DIOSCORIDES
DIOSCORIDES

de MATERIA MEDICA

BEING AN HERBAL
WITH MANY OTHER
MEDICINAL MATERIALS
WRITTEN IN GREEK IN THE FIRST CENTURY OF THE COMMON ERA
A NEW INDEXED VERSION IN MODERN ENGLISH BY TA OSBALDESTON AND RPA WOOD
Cucumis turcicus - Cucurbita pepo
from FUCHS — 1542
CONTENTS

EDITORIAL PREFACE — vii
ORIGINAL DEDICATION — viii
BIBLIOGRAPHY — xiii
INTRODUCTION — xx
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS — xl
THE BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATIONS — xlii
PRINTED BOOKS — il
GAZETTEER OF DIOSCORIDES’ WORLD — lxviii
BOOK ONE: AROMATICS — 1
   OILS — 34
   OINTMENTS — 48
   GUMS from TREES — 78
   FRUIT from TREES — 149
   FRUIT TREES — 153
   BOOK TWO — 183
   LIVING CREATURES — 184
   FATS — 212
FRUMENTACEA: CEREALS — 229
LACHANA: VEGETABLES — 243
HERBS WITH A SHARP QUALITY — 304
BOOK THREE: ROOTS — 363
ROOTS OF AKANTHODA or PRICKLY PLANTS — 377
BOOK FOUR: OTHER HERBS & ROOTS — 541
BOOK FIVE: VINES & WINES — 741
   WINES — 747
   OTHER WINES — 759
   METALLIC STONES — 781

INDEXES
   ALTERNATE NAMES — 832
   ILLUSTRATIONS — 847
   LATINISED GREEK NAMES — 851
   MEDICINAL USES etc. — 860
   PLANT MATERIALS etc. — 885
   POISONOUS MATERIALS — 926
for Laura

Narthecium ossifragum

after Faguët — 1888
EDITORIAL PREFACE

Pedanius Dioscorides the Greek wrote this De Materia Medica approximately two thousand years ago. In 1655 John Goodyer made an English translation from a manuscript copy, and in 1933 Robert T Gunther edited this, Hafner Publishing Co, London & New York, printing it. This was probably not corrected against the Greek, and this version of Goodyer's Dioscorides makes no such attempt either.

The purpose of this new edition is to offer a more accessible text to today’s readers, as the ‘english-ed’ copy by Goodyer is generously endowed with post-medieval terminology and is presently out of print. The reader may wish to refer to Greek, Latin, or other versions — including these lies beyond the scope of the present effort. I have not attempted to make the text uniform, and though I have included some sixteenth-century and Linnaean names, many do not indicate current usage. While it is not my intention to contribute to the controversy surrounding the true identities of the plants, minerals, and creatures in De Materia Medica, where available I have suggested possible plant names, with an indication of other plants using the same name today. I will appreciate any pertinent information that has been overlooked, and wish to acknowledge the errors that remain. Thus the proposed herbs provide some possibilities, and the reader is invited to place a personal interpretation upon the material. The illustrations suggest further options in some instances.

Dioscorides’ treatise is not offered as a primary resource for medical treatment. Readers should in the first instance obtain medical advice from qualified, registered health professionals. Many treatments considered acceptable two thousand years ago are useless or harmful. This particularly applies to the abortifacients mentioned in the manuscript, most of which contain toxins considered dangerous in the required doses. With all this in mind, I believe the information in this document is still of interest and benefit to us, after all this time.

Tess Anne Osbaldeston
Johannesburg, South Africa, June 2000
Dearest Areius,

Although many of the writers nowadays, as well as those in ancient times, wrote discourses on the preparations, strengths and dosage of drugs, I will attempt to prove to you that I did not choose to undertake this through vanity or impulsiveness. Some of those authors did not complete their attempts, while others copied previous historical documents. Iolas from Bithynia and Hexaclides from Tarentum briefly considered the subject but they completely omitted any systematic discussion of herbs and ignored metals and spices. Crateuas the rhizotomist and Andreas the physician seem to have had greater knowledge of this particular area than most, but have ignored many extremely useful roots and gave meagre descriptions of many herbs. Still I must admit that although they told us little, the ancients applied great effort in their work. I am not completely in agreement with most modern writers, among them Julius Bassus, Niceratus and Petronius, Niger and Diodotus, who are all asclepiads [poets]. In a way they have condescended to describe commonplace information familiar to all but they have explained the strengths of medicines and their properties briefly, not considering their value by personal experience, but by worthless discussion created needless controversy regarding each medicine, and in addition they have mistakenly recorded one thing for another. So Niger, who it seems is a man of importance among them, declares *euphorbion* to be the juice of a *chamäaia* that grows in Italy; *androsaîmon* is considered the same as *hyperîcon*; and aloe is a mineral found in Judea; and in the face of contradictory evidence he reports an abundance of untruths, which proves that he obtained his information from erroneous gossip, not from personal experience. Additionally they have erred in the categorisation of medicines: some associate those of quite different powers, others establish an alphabetical system in their discussions and thus separate types and activities of materials that are similar, so that they become harder to remember. From my youth I have had an unceasing inquisitiveness regarding knowledge of this subject, and I have travelled widely (as you know, I was a soldier), so I
Symphytum officinale
from BRUNFELS — 1530
have taken your advice and assembled all that I have discussed and have written it down in five books. I dedicate this collection to you, as a token of my grateful appreciation for the friendship you have shown me. You are always a ready friend to anyone obsessed by knowledge, particularly in this profession, and even more especially to myself. It is clear from the love that wonderful man Licinius Bassus has for you, that you express a loving benevolence that I experienced (I noticed when I stayed with you, the unsurpassing generosity that you shared). I ask that you and all who may read these discussions will not consider so much the value of my words as the effort and practical work that I have based the work on. With careful investigation — since I know many plants personally, and others from previous writings that are generally approved of — and patiently inquiring (by questioning the local inhabitants) about each type of plant, I will attempt a different classification, and also try to explain the varieties and uses of each one of them. Obviously we can agree that a systematic discourse on medicines is necessary, as this is the basis of the entire profession of healing and gives considerable aid to every discipline. So that the scope may fully cover methods of preparation, compounds, and tests on illnesses, and because information about each individual drug is necessary for this, I intend to assimilate things that are common knowledge and those that are somehow related so that the information will be exhaustive. First it is necessary to pay attention to storing and gathering plants, and only at the proper harvest time, for unless care is taken drugs can either be potent or become useless. Herbs should be collected on a sunny day, as it matters considerably if it is raining when the harvest is gathered. The places they grow also matter; specific medicinal herbs are stronger or weaker if found on hills and mountains; if exposed to winds; if their position is cool and arid — their strength can rest entirely on such conditions. Healing herbs located in the open or in bogs and dark places that do not permit the circulation of air are generally of poorer strength, particularly if they are collected at the wrong time, or are rotten and of inferior quality. We must remember that plants often mature sooner or are delayed depending on the peculiarities of the locale and the variability of the seasons, and although certain herbs by their very nature
are winter-growing and -flowering, some may flower more than once a year. It is essential that someone wanting to be an accomplished herbalist should observe the first new growths of the herbs as well as their mature expression and their eventual decline. Otherwise a person seeing only a new shoot will be unable to identify the same flourishing plant, and having seen only its full growth will not know the seedling. Due to varieties in the forms of leaves, the proportions of stems, and the appearances of flowers and fruits and certain other familiar features, those who have neglected careful examination in the right manner have committed serious errors. This is why certain writers have erred grievously in their discussions of certain herbs — saying that they have no stalks, fruit or flowers — mentioning gramen, tussilago, and quinquefolium. So the individual who continually examines plants growing in different localities will learn the most about them. Furthermore, it is important to note that among medicinal herbs only black and white hellebore keep their potency for a long time. Most other plants are viable for up to three years. Branching plants such as stoechas, chamaidrus, potion, abrotanum, seriphium, absinthium and hyssopum etc., must be harvested when they are full of seed; flowers must be collected while still on the plant; fruits must be allowed to ripen; and seeds should be starting to dry, but still on the plant. To express the plant liquids, use stems and leaves that are new. To harvest saps and resins make incisions in the mature stalks. To collect roots for storage or to press out their liquids or to remove their coverings, wait until the leaves start to fall off the plant. Clean roots can be stored right away in places that are not damp, however any soil adhering to the roots should be rinsed off with water. Blossoms and perfumed materials must be kept in dry limewood boxes but certain plants are adequately stored in paper or leaf wrappings to protect the seeds. Preparations that contain moisture require substantial containers from materials such as silver, glass or horn. Even thick ceramic containers are acceptable, and even wood, especially boxwood. Brass receptacles are ideal for eye medicines, liquids, and preparations including vinegar, liquid pitch or cedria [oil of cedar]; but fats and marrow should be stored in tin boxes.
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Alphabetum empiricum 1581
Amatus Lusitanus 1536, 1553
Anguillara 1561, 1563
Barbaro 1516, 1530
Bauhin 1623, 1671
Berendes 1902
Bock/Tragus 1539, 1546, 1551, 1552
Brunfels 1530, 1543
Cesalpino 1583, 1603
Contant 1628
Cordus, Erich 1551
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Dubler 1553-1559
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Gesner 1541, 1542, 1577
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Pedianos Dioscorides, also known as Pedanios Dioskourides, probably lived between 40CE and 90CE in the time of the Roman Emperors Nero and Vespasian. A Cilician Greek, he was born in Anazarbos (now Nazarba, near Tarsus) within the Roman Empire of the day, and today in Turkey. A learned physician, he practiced medicine as an army doctor, and saw service with the Roman legions in Greece, Italy, Asia Minor, and Provence in modern-day France. His military years provided opportunities for studying diseases, collecting and identifying medicinal plants, and discovering other healing materials. Dioscorides compiled his medical treatise at the suggestion of a fellow-physician, Areius. He had access to the library at Alexandria, and may have studied at Tarsus. He recorded many plants previously unknown to Greek and Roman physicians, and made an effort to describe not only their qualities and remedial effects, but also something of their botany and living morphology — including roots, foliage, and sometimes flowers. Although not as naïve as many other herbal writers, he showed little scientific interest — concentrating rather on the practical uses of plants — and sometimes giving only brief descriptions, perhaps from other primary sources. In all he described some one thousand remedies using approximately six hundred plants and plant products.

Dioscorides probably wrote his great herbal in about 64CE (according to Pritzel 77CE). These medicinal and alimentary plants number about a hundred more plants than all those (medicinal or not) known to the great botanist Theophrastus, and described in his fine botanical work, the Enquiry into Plants, some two centuries before. Theophrastus of Eresos (a village on the Greek island of Lesbos) lived from about 372 to 286BCE. A pupil of Plato and close friend of Aristotle, he is the earliest known systematic botanical author in Europe. He
discussed about 500 plants (or plant products) familiar at that time, including almost forty plants still used in medicine today, and mentioned plants from all regions of the known world, including India, Egypt and Cyrenaica, possibly discovered during the military campaigns of Alexander the Great. Theophrastus drew on the work of Diokles of Karystos (about 300 BCE), a fellow-student of Aristotle.

Dioscorides added extensively to the range of plants used in medicine. He was a contemporary of the Roman, Pliny, whose monumental work on natural history (the history of the world) mentions about 1000 different plants. There is no evidence that they met, and Pliny may not have read Dioscorides' work. Gaius Plinius Secundus, known as Pliny the Elder, was born in Como in 23 CE and died in the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 CE. A busy Roman official, Pliny was also a prolific author, though only the thirty-seven books of his *Historia Naturalis* survived. He transcribed the knowledge of his time in accurate and precise detail, uncritically adding myths, legends, superstitions, personal observations, and opinions in a discursive, entertaining, encyclopaedic work. Pliny is less systematic and more credulous than Dioscorides. Pliny's remedies while no more effective are generally more unpleasant.

For almost two millenia Dioscorides was regarded as the ultimate authority on plants and medicine. The plant descriptions in his *Περι υλῆς ιατρικῆς* or *De Materia Medica* were often adequate for identification, including methods of preparation, medicinal uses, and dosages. There is also a minor work bearing the name of Dioscorides, *Περὶ ἀπλῶν φαρµακῶν*, but this may not be authentic. Recognising the usefulness of his medical botany and phytography, his readers probably overestimated their worth. In truth, Theophrastus was the scientific botanist; Pliny produced the systematic encyclopaedia of knowledge; and Dioscorides was merely a medical botanist. However Dioscorides

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2 ibid. p19 and note 45.
achieved overwhelming commendation and approval because his writings addressed the many ills of mankind most usefully.

THE TEACHINGS

Dioscorides was one of the first writers to emphasize observing plants in their native habitats, and at all stages of growth. De Materia Medica also instructs on collecting, using, and storing drugs from vegetable, animal and mineral sources. There are about seventy animal-product remedies, including two using vipers' flesh, a famous poison antidote. This snake meat (pickled in oil, wine, salt and dill) was also recommended for sharpening eyesight, and for nerves. A popular remedial delicacy mentions viper roasted with salt, honey, figs and nardostachys (spikenard), and made into a soup. Dioscorides' plant descriptions use an elementary classification, though he cannot be said to have used botanical taxonomy. Book One discusses aromatic plants; growths that provide oily, gummy or resinous products for use in salves and ointments; then the fleshy fruits, even if not aromatic. Book Two begins with animal products of dietetic and medicinal use, continuing with cereals and leguminous, malvaceous, cruciferous and other garden herbs. Book Three covers roots, juices, herbs and seeds used for food or medicine; and Book Four includes narcotic and poisonous medicinal plants. Book Five mentions vines, wines and metallic ores. Dioscorides does not adopt Theophrastus' philosophic treatment of plants, nor his classification using botanical characteristics. Dioscorides' qualitative classification (properties and uses) suits his medicinal purposes. Nevertheless, when necessary, he classifies separately; such as Sambucus where he distinguishes one species as a herb and the other as woody, almost a tree. He also recognises the familiar natural families of plants such as the labiate genera, the leguminous, the umbelliferous, the composites and the solanaceous plants.

Together with Pliny's encyclopaedic writings, Dioscorides' De Materia Medica provides important documentation about drugs in the early Roman Empire, as well as offering interesting insights into daily life. For example, the Romans used green twigs of Pistacia
lentiscus for brushing teeth; they made henna shampoo by pounding henna leaves soaked in the juice of soapwort; other yellow hair-dyes came from Rhamnus, Zizyphus and Xanthium; and black hair-dyes from gum arabica, oak, oak galls, Rhus, myrtle, ivy, Salvia species and Sambucus ebulus. They blackened eyebrows and eyelashes with vegetable soot from the burnt resin of coniferae. They used oil from wild olives to stop falling hair, and keep it from turning grey; and made hair tonic from a mixture of myrrh, ladanum, myrtle oil and wine. Bear grease was said to make hair grow again; and they used a creamy extract of fenugreek flour for cleaning hair. Cleansing and beautifying lotions for the complexion included Sicyonian oil, almond oil, mastic oil, oil of fenugreek, oil of bitter almonds, fats of geese and poultry, lizard dung, Sardinian honey, bitter vetch flour, lupin flour, and juice from a gourd or vegetable marrow. Latex from Euphorbia characias was mixed with oil for a depilatory. Much as we do today, cosmetics and medicines were prepared side by side in Roman times, and sold in the same shop. The ordinary name for a druggist's shop was seplasia; within the shop the seplasiarii were ointment-makers, and the pigmentarii sold dyes and colours. In time the two designations became interchangeable.

