Research Article

# **Profile of Medicinal Plants Traditionally Used for the Treatment of Skin Burns**

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Moroccan folk healers use medicinal plants to treat several diseases including skin burns. The traditional knowledge of wound healing is not common among the general population. Only one ethnobotanical survey was carried out in Rabat, Morocco, to track the traditional use of medicinal plants in wound healing. Therefore, our report aimed to study the medicinal plants used in Taza region to treat wound healing. In total, 218 individuals participated in this survey. More than 40 medicinal plants belonging to 30 botanical families were cited as anti-burn remedies. The most commonly used medicinal plants were *Agave sisalana* L., *Nerium oleander* L., *Tetraclinis articulata* Benth., *Lawsonia inermis* L., *Artemisia herba-alba* Asso., and *Trigonella foenum-graecum* L. Most of the used medicinal plants belong to Asteraceae family. Comparing our results with the previous survey, we noted that twelve plants were reported for the first time as wound healing agents. The ethnomedicinal use showed that plants leaves are the most commonly used parts. Pulverization was the selected method of preparation. The direct application of powder to the burns was the most common way of treatment. Our study revealed, for the first time, the importance of medicinal plants to treat skin burns in Taza region. Our results could be considered as the stepping stone for creating a database of wound healing medicinal plants to promote scientific studies on these plants revealing their constituents and side effects.

# 1. Introduction

The skin is the largest organ in the body and provides many important functions including organ protection, percutaneous absorption, maintenance of body shape, fluid conservation, temperature control, and sensory and disease control [1]. Skin diseases are a major health problem worldwide. Skin burns are among the most common skin traumas in all age groups. Burns are defined as the partial or total destruction of the skin covering or underlying tissue by a thermal, electrical, or chemical agent or by ionizing radiation [2]. Most burn treatments start with a topical application of a soothing, protective, and anti-infective medication to prevent infection [3]. Since Antiquity, many plants were used by indigenous peoples in different regions of the world for the treatment of wounds and burns. Usually, ointments formulated from different medicinal plants have been used as curative agents due to their widespread diversity of medicinal ingredients such as terpenoids, tannins, alkaloids, flavonoids, essential oils, phenolic compounds, saponins, and fatty acids which exhibit abundant pharmacological potential like anticancer, antidiabetic, and antimicrobial effects as well as cosmetic properties [4-7]. Besides, it has been discovered currently that some bioactive constituents improve the curative progression of burns [8-10]. These phytoconstituents are not only inexpensive but also harmless. The occurrence of many life-supporting phytoconstituents in plants has prompted scientists to scientifically evaluate these plants for potential wound healing properties [11]. The development of natural resources is a goal that is becoming more and more important in many countries. Medicinal plants are used for treatment purposes of infections. These plants are subsidized as a foundation of stimulation for new beneficial phytoconstituents as well as color, flavor, and taste of food [12-17]. The WHO indorses the assessment of the efficacy and of plant-based medications to standardize their usage and integrate them into conventional healthcare systems [18]. Traditional medicinal practices differ greatly from country to country and region to region. They are influenced by many factors including culture, history, generational anecdotes, and local healers' philosophies. According to the WHO, nearly 80% of the developing countries' population use traditional medicine as the primary source of therapy [18]. In Morocco, medicinal plants inhabit a significant room in medicinal systems and play an important part in the national economy [19], and numerous investigations showed recently remarkable results for future pharmaceutical applications [20-25]. Morocco is one of the Mediterranean countries with a long tradition of cultivating and using medicinal plants. In the northeastern part of Morocco, the use of traditional medicine is widespread, and several herbal remedies used individually or in combination with other agents are recommended for the treatment of burns. Despite the widespread use of medicinal plants, the scientific categorization of the local knowledge describing how to prescribe these plants is threatened with loss. The knowledge is usually transferred from generation to generation verbally, which affects the accuracy and spread of

information in local populations. One scientific approach to tackle this problem is to conduct surveys among certain populations and collect as much data as possible. These data are then categorized, analyzed, compared, scrutinized, and presented to the scientific and local communities in a clear reliable format to be preserved in a proper way for future generations. The widespread use of medicinal plants to treat skin burns in Morocco encouraged us to conduct surveys among local populations to understand and preserve local practices. After searching the literature, we found no ethnopharmacological surveys conducted on the use of medicinal plants for the treatment of skin burns in the northeast part of Morocco [26]. The purpose of this study was to record and summarize the traditional practices of using medicinal plants in the treatment of burns in the region of Taza. The results of this survey will guide scientists in their future pharmacological and clinical work aiming to provide scientific evidence on the use of certain medicinal plants to treat skin burns.

