

FROM BRIT PRESS

NEW BILINGUAL EDITION OF PLANTS IN CENTRAL SOMALILAND

AHMED IBRAHIM AWALE, FAISAL JAMA GELLE, AND HELEN PICKERING. 2024. **Introduction to Plants in Central Somaliland. Hordhac ku saabsan dhirta ka baxda badhtamaha Soomaalilaand, Second Edition.** (ISBN 13-978-1-889878-76-8, flexbind). Botanical Research Institute of Texas Press, 1700 University Dr., Fort Worth, Texas 76107-3400, U.S.A. (**Orders:** shopbritpress.org, orders@brit.org, 817.546.1847). \$29 US, 148 pp., color photos throughout, index, 5.512" × 8.268".

From the Publisher: This book is a guide for the non-specialist to some of the native and naturalised plants of Central Somaliland including the coastal plain, Golis mountains and the Hargeysa plateau. This second edition contains several additions.

Somali summary: Buuggani waxa uu hage u yahay dadka aan takhasuska gaarka ah u lahayn aqoonta dhirta ka baxda Soomaalilaand qaybaheeda kala duwan sida Xeebta, Buuraha Golis iyo Oogada Hargeysa. Daabacaaddan labaad waxa lagu soo daray sawirro dheeraad ah waxana lagu saxay khaladaad yaryar oo ku jiray daabacaaddii koowaad.

A small book but a beautiful design, stunning photos, and bilingual text will greet you on every page. This book is a guide for the non-specialist to some of the native and naturalised plants of Central Somaliland including the coastal plain, Golis mountains and the Hargeysa plateau. All sections are illustrated with high quality color images. This second edition contains several additional photographs and corrects a few errors that were overlooked in the first edition.

There is no other illustrated guide to Somaliland's plants, nor any other guide for the region in Somali, the first language of many people in Djibouti, e Ethiopia, Somalia, and ne Kenya.

The book starts with a short paragraph summarizing Somaliland's recent history. This is followed by a summary of the country's climate, landforms, and ecological zones. The 13 pages this introductory material occupies are followed by 120 pages illustrating the 150 species treated. Some accounts occupy a whole page, others only a half-page. All include at least one color photograph, a brief, non-technical description and a statement of the species' habitat and global distribution plus three names for each species, an internationally understood scientific name, and a Somali name.

About the authors:

Ahmed Ibrahim Awale is an environmentalist with more than two decades of experience. He is the chairman of the Somaliland Biodiversity Foundation, as well as Candlelight for Environment, Education and Health. He also lectures on environmental science at the University of Hargeysa, and is the author of several books including, *Environment in Crisis: selected essays on the Somali environment*.

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