In his original introduction Dioscorides states that many physicians provided superficial accounts of the properties and diagnostic uses of drugs, often confusing one plant with another. Pliny the Elder confirms that physicians of his day knew little about compounding medications, entrusting these matters to seplasiarii, who frequently supplied spoiled or adulterated drugs. We learn from Fuchs that even in the sixteenth century hardly any contemporary physicians in Germany valued accurate knowledge of medicinal plants. This information did not concern them and was beneath their dignity — they left the study of medicinal plants to the superstitious, the foolish and old peasant women.

Dioscorides also discusses adulteration, frequently mentioning methods of falsification or substitution, and means of detection. For example, root of valeriana was adulterated with butcher's broom, which might be noticed because it became hard, difficult to break, and lacked a pleasant smell; and frankincense was frequently adulterated with pine resin and gum. De Materia Medica
discusses the preparation of oils and unguents at length. Spissamenta (astringents) were added to preserve and thicken oil, and make it retain desired perfumes from odoramenta (aromatic herbs, aromata). Various forms of medication included acopa, cataplasmata, malagmata, eclegmata and catapotia. An acopum was a soothing or stimulatory liniment. Cataplasmata were plasters or poultices. Malagmata were emollient poultices. An eclegma (electuary or looch) was a thick syrup to be swallowed slowly. Catapotia were pills coated with wax or honey. Dioscorides mentions mandragora (mandrake), used as an anaesthetic for amputation or surgery — the patient became ‘overborn with dead sleep’\(^3\) so that the surgeon could painlessly ‘cut or cauterise’\(^4\). Dioscorides used the Greek word anaesthesia for insensitivity, a term reintroduced in the nineteenth century.

We find several amusing anecdotes about plants in De Materia Medica. The mandrake was associated with various myths, presumably because the thick tuberous roots resemble the human form. Dogs were used to extract this, as it allegedly screamed when pulled from the ground, deafening human gatherers. No doubt this tale intimidated casual collectors and protected the wild species. It contains hyoscyamine, an anaesthetic used until the introduction of ether in 1846. The nightshades (circnea and solanum species), employed by eminent poisoners through the centuries, were used to treat numerous ailments including hayfever. Medicinal drinking-cups were made from the wood of Tamarix gallica, and liquid left standing in them was considered beneficial for disorders of the spleen. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries this practice was renewed with drinking-cups made from Lignum nephriticum, which gave a brilliant blue fluorescence to water, highly regarded as a specific for diseases of the kidneys.

Painkillers have always dominated healing texts. Dioscorides wrote of the willow — itea, probably salix species — ‘a decoction of them is an excellent fomentation for ye gout’\(^5\). In due course this knowledge led German
scientists to aspirin. Dioscorides also mentions autumn crocus, another painkiller, warning of its dangers. The world's best-known painkiller is undoubtedly opium, mentioned in the Ebers Papyrus (an Egyptian medical book dating from about 1550 BCE), as well as by Theophrastus. Dioscorides describes harvesting opium — the same method is still used today for collecting the coagulated juice of the poppy heads. The gummy exudate was called opium by the Greeks, this merely being a word for juice. Although a wonderful painkiller, opium is a dangerous narcotic. Dioscorides warned 'a little of it, taken as much as a grain of ervum (probably seed of ervil, a vetch), is a pain-easer, and a sleep-causer, and a digester ... but being drank too much it hurts, making men lethargical, and it kills'.

Dioscorides describes many valuable drugs including aconite, aloes, bitter apple, colchicum, henbane, and squill. Minor drugs, diluents, flavouring agents, and emollients still in some modern pharmacopoeia include ammoniacum, anise, cardamoms, catechu, cinnamon, colocynth, coriander, crocus, dill, fennel, galbanum, gentian, hemlock, hyoscyamus, lavender, linseed, mastic, male fern, marjoram, marshmallow, mezereon, mustard, myrrh, orris (iris), oak galls, olive oil, pennroyal, pepper, peppermint, poppy, psyllium, rhubarb, rosemary, rue, saffron, sesamum, squirting cucumber (elaterium), starch, stavesacre (delphinium), storax, stramonium, sugar, terebinth, thyme, white hellebore, white horehound, and couch grass — the last still used as a demulcent diuretic. A decoction of pomegranate root bark is prescribed to expel tapeworm. Other medicines still in use include wormwood, pine bark, juniper, ginger, almond oil, cherry syrup and calamine. Chinese and Indian physicians continue to use liquorice, also known to the ancient Egyptians, and mentioned in De Materia Medica.

Specifics for women include several to procure abortions; as well as treatments for infections of the urinogenital tract; and palliatives for stomach ache and intestinal pains. Dioscorides, no doubt familiar with the prevalence of skin and eyes diseases in the Near East,
included many remedies for these. Chronic malaria, possibly a factor in the decline of the Roman Empire, may justify the many medications to reduce the spleen. Palliatives for toothache included colocynth; the resin of Commiphora species; the bark of Platanus soaked in vinegar; a decoction of tamarisk leaves mixed with wine; oak-galls; the resin of Rhus; a decoction of the leaves and bark of mulberry; the latex of the fig; that of Euphorbia characias mixed with oil; the roots of Rumex (the weed, dock) in vinegar; and a decoction of the roots of asparagus and Plantago (plantain). Sediment of olive oil mixed with juice from unripe grapes and cooked to the consistency of honey, was smeared on decayed teeth to loosen them. The Egyptians prepared a kind of beer called zythum or zythus from barley; and Dioscorides tells us ivory soaked in this becomes easily workable. Large slabs of ivory were carved by ancient artists — the secret of their softening method is now lost.

A few superstitious practices are recorded in De Materia Medica. Amulets and mascots were valued, such as Anchusa alia (Echium species) used as an amulet against snakes; and Polemonia against the bite of scorpions. The third joint from the ground of the stem of Verbena ( vervain) was used for tertian fevers; and the fourth joint for quartian fevers. Black hellebore was dug up with great care lest an eagle observe the act, as this would cause death. Dioscorides also recounts the myth of Lysippe and Iphianassa, daughters of the King of Argos, who recovered from madness, noting they were healed with black hellebore.

THE WRITINGS — MANUSCRIPTS

Ancient herbal traditions claimed plants were the flesh of the gods, who instructed men in their proper use. The earliest fragmentary herbal records are Egyptian, Sumerian, and Chinese — Emperor Shen Nung composed the Pen T'sao Ching about 2700BCE; medical prescriptions are listed on a 5000 year-old Sumerian tablet; and the earliest surviving herbal is the Papyrus Ebers from about 1550BCE, containing material gathered five to twenty centuries before. The earliest herbal writers we can name are Greek — Theophrastus, with his Enquiry into Plants of 350BCE; Hippocrates; Diokles of Caryustus; Krateus and his contemporary the Roman
Sextius Niger (first century BCE); Nicander of Colophon (second century BCE); and Nicolaus of Damascenus with his De Plantis of about 30 BCE. Krateuas is the first noted instance of both author and artist.

The earliest surviving records of illustrated Greek Herbals indicate De Materia Medica was widely read and reproduced during the Middle Ages in Latin, Arabic and Greek. For fifteen hundred years it was the standard authority both in botany and materia medica, assuming considerable significance in the development of western and Islamic cultures. The great paradigm for botany is that the history of botany before 1700 was really the history of pharmacy. Had printing existed then, it is possible Dioscorides' overwhelming influence would have confined later writings on the subject to glossaries on De Materia Medica. As it was, most herbalists were heavily indebted to him, just as he had drawn from authorities before him. De Materia Medica may be partially based on the lost work of Diokles (called Hippocrates II by his contemporaries), which dealt with hygiene and prophylaxis, and gave detailed instructions for sound living.

The physician Galen, an influential Greek writer in the development of the herbal, cited Dioscorides. Galen's De Simplicibus, prepared around the year 180 CE, dealt with medicine, pharmacy, and drugs, giving the name, locality, and uses for each plant. The Greek Oribasios [325-403 CE] produced the popular manuscripts Synagoge and Euporista, drawing freely from both Dioscorides and Galen, and being translated into Latin. A concise manuscript of western Roman origin, Herbarium Apulei Platonici, was well-regarded in late Roman times. Its 150 illustrations include some of Greek provenance, mainly from manuscripts based on De Materia Medica. In the Dark Ages these herbal manuscripts lost some influence to simpler herbals, the creative period of Greek science having passed. The earliest copies of Dioscorides' manuscript were not illustrated. The oldest survival is a fragment, the Michigan Papyrus.

The finest surviving comprehensive manuscript copy, magnificently illustrated, was made in the sixth

Singer. ibid. p2.
century in Constantinople [about 512CE] and is known as Codex Vindobonensis. The citizens of Honoratae, a suburb of Byzantium in Turkey, presented it as a birthday gift to their Christian patroness Patricia Juliana Anicia, daughter of Flavius Anicius Olybrius, Emperor of the West briefly in 472CE. This was in appreciation for Juliana Anicia having arranged the construction and decoration of a church dedicated to Polyeuktos, a martyr. The manuscript is on vellum, written in Greek uncials in the tradition of early sixth-century calligraphy. Alternate plant names in many languages were probably added to the manuscript from the work of Alexandrian lexicographer Pamphilos in the first century CE. These synonyms are provided in African, Andreae medici, Armenian, Bessicum, Boeotian, Cappadocian, Dacian, Dardana, Democriti, Egyptian, Ethiopian, Gaulish, Spanish, Istrici, Lucanica, Marsum, Osthonis, Prophetae, Pythagorean, Roman, Tuscan, and Zoroastrian. The coloured paintings of plants date from the second century CE. They are splendid and reveal a naturalism alien to Byzantine art of the time; some are remarkably life-like with accurate colour, but others vary in quality, the level of botanical observation frequently inadequate. Eleven items are clearly derived from the writings and drawings of Krateuas (Cratesas), pharmacologist and physician to Mithridates VI Eupator, King of Pontus from 120 to 63 BCE. Codex Vindobonensis is a large book, roughly thirty centimeters square, of four hundred and ninety one parchment sheets, with nearly four hundred full-page paintings of plants, and some smaller ones of birds. Many plants discussed are indigenous to Greece and the eastern Mediterranean, or cultivated as edible crops. The first pages of Codex Vindobonensis have smaller paintings, including one showing Dioscorides at work while Intelligence holds up a mandrake for Krateuas to draw. Some paintings are quite skilful, handling awkward details such as how the leaf-bases clasp the stem; fine-leaved plants such as fennel are well drawn; other beautiful illustrations include cyclamen, wormwood, delphinium, scarlet pimpernel, and asphodel. In this Codex an alphabetic extract of the original text is given.

Nearly nine centuries pass before we next hear of the manuscript. In 1406 it was rebound by John Chortasmenos for Nathanael, a monk and physician in
the Prodromos Monastery in Constantinople. After the Muslim conquest in 1453 the manuscript fell to the Turks. A century later a Jew named Hamon, body physician to Suleiman the Magnificent, owned it. In 1562 Augier Ghislain de Busbecq, ambassador from the Emperor Ferdinand of Habsburg to the Sublime Porte saw and coveted it, and reported its existence. He wrote that he could not buy it because he had been asked one hundred ducats, a sum too large for his pocket. Seven years later the manuscript found its way through the good offices of Ferdinand's successor, Maximilian II, into the Imperial Library in Vienna (now the Bibliothek Nationale). Codex Vindobonensis is probably the earliest, most splendid, and most important illustrated herbal manuscript of classical times. Before conveying it to the Imperial Library, de Busbecq lent it to Mattioli who drew heavily on it for commentaries on De Materia Medica. Master printer Christoffel Plantin used illustrations from Codex Vindobonensis for herbals published in the late sixteenth century for Dodoens, Clusius, Lobelius, and Lyte.

There are many surviving manuscripts of De Materia Medica after Codex Vindobonensis — an important example being the seventh-century Greek alphabetic Codex Neapolitanus, in the possession of a Neapolitan monastery for many years, and then presented to Emperor Charles VI in 1717. It was taken to Vienna and subsequently to the Bibliotheca Nazionale in Naples. The drawings in Codex Neapolitanus are from the same source as Codex Vindobonensis, but are smaller and grouped together on fewer pages. A good copy of the Codex Vindobonensis from the fifteenth century is in the Cambridge University library; there is a line of descent to a fourteenth century manuscript, Paris GR 2091; and a seventeenth century descendant at Bologna — these four forming the primary alphabetic group. The secondary alphabetic group includes eleventh- and twelfth-century manuscripts at Pierpoint Morgan, Mount Atlas and the Vatican (GR 284). Next is the non-alphabetic Greek group, the best example the Paris Grec 2179 in the Bibliotheque Nationale, written in ninth-century Egypt, its naturalistic illustrations dating the draughtsmanship to the second or third century CE. Later manuscripts of the same group reside at Venice (St Marks 273 of the eleventh century), Florence, the Vatican, and Vienna.
The Ostrogoths and Lombards encouraged Latin translations. The ninth-century Dioscorides Lombardus in the M unchener Staatsbibliothek (with its direct descendant, a South Italian manuscript in Beneventan script, Codex Longobard, M unich 337) has an excellent text, making it the most important of the Latin manuscripts. It is illustrated with approximately 900 lovely miniatures, more than twice as many as the 387 in Codex Vindobonensis. Herbarium Apulei (Codex Cassinensis 97), a ninth-century manuscript herbal from the late Roman period (about 400CE) preserved at the Abbey of Monte Cassino in Italy, is based partly on Dioscorides Lombardus. Dioscorides Vulgaris (Palimpsest Lat 16), a sixth-century manuscript now in Vienna, is the second primary Latin translation. Up to the seventeenth century we find many commentaries and inferior later manuscripts such as Liber Dioscuridis de herbis feminis by Sextus Placitus Papyriensis. Dioscorides Lombardus was one of the source documents (with 22 others) for the celebrated botanical poem Macer floridus of 1161 by Odo of Meune. He recounts the virtues of 77 plants in verse dedicated to Aemilius Macer, a contemporary and friend of Ovid. Dioscorides Vulgaris led to a number of further versions, one with Anglo-Saxon glossaries.

Arabic/Muslim medical scholars rose to prominence during the fifth to twelfth centuries, with Arabic the new language of learning, and many Greek works translated into Arabic from Syriac. In the ninth century monasteries, such as the Benedictine at Monte Cassino and St Gallen on Lake Constance, became centres of herbalism in Europe. Arabic and monastic writings drew heavily on Dioscorides and Pliny. Arabic works were also translated into Latin, such as the twelfth-century herbal of Johannes Serapion the younger (Ibn Sarabiyun), translated by Simon Januensis and Abraham ben Shemtob, in about 1292. Quoting extensively from Dioscorides and Galen, this was published as Liber Serapionis aggregatus in medicinis simplicibus, Milan, 1473.

In the Dark and Middle Ages Nestorian Christians banished for heretical views carried the works of Dioscorides and others to Asia Minor. The Greek text was translated into Syriac when pagan Greek scholars fled east after Constantine’s conquest of Byzantium. Stephanos (son of Basilios, a Christian living in Baghdad under the Khalif Motawakki) made an Arabic translation
of De Materia Medica from the Greek in 854 CE. In 948 CE the Byzantine Emperor Romanus II, son and co-regent of Constantine Porphyrogenitos, sent a beautifully illustrated Greek manuscript of De Materia Medica to the Spanish Khalif, Abd-Arrahman III. Spaniards were unfamiliar with Greek, so in 951 CE a learned monk, Nicolas, arrived in Spain so that physicians in Cordoba might be taught Greek. Nicolas and his Arabic-speaking pupils then prepared a new corrected edition. The Syriac scholar Bar Hebraeus prepared an illustrated Syriac version in 1250, which was translated into Arabic. An Arabic translation from the eleventh century in the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris (Codex arab. 4947) shows how faithfully the Arabs reproduced the Greek illustrations. Arabic modifications rendered the figures more symmetrical, achieving naturalistic fidelity. A Persian translation from the thirteenth century is preserved in the Shrine at Meshed, Iran; and an Arabic Dioscorides is in the Bodleian Library. A richly-illustrated Arabic Dioscorides manuscript of 1224 (Codex 2148) in the Top Kapu Saray Museum has exquisitely detailed figurative scenes. A number of other illustrated Arabic manuscripts of De Materia Medica are known. The teachings of Dioscorides have been used in the practice of medicine in the Middle East from their first writing to the present day.

THE WRITINGS — PRINTED BOOKS

The first printed herbals appearing in the fifteenth century relied on ancient authors for texts. The accessibility and standardisation of these works perpetuated the influence of these venerable authors. Three herbal incunabulae (books printed before 1500) have a particularly interesting derivation. The Herbarius of 1484, the Gart der Gesundheit of 1485, and the Ortus Sanitatus of 1491, all printed in Mainz, were compiled from works by Matthaeus Sylvaticus, Serapio, Avicenna, Platearius, Dioscorides, Galen, and others. Dioscorides was mentioned sixteen times in the Herbarius, 242 times in the Gart, and 570 times in the Ortus. The first printed book of Dioscorides' De Materia Medica is a rare and obscure Latin translation of the Dioscoridis Vulgaris printed at Colle, near Siena, Tuscany, by Johannem Allemanum de Medemblik in 1478. In 1499 Aldus
Manutius printed the first Greek version in Venice. Latin editions were numerous, particularly the excellent translation by the Frenchman Jean de la Ruelle, Latin being the new language of scholarship. In the following century the most voluminous and useful books of botany were supplemented commentaries on Dioscorides, including the works of Fuchs, Anguillara, Mattioli, Maranta, Cesalpino, Dodoens, Fabio Colonna, and the Bauhins. In several the annotations and comments exceed the Dioscoridean text and have much new botany. Nonetheless it seems that a considerable part of all new botanical matter published in the sixteenth and part of the seventeenth centuries consisted largely of annotations on the texts of Dioscorides.

Numerous herbals published from 1473 onwards were directly or indirectly based on Dioscoridean manuscripts. From 1478 there were many Latin editions. A Greek version was published at Venice in 1499, and reprinted in 1518, 1523 and 1529. Between 1555 and 1752 there were at least twelve Spanish editions; and as many in Italian from 1542. French editions appeared from 1553; and German editions from 1546. Some copies of the work appear decadent, with a loss of faithfulness to the earlier text; certain later editions exhibit the freshness and accuracy of the *Codex Vindobonensis*, notably the illustrated volume by Mattioli in 1544.

Pier Andrea Mattioli (1500 to 1577), a renowned botanist and physician, translated *De Materia Medica* into vernacular Italian as *Di Pedacio Dioscoride Anazarbeo libri cinque ...*, Venice 1544. An illustrated edition in Latin followed: *Commentarii in sex libros Pedacii Dioscoridis de medica materia*, Venice 1554. In this imposing plant encyclopaedia Mattioli identified Dioscorides’ plants and added 562 woodcut illustrations. Mattioli experimented on prisoners to determine the lethal thresholds of various poisonous plants, ensuring the medical popularity of his books. Besides the Italian editions the work appeared in Latin, Bohemian, French, and German. Mattioli wrote other books but his commentaries on Dioscorides (said to run to forty editions) are considered his most important work, leading to his appointment to the Imperial Court as physician to Archduke Ferdinand I, and later to the Emperor Maximilian II. Mattioli, obsessed with Dioscorides, set out to be the supreme authority on his idol, tolerating neither rivals nor corrections. He wielded
immense influence throughout Europe. Any physician or naturalist daring to disagree with him was abused. Both Amatus Lusitanus and Luigi Anguillara lost their posts, the former being hounded by the Inquisition. Konrad Gesner, Marant and Wieland were rebuked. Over the years Mattioli's commentaries overwhelmed De Materia Medica — for example on aconitum (Aconitum napellus) Dioscorides wrote seven lines, and Mattioli 140 lines. Forty years later a physician at Nuremberg, Johann Camerarius II (1534 to 1598), re-edited and enlarged Mattioli's work as De plantis epitome ..., Frankfurt 1586, replacing the illustrations with superior woodcuts.

In the time of Queen Elizabeth I the pharmacopoeia rested on the unquestioned authority of the ancient physician Dioscorides. Even in the middle of the seventeenth century, John Goodyer (1592 to 1644) thought it worthwhile to make the first English translation of the whole work. This translation, written out in Goodyer's small and careful handwriting, filled four and a half thousand pages, taking three years to complete. John Sibthorp (1758 to 1796) used Goodyer's English Codex for his Flora Graeca (1806-1840); and Gunther's edition of Goodyer's translation was printed in 1934, and reprinted in 1959. This is the only English edition, apart from the present version in contemporary English by Tess Anne Osbaldeston. In the late eighteenth century John Sibthorp came to Vienna with John Hawkins to study the Codex Vindobonensis. He met the talented Austrian artist Ferdinand Bauer through the von Jacquins, and together they made a Grand Tour of the Levant — including Crete, through the Aegean to Smyrna (Izmir), Constantinople, inland to Belgrade, as well as Cyprus and Greece — to find Dioscorides' medicinal plants. Their efforts resulted in the magnificent Flora Graeca, uncompleted for fifty two years, and then only with the help of Sir John Edward Smith, Robert

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Brown, John Lindley and the Sowerbys. Thus eighteen hundred years after compiling *De Materia Medica*, Dioscorides' medical work led to the publication of one of England's most sumptuous works on botany, 'perhaps one of the most magnificent floras ever produced', according to Martyn Rix in *The Art of the Plant World*[^10]. A fairly comprehensive list of printed versions of *De Materia Medica* is given elsewhere in this volume, together with works based on, or derived from it.

**THE ASSESSMENTS**

Julius von Sachs virtually ignored Dioscorides' contribution to botany in his authoritative *History of Botany 1530-1860*. In the wide-ranging *Guide to the Literature of Botany* Benjamin Daydon Jackson accuses Dioscorides of causing endless discussion and confusion among his followers, contending his meagre plant descriptions cannot be dignified by that term — 'his various treatises formed the staple of the discourses and wranglings of the early botanists of the Renaissance'[^11] until the appearance of Sibthorp's *Flora of Greece*. This 'contention was probably caused by the extreme meagreness of the original descriptions ... so that the fancy of each succeeding writer had abundant scope in endeavouring to fit, and to persuade others that he had fitted, plants of Northern Europe to accounts written in the Mediterranean region'[^12]. Jackson does not mention Dioscorides' profound historical influence.

For fifteen hundred years *De Materia Medica* was widely read and reproduced as copies, translations, excerpts, and paraphrases in Arabic, Greek and Latin. Claus Nissen in *Herbals of five centuries*, L'Art Ancien, Zurich 1958 is more generous: 'It owes its universal acceptance to the exemplary accuracy and scientific scrupulousness with which all available data concerning the appearance and occurrence of drugs, their preparation, preservation, indication, and dosage have been collected and discussed, as well as to its comprehensiveness which takes account of all remedies, from the three kingdoms of nature, that

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[^12]: ibid. p.xviii.
were then known throughout the Mediterranean region. Furthermore he says, 'There is no doubt that, besides chemistry, pharmacognosy and, especially, pharmacobotanics constitute a glorious chapter in the history of Islamic learning, for the ancient legacy in this field was not only preserved but independently augmented and developed. It was particularly Dioscorides' Materia Medica which enjoyed such high esteem that it was likened to the Koran in a manner almost blasphemous to Muslim eyes. It was the final authority on pharmacy in Turkey and Spain until the nineteenth century.

In the first half of the twelfth century Matthaeus Platearius of the medical school at Salerno wrote Circa Instans, an alphabetic listing and textbook of simples based on Dioscorides Vulgaris, containing the appearance, manufacture, and applications of drugs. It achieved wide recognition, being among the first herbals printed in 1488. Ernst Meyer placed it on a par with Pliny and Dioscorides, while George Sarton saw it as a great improvement over De Materia Medica and other herbal writings.

De Materia Medica impeded botanical thought, although not for its contents — doctrinaire usage stifled continuing investigation. Dioscorides cannot be considered an original thinker, nor did he engage in primary research. His work is a compendium of known medicinal plants of the Roman Empire, with some new introductions, and certain misidentifications. Many of his plant names are still in use, although not necessarily for the same plants, as we show in this new volume. His descriptions were sometimes brief, often accurate, including distribution and other information. We may regard him as a founder of botanical science. Thomas Johnson, an outstanding figure among British herbalist/botanists of the sixteenth century, friend and close collaborator of John Goodyer, considered De Materia Medica the foundation and basis of all that followed in the field. The Rinascimento, or Rennaissance,

14 ibid. p18-19.
16 Ibid.
revived interest in knowledge and learning, first in Italy in the mid-fifteenth century, spreading northwards some five decades later. Many botanists and herbalists of the sixteenth century based their texts on those of the ancient Greeks, often referring to Pedanios Dioscorides.

His medicinal plants formed the basis of modern botany, establishing the link between botany and medicine, and giving rise to the herbal as we know it; to physic gardens; to the careers of men such as Linnaeus; and latterly, to ethnobotany. It was the medieval physician’s duty to fear God and know his Dioscorides, and modern pharmacology stems from his attempts to systematize medicinal knowledge. We even owe the term 'botany' to Dioscorides, who used the Greek term botane, meaning herb. The most influential English herbal, Gerard’s The Herball or generall historie of plantes, frequently mentions Dioscorides, and the introduction ‘To the ... Readers’ states ‘From whence there spring flowers not only to adorne the garlands of the Muses, ... but also such fruit as learned Dioscorides long travelled for’.

The illustrated title page of the Herball’s second edition in 1633 shows Dioscorides and Theophrastus as the pillars of healing knowledge. This iconic tradition continues on the title pages of Charles de L’Ecluse’s Rariorum Plantarum Historia of 1601, and his Curae posteriores of 1611; Rembert Dodoens’ Stirpium Historiae Pemptades Sex of 1616; Jean Bauhin and Jean Henri Cherlier’s Historia Plantarum Universalis of 1650-1651; and Giorgio Dalla Torre’s Dryandum, Amadryandum Cloridisque Triumphus of 1685; as well as the document dated 1 July 1737 in which the Royal College of Surgeons commended Elizabeth Blackwell’s A curious herbal.

Two and a half centuries before Sibthorp, Dr Johann von Cube, a German physician, travelled to the East to find the plants of Dioscorides and other masters. In 1485 he published Hortus Sanitatus, one of the earliest printed herbals. Valerius Cordus (1515 to 1544) travelled through Italy and Germany seeking plants in their natural habitat that the Classical authors, particularly Dioscorides, had described. Cordus lectured on plants at the University of Wittenberg; Adnotationes ad Dioscorides was published...
from student notes some years after his early death. Cordus' careful observations provided accurate plant descriptions. The scientist Luigi Anguillara (1512 to 1570) travelled through Italy, Greece, the Balkans, and Central Europe on a similar quest. A professor at the University of Padua, he became director of its botanic garden, the first in the world. Similarly, Leonhardt Rauwolf, who died in 1596, travelled from Augsburg to the Levant ‘chiefly to gain a clear and distinct knowledge of those delicate herbs described by Theophrastus, Dioscorides, Avicenna et al, by viewing them in their proper and native places and to encourage the apothecaries to procure the right sorts for their shops’.

Before Gerard's time, William Turner, an influential English theologian and physician, published his herbals in 1538 and 1548, and wrote of his famous botany teacher Luca Ghini of Bologna, ‘Lucas Gynus the reader of Dioscorides in bonomy, my maister’. Ghini lectured on Dioscorides for twenty-eight years. Joseph Pitton de Tournefort (1656 to 1708), a Frenchman, and one of the earliest systematic (classification) botanists, identified many of Dioscorides' plants during travels in Asia Minor.

Frans A. Stafleu commented that Carl Linnaeus, ‘the prince of botanists’, was the object of an hero-worship previously unknown in botany, with the possible exception of Dioscorides. In Linnaeus' concise history of botany, Bibliotheca botanica, he names Theophrastus, Pliny and Dioscorides among outstanding phytologists of all ages, with no others until the fifteenth century. The famous Dutch botanist Johannes Burman (1707 to 1779) was internationally so highly regarded he received the cognomen Dioscorides III from the Leopoldina, the German academy of sciences. In 1703 Charles Plumier dedicated the edible yam genus with its six hundred species to Dioscorides, naming it Dioscorea. A fitting tribute, since a number of Dioscorea species yield diosgenin, a precursor of progesterone, valuable for modern drugs such as oral contraceptives and cortisone.

Sir Arthur Hill, Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, described a visit to Mount Athos in 1934: 'The
official botanist monk ... was a remarkable old man with an extensive knowledge of plants and their properties ... he travelled very quickly, usually on foot, and sometimes on a mule, carrying his flora with him in a large black bulky bag ... his flora was nothing less than four manuscript volumes of Dioscorides, which apparently he himself had copied out. This flora he invariably used for determining any plant which he could not name at sight, and he could find his way in his books — and identify his plants to his own satisfaction — with remarkable rapidity (23). This indicates the powerful influence of De Materia Medica up to the twentieth century.

The great American botanical historian Edward Lee Greene in Landmarks of Botanical History offers a fitting tribute to Dioscorides: 'If to have written the most practically serviceable book of botany that the world of learning knew of during sixteen centuries were the best title to botanical greatness, to Dioscorides would readily be conceded the absolute supremacy over all other botanists, not only of antiquity but of all time (24).

In Historia rei herbariae, 1807-1808, volume 1, Kurt Polycarp Joachim Sprengel wrote: 'During more than sixteen centuries, he was looked up to as the sole authority, so that everything botanical began with him. Everyone who undertook the study of botany or the identification of medicines swore by his words. Even as late as the beginning of the seventeenth century both the academic and the private study of botany may almost be said to have begun and ended with the text of Dioscorides' (25).

History remains the arbiter of the duration and value of Dioscorides' work.

INTRODUCTION

Brassica
from FUCHS — 1542
INTRODUCTION

Caryophylata
- Geum urbanum
from BRUNFELS — 1540
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our sincere appreciation is accorded firstly to the scholars who shared a fascination with Dioscorides through the centuries. We were able to access many of these works but many others, beyond our reach, are mentioned in the Bibliography for their interest to other ‘seekers’. Of special value to our explorations, we make note of the following:

AK Bedevian, Illustrated polyglottic dictionary of plant names.
Thomas Sprague, journal articles on the herbals of Brunfels and Fuchs, and on Ruellius’ translation of Dioscorides.
Wilfred Blunt and Sandra Raphael, The Art of Botanical Illustration.
Wilfred Blunt, The Illustrated Herbal.
Henri Baillon, Histoire des plantes.
Loudon, John Claudius. Encyclopaedia of plants.
Georg Pritzel, Thesaurus literaturae botanicae.
Klaus Nissen, Die botanische buchillustration, and Herbals of five centuries.
Charles Singer, The herbal in antiquity.

We would also like to express our appreciation to the staff at the Herbarium Library of the Department of Animal, Plant and Environmental Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa, especially to Reneé Reddy and Donald McCallum, as well as to the staff at the Johannesburg Public Library, especially Lolly Brower.
And thank you to Ian Murdoch, Copyright Attorney.

Tess Anne Osbaldeston and Robert P Wood

This version of Dioscorides is richly illustrated with pictures of plants and natural history objects, primarily woodcuts from the 16th and 19th centuries, and copper engravings or lithographs from the 19th century. We know very little of the artists who made the illustrations reproduced here. For example, in Engler's voluminous writings most paintings by Joseph Pohl are unsigned, thus preventing accurate attribution. Some information about the artists represented herein, with the context in which they worked, is given below.

**MATERIALS & METHODS**

Multiple images for early printed books were woodcuts, a relief process, usually a black line drawing of the original picture on a wood block, the unwanted background between the drawn lines was cut away with a sharp knife to prevent contact with the ink roller. The design is in relief, the printer’s ink is deposited on the raised surface, and transferred by pressure onto paper. The image is drawn in reverse as with most forms of printing. In wood engraving, a refinement of the woodcut, the engraver uses a burin, a fine steel cutting tool, obtaining a multitude of fine lines to give subtle gradations simulating grey tones. The crafter usually cuts on the end grain of hard woods to permit a predominance of white lines. Lithography is a planographic or surface process utilising drawing upon stone. The drawing is made with greasy ink or chalk on a particular kind of limestone, porous to both grease and water. Once the drawing is ‘fixed’, the stone is damped with water and an ink roller passed over it. This ‘inks’ the stone wherever the drawing has been made and leaves no mark on the rest of the stone. Paper is now passed over the stone through a scraper press. Lithography permits subtle gradations of tone, speedily and economically. Other printing techniques traditionally used for botanical illustrations include intaglio printing.
— such as copper engraving, mezzotint, stipple engraving, aquatint, and soft ground etching — full or partial colour printing, chromolithography, and a variety of technique modifications. Modern printing methods using photographic, electronic, and digital processes offer further possibilities.

THE ILLUSTRATORS

Botanical illustrators originally documented plants for medicinal purposes. These early scientific drawings of plants assisted the searcher after simples i.e. species of herbs. Illustrations in the magnificent sixth-century manuscript herbal Codex Vindobonensis26 exhibit a standard of excellence unusual in its day, and not exceeded for nearly a millennium. During this 'dreary' millenium most manuscripts were not illustrated, or included pen drawings copied repeatedly by scribes with no artistic skills. Early printed herbals copied these indifferent plant outlines.

Realistic plant drawings appeared towards the end of the fourteenth century, Albrecht Durer and Leonardo da Vinci being the best-known artists. Herbarius zu Teutsch (the German Herbarius) 1485 was the first printed herbal with plant drawings showing greater freedom and realism. Next in significance is Otto Brunfels’ Herbarum vivae eicones (living portraits of plants), 3 volumes 1530-1536, with illustrations by Hans Weiditz (1488 to 1534) a pupil of Albrecht Durer — the drawings transferred to woodcuts by excellent engravers. Brunfels paid tribute to the artist at the beginning of the first volume, but dismissed the illustrations as dead lines inferior to his own truthful text descriptions. Weiditz drew actual plants with scientific correctness, including blemishes and deformities in great detail. The figures seem drawn in pen, with fine, deep strokes. According to Wilfred Blunt ‘His work must ever remain the high-water mark of woodcutting employed in the service of botanical illustration’27. From 1522 Strassburg publishers Schott, Knoblauch, Kopfel and Beck used professional

26 In the Imperial Library in Vienna (now the Bibliothek Nationale).
illustrators, including Weiditz, mainly for botanical and zoological works. Weiditz' skills were in great demand, illustrating numerous books including Albertus Magnus, Wunderbar naturliche wirkungen 1531, and Konrad von Megenberg’s Puch der Natur 1536. These plates were pirated by Frankfurt publisher Christian Egenolph for herbals edited by Eucharius d J Rossllin (and later Theodoric Dorsten), and published as Kreutterbuch 1533 with later editions, titles and translations. From 1562 copies of these woodcuts appeared in the journal published by Egenolph, Plantarum arborum fruticum et herbarum effigies. Some four hundred years after they were drawn, about seventy original pen drawings by Weiditz, painted in watercolours, were discovered in the herbarium of Felix Platter in Berne. It was noted that the woodcuts' variable lines reflected the nervous energy of Weiditz's artistry, and that the engraver of the woodblocks had taken some liberties in copying, mainly to fit larger drawings on to the printed page, and deleting details of flowers and seeds.

Soon thereafter Leonhart Fuchs (1501 to 1566) published De historia stirpium 1542, a splendid folio volume, the illustrations of far greater value than the text. Unusually, credit is given to the artists — Albrecht Meyer who drew the plants according to Fuchs' rigorous instructions, Heinrich Fullmaurer who transferred the drawings to wood blocks, and Veit Rudolf Speckle who cut the wood blocks. The plates dazzle with crisp, white paper, fine printing and layout, and elegant designs. With hundreds of full-page illustrations of plants, it is the earliest monumental flower-book. In the preface Fuchs writes about the illustrations: ‘As far as concerns the pictures themselves, each of which is positively delineated according to the features and likeness of the living plants, we have taken peculiar care that they should bemost perfect, and, moreover, we have devoted the greatest diligence to secure that every plant should be depicted with its own roots, stalks, leaves, flowers, seeds and fruits. … and we have not allowed the craftsmen so to indulge their whims as to cause the drawings not to correspond accurately to the truth’28. Speckle, 'by far the best engraver of

Strasbourg\textsuperscript{29}, had a line often rigid and wiry, suitable for subsequent watercolour wash. Fuchs' artists idealized the plants, showing flowering and fruiting stages simultaneously, with life-sized plants including roots when possible, but with less detail, achieving unmatched clarity of line reproduction. The plates were copied or adapted by many later herbal writers including John Gerard, Tabernaemontanus, Dodoens, Bock, Turner, Lyte and Schinz, to the chagrin of Fuchs who saw his fine work used without acknowledgement, and mostly as inferior copies. Many scholars consider these the finest botanical woodcuts, though some prefer the sharp figures of Weiditz. Meyer's flowers are delicate, Weiditz' are bold; Meyer had a clinical perception, Weiditz approached individual plants with appreciation; Meyer was limited by Fuchs' insistence on precision without artistic expression and feeling. Perhaps that is why his illustrations were used for more than 200 years.

Although not new, copperplate etching was only employed for botanical illustration towards the end of the sixteenth century. Eventually this and other techniques replaced the use of woodblocks. However, wood-engraving flourished again for a while in the nineteenth century. Thomas Bewick (1753 to 1828) led this revival, using skills learnt as a copper engraver. He substituted hard boxwood for soft wood, engraving on the end grain of the wood. Perfecting this technique enabled the use of wood engraving for detailed illustrations, often made from photographs. Examples are found in Baillon's \textit{Histoire des plantes} 1866-1895, and Anton Kerner von Marilaun's \textit{Pflanzenleben} 1887-1891. \textit{Pflanzenleben} contained some of the last of the fine woodcuts in botanical illustration. Continental engravers were as skilful as the British. The technical brilliance of these later wood engravings restored the technique to the status of an art, thus it avoided competing with photographic tone reproduction.

The Frenchman, Auguste Faguet (1841 to 1886), a prolific illustrator of the late nineteenth century, produced delicate botanical wood engravings of great accuracy. These drawings indicate true perspective, the

\textsuperscript{29} ibid. Blunt, p51
careful craftsmanship making distant elements recede. He illustrated the extensive set of Henri Ernest Baillon’s Histoire des plantes 1866-1895, including its many editions. Faguet’s other work for Baillon included Recherches … des conifères 1860; Dictionnaire de botanique 1876-1892; 1186 woodcuts in Traite de botanique medicale phanerogamique 1883-1884; 370 woodcuts in Traite de botanique medicale cryptogamique 1889; Loganiacees 1856; and Bignoniacees 1864. Henri Faguet’s talent also benefited Edouard Bureau’s Monographie des bignoniacee 1864; Alfred Grandidier’s monumental Histoire physique, naturelle et politique de Madagascar 1875; and Histoire naturelle des plantes 1886-1903. Among other artists Faguet also worked on a periodical, L’Horticulteur Francais, journal des amateurs et des interets horticoles 1851-1872. These fine woodcuts were superseded by renewed general use of metal printing plates for botanical illustrations.

Thiebault assisted Faguet in illustrating Henri Baillon’s Histoire des plantes 1866-1895. He also contributed engraved text figures to Dujardin-Beaumetz & Egasse’s Les plantes medicinales indigenes ex exotique 1889, and his drawings appeared in The Floral Register, a periodical published from 1825 to 1851.

In Pflanzenleben 1887-1891 Anton Joseph Ritter Kerner von Marilaun (1831 to 1898) used a number of Austrian and German artists, their work interpreted as wood-engravings. This important two-volume work spawned several editions, including translations into English, Russian, Italian and Dutch. We know little of these artists, among whom are Adele von Kerner, Ernst Heyn (1841 to 1894), F Tegetmeyer, Hermann von Konigsbrunn (1823 to 1907), Eugen von Ransonnet (1838 to ?), Ignaz Seelos (1827 to 1902), Joseph Selleny (1824 to 1875), K Springer, S Teuchmann, and Olof Winkler (1843 to 1895). Olof Winkler and Ernst Heyn assisted with the preparation of lithographs from illustrations (and chromolithographs from paintings) by Joseph Selleny and others. Anton Kerner von Marilaun illustrated his own Monographia Pulmoniarum 1878. Ernst Heyn illustrated Emil Adolf Rossmassler’s Der Wald 1863, producing 117 copper engravings. Hermann von Konigsbrunn illustrated Franz Xaver Unger’s Wissenschaftliche ergebnisse einer reise in Griechenland 1862. Ignaz Seelos made the lithographs and Joseph Selleny the frontispiece for Johann Joseph Peyritsch’s Aroideae.
Maximilianae 1879. German professor Heinrich Moritz Willkomm (1821 to 1895), specialised in the botany of south-western Europe. He often illustrated his own works, and his coloured drawings are mainly of unusual plants from Spain, Portugal, and the Balearic Islands. His many publications include Recherches sur ... Globulariæes 1850; Icones et descriptiones plantarum novarum 1852-1862; as well as Illustrationes florae Hispaniae 1881-1892 with coloured lithograph plates. AH Payne and A Eckstein occasionally provided him with illustrations.

The well-travelled Otto Warburg (1859 to 1938), botanist and political activist, produced the richly illustrated Die pflanzenwelt 1913-1922, with figures by H Buffe, H Eichhorn, M Gurke, U Grimme amongst others, including some coloured plates. Warburg's extensive work emerged from his travels in south-eastern Asia, Oceania, Australia and southern Africa.

Heinrich Gustaf Adolf Engler (1844 to 1930) was the most prolific German botanical taxonomist. He published ambitiously and enthusiastically, using a number of artists to illustrate his works, including Joseph Pohl, an artist with apprenticeship as a wood-engraver. Engler noticed Pohl's talent very early, starting a collaboration of almost forty years. Amongst his prodigious output Josef Pohl (1864 to 1939) drew over 33,000 items in 6,000 figures for Engler's Die natürlichen pflanzenfamilien 1887-1914. His plants are finely and accurately executed, but without flair. This work is of particular value because many new plants were described for the first time. The drawings are plain but complement the lengthy Latin descriptions in this monumental production. The illustrations take on particular significance because many of the actual plants, delineated so carefully, were destroyed in the bombing of the Berlin Herbarium. Pohl illustrated other major works by Engler, including Das pflanzenreich 1900-1953; Die pflanzenwelt Afrikas 1908-1910; Monographien afrikanischer pflanzenfamilien 1898-1904; and most of the illustrations for the periodical Engler's Botanische jahrbucher 1881 et seq. Assisted by Gottfried Keller (1873 to 1945) and Karoly Rezso Soo von Bere (1903 to 1980), Pohl illustrated Friedrich Richard Rudolf Schlechter's Monographie und iconographie der orchideen 1928-1942; and Karl Moritz Schumann's Bluhende kakteen (Iconographia cactacearum)
1900-1921; and was one of many artists contributing (i.e. the orchid illustrations) to Carl Friedrich Philipp von Martius’ magnificent Flora Brasiliensis 1840-1906. Vogelmeyer and Henri Bocquillon also contributed some drawings to Engler’s publications.

Jean Emmanuel Maurice le Maout illustrated his Atlas élémentaire de botanique 1846; as well as Leçons élémentaire de botanique 1844, including later editions. With Joseph Decaisne he wrote Flore élémentaire des jardins et des champs 1855, translated by Mrs Hooker as General system of botany 1876. With P Bernard and L Couilhac, Maout’s first book was published as Le jardin des plantes 1842-1843.

Botanical art highlights two opposing needs — revealing the true physical character of a plant; and the illustrator's response to the beauty of the subject. Each artist balances the conflict of art versus science. Most botanical publications require large numbers of illustrations, demanding speed as well as accuracy, and a working knowledge of current printing technology. The illustrations selected for this volume appeal both scientifically and descriptively, while incorporating a decidedly decorative quality. They also had to survive the transition to digital format.
## PRINTED BOOKS

A chronological list of printed books copying, based upon, annotating, discussing, amplifying, or extending the manuscripts of the *De Materia Medica* of Pedanios Dioscorides

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of publication and language/s</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Contributors, Editors, Illustrators, Publishers [Place of Publication]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1473 Latin (1475)</td>
<td>Liber Serapionis aggregatus in medicinis simplicibus.</td>
<td>Serapion [Mediolani]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1478 Latin</td>
<td>(Folium 1a:) Notadum q; libri diascorides dicti duplex rperit ordinationio cum eodem tamem ephemio omnio. Explic dyascorides que petrus paduanesis legendo corexit et exponendo q;vtiliora sut luce deduxit.</td>
<td>Petrus Paduanensis [Colle, near Siena]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1499 Greek</td>
<td>ΠΕΔΑΚΙΟΥ ΔΙΟΣΚΟΡΙΔΟΥ. Textus Dioscoridis, textus et scholia Nicandri.</td>
<td>Aldus Manutius [Venetiis]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1516 Latin</td>
<td>Joannis Baptitae Egnatii Veneti in Dioscoridem ab Hermoloa Barbaro tralatum annotamenta, quibus morborum et remediorum vocabula obscuriora in usum etiam mediocriter eruditorum explicantur.</td>
<td>Hermoloa Bararo, J Egnatii [Venetiis]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1516 Latin</td>
<td>Corollarii in Dioscoridem libri quinque non ante impressi. Impr. cum Johannis Baptitae Egnatii in Dioscoridem annotamentis.</td>
<td>Ermoloa Baptista, J B Egnatii [Venetiis]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1518 Latin</td>
<td>Pedacii Dioscoridae Anazarbei de medic cali materia libri sex, interprete M arcello Vergilio, secretario Florentino, cum ejusdem annotationibus, nuperque diligentissime excusi.</td>
<td>Marcello Vergilio [Florentiae]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1518 Greek</td>
<td>ΠΕΔΑΚΙΟΥ ΔΙΟΣΚΟΡΙΔΟΥ. A foll. 223 ordo numerorum turbatus est, ideoque folium ultimum 235 falsa numeratum est.</td>
<td>Saracenus, Asulanus, Roscio [Venetiis]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1523 Greek</td>
<td>ΠΕΔΑΚΙΟΥ ΔΙΟΣΚΟΡΙΔΟΥ. A foll. 223 ordo numerorum turbatus est, ideoque folium ultimum 235 falsa numeratum est.</td>
<td>Saracenus, Asulanus, Roscio [Venetiis]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1523/8 Latin &amp; Greek</td>
<td>Pedacii Dioscorides Anazarbei de medic cali materia libri sex a M arcello Virgilio (Vergilio), secretario Florentino, latinitate donati, cum ejusdem commentionibus, nuper quam diligentissime ex secunda interpretis recognitio excusi.</td>
<td>Marcello Virgilio [Florentiae]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Title</td>
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<tr>
<td>1529</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>P. Dioscoridae Pharmacorum simplicium reque medicae libri VIII. Joanne Ruellio Suessionensi interprete.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1529</td>
<td>Greek</td>
<td>Dioscoridiae pharmacorun simplicium reque medicae libri VIII. Joanne Ruellio Suessionensi interprete.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1530</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Pedacii Dioscorides Anazarbei de medicina libri V de lethalibus venenis, eorumque precautione et curatione liber unus. Interprete Marcello Vergilio, Secretario Florentino.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1530</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Corollarii in Dioscoridem libri quinque non ante impressi.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1530-6</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Herbarum vivae eicones ad naturae imitationem summa cum diligentia et arteficio effigiatae, una cum effectibus earundem in gratiam veteris illius et jam jam renascentis herbariae medicinae, per Oth. Brunf.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1532</td>
<td>German</td>
<td>Kontrafyt Kreuterbuch nach rechter volkommener art. und beschreibung der alten bestberumpten artzt, vormals in Teutscher sprach, der massen nye gesehen noch in truck ausgangen. Sampt einer gemeynen inleytung der kreuter urhab. Erkantnuss, brauch, lab und herrlichheit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1533</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Stirpium differentiae ex Dioscoride secundum locos comunnes, opus ad ipsarum plantarum cognitionem admodum conduicibile.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1534</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Annotatiunculae aliquot Cornelii Petri Leydensis in quatuor libros Dioscoridis Anazarbei.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1537</td>
<td>German</td>
<td>Kontrafyt kreuterbuch nach rechter volkommener art. und beschreibung der alten bestberumpten artzt, vormals in Teutscher sprach, der massen nye gesehen noch in truck ausgangen. Sampt einer gemeynen inleytung der kreuter urhab. Erkantnuss, brauch, lab und herrlichheit.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE HERBAL OF DIOSCORIDES THE GREEK
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Editor</th>
<th>Page(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>1543</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Editiones Ruelianae in minori forma. Pedacii Dioscorides Anazarbei de medicinali materia libri quing; de viruletis animalibus et venenis cane rabioso, et eorum notis ac remedii libri quatuor</td>
<td>Joanne Ruellio</td>
<td>1.2306</td>
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<tr>
<td>1543</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>In Dioscoridis historiae plantarum certissima adaptatio, cum earundem iconum nomenclaturis graecis, latinis et germanicis</td>
<td>Otto Brunfels</td>
<td>1.1285, 4.60</td>
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<tr>
<td>1543</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>In Dioscoridae Anazarbei de re medica libris e Marcello Virgilio versos scholia nova</td>
<td>J Lonitzer</td>
<td>1.5600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1543</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>De historia stirpium commentariorum tomi vivae imagines, in exiguam angustiorem formam contractae</td>
<td>Leonhard Fuchs</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>1545</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Pedacii Dioscoridis Anazarbei de medicinali materia libri sex, Joanne Ruellio Suessionensi interpret. Singulis cum stirpium, tum animantium historiis, ad naturae aemulationem expressis imaginibus, seu vivis picturis, ultra millenaria numerum adjectissimis</td>
<td>Leonhard Fuchs</td>
<td>1.3141</td>
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<tr>
<td>1545</td>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>Di Pedacio Dioscoris Anazarbei libri cincque della historia et materia medicinae tradotta in lingua volgare italiana da M Pietro Andrea M attioli Sanese Medico</td>
<td>Leonhard Fuchs</td>
<td>1.5986, 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1546</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Pedacii Dioscorides Anazarbei de medicinali materia libri sex, Joanne Ruellio Suessionensi interpret. Singulis cum stirpium, tum animantium historiis, ad naturae aemulationem expressis imaginibus, seu vivis picturis, ultra millenaria numerum adjectissimis</td>
<td>Leonhard Fuchs</td>
<td>1.3207</td>
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<td>Italian</td>
<td>Pedacii Dioscoride Anazarbeo de re medica libri quing; de viruletis animalibus et venenis cane rabioso, et eorum notis ac remedii libri quatuor</td>
<td>Leonhard Fuchs</td>
<td>1.3140</td>
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<td>Author</td>
<td>Title</td>
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<tr>
<td>1546</td>
<td>German</td>
<td>Pedanii Dioscoridis Anazarbei</td>
<td>Herbarum vivae ecnon ad naturae imitationem summa cum diligentia et artificio effigiatae, una cum effetiibus earundem in gratiam veteris illius et jamjan renascentis herbariae medicinae, per Oth. Brunf.</td>
<td>Otto Brunfels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1546</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Pedanii Dioscoridis Anazarbei</td>
<td>De historia stirpium commentarii insignes, maximis impensis et vigilisis elaborati, adjectis earundem vivis plus quam quingentis imaginibus, nunquam antea ad naturae imitationem artificioius effectis et expressis.</td>
<td>Leonhard Fuchs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1546</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Pedanii Dioscoridis Anazarbei</td>
<td>Pedacii Dioscorides Anazarbei de medicinali materia libri quing; de viruletis animalibus et venenis canebiabo, et eorum notis ac remedii libri qua tuor, Joanne Ruelilio Suesionensi interprete.</td>
<td>Joanne Ruelilio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1546</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Pedanii Dioscoridis Anazarbei</td>
<td>Ediciones Rueliliane in miniore forma, Pedacii Dioscorides Anazarbei de medicinali materia libri quing; de viruletis animalibus et venenis canebiabo, et eorum notis ac remedii libri qua tuor, Joanne Ruelilio Suesionensi interprete.</td>
<td>Joanne Ruelilio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1546</td>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>Pedacii Dioscorides Anazarbei</td>
<td>Diovorciro dell' eccelente Dottor Medico M P Andrea Matthioli da Siena: co i suoi discorsi, da esso la seconda volta illustrati et diligentemente ampliati: con l'aggiunta del seeto libro de i rimedi de tutti i veleni da lui nuovamente tradotto, et con dottissimi discorsi per tutto commentato.</td>
<td>M. Andrea Matthioli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1546</td>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>Pedacii Dioscorides Anazarbei</td>
<td>Diovorciro dell' eccelente Dottor Medico M P Andrea Matthioli da Siena: co i suoi discorsi, da esso la seconda volta illustrati et diligentemente ampliati: con l'aggiunta del seeto libro de i rimedi de tutti i veleni da lui nuovamente tradotto, et con dottissimi discorsi per tutto commentato.</td>
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<td>1546</td>
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<td>Pedacii Dioscorides Anazarbei</td>
<td>Pedacii Dioscorides Anazarbei de medicinali materia libri quing; de viruletis animalibus et venenis canebiabo, et eorum notis ac remedii libri qua tuor, Joanne Ruelilio Suesionensi interprete.</td>
<td>Joanne Ruelilio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1546</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Pedanii Dioscoridis Anazarbei</td>
<td>Pedanii Dioscoridis Anazarbei de medicinali materia libri sex, Joanne Ruelilio Suesionensi interprete. Singulis cum stirpium, tum animalium historis, ad naturae aemulationem express imaginibus, seu vivis picturis, ultra millenarium numerum adjectis; non sine multiplici peregrinatione, sumptu maximo, studio atque diligentia singulari, ex diversis regionibus conquisitis. Per Gualtherum Rivium, Argentinum, Medicinum. Acceserunt priori editioni Valerii Cordi Simesusii Annotationes doctissimae in D ioscoridis de medica materi libris.</td>
<td>Joanne Ruelilio, G Rivium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>1549</td>
<td>French</td>
<td>Commentaires très excellens de l’histoire des plantes, composé premièrement latin par Leonhart Fousch, inédicin très renommé, et depuis en français par un homme savant et bien expert en la matière.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1549</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>De historia stirpium commentarili insignis, maximis impensis et vigilissi elaborati, adjectis eorumdem vivis plusquam quingentis imaginibus, nunquam antea ad naturae imitationem artificioius effictiset expressi.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1549</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>De stirpium historia commentariorum tomi vivae imagines, in exigauangustioremque formam contractae cum totidem figuris ligno incisis absque textu praeter graecum, latinum, gallicum, germanicum.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1549</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>De stirpium historia commentariorum tomi vivae imagines, in exigauangustioremque formam contractae. Stirpium imagines, in enchiridi formam.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1550</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Pedacii Dioscorides Anazarbei de medicinali materia libri quing, de viruletis animalibus et venenis cane rabioso, et eorum notis ac remedii libri quatuor, Joanne Ruellio Suessionensi interprete.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1550</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Editiones Ruellianae in minori forma. Pedacii Dioscorides Anazarbei de medicinali materia libri quing, de viruletis animalibus et venenis cane rabioso, et eorum notis ac remedii libri quatuor, Joanne Ruellio Suessionensi interprete.</td>
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<td>1550</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Editiones Ruellianae in minori forma. Pedacii Dioscorides Anazarbei de medicinali materia libri quing, de viruletis animalibus et venenis cane rabioso, et eorum notis ac remedii libri quatuor, Joanne Ruellio Suessionensi interprete.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1550</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Il Dioscoride dell’e eccelente Dottor Medico M P Andrea Matthioli da Siena: co i suoi discorsi, da esso la seconda volta illustrati et diligentemente ampliati: con l’aggiunta del sesto libro dei rimedi di tutti i veleni da lui nuovamente tradotto, et con dottissimi discorsi per tutto commentato.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1551</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Botanologicon. Valerii Cordi Adnotationes in Dioscoridis de medicina materi libros.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1551</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>De historia stirpium commentarii insignis, maximis impensis et vigilissi elaborati, adjectis eorumdem vivis plusquam quingentis imaginibus, nunquam antea ad naturae imitationem artificioius effictiset expressi.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1551</td>
<td>German</td>
<td>Kreuterbuch, darinn Underscheidt, Namen und Wurdung der Krauter, Stauden Hecken und Beumen, samt ihre Fruchten, so in deutschen Landen wachsen ... durch Hieronymum Bock aus langwiriger und gewisser erfarung beschrieben, und jetzund von newwm fleissig ubersehen, gebessert und gemehret, dazu mit hupschen artigen und lablichen Figuren der Krautter allenhalben geizert.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1552</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Pedacii Dioscorides Anazarbei de medicinali materia libri quing, de viruletis animalibus et venenis cane rabioso, et eorum notis ac remedii libri quatuor, Joanne Ruellio Suessionensi interprete.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1552</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Editiones Ruellianae in minori forma. Pedacii Dioscorides Anazarbei de medicinali materia libri quing, de viruletis animalibus et venenis cane rabioso, et eorum notis ac remedii libri quatuor, Joanne Ruellio Suessionensi interprete.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Author/Translator</td>
<td>Location</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1552</td>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>Il Dioscoride dell' eccelente Dottor Medico M. P. Andrea M. Matthioli da Siena: Co i suoi discorsi per la terza volta illustrati, et copiosamente ampliati: col' sesto libro de gli Antidoti contra a tutti i venedi da lui tradotto et con dottissimi discorsi per tutto commentato. Aggiuntisi due amplissime tavole, nell'una delle quali con somma facilita si puo ritrovare cio, che in tutto il volumes contiene nell' altra poi tutti i Simplici medicamenti, per qual si voglia morbo adunati insieme.</td>
<td>Vincenzo Valgrisi</td>
<td>Venice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1552</td>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>Di Pedacio Dioscoride Anazarbeo libri cique della historia et materia medicinale tradotta in lingua volgare italiana da M. Pietro Andrea M. Matthioli Sanese medico.</td>
<td>Pierandrea Mattioli, 5th ed</td>
<td>Venice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1552</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Stirpium differentiae ex Dioscoride secundum locos communes, opus ad isparum plantarum cognitionem admodum conducibile.</td>
<td>Benedict Testor, H Tragi</td>
<td>[Argentina]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1552</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>De stirpium maxime eorum quae in Germania nostra nascuntur, usitatis nomenclaturis, propriisque differentiis, neque non temperaturis ac facultatibus, Commentatorum libri tres, germanica primum lingua conscripti, nunc in latinam conversi, interpretate Davide Kybero, Argentineensi.</td>
<td>Bock, Textoris, Gesner, Kyber</td>
<td>[Argentorati]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1552</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>De stirpium historiae commentatorum tomi vivae imagines, in exiguum angustioremque formam contractae. Plantarum effigies, quinque diversis.</td>
<td>Leonhard Fuchs</td>
<td>Lugdunum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1553</td>
<td>French</td>
<td>Les six livres de Pedeacion Dioscoride d'A nazarbe de la matiere medicale translatez de latin en françois. A chacun chapitre sont adjointes certaines annotations fort doctes (par D. Martin Matthee).</td>
<td>Martin Matthee</td>
<td>Lyon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1553</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>In Dioscoridis Anazarbev de materia medica libros enarrationes eruditissimae Amati Lusitani (ie. Juan Rodriguez de Castelbranco).</td>
<td>Amatus Lusitanus (de Castelbranco)</td>
<td>[Venetiis]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1554</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Pedacii Dioscorides Anazarbei de medicinali materia libri quinq. de virulitis animalibus et venenis canebi, et eorum notis ac remediosis libri quator, Joanne Ruelio Sueciosensis interprete.</td>
<td>Joanne Ruelio</td>
<td>Lugdunum</td>
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<tr>
<td>1554</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Pedacii Dioscoridis de materia medica libri VI innumeris locis ab Andrea M. athiolo emendati ac restituti.</td>
<td>Andrea Mattiolo</td>
<td>Lugdunum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1554</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Annotationes in Dioscoridem Anazarbeum juxta vetusissimorum tidem elaboratae.</td>
<td>Andres Laguna</td>
<td>Lugdunum</td>
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<tr>
<td>1554</td>
<td>Dutch</td>
<td>Cruydeboeck in den welcken die gheheele historie, dat es tghelacht, tflaesen, naem nautere, cracht ende werckinghe van den cruyden, niet alleen hier te lande wassende, maer ook van den anderen vremden in der medecijnen oorboorlijck. gesheelt.</td>
<td>Rembert Dodoens</td>
<td>[Antwerpen]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Author</td>
<td>Edition</td>
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<tr>
<td>1558</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>De stirpibus aliquot epistolae V, Melchioris Guilandini R IV, Conradi Gesneri Tigurini I.</td>
<td>Melchior Guilandinus</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1558</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Apologiae adversus Petrum Andream M aththiolium liber primus, qui inscribitur Theon.</td>
<td>Melchior Guilandinus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1559</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Les six livres de Pedacion Dioscoride d’Anazarbe de la materié médicale translatez de latin en français. A chacun chapitre sont adjoitée certaines annotations fort doctes (par D. Martin M aththe).</td>
<td>Martin Matthee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1559</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>De stirpium historia commentariorum imagines, in duos tomos digestae, supra priorem editionem multarum novarum figurarum accessione locupletae.</td>
<td>Rembert Dodoens</td>
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<tr>
<td>1559</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>M ethodi cognoscentorum simplicum libri III. Cum indice copioso.</td>
<td>Bartolommeo Maranta</td>
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<tr>
<td>1560</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>Pedacio Dioscorides Anazarbeo Acerca de la materia medicinal y de los venenos mortiferos. Traducido de lengua griega en la vulgar castellana y ilustrado con clares y substantiales annotations y con las figuras de innumerables plantas exquisitas y raras por el Doctor Andres de Laguna, Medico de Julio III Pont Max.</td>
<td>Andres de Laguna</td>
<td>2nd ed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1560</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Stirpium descriptionis liber quintus, qua in Italia sibi visas in omnino intatas vel non poluit. De morbo et obitu Valerii Cordi epistola Hieronymi Schreberi Norimbergenis.</td>
<td>Hieronymus Bock</td>
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<tr>
<td>1560</td>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>I discorsi di M. Pietro Andrea M aththiole nel sei libri della materia medicinale di Pedacio Dioscoride Anazarbeo.</td>
<td>Pierandrea Mattioli</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>1560</td>
<td>German</td>
<td>Kreuterbuch, darinnen U underscheidet, Namen und Wurdung der Krauter, Stauden Hecken und Beumen, samt ihre Fruchten, so in deutschen Landen wachsen ... durch Hieronymum Bock aus langwirriger und gewisser erfarung beschrieben, und jetzt von neuym fleissig ubersehen, gebessert und gemehret, dazu mit hupschen artigen und lablichen Figuren der Kreautter allenthalben geziert.</td>
<td>Hieronymus Bock</td>
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<tr>
<td>1561</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>Pedacio Dioscorides Anazarbeo Acerca de la materia medicinal y de los venenos mortiferos. Traducido de lengua griega en la vulgar castellana y ilustrado con clares y substantiales annotations y con las figuras de innumerables plantas exquisitas y raras por el Doctor Andres de Laguna, Medico de Julio III Pont Max.</td>
<td>Andres de Laguna</td>
<td>3rd ed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1561</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Annotationes in Pedacii Dioscoridis Anazarbei de medica materia libros V. Cum ejusdem Historia stirpium et Sylva etc.</td>
<td>Valerius Cordus</td>
<td>2, 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Author</td>
<td>Location</td>
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<tr>
<td>1561</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Historia plantarum. Earum imagines, nomenclatura, qualitates et natale solum. Quibus accessere simplicium medicamentorum facultates secundum locos et genera ex Dioscoride.</td>
<td>Pierandrea Mattioli</td>
<td>Lugduni (Lugduni)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1561</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Historia plantarum. Oibus accessere simplicium medicamentorum facultates secundum locos et genera ex Dioscoride.</td>
<td>Antoine du Pinet</td>
<td>Lugduni (Lugduni)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1561</td>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>Semplici, liquali in piu Pareri a diversi nobili huomini scritti a paiono. Nuovamente de M. Giovanni M arinello mandati in luce. (L. Anguillara was born as L. Squalermo, though known to his contemporaries as Aloysius Romanus).</td>
<td>Luigi Anguillara</td>
<td>Vinægia (Vinea)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1562</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Pedaci Dioscoridis de materia medica libri sex, interpretet Petro Andrea M athiolo, cum ejusdem commentariis.</td>
<td>Pietro Andrea Mattioli</td>
<td>Lugduni (Lugduni)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1562</td>
<td>Greek</td>
<td>Ped. Dioscoridis Anazarbei ad Andromachum, hoc est de curationibus morborum per medicamenta paratu facilia, libri II. Nunc primum et graee editi et partim a Joanne M. abano, medico Augustano, partim vero post hujus mortem a Corado Genserio in lingua latinarum conversi; adjectis ab utroque interprete symphoniis Galeni aliorumque graecorum medicorum.</td>
<td>Moibano, Gesnero, Gasser</td>
<td>Argentorati (Argentorati)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1563</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Stirpium descriptionis liber quintus, qua in Italia sibi visas describit, in precedebitis vel omnino intatas vel non potuit. De morbo et obitu Valerii Cordi epistola Hieronymi Schreberi Norimbergensis.</td>
<td>Cordus, Schreiberi, Crucigeri</td>
<td>Argentoratii (Argentoratii)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1563</td>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>I discorsi di M. Pietro Andrea M athiolo nel sei libri della materia medicinale di Pedacio Dioscoride Nazarbee.</td>
<td>Pietro Andrea Mattioli</td>
<td>Vinegia (Vinegia)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1565</td>
<td>German</td>
<td>New Krauterbuch mit den allerschonsten und artlichsten Figuren aller Gewechs, der gheheele historie dat es tgheslacht, tfatsen, naem natuere, cracht ende werckunghe van den cruyden, nicht alleen hier te lande wassende, maer ook van den anderen vremden in der medecinen oorboorlijk. ghesefelt.</td>
<td>Rembert Dodoens</td>
<td>Antwerpen (Antwerpen)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1565</td>
<td>Greek &amp; Latin</td>
<td>Ped. Dioscoridis Anazarbei ad Andromachum, hoc est de curationibus morborum per medicamenta paratu facilia, libri II. Nunc primum et graee editi et partim a Joanne M. abano, medico Augustano, partim vero post hujus mortem a Corado Genserio in lingua latinarum conversi; adjectis ab utroque interprete symphoniis Galeni aliorumque graecorum medicorum.</td>
<td>Moibano, Gesnero, Gasser</td>
<td>Argentorati (Argentorati)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1565</td>
<td>Dutch</td>
<td>Cruydeboeck in den welcken die gheheele historie dat es tgheslacht, tfatsen, naem natuere, cracht ende werckunghe van den cruyden, niet alleen hier te lande wassende, maer ook van den anderen vremden in der medecinen oorboorlijk. ghesefelt.</td>
<td>Rembert Dodoens</td>
<td>Antwerpen (Antwerpen)</td>
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Iviii
THE HERBAL OF DIOSCORIDES THE GREEK
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Authors</th>
<th>Edition</th>
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<tr>
<td>1575</td>
<td>French</td>
<td>L’histoire des plantes reduite en tres bon ordre, augmente de</td>
<td>Leonhard Fuchs,</td>
<td>3rd ed</td>
<td>Lyon</td>
<td>1.3139, 4.112</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>plusieurs simples avec leurs figures et pourtraits: et illustree</td>
<td>Charles Pesnot</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>par les commentaires de Leonarth Fusch, medicin tres-savant,</td>
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<td>faicts premierement en latin et puis traduit en françois.</td>
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<td>Antwerpiae</td>
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<td>Nova stirpium adversaria, perfacilis vestigatio, luculentaque</td>
<td>Pierre Pena,</td>
<td>2, 3</td>
<td>Lyon</td>
<td>1.7029, 3</td>
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<td>accessio ad prscorun, prassertim Dioscoridis et recentorum</td>
<td>Mathias L’Obel</td>
<td>115</td>
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<td>5.127</td>
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<td>materia medicam. Q ubus accessit appendixcum indice</td>
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<td>Epistolæur medicinalium libri III. His accesserunt A coniti</td>
<td>Konrad Gesner</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>English</td>
<td>A niewe herball, or histori of plants; first set forth in the</td>
<td>Rembert Dodoens</td>
<td>2, 3</td>
<td>London</td>
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<td>doutech tongue, and now first translated out of french into</td>
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<td>Les Commentaires de M . P Andre Matthiolius sur les six</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Lyon</td>
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<td>1580</td>
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<td>Les six livres de Pedacion Dioscoride d'Anazarbe de la matiere</td>
<td>Martin Matthee</td>
<td>3 ed</td>
<td>Lyon</td>
<td>1.866</td>
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<td>medicale translatae de latin en francais. A chacun chapitre</td>
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<td>sont adjoudtes certaines annotations fort doctes (par D M artin M</td>
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<td>1580</td>
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<td>Kreuterbuch, darin Underscheidt, Namen und Wurckung der K reuter</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Stauden Hecken und Baermen, samtte ihre Fruchten, so in deutschen</td>
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<td>erfuran beschrieben, und jeuz und von newwm fleissig ubersieben,</td>
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<td>lablichen Figuren der Kreutter allenthalben gezieret.</td>
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<td>1581</td>
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<td>Alphabetum empiricum sive Dioscoridis et Stephani Atheniensis</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Venetiis</td>
<td>1.10679, 3</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Venetia</td>
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<td>Cruydeboeck in den welcken die geheele historie dat es tgheslacht,</td>
<td>Rembert Dodoens</td>
<td>3 ed</td>
<td>Antwerpen</td>
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<td>tfsosn, naem natuere, cracht ende werckinghge van den cryden, niet</td>
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<td>1581</td>
<td>Flemish</td>
<td>Kruydtboeck oft beschryvinghe van allerlye ghewassen</td>
<td>Matthias Lobelius</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Antwerpen</td>
<td>1.5548, 3</td>
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<td>kryyderen, hesteren, ende ghebooncten.</td>
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<td>Plantarum seu stirpium icones. I icones ligno incisae</td>
<td>Matthias Lobelius</td>
<td>2, 3</td>
<td>Lyon</td>
<td>1.5549, 5.138</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>plerumque binae in unaquaque pagina.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>cum ejusdem commentaritis.</td>
<td></td>
<td>3 ed</td>
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<td>Adjectis magnis ac novis plantarum iconibus.</td>
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<td>Latin</td>
<td>Pedacii Dioscoridis de materia medic libri sex, interprete</td>
<td>P Mattioli,</td>
<td>8th ed</td>
<td>Venetiis</td>
<td>1.5985, 5.145</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Pietro Andrea M athiolo, cum ejusdem commentaritis. Adjectis</td>
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THE HERBAL OF DIOSCORIDES THE GREEK

1583 Latin De planti libri XVI. Ad serenissimum Franciscum M edicen, Magnus Aetruriae Ducem. Andrea Cesalpinii [Florentiae] 1,1640, 2, 4.122

1583 Latin Stirpium historiae pemptades sex sive libri XXX. Rembert Dodoens [Antwerpiac] 1,2350, 2, 3, 4.123, 5.143

1586 Latin De plantis epitome utilissima novis plane ad vivum expressis iconibus descriptionibusque longe et pluribus et accuratioribus, nunc primum diligenter aucta et locupletata a D Joachimo Camerario. Matthioli, D J Camerario [Francofurti] 1,5983, 3, 6, 4.128

1586 English A niewe herball, or histori of plants; first set forth in the dutche tongue, and now first translated out of french into english by Henry Lyte Esq. Rembert Dodoens [London] 1.2345, 2

1587 German Kreuterbuch, darinn Underscheidt, Namen und Wurckung der Kreuter, Stauden Hecken und Beumen, samtth ihre Fruchten, so in deutschen Landen wachsen ... durch Hieronymum Bock aus langwiriger und gewisser erfarung beschreiben, und jetzund von newwm fleissig ubersehen, gebessert und gemehret, dazu mit hupschen artigen und lablichen Figuren der Kreutter allenhalben geziert. Hieronymous Bock (Tragus) [Strassburg] 1.866


1590 Dutch Cruydeboeck in den welcken die gheheele historie dat es tgheslacht, tfae, naem natuere, cracht ende werckinghe van den cruycden, niet alleen hier te lande wassende, maer ook van den anderen vremden in der medecijnen oorboorlijck, ghesfelt Rembert Dodoens [Antwerpen] 1.2345

1591 Latin Annotationi et emendationi nella tradottione dell' eccell. PA Matthioli de' cinque libri della materia medicinale di Dioscoride. Antonio Pasini [Bergamo] 3

1591 Latin Icones stirpium seu plantarum tam exoticarum quam indigenarum in gratiam rei herbariae studiosorum in duas partes digestae. Cum septem linguarum Indici. Matthias Lobelius [Antwerpiae] 1.5549, 2, 3, 4.135

1592 Italian Annotationi et emendationi nella tradottione dell' eccell. PA Matthioli de' cinque libri della materia medicinale di Dioscoride. Antonio Pasini, Matthioli [Bergamo] 1.6964

1593 Latin Semplici ... cum notis Casparis Bauhini. Luigi Anguillara [Basileae] 2nd ed 1.187

1595 German Kreuterbuch, darinn Underscheidt, Namen und Wurckung der Kreuter, Stauden Hecken und Beumen, samtth ihre Fruchten, so in deutschen Landen wachsen ... durch Hieronymum Bock aus langwiriger und gewisser erfarung beschreiben, und jetzund von newwm fleissig ubersehen, gebessert und gemehret, dazu mit hupschen artigen und lablichen Figuren der Kreutter allenhalben geziert. Hieronymous Bock (Tragus) [Strassburg] 1,866, 3, 4.138


1596 English A niewe herball, or histori of plants; first set forth in the dutche tongue, and now first translated out of french into english by Henry Lyte Esq. Rembert Dodoens [London] 1.2345, 2, 3, 5.171

<table>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Editions</th>
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<tr>
<td>1596</td>
<td>Czech</td>
<td>Herbarz: ginak Bylinarz ... per Adam Huber et Dan Adam.</td>
<td>Mattioli, Camerar, Huber, Adam [Prag] 1.5993, 4.139</td>
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<tr>
<td>1598</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Pedacii Dioscoridis Anazarbei de materia medica libri quinque. Ejusdem de venenis libri duo. Interprete Jano Antonio Sarraceno.</td>
<td>1.2312</td>
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<tr>
<td>1603</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Appendix ad libros de plantis: praeter appendicem ad peripateticas quaestiones; redit in M uso di piante rare di Boccone.</td>
<td>Andrea Cesalpini [Romae] 1.1641, 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1604</td>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>I discorsi di M Pietro Andrea Matthioi nel sei libri della materia medicinale di Pedacio Dioscoride Anazarbae.</td>
<td>Pierandrea Mattioli [Venetia] 3, 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1606</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>D deodon’s brief epitome of the new herbal or history of plants, wherein is contained the disposition and true declaration of the physickes helpe of all sorts of herbes and plants, under there names and operations, collected out of the most excellent new herball, first set forth in the Dutch or Almayne tongue, translated by Henry Lyte, esquire, and by William Ram, gentleman: otherwise called Ram’s little Dodeon.</td>
<td>Rembert Dodoens [London] 1.2345</td>
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<td>Year</td>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Translator</td>
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<tr>
<td>1608</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Commentarius in tractasus Dioscoridis et Plinii de Amomo.</td>
<td>Nicolo Marogna</td>
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<tr>
<td>1611</td>
<td>German</td>
<td>Krauterbuch des hochgelehrten und weltberuhmten Hr D Petri Andreae M atthioli, jetzt wiederumb mit vielen schonen newen Figuren, auch nutzlichen Artzneyen und andern guten Stucken zu ander M al aus sondrem Fliss genehmert gefertig durch Joachimum Camararium, der loblichen Reichsstatt Nurnberg Medicum.</td>
<td>Fabio Colonna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1616</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Minus cognitarum rariorumque nostro coelo orientium stirpium in qua non paucae ab antiquioribus Theophrasto, Dioscoride, Plinio, Galeno aliisque descriptae, praeter illas etiam editas disquiruntur. Omnia fideliter ad vivum delineata atque aenés typis expressa.</td>
<td>Rembert Dodoens</td>
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<tr>
<td>1617</td>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>Commentarius in tractasus Dioscoridis et Plinii de Amomo.</td>
<td>Nicolò Marogna, Giovanni Pona</td>
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<tr>
<td>1618</td>
<td>Dutch</td>
<td>Cruydeboeck in den welken die geheele historie dat es thgeheele, tfatsoen, naem natuere, cracht ende werckinghe van den cryuden, niet alleen hier terlände wassende, maer ook van den anderen vreemden in der medecijn oorborljucligh, ghesefl; volgens seine laeste verheteringe.</td>
<td>Rembert Dodoens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1619</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>A new herbal, or historie of plants; wherein is contained the whole discourse and perfect description of all sorts of herbs and plants. First set forth in the Dutch or Almaigne tongue, by that learned D Rembert Dodeoons, now first translated out of French into English by Henry Lyte Esquire. Corrected and amended.</td>
<td>Rembert Dodeoons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1623 Italian
Del vero balsamo de gli antichi. Commentario sopra l’istoria di Dioscoride, nei quale si prova, che solo l’opobalsamo arabo è il legittimo, e s’esclude ogni altro licore abbacciato sotto il nome di balsamo.
Giovanni Pona [Venetia] 1.7261

1623 Latin
Pinax theatri botanici, sive index in Theophrasti, Dioscoridis, Plinii et botanicerumquijs a saeculo scripserunt, opera: plantarum circiter sex millium ab ipsis exhibitarum nomina cum earundem synonymis et differentiis methodice secundum earum et genera et species proponens. Opus XL annorum hactenus non editum summopere expetitum et ad auctores intelligendos plurimum.
Kaspar Bauhin [Basiliae] 1.509, 7

1626 German
Kreuterbuch des hochgelehrtten und weitberuhmten Hr D Petri Andreea M athioli, jetzt wiederumb mit vielen schonen neuen Figuren, auch nutzlichen Artzneyen und anderen guten Stucken zuer in andern Mal aus sordem Fliess gemehrt und geleert durch Joachimum Camarium, der loblichen Reichsstatt Nurnberg M edicum.
Mattiioli, Camerarium 5th ed [Frankfurt am Mayn] 1.5990, 3, 5.210

1627 French
Les Commentaires de M P Andre M athiolius sur les six livres de Pedacius Dioscoride A nazarbeo de la matiere medicinale. Traduits de latin en francois par M Antoine du Pinet.
P Mattioli, Antoine du Pinet [Lyon] 3

1628 French
Les ouvres dividees en cinq traictez. 1. Les commentaires sur Dioscoride.
Jacques & Paul Contant [Poictiers] 1.1850, 4.177

1628 French
Les divers exercices de Jacques et Paul Contant, pere et fils, maistres apoticaire de la ville de Poictiers, ou sont esclaircis et resouldz plusieurs doutes qui se rencontrent en quelques chapitres de Dioscoride et qui ont travaille plusieurs interpretes composez par le dit Jacques et recueillies, reeux, augmentees et mis en bon ordre par le dit Paul, pour servir de commentaire aus simples ascriptz dans son poesme intitule le second Eden.
Paul Contant [Poictiers] 1.1851

1636 Spanish
Pedacio Dioscorides Anazarbeo Acerca de la materia medicinal y de los venenos mortiferos. Traducido de lengua griega en la vulgar castelana y illustrado con claras y substancialles annotationes y con las figures de innumerases plantas exquisitas y raras por el Doctor Andres de Laguna, M edico de Julio III Pont Max.
Andres de Laguna 7th ed [Valencia] 1.2313, 3

1644 Dutch
Cruydeboeck in den welken die gheheele historie dat es tgheslacht, tfatsoen, naem natuere, cracht ende werckinghe van den cruyden, niet alleen hier telande wassende, maar ook van den anderen wremden in der medecijn oorboorlijck ... gheefet; volgens saine laeste verheteringe.
Rembert Dodoens [Antwerpen] 1.2345, 3

1645 Italian
Pierandrea Mattioli [Venetia] 3

1655 French
Les Commentaires de M P Andre M athiolius sur les six livres de Pedacius Dioscoride A nazarbeo de la matiere medicinale. Traduits de latin en francois par M Antoine du Pinet.
P Mattioli, Antoine du Pinet [Lyon] 3

1655 Latin
Stirpium illustrationes. Plurimas elaborantas inauditas plantas, subreptiliis Joannis Parkinsoni rhapsodis e codice manuscripto insalutato sparsim gravatae.
Matthias Lobelius [Londini] 1.5550

1671 Latin
Pinax theatri botanici, sive index in Theophrasti, Dioscoridis, Plinii et botanicerumquijs a saeculo scripserunt, opera: plantarum circiter sex millium ab ipsis exhibitarum nomina cum earundem synonymis et differentiis methodice secundum earum et genera et species proponens. Opus XL annorum hactenus non editum summopere expetitum et ad auctores intelligendos plurimum.
Pierandrea Mattioli, Bauhino [Basileae] 1.5984, 3, 5.332, 6
1674 Latin
Mattioli, Lusitanum 11th ed [Basileae] 1.5985

1674 Latin
Apologia adversus Amatum Lusitanum cum censura in ejusdem enarrationes.
Mattioli, Lusitanum 3

1677 Spanish
Pedacio Dioscorides Anazarbeo, A cerca de la materia medicinal y de los venenos mortiferos. Traducido de lengua griega en la vulgar castellana y ilustrado con claras y substantiales annotationes y con las figuras de innumerables plantas exquisitas y raras por el Doctor Andres de Laguna, Medico de Julio III Pont M ax.
Mattioli, Lusitanum 8th ed [Valencia] 1.2313

1678 German
Mattioli, Camerarium 6th ed [Frankfurt am Mayn] 1.5990, 3

1680 French
Les Commentaires de M. P. André M athioli, medecin seinois, sur les six livres de la matiere medicale de Pedacius Dioscoride Anazarbeen. Traduits de latin en françois par Antoine du Pinet et enrichis de nouveau d’un nombre considérable de figures; et augmentez tant de plusieurs remèdes à diverses sortes de maladies; com aussi d’un traité de chymie en abrégé pour l’analyse tant des végétaux que de quelques animaux et minéraux, par en D’ocieur en medecine. Derniere edition, revuë, corrigée et mise dans un meilleur language avec deux tables latin et françoise.
Pierandrea Mattioli, Antoine du Pinet [Lyon] 1.5991, 3

1695 Spanish
Pedacio Dioscorides Anazarbeo A cerca de la materia medicinal y de los venenos mortiferos. Traducido de lengua griega en la vulgar castellana y ilustrado con claras y substantiales annotationes y con las figuras de innumerables plantas exquisitas y raras por el Doctor Andres de Laguna, Medico de Julio III Pont M ax.
Mattioli 10th ed [Madrid] 1.2313

1714 Latin & German
Botanologia medica, seu dilucida et brevis manuductio ad plantarum et stirpium ... in officinis pharmaceutis usitataram. Kurse anweisung, wie diejenigen krauter und gewachse, welche in der artzney gebrauchlich und in den apotheken befindlich, nutzen...angewand.
Bartholomaeus Zorn 1.10506

1733 Spanish
Pedacio Dioscorides Anazarbeo A cerca de la materia medicinal y de los venenos mortiferos. Traducido de lengua griega en la vulgar castellana y ilustrado con claras y substantiales annotationes y con las figuras de innumerables plantas exquisitas y raras por el Doctor Andres de Laguna, Medico de Julio III Pont M ax.
Mattioli 11th ed [Madrid] 1.2313

1744 Latin
Pierandrea Mattioli 12th ed [Basileae] 1.5985

1751 Latin
Strijpium descriptionis liber quintus, qua in Italia sibi visas descriptit in praecedentibus vel omnino intatas vel non poluit. D. morbo et obitu Valerii Cordi quipstola Hieronymi Schreiberi Norimbergensis.
Cordus, Schreiberi, Crucigeri [Norimbergae] 1.1885, 2

1752 Spanish
Pedacio Dioscorides Anazarbeo A cerca de la materia medicinal y de los venenos mortiferos. Traducido de lengua griega en la vulgar castellana y ilustrado con claras y substantiales annotationes y con las figuras de innumerables plantas exquisitas y raras por el Doctor Andres de Laguna, Medico de Julio III Pont M ax.
Mattioli 11th ed [Madrid] 1.2313
<table>
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<th>Authors</th>
<th>Volume Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>1779</td>
<td>Latin &amp; German</td>
<td>Icones plantarum medicinalium. Abbildungen von arzneigewachsen. [5 volumes].</td>
<td>Johann Zorn, D L Oskamp, J C Krauss</td>
<td>1.10507, 2, 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>1784</td>
<td>Latin &amp; German</td>
<td>Icones plantarum medicinalium. Abbildungen von arzneigewachsen. Zweite auflage [enlarged, 6 volumes].</td>
<td>Johann Zorn, D L Oskamp, J C Krauss</td>
<td>1.10507</td>
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<tr>
<td>1794</td>
<td>Latin &amp; Dutch</td>
<td>Afbildingen der artsny-gewassen met derzelver Nederduitscher en Latynsche beschrywingen. [6 volumes].</td>
<td>Johann Zorn, D L Oskamp, J C Krauss</td>
<td>4.639</td>
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<tr>
<td>1806</td>
<td>Latin - 1813</td>
<td>Florae graecae Prodromus: sive plantarum omnium enumeratio, quas in provinciis aut insulis Graeciae invenit Johannes Sibthorp ...</td>
<td>John Sibthorp, James E Smith</td>
<td>1.8659, 2, 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>1821</td>
<td>Czech</td>
<td>Catalogus plantarum ad septem varias editiones commentariorum M Athioli in Dioscoridem ad Linnaeani systematis regulas elaboravit.</td>
<td>Mattioli, K M v Sternberg</td>
<td>1.5993, 2, 3</td>
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<td>1829</td>
<td>Greek - 1830</td>
<td>Pedani Dioscoridis Anazarbei de materia medica libri quinque. Ad fidem codicium manuscriptorum, editionis Aldinae principis usquequaque neglectae, et interpretum priscorum textum recensuit, varias addidit lectiones, interpretationem emendavit, commentario illustravit Curtius Sprengel.</td>
<td>Curtius Sprengel</td>
<td>1.2297, 4, 5, 6</td>
</tr>
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<td>1844</td>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>D'I Pedacio Dioscoride Anazarboe libri cinque de historia et materia medicinae tradotti in lingua volgare Italiana da M Pietro Andrea M Atthioli (M Athioli?) Sanese M edico. Con amplissimi Discorsi, et commenti, et Dottissime annotationi e censure del medesimo interprete.</td>
<td>Mattioli, Giuseppe Moretti</td>
<td>1.2316</td>
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<td>1902</td>
<td>German</td>
<td>Des Pedanos Dioskurides aus Anazarbos arzneimittelere in fünf buchern... uberzetzt... von J Berendes [plant identifications annot.].</td>
<td>Julius Berendes [Stuttgart]</td>
<td>8.15, 7</td>
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<td>1906</td>
<td>Greek - 1914</td>
<td>Pedani Dioscuridis Anazarbei de materia medica libri quinque, ed M Wilmann, 3 vols [the critical Greek text].</td>
<td>Max Wellmann [Berlin]</td>
<td>7, 8.13</td>
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<td>1906</td>
<td>Greek - 1907</td>
<td>Die schrift des Dioskurides: Περι απλων φαρµακων...</td>
<td>Max Wellmann [Berlin]</td>
<td>9.45</td>
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<tr>
<td>1957</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>La version arabe de la 'M ateria medica' de Dioscorides (texto, variantes e indices), Estudio de la transcription de los nombres griegos al arabe y comparation de las versiones griega, arabe y castelana. In Dubler, CE, La materia medica de Dioscorides Transmision medieval y renacentista (1953-1959), volume 2 of 6 volumes.</td>
<td>Cesar E Dubler and Elias Teres. 2nd ed</td>
<td>7</td>
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</table>

lxvi
## References for printed books

GAZETTER OF DIOSCORIDES’ WORLD

ACREAS — Acre in Israel, a large bay on the south Levant coast and main port for Galilee, the Hauran and Damascus; known as Ptolemais to the Romans, a part of the Seleucid Empire.

ADRIA — a town in Italy between Ravenna and Venice, at the mouths of the river Po.

ADRIATIC, ADRIATIC COAST — the sea between Italy, Yugoslavia and Albania, a portion of the Mediterranean, from the Gulfs of Trieste and Venice in the northwest to the Strait of Otranto in the southeast, where it connects to the Ionian Sea.

AEGIS AETOLIA — Aegae (Vergina) is a town in north Pieria overlooking the coastal plain of Macedonia. Aetolia (Aitolia), a federation of rural cantons in west-central Greece, lay north of the Gulf of Corinth, with Arcarnania to the west, Dolopians in the north, and Aenis, Malis Doris and Ozolian Locris to the east.

AFRICA, AFRICAN — originally this was the coastal plain of today’s Tunisia, Numidia being inland. At the height of the Roman Empire, Africa was regarded as all of the African continent bordering the Mediterranean Sea. Sometimes indicating Ethiopia (Abyssinia).

AGARIA, in the SARMATIAN (country) — the Agari were a Scythian people of Sarmatia Europaea, on the shore of the Palus Maeotis (Sea of Azov). They were skilled in medicine. Sarmatia, in southern Russia between the Caucasus and the Danube, is now called Scythia. In Dioscorides’ time Scythia was the country south of the Danube delta in modern Romania now called Dobroja. Its inhabitants were the Scythae or Scythians. After 395CE the northern province of the diocese of Thrace in Greece was called Scythia. Pontus was on the southern shore of the Black Sea.

AGRIGENTO — a city and province of southern Sicily, with Palermo to the northwest.

ALBANIA — the smallest country of the Balkan Peninsula in southeast Europe; Yugoslavia is to the north and northeast, Greece to the south and southeast, and the Adriatic Sea is on the west. The people are descended from Illyrians and Thracians.

ALEXANDRIA — an Egyptian sea port on the Mediterranean; west of the Canopic mouth of the Nile River; northwest of Cairo; seat of the Roman prefecture of Egypt; its original site protected by Pharos Island and the Pharos lighthouse; one of the seven wonders of the ancient world.

ALIARTUS, in BOEOTIA — Haliartus was an ancient town in Boeotia on the South of Lake Copais. Boeotia, is a district of Greece to the northeast of Corinth, the Copaic Basin is in the north, the Ismenian Plain in the south. Thebes, named after the Egyptian town, is its main city; Athens is to the south.

ALPS — a mountain range in Europe from the Apennines of the Italian Peninsula, to the Carpathians and the Dinarics. Used to indicate habitat rather than position at times.

AMANUS, a hill in Cilicia — the Amanus-Lebanon Mountains, in the northeast Mediterranean Levant, near Iskenderun, Turkey.

AMELUM — Amelía, or Ameria, is a city in Umbria, Italy.

AMINAEAN — Aminios was the name of a rivulet near the hill city of Tithonikia, in Parassia.

ANDROS ISLAND — a large island of the Cyclades group in the Aegean Sea, divided from Euboea by the Doro Channel, with the city of Andros on its west coast and the port of Gaurion for a harbour. It was first occupied by the Ionians, and in 1832 became a Greek territory.
ANTICYRA — more anciently Anticirra, a town in Phocis, its harbour on the Crissaean gulf was called Cyparissus. Also a town in Thessaly, on the Spercheus River.

APOLLONIA, near EPIDAMNUS — Apollonia, a former Corinthian colony, now a ruin near the coast of the Adriatic Sea in Albania; north of this was Epidamnus, another Corinthian colony.

APULIA — an Italian district on the lower Adriatic coast from the Monte Gargano Promontory, southeast to the tip of the Salentine Peninsula.

ARABIA, ARABIA PETRAEA — Arabia is the peninsula of the southwest portion of Asia. To the north flows the Euphrates to Dar az-Zur, then the border goes southwest through Palmyra to Damascus, and south to the Gulf of Aqaba. The northwest, called Arabia Petraea, means Rocky Arabia.

ARCADIA — an elevated plateau surrounded by mountains in the Peloponnesos to the south of Greece. Roman poets considered Arcadian shepherds an ideal of virtue and innocence.

ARGURITIDI — Argura in Thessaly, Greece, was a city of Pelasgiotis, and possibly Homer’s Argissa.

ARMENIA — an area including the centre of Russian Transcaucasia and Turkish Armenia. In ancient times Armenia included eight Turkish districts (vilayets). The populace were Khaldians, Phrygians and Cimmerians.

ASCALON — a city in Philistia, now part of Israel.

ASIA — the largest continent.

ASIA MINOR — the westernmost peninsula of Asia, also known as Anatolia, part of modern Turkey.

ASTYPALAEA — Astypalaea or Astipalaia (Astipalea) is one of the fifty Greek islands of the Dodecanese in the Aegean Sea off the coast of southwest Asia Minor.

ATHENS, ATHINAL, ATHENIAN — the most important city of ancient Greece; on the Plain of Attica; the surrounding mountains are Hymettus to the east, Pentelikon to the northeast, and Parnis to the north; to the south and west the plain opens on the Saronic Gulf.

ATTICA, ATTIC — the area around Athens in central Greece; the peninsula between the Gulf of Euboea and the Saronic Gulf, with Boeotia to the northwest, and the Megarid to the southwest.

BABYLON, BABYLONIA, ASSYRIA, SUMER — Babylonia occupied the Tigris-Euphrates plain from modern Baghdad in the northwest to the Persian Gulf in the southeast. Previously the area to the southeast was Sumer, and that to the northwest, Akkad. Assyria was north of Babylon along the upper Tigris and the Great and Little Zab rivers; its modern neighbours would be Iran, Turkey and Syria. Iraq north of the Euphrates includes most of Babylonia and Assyria. Babylon, the ancient capital of Babylonia, was on the banks of the Euphrates River, south of Baghdad. Its old semitic name was Bab-ilu, ‘gate of God’, which became Babel in Hebrew. Babylon had entered its long decline well before the time of Dioscorides.

BALEARES — the Balearic islands in the western Mediterranean, belonging to Spain, an archipelago of fifteen islands, reputedly the ‘magic isles’ of the Hesperides.

BARBARIAN — primitive alien, foreigner, not Greek or Aryan. Barbary is the region of north Africa from Egypt to the Atlantic coast, including the modern states of Morocco, Algiers, Tunis and Tripoli.

BENGAL — a flat area drained by the extensive Ganges-Brahmaputra river systems from the foothills of the Himalayas to the coast of the Bay of Bengal. Today the east is Bangladesh, and the west is part of India.

BESSIAN — the Bessians were a fierce and powerful Thracian people living on Mount Halmus as far as Euxene.

BITHYNIA — a territory in northwest Asia Minor, from south of the Sea of Marmara to the Bithynian Mount Olympus (Ulu Dağ), west to Myśia, and east to Heraklion Pontica and Paphlogonia.
BOEOTIA, BOEOTICAN — a district of Greece to the northeast of Corinth; the Copaic Basin is to the north, the Ismenian Plain to the south. Thebes, named after the Egyptian town, is its primary city; Attica forms the southern border. It is now known as Voiotia.

BOSPORUS — a strait connecting the northeast Black Sea with the southwest Sea of Marmara. It separates European Turkey and Istanbul from Asiatic Turkey and Üsküdar. Bosporus meaning 'ox ford', was named after the goddess Io. It is twenty miles long, with turbulent water and strong conflicting currents.

BRITTANY — the Armorican peninsula of northwest France on the Atlantic coast, home to Celtic tribes.

BRUTIA — Bruttium, Bruttius, Bruttiorum ager, also Bruti, is the southern extremity of Italy.

BUNI — The Buni were the race of the Liburni, later called Illyrians, dwelling between the Arsa and the Tityus River, on the northeast coast of the Adriatic.

CAMPANIA around NOLA — this is an area on the west coast of the Italian peninsula along the Tyrrhenian Sea, with the Garigliano River to the north and the Gulf of Policastro to the south. It extends inland to the Apennines. Ager Campanus was the plain behind Naples. Mount Vesuvius is on the coastal plain, and Nola is a city on the plain.

CANOPUS — Canobus, Canopus, an important city on the coast of lower Egypt near the western mouth of the Nile.

CAPPADOCIA — a region in Asia Minor between Lake Tatta and the Euphrates. The northern part became Pontus (q.v.). The Taurus and Antitaurus mountain ranges are in the southeast.

CARIA — an ancient country in southwest Asia Minor, with the Aegean Sea to the south and southwest, Ionia and Lydia to the north, and Lydiam and Phrygia to the east, and including the islands of Rhodes and Cos. The mainland now belongs to Turkey.

CARTHAGE, NEW CARTHAGE, CARTAGO NOVA, CARTAGENA — city and nation, originally the Phoenician colony of Tyre, on the east coast of modern Tunisia, called Qart hahasht in Semitic, meaning ‘new town’. Tunis is situated almost on the city of ancient Carthage, and Tunisia is essentially the territory of Carthage. Cartagena, the greatest Carthaginian stronghold in Spain, is southeast of Madrid in Spain. This port has a beautiful natural harbour.

CELTS, CELTIC — Celtae, Galatae, Galli. Used for people of northern and western Europe who were not Iberian; later the Germans were considered distinct. Celtic is an Indo-European language, still spoken in areas of Wales and Ireland.

CENTURIPINUM — an ancient town of the Siculi in Sicily at the foot of Mount Aetna, on the road from Catana to Panormus.

CHALCEDON — a town in northwest Asia Minor on Bithynia, the peninsula between the Black Sea and the Sea of Marmara.

CHALCIS — a town on the Greek island of Euboea.

CHARACIAN — Charax was the name given to several small cities, originally military stations, the most remarkable at the mouth of the Tigris River.

CHELIDONIA — Chelidonion islaiae, five small islands off the promontory Hera or Chelidonia on the south coast of Lycia.

CHIOS (Isle of), CHIAN [from Scios in the Aegean sea] — a Greek island in the Aegean Sea near the central west coast of Asia Minor. Khios on the east coast is the capital. It was settled by Ionians.

CILICIA (near Gentias in Cilicia) — a region of southeast Asia Minor between Pamphylia and Syria, from the coast to Mount Taurus. The great highway of Asia Minor passed through the coastal province of Cilicia Trachea and the inland plain Cilicia Petia. In the time of Dioscorides it was part of the Roman province of Syria-Cilicia-Phoenice. Also known as Little Armenia, it is
now part of Turkey. The Cilician Gates (Kulak Bughaz in Turkish), a pass through the Taurus Mountains, connects Konya in the Anatolian Plateau with Tarsus and Adana in the Cilician Plain. Gentias is otherwise unknown.

CIMOLIA — Cimolis, Cimolos, Kimolos, or Argentiere, an island in the Aegean Sea, one of the Cyclades, between Siphnos and Mados.

CO — possibly Cos, a Greek island in the Aegean Sea off the southwest coast of Caria in Asia Minor; one of the Sporades Islands, settled by Dorians from the Argolid northwest of the Peloponnesus Peninsula; the centre for the school of medicine founded by Hippocrates.

COLCHIS, COLCHIDICEN, COLCHOS — Colchis, now named Vaniis, is on the Black Sea in Georgia, south of the Caucasus Mountains, in the delta of the Phasis River (Rioni). Jason and the Argonauts undertook the voyage from Iolcus in Thessaly (Volos) in 1280 BCE to search for the Golden Fleece at Colchis. Up to the 1930s, fleece were gilded by pegging out sheepskins in the rivers originating in the Caucasus, to gather gold particles.

COLOPHON — a town in Ionia, Asia Minor, north of Ephesus and south of Smyrna.

COMAGENO — Commagene is the northeast district of Syria, and part of the Greek kingdom of Syria.

COON — possibly Coos, Cos, Kos, one of the Sporades Islands.

CORINTH — a Greek town on the Isthmus of Corinth which separates Peloponnesus from the rest of Greece.

CORYCIA — on the slopes of Mount Parnassus, near the Corinthian Gulf, hosted the most famous oracle of ancient Greece. The Corycean cave was dedicated to Pan and the Nymphs, with nocturnal dancing and wild bacchanalian orgies.

CRETE, CRETAN — the largest Greek island in the Aegean Sea, south of Athens and the Dardanelles Straits (see Mount Ida).

CUMAE — city in Campania, Italy, west of Naples.

CYCLADES, KIKLADHES, CYCLADEAN ISLANDS — a large group of islands in the Aegean Sea off the southeast coast of Greece, with a circular distribution around Delos. Larger islands include Naxos, Andros, Tinos, Paros, Siros, Mykonos and Santorini (Thera).

CYPRUS, CYPRIOTE, CYPRIAN — a large island in the eastern Mediterranean, south of the Turkish province of Cilicia; mostly Greek, partly Turkish.

CYRENAICA — the northeast province of Libya.

CYRENE — chief population centre of Cyrenaica, inland from the port of Apollonia.

CYZICUM, CYZICENIAN — Cyzicus was a Greek city in Phrygia, Asia Minor, on the southern shore of Propontis (Sea of Marmara).

DACIA — the Transylvanian plateau with the Danube River and the Carpathian mountains to the east and south; now central Romania. Occupied by Thracians, Scythians from south Russia, Celts, and others, who spoke a Latin dialect eventuating in Romanian. Dacia is today the northwest portion of Bulgaria.

DICTAEARCHIA — founded by Greeks from Samos as Dikiaarchia, and named Puteoli by the Romans. Today it is Pozzuoli, a city in Naples province, Campania, Italy, on a promontory in the Gulf of Pozzuoli.

DAMASCUS — capital of Syria and of the province of Damascus (Esh Sham or Dimashq in Arabic) in southwest Syria, on the Barada River and the eastern side of the Anti-Lebanon Mountains; southeast of Beirut, Lebanon, and the Mediterranean Sea; one of the first permanent cities in the Middle East.

EGYPT — a country at the northeast part of Africa, surrounded by the Mediterranean Sea, Israel, the Red Sea, the Sudan, and Libya.
ELIS, in ACHAIA — Elis, a city in the province of the same name, in classical Greece, was west of Arcadia, south of Achaia and north of Messenia, with its coastline along the Sicilian Sea. Achaia is a province south of the Gulf of Corinth. Elis was not in Achaia.

ENNA, in Sicily — Enna, formerly called Castrogiovanni, and even earlier Umbilicus Siciliae, is a province and capital city in central Sicily, south of Palermo and west of Catania. It has the highest elevation of any Sicilian city.

EPHESUS, EPHESIAN — a city in Asia Minor settled by Ionians, at the mouth of the Cayster River, south of Smyrna (now Izmir). The Temple of Artemis and its successor the Temple of Diana, one of the seven wonders of the ancient world, was here.

ERETRIA — a city in the Greek province of Eubea, north of the Eubeean Gulf, with Boeotia and Attica to the south on the Gulf.

ETHIOPIA — also known as Abyssinia or Aethiopia; an empire in northeast Africa founded by Semitic immigrants from southern Arabia.

ETRURIA, HETRURIA, TYRRHENIA, THUSCANS, TUSCANY — Etruria, a territory in northwest Italy, had Cispadane Gaul to the north, Umbria to the east, and Latium to the south. The Tyrrhenian Sea is part of the Mediterranean, and Etruria’s western boundary. The Etruscans were Tyrrhenians to the Greeks, and Tusci or Etrusci to the Romans. They were possibly Lydian settlers who merged with local Umbrians. At one time their influence extended across the Apennines to the foothills of the Alps, and south to Naples and Rome. The Etruscans were incorporated into Rome.

EUBOEA — an island on the east central coast of the Greek peninsula. The second largest Aegean island, now Evvoi.

GAGAS, river mouth — Gagae, a town on the coast of Lyca, east of Myra, and the source of gagate, or jet, stone.

GALATIA, in Asia — region of Asia Minor, a portion of Phrygia with Bithynia and Paphlagonia to the north, Lycaonia and Cappadocia to the south, Pontus on the east and the remainder of Phrygia to the west. It was settled by Gallic or Gallo-Graeci tribes.

GALLIA near the Alps, GAUL, GALLIA, GALLICA — Gallia was used before the time of Julius Caesar to indicate all the land inhabited by the Galli or Celtae including most of northern and western Europe and the British Isles. Transalpine or Farther Gaul included modern France, Belgium, parts of Germany, Switzerland, and the Netherlands. Cisalpine or Hither Gaul was the Po valley area in Italy.

GANGES RIVER, India — rising in Uttar Pradesh, south of the Himalayas, then flowing over the Hindustan Plain to the Bay of Bengal; the great holy river of India.

GILEAD — a mountainous region of Transjordan, east of the Jordan River, from the Dead Sea to the Sea of Galilee.

GREECE, GREEK — the southern part of the Balkan Peninsula (except for some Turkish islands), the Aegean archipelago, and the islands of the Ionian Sea. To the north are Albania, Macedonia, and Bulgaria; in the northeast the Maritsa River separates western Greek Thrace and eastern Turkish Thrace. The Aegean, Mediterranean, and Ionian Seas surround the rest of the mainland.

GYMNESIAN ISLES, called BALEARES — see Baleares, Spain; Balearic Islands.

HELICON — the Helicon (Elikon Oros) is a mountain in Boeotia, north of the Gulf of Corinth, near Mount Parnassus and the Parnes Mountains (Pateras Oros).

HELIS, on the river Anigrus — Anigrus was a small river in the Triphylan Elis, noted for its foul smell and healing powers. See Elis.
HERACLEA, of Pontus (Heracleotia) — properly called Heraclea Pontica, a town on the Black Sea coast of northwest Turkey, east of Uskudar and northwest of Ankara, destroyed by the Romans in the Mithridatic wars (88-66 BCE); modern Eregli is built on the site.

HIERAPOLIS — a city of Great Phrygia, near the Maeander river. Also the name of the city formerly called Bambyle, in the northeast of Syria.

IBERIA — the Iberian Peninsula is today occupied by Spain and Portugal. The Iberian language, spoken in Spain and southern Gaul as far north as the Garonne River, may be related to modern Basque.

IDA, or PSILORITI – the highest mountain in Crete.

ILLYRIA — an ancient country to the east of the Adriatic Sea; the area includes areas of modern Albania, Montenegro, Herzegovina, and Yugoslavia. Illyria was known as Dalmatia in Roman times, with Scodra (Shkoder in Albania) its principal city.

INDIA — separated from the rest of Asia by the Himalayan Mountains, the Indian subcontinent includes Pakistan and Bangladesh. To the north are Iran, Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, China, Nepal, Bhutan and Myanmar. To the south lie the Bay of Bengal, the Indian Ocean, and the Arabian Sea.

IONIA — on the west coast of Asia Minor along the Aegean Sea between Mysia and Caria, with Lydia to the east, the valley of Hermus in the north, and the Maeander valley in the south, and Caystrus the central valley. It was founded by Ionians.

ISIACI, the — the Jewish people.

ISTRIA, ISTