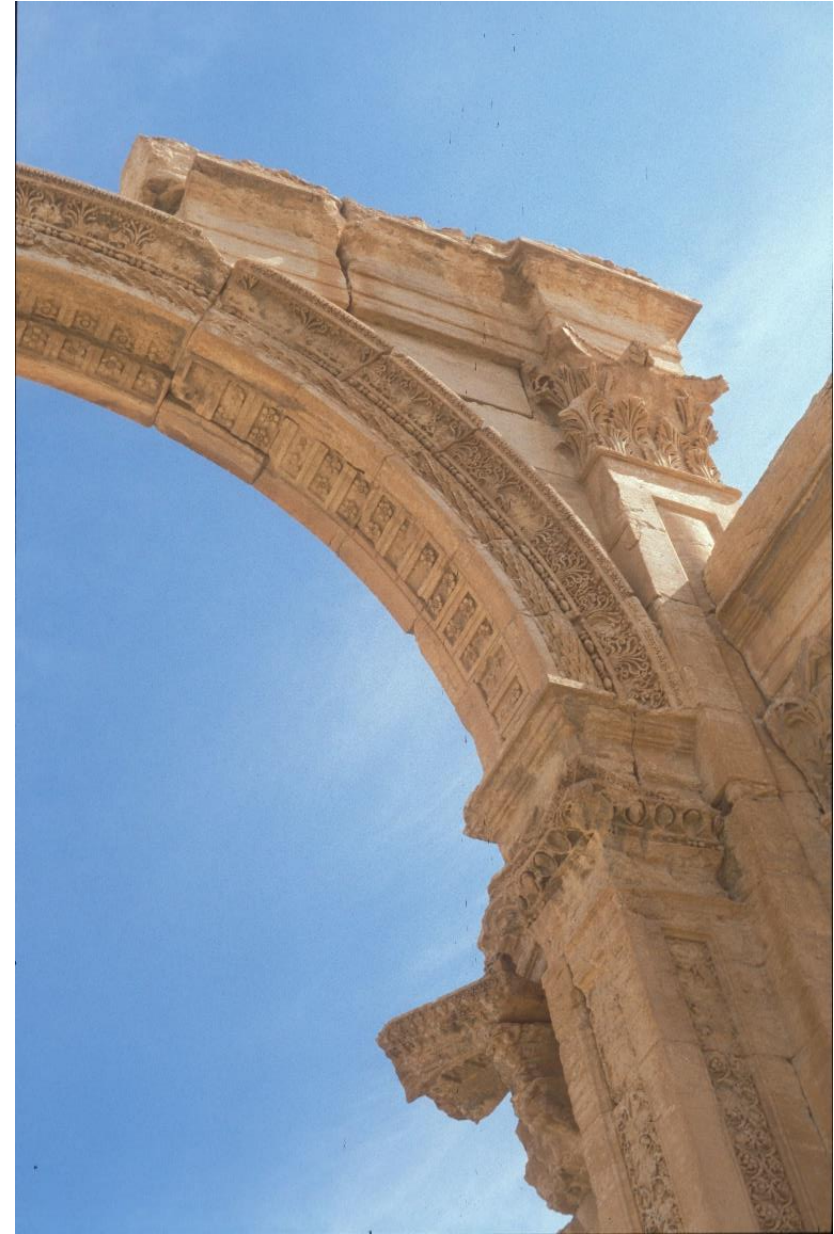
Senecio desfontainei



Diplotaxis harra



Erodium glaucophyllum



Details of the triumphal gate and the colonnades



Phagnalon rupestre



The Tetrapylon

Hyoscyamus aureus and *Echium glaucophyllum*



Plantago albicans



Peganum harmala



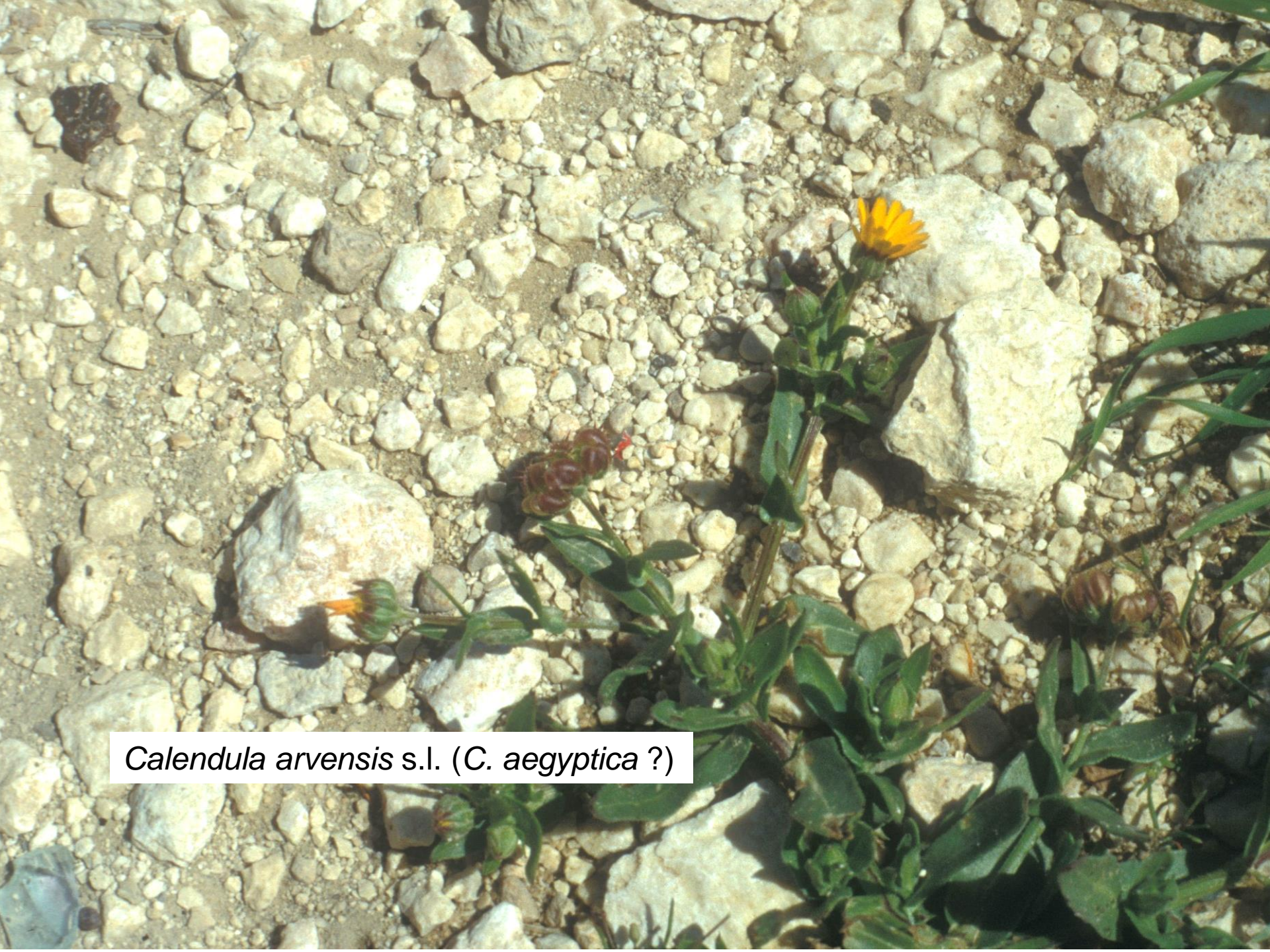
Pseudodictamnus cf. *damascenus*



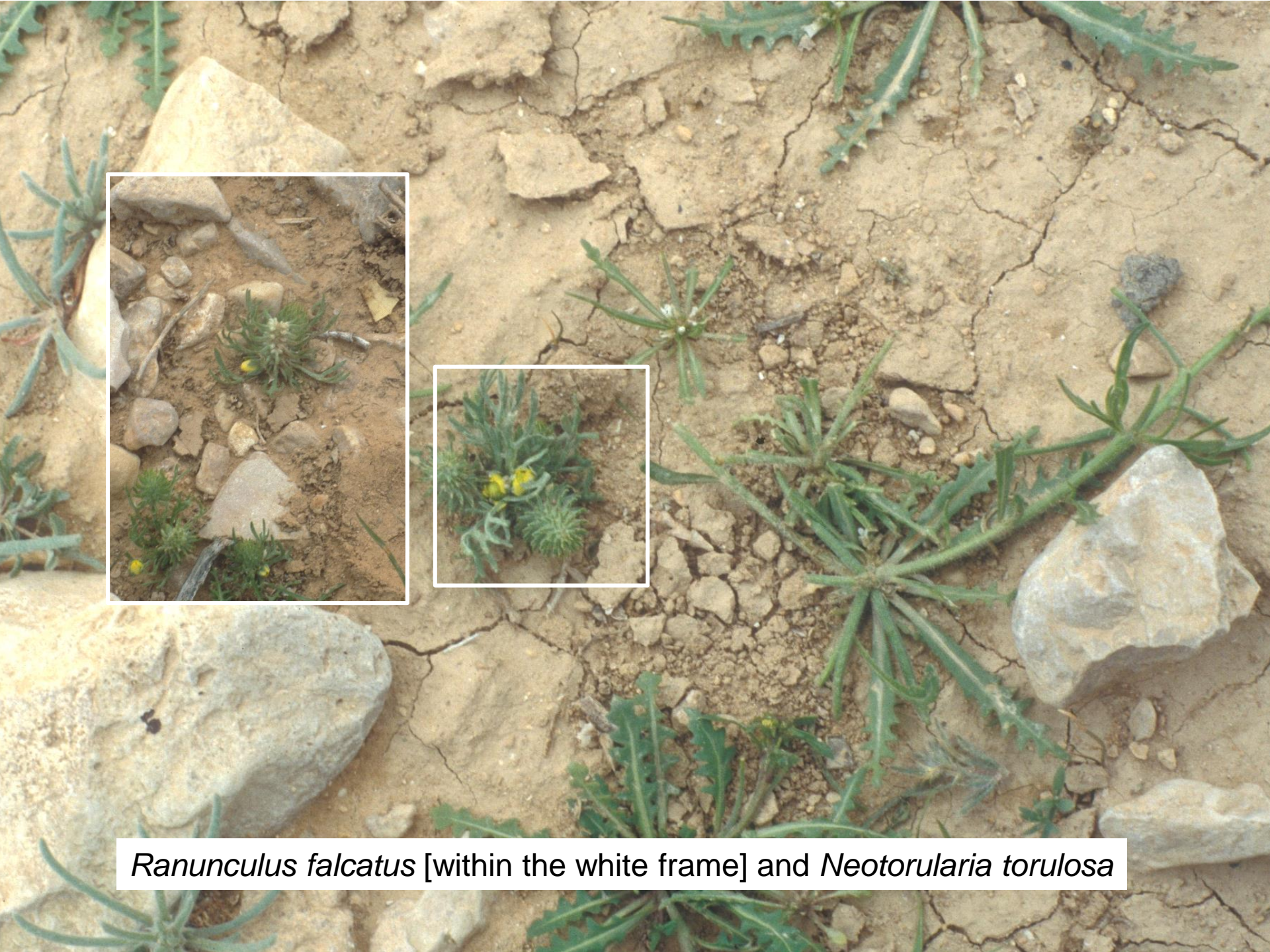
Astragalus spinosus



Neotorularia torulosa



Calendula arvensis s.l. (*C. aegyptica* ?)



Ranunculus falcatus [within the white frame] and *Neotorularia torulosa*



Pseudopodospermum papposum
(syn. *Scorzonera papposa*, syn. *Scorzonera kurdica*)



Senecio desfontanei s.l.



Prosopis farcta

A photograph of a Prosopis farcta shrub with dark brown pods, growing against a large, textured, yellowish-brown rock wall. The shrub is the central focus, with its thin, dark branches and numerous dark brown, elongated pods clearly visible. The rock wall behind it is composed of large, irregular blocks of light-colored rock, showing significant weathering and fracturing. The lighting is bright, casting shadows that emphasize the textures of both the plant and the rock.

Prosopis farcta with
dark brown pods



Young dromedary (*Camelus dromedarius*) with *Peganum harmala* in the middle ground (contracted vegetation) and collonades (right).



Anchusa aegyptiaca



Alkanna orientalis



Arnebia linearifolia



Astragalus cf. *tribuloides*




Echinops polyceras



Atriplex glauca (syn. *Atriplex stylosa*)



Andrachne telephioides

A photograph of a Salvia lanigera plant growing in a rocky, arid environment. The plant is a low, bushy shrub with numerous small, green, fuzzy leaves. Several upright stems bear small, purple, tubular flowers. The ground is composed of light-colored, cracked soil and scattered rocks. A shadow of the plant is cast onto the ground to the right.

Salvia lanigera



Gagea cf. *circinnata*



Literature:

Mouterde, P. (1966-1986): Nouvelle flore du Liban et de la Syrie. Vol. 1-3 (texte), Vol. 1-3 (Atlas). – Dar el-Machreq – Beyrouth.

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