### 2. Materials and Methods

2.1. Description of the Study Area. This study was carried out in the province of Taza. This city is administratively part of the Region of Fes-Meknes. Taza is a town located in the northeast of Morocco in the Taza corridor, a mountain pass where the Rif and Middle Atlas Mountains meet. The city is the capital of its province. It is located 220 km west of Oujda and 316 km east of Rabat (Figure 1). This city covers an area of 37 km<sup>2</sup> with a population of 152,678 inhabitants in 2020. This city was selected because we observed the widespread use of medicinal plants to treat wound healing. Moreover, no ethnopharmacological study was conducted in this region to collect information about the use of medicinal plants in wound healing.

2.2. Collection of Data. The study was carried out from January 2021 to April 2021. Ethnobotanical knowledge was obtained through semi-assembled discussions. Interviews were carried out, and plant names in local dialect were recorded when cited. A total of 218 participants were interviewed for this survey (Table 1). The interviews were planned to register data about plants used for healing purposes of skin burns and their homegrown names, methods of preparation, parts of the plant used, drug management, and demographic characteristics of the study participants (Table 1).

## 3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Sociodemographic Characteristics of Herbalists. Ethnobotanical surveys require questioning herbalists, traditional healers, and/or people with long experience in medicinal plants. The data obtained from questionnaires highlight the sociodemographic characteristics of herbalists and traditional healers. In this work, the number of participants was 218 individuals practicing traditional medicine in Taza. The age of these traditional practitioners ranged



FIGURE 1: Map of the study area.

TABLE 1: Sociodemographic characteristics and experience of herbalists.

| Characteristics     | Number of informants ( <i>n</i> ) | Frequency<br>(%) |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Age (years)         |                                   |                  |
| 30-50               | 65                                | 29.81            |
| 50-70               | 91                                | 41.74            |
| 70-90               | 62                                | 28.44            |
| Total               | 218                               | 100              |
| Gender              |                                   |                  |
| Male                | 36                                | 16.51            |
| Female              | 182                               | 83.49            |
| Total               | 218                               | 100              |
| Education           |                                   |                  |
| None                | 165                               | 75.69            |
| Primary             | 37                                | 16.97            |
| Secondary           | 12                                | 5.50             |
| University          | 4                                 | 1.83             |
| Total               | 218                               | 100              |
| Origin of knowledge |                                   |                  |
| Family heritage     | 202                               | 92.66            |
| Traditional         | 16                                | 7 34             |
| initiation          | 10                                | 7.54             |
| Total               | 218                               | 100              |

between 30 and 90 years with a high rate for the age group of 50 and 70 years (Table 1). It was also noted that women actively participated in this survey (83.49%) compared with men (16.51%). This is in line with previous studies carried out in Morocco, where women were more interested in traditional medicine [27, 28]. Unfortunately, most participants did not have formal education (75.69%). However, only 16.97% have primary level, 5.5% have secondary level, and 1.83% have university level education. Most participants declared that

their knowledge was inherited from older family members (92.66%), while 7.34% acquired their knowledge from traditional practices (traditional initiation). The transmission of this traditional knowledge was carried out exclusively by families, and this can lead to the disappearance of certain information (plants not yet known) because new generations became less interested in traditional knowledge.

3.2. The Diversity of Medicinal Plants Used to Treat Burns. The survey revealed the importance of medicinal plants in treating burns. As listed in Table 2, [47] medicinal plants were used to treat burns. These species belong to 30 different botanical families. Different species were recognized by their vernacular names, which showed the diversity of the regional language, and the information was collected by analyzing and categorizing the location of the population. In our previous work, we showed that the region of Taza is rich in medicinal plants such as Agave sisalana L., Nerium oleander L., Tetraclinis articulata Benth., Lawsonia inermis L., Artemisia herba-alba Asso., and Trigonella foenum-graecum L. which are used not only for skin burns but also for other pathologies such as diabetes and diseases related to the digestive system [27]. Despite the richness of Taza with medicinal plants, a comparison of the diversity of medicinal plants between Taza and other regions was never conducted. Only Salhi et al. [3] carried out a study including six cities in the Rabat region (Rabat, Sale, Temara, Skhirat, Khemisset, and Tiflet). In the study of Salhi et al. [3], thirty-six species belonging to 35 genera and 23 botanical families were identified.

3.3. Medicinal Plants Previously Reported for Dermatology Uses. The only work that was reported on the anti-burn properties of Moroccan medicinal plants was that of [3] in

| Table | 2: | Medicinal | plants | used | to | treat | skin | burns. |
|-------|----|-----------|--------|------|----|-------|------|--------|
|       |    |           |        |      |    |       |      |        |

| Family name      | Plant species<br>[voucher no.]                   | Vernacular<br>name | Parts<br>used | Method of<br>preparation and<br>application  | FC   | Recorded literature for ethnomedicinal uses in Morocco   | Recorded literature for<br>ethnomedicinal uses<br>worldwide |
|------------------|--|--------------------|---------------|--|------|--|---|
| Agavaceae        | Agave sisalana<br>L. [RAB1371]                   | Sabra              | Mucilage      | The mucilaginous<br>extract of the fresh<br>leaves is applied as a<br>poultice on burns. | 0.98 | Skin diseases [29] and eczema [30]   | ND  |
| Amaryllidaceae   | Narcissus poeticus<br>[RAB1371]                  | Narjis             | Flowers       | The flower powder is<br>mixed with olive oil<br>and applied as a<br>poultice on burns.   | 0.44 | ND   | ND  |
| Anacardiaceae    | Pistacia atlantica<br>Desf. [RAB1372]            | Drou               | Barks         | The bark powder is sprinkled on burns.   | 0.61 | Diabetes [31, 32], allergy, digestive<br>ailments, cardiovascular diseases,<br>diabetes [33], digestive ailments,<br>respiratory ailments, urogenital<br>affections [34, 35], abdominal colic<br>[36], obesity, and hair care [37]                         | ND  |
|                  | Ammi visnaga<br>L. [RAB12423]                    | Bachnikha          | Fruits        | The powder of the fruits is sprinkled on burns.  | 0.38 | ND   | ND  |
| Apiaceae         | Daucus carota<br>L. [RAB109243]                  | Khizzu             | Roots         | The juice extracted<br>from the roots is used<br>as a compress to clean<br>burns.        | 0.22 | Diabetes [32, 38], stomach disorders<br>[29], helminthiasis [39], urinary<br>infections [40, 41], and burns [3, 30]  | Burns, skin toner [42],<br>eczema [43]                      |
| Apocynaceae      | Nerium oleander<br>L. [RAB18820]                 | Defla              | Leaves        | The powder of leaves is sprinkled on burns.  | 0.87 | ND   | ND  |
| Aristolochiaceae | Aristolochia<br>paucinervis<br>[RAB18821]        | Baraztam           | Leaves        | The leaf powder is<br>mixed with olive oil<br>and applied as a<br>poultice on burns.     | 0.54 | Urogenital affections [34],<br>dermatological and digestive<br>ailments, and rheumatology [44]   | ND  |
| Asteraceae       | Artemisia herba-<br>alba Asso.,<br>[RAB109244]   | Chih               | Leaves        | The leaf powder is<br>mixed with honey and<br>applied as a poultice<br>on burns.         | 0.71 | ND   | ND  |
|                  | Insula viscosa (L.)<br>Ait. [RAB109244]          | Terklan            | Roots         | The powder of roots is sprinkled on burns.   | 0.11 | Diabetes, digestive system, cancer,<br>and skin diseases [29]  | ND  |
|                  | Conyza canadensis<br>L. [RAB109244]              | Elatassa           | Leaves        | The leaf powder is<br>mixed with olive oil<br>and applied as a<br>poultice on burns.     | 0.19 | Skin diseases [29]   | ND  |
|                  | Cynara humilis<br>[RAB79161]                     | Timta              | Roots         | The powder of roots is<br>sprinkled on burns.  | 0.12 | Burns [36]   | ND  |
|                  | Atractylis resinifera<br>L. [RAB79162]           | Addad              | Roots         | mixed with olive oil<br>and applied as a<br>poultice on burns.                           | 0.27 | Skin abscesses and warts [30, 39]  | ND  |
|                  | Calendula arvensis<br>L. [RAB14312]              | Zwiwl              | Flowers       | The flower powder is<br>mixed with olive oil<br>and applied as a<br>poultice on burns.   | 0.18 | ND   | ND  |
|                  | Dittrichia viscosa<br>(L.) Greuter<br>[RAB14314] | Magraman           | Leaves        | The powder of leaves<br>is sprinkled directly<br>on burns.                               | 0.33 | Diabetes [32], digestive system [40],<br>bronchitis [45] burns, wounds,<br>abscesses [30], urogenital affections,<br>fever, rheumatology, and digestive<br>system [34]   | ND  |
|                  | Matricaria<br>chamomilla<br>[RAB15115]           | Babounj            | Flowers       | The flower powder is<br>mixed with olive oil<br>and applied as a<br>poultice on burns.   | 0.46 | Diabetes [19, 32, 38, 45], digestive<br>system, dermocosmetology [33, 35],<br>antineuralgic, febrifuge, antispastic of<br>digestive organs, emmenagogue,<br>reduced allergy [37, 46], neuralgia,<br>anxiety, insomnia, spasmolytic, and<br>wounds [39, 40] | ND  |
| Brassicaceae     | Lepidium sativum<br>L. [RAB14317]                | Habb rchad         | Seeds         | The powder of the seeds is sprinkled on the burns.                                       | 0.73 | Diabetes [19, 38, 45], chronic<br>diseases [47], cardiovascular diseases<br>[33], bronchitis, cold, cough [45],<br>eczema, skin ulcers and warts,<br>stomach aches, anemia [30], and<br>asthma [36, 48]  | ND  |

| Family name   | Plant species<br>[voucher no.]                 | Vernacular<br>name | Parts<br>used | Method of<br>preparation and<br>application  | FC   | Recorded literature for ethnomedicinal uses in Morocco  | Recorded literature for<br>ethnomedicinal uses<br>worldwide   |
|---------------|--|--------------------|---------------|--|------|---|---|
| Boraginaceae  | Borago officinalis<br>L. [RAB14318]            | Lsan tour          | Leaves        | The latex extracted<br>from the leaves is<br>applied as a poultice<br>to the burns.      | 0.8  | Diabetes [45], anti-inflammatory,<br>nervousness, respiratory canals, skin<br>diseases [29, 40], colds, fever,<br>diuretic, and laxative [39]   | ND  |
| Cannabaceae   | Cannabis sativa<br>L. [RAB14319]               | Kif                | Leaves        | Burning leaves are sprinkled on burns.   | 0.16 | Narcotics, skin diseases, and hair<br>strengthening [30, 41, 49, 50] [40]   | ND  |
| Capparaceae   | Capparis spinosa<br>L. [RAB97161]              | Lekbar             | Seeds         | The powder of the seeds is sprinkled on burns.   | 0.28 | ND  | ND  |
| Cistaceae     | Cistus<br>monspeliensis<br>[RAB97162]          | Chteppa            | Leaves        | The leaves are applied as a poultice to burns.   | 0.29 | Wounds [49], respiratory diseases<br>[45], and diabetes [51]  | ND  |
| Cupressaceae  | Tetraclinis<br>articulata Benth.<br>[RAB18717] | Al'Araâr           | Leaves        | The powder of the<br>leaves is sprinkled<br>directly on the burns.                       | 0.91 | ND  | ND  |
|               | Euphorbia sp.<br>[RAB18717]                    | Loubina            | Latex         | The latex extracted is applied as a poultice to burns.                                   | 0.2  | Skin diseases and cytotoxicity<br>[29, 30]  | ND  |
| Euphorbiaceae | Ricinus communis<br>[RAB18718]                 | Alkharwaa          | Seeds         | The powder of the seeds is sprinkled on burns.   | 0.13 | Toxic [29], diabetes [52], digestive<br>system [40], skin diseases [30, 35],<br>headache [36], antipyretic,<br>rheumatism, diarrhea, laxative [53],<br>fever [54], and hair care [44, 51] | ND  |
|               | Trigonella foenum-<br>graecum<br>L. [RAB24117] | Lhelba             | Seeds         | The seed powder is<br>mixed with rose oil<br>and applied as a<br>poultice on burns.      | 0.89 | ND  | ND  |
| Fabaceae      | Lupinus albus L.,<br>[RAB21118]                | Termes             | Seeds         | The seed powder is<br>mixed with olive oil<br>and applied as a<br>poultice on the burns. | 0.51 | ND  | ND  |
| Gentianaceae  | Centaurium<br>erythraea<br>[RAB22415]          | Kassat lahya       | Flowers       | The flower powder is sprinkled on burns.   | 0.22 | Diabetes [38, 45, 55], skin diseases<br>[49], allergy, increasing energy [33],<br>digestive system, and kidney diseases<br>[29, 44]   | ND  |
| Juncaceae     | Juncus acutus<br>L. [RAB47241]                 | Assmar             | Latex         | The extracted latex is applied as a poultice to burns.                                   | 0.14 | Skin diseases [29].   | ND  |
|               | Marrubium vulgare<br>L. [RAB47249]             | Mriwt              | Leaves        | The leaf powder is<br>mixed with olive oil<br>and applied as a<br>poultice on burns.     | 0.26 | ND  | ND  |
| Lamiaceae     | Mentha pulegium<br>L.                          | Flio               | Leaves        | The leaf powder is<br>mixed with olive oil<br>and applied as a<br>poultice on burns.     | 0.39 | ND  | ND  |
|               | Salvia verbenaca<br>[RAB109218]                | Khiyyata           | Leaves        | The leaf powder is sprinkled on burns.   | 0.46 | Cardiac disease, diabetes [45],<br>respiratory and rheumatologic<br>conditions [34], abdominal colic,<br>cold, fever [36], and wounds [56]  | Wound healing [57],<br>wounds [58], antiseptic on<br>wounds [42], skin<br>inflammations, and bacterial<br>infections of the skin [59] |
|               | Lavandula<br>angustifolia<br>[RAB109229]       | Lakhzama           | Leaves        | The leaf powder is<br>mixed with olive oil<br>and applied as a<br>poultice on burns.     | 0.29 | Diabetes [38], digestive system [40, 44], and burns [3]   | Dermatitis, furuncle,<br>abscess, wart [60], wound<br>healing [61].   |
| Leguminosae   | Retama raetam<br>(Forssk.)<br>[RAB109231]      | Rtem               | Leaves        | The leaf powder is<br>mixed with honey and<br>sprinkled on the<br>burns.                 | 0.32 | Skin diseases, toxic [29], and<br>diabetes [32]   | ND  |
| Liliaceae     | Urginea maritima<br>L. [RAB23142]              | Bessal<br>lanssal  | Bulb          | The bulbs triturated in<br>butter are applied as a<br>poultice to burns.                 | 0.11 | Cattle ailments, skin disorders [29],<br>abscesses, alopecia, sedative,<br>hemorrhoids [30], and digestive<br>system [44]   | ND  |
| Linaceae      | Linum<br>usitatissimum<br>[RAB109227]          | Zariat lktan       | Seeds         | The seed powder is sprinkled on burns.   | 0.78 | Diabetes [30, 62], asthma [47], renal<br>disease [50], laxative, diuretic, and<br>vermifuge [39]  | Skin burns [63], wound<br>healing [43], dermatological<br>infections [58, 64], healing<br>skin [42]                                   |

# TABLE 2: Continued.

| Family name    | Plant species                                   | Vernacular    | Parts    | Method of preparation and  | FC    | Recorded literature for   | Recorded literature for ethnomedicinal uses                                     |
|----------------|---|---------------|----------|--|-------|---|---|
| Lythraceae     | Lawsonia inermis<br>L. [RAB109226]              | Lehana        | Leaves   | application<br>The leaf powder is<br>sprinkled on burns.                                   | 0.112 | Wounds, dermatoses [56], burns,<br>eczema, mycosis, boils, abscesses,<br>chapped skin, antiseptic, healing<br>wounds [3], eczema [30], diabetes   | worldwide<br>Wound healing [65], eczema<br>[66], wrinkled skin, abscess<br>[67] |
|                | Punica granatum<br>[RAB109230]                  | Raman         | Pericarp | Fruit pericarp powder<br>is mixed with olive oil<br>and applied as a<br>poultice on burns. | 0.54  | [32], and dermocosmetology [41]<br>Diabetes [30, 47, 50], stomach<br>disorders [49], diabetes, digestive<br>system [29, 41], eczema [39], and<br>wounds [36].   | ND  |
|                | <i>Eucalyptus globulus</i><br>Labill. [RAB9318] | Al' Kalitouss | Leaves   | The leaf powder is sprinkled on burns.   | 0.16  | ND  | ND  |
| Myrtaceae      | Myrtus communis<br>L. [RAB49621]                | Arraihan      | Leaves   | The leaf powder is<br>mixed with rose oil<br>and applied as a<br>poultice on burns.        | 0.5   | Diabetes [30, 45], cardiac disease,<br>hypertension, [49], cardiac<br>weakness, and digestive system [29]   | ND  |
| Oleaceae       | Olea europaea<br>L. var. oleaster<br>[RAB51120] | Zabouj        | Leaves   | The essential oil is<br>applied as a poultice<br>on burns.                                 | 0.25  | Nervousness and anthelmintic [29]   | ND  |
| Papaveraceae   | Papaver rhoeas<br>L. [RAB51218]                 | Belaaman      | Flowers  | The flower powder is<br>mixed with honey and<br>applied as a poultice<br>on burns.         | 0.9   | Urogenital affections, hair care [34],<br>against fever, sleep troubles and<br>asthma [68], cold, antimicrobial<br>[37], asthma, cough, improving<br>breath, sedative, skin diseases [36],<br>fever [30], and diabetes [19]   | ND  |
| Pinaceae       | Pinus halepensis<br>L. [RAB93519]               | Taydâ         | Barks    | The bark powder is<br>mixed with olive oil<br>and applied as a<br>poultice on burns.       | 0.37  | Against toothache [49] and<br>tuberculosis [39, 41]   | ND  |
| Plantaginaceae | Plantago coronopus<br>L. [RAB109241]            | Massassa      | Stems    | The fruit stems are<br>sprinkled on the<br>burns.  | 0.12  | Abscess and skin diseases [29]  | ND  |
| Rosaceae       | Prunus armeniaca<br>L. [RAB41111]               | Machmach      | Seeds    | The seed powder is<br>mixed with olive oil<br>and applied as a<br>poultice on burns.       | 0.9   | Diabetes [30], face care [39], and<br>aphrodisiac [41]  | ND  |
| Rosaceae       | Rosa centifolia<br>L. [RAB41113]                | Lward         | Flowers  | The essential oil is<br>applied as a poultice<br>on burns.                                 | 0.52  | Cosmetic and skin face [29]   | ND  |
| Rosaceae       | Alchemilla vulgaris<br>[RAB41114]               | Gdam sbaâ     | Leaves   | The powder of leaves<br>is sprinkled on the<br>burns.                                      | 0.17  | ND  | ND  |
| Zingiberaceae  | Curcuma longa<br>L. [RAB41118]                  | Lkharkoum     | Roots    | The root powder is<br>mixed with honey and<br>applied as a poultice<br>on burns.           | 0.89  | As a condiment, tonic, calefacient,<br>and digestive [39], digestive<br>stimulant, for blood diseases, and<br>against amnesia [41]  | ND  |
| Zygophyllaceae | Peganum harmala<br>L. [RAB41116]                | Lharmel       | Seeds    | The powder of seeds is sprinkled on the burns.   | 0.25  | Induce abortion [69], diabetes<br>[32, 38, 69, 70], hair care [30, 53, 56],<br>spasmolytic and anthelmintic [39],<br>toxic, sedative, nervous system<br>disorders, rheumatism, decrease<br>lipids [37], abdominal colic, induce<br>abortion, anti-spasmodic, cold,<br>diarrhea, eczema, hemorrhoids,<br>jaundice, rheumatism, women<br>sterility, and wounds [36] | ND  |

TABLE 2: Continued.

ND: not determined FC explained in the manuscript: Frequency of Citation.

the region of Rabat. Other surveys done in different Moroccan regions investigated the use of medicinal plants against different pathologies but did not focus on the use of medicinal plants against only burns. The results of the previous surveys are summarized in Table 2. A certain number of medicinal plants reported in our survey were cited in previous surveys and other ethnobotanical studies outside Morocco. However, several plants were newly cited in our survey such as Narcissus poeticus, Ammi visnaga (L.) Lam, Nerium oleander L., Artemisia herba-alba Asso., Calendula arvensis L., Capparis spinosa L., Tetraclinis articulata Benth., Trigonella foenum-graecum L., Lupinus albus L., Mentha pulegium L., Eucalyptus globulus Labill. (sp.), and Alchemilla vulgaris. These plants were not cited in any previous ethnopharmacological investigations and deserve more intensive pharmacological evaluation.



FIGURE 2: The plant parts used.

3.4. Other Pharmacological Activities of the Reported Medicinal Plants. Medicinal plants that showed anti-burn activity demonstrated other biological activities that need to be validated by extensive research. In our work, we carried out bibliographical research to see if the mentioned medicinal plants were subjected to experimental investigation focusing on the anti-burn activity. Certain plants were subjected to experimental investigation such as Agave sisalana L., Conyza canadensis L., and Borago officinalis L. (Table 2). Other species were not investigated for their wound healing activity including Narcissus poeticus, Ammi visnaga (L.) Lam, Nerium oleander L., Artemisia herba-alba Asso., Calendula arvensis L., Capparis spinosa L., Tetraclinis articulata Benth., Trigonella foenum-graecum L., Lupinus albus L., Mentha pulegium L., Eucalyptus globulus Labill., and Alchemilla vulgaris. More ethnomedicinal surveys should be carried out to preserve information on the use of medicinal plants as anti-burn agents in other regions of Morocco. Thorough medicinal surveys will allow the identification of potential plants and isolation of biologically active agents as drug leads.

3.5. Ethnic Medicinal Characteristics: The Used Parts of Plants, Methods of Preparation, and Administration. From the above, it is important to explore the uses of medicinal plants because they are used for the treatment of different infections. World Health Organization reports that various plant fractions and their dynamic constituents are utilized as traditional medicines of the world population [71–73].

Our data showed that the leaves were the most used parts (41%) of medicinal plants, followed by seeds (17%), flowers (13%), roots (11%), bark and latex (4% each), fruits, bulbs, stems, pericarp, and mucilage (2% each) (Figure 2). Our results were similar to the only work carried out in Morocco

by Salhi et al. [3] on plants used against skin burns. Other work carried out in Morocco on medicinal plants against different pathologies showed that the leaves were the most commonly used parts [19, 27, 28, 30, 68]. The results demonstrated that the powder was the main and simplest traditional application method used in the treatment of skin burns either alone or in combination with adjuvants such as honey, olive oil, and rose oil. Similar results were reported by Salhi et al. [3].

### 4. Conclusion and Perspectives

We surveyed and summarized the medicinal plants used to treat skin diseases in the Taza region. The traditional knowledge demonstrated in this work showed that ethnobotanical surveys can play a decisive role in screening plants with biological properties such as wound healing activity. The results of our work can guide scientists in their selection of plants to be studied experimentally to treat burns. Other surveys should also be carried out in other regions of Morocco to highlight all the medicinal species treating skin burns in Moroccan folk medicine and thus preserve such valuable knowledge for future generations. In addition, medicinal plants that revealed healing effects in our study should be studied for their *in vivo* properties. In addition, powders of these species could be prepared as formulations for their applications against skin burns.

#### **Data Availability**

All the available data used to support the findings of the study are included within the article.

#### **Conflicts of Interest**

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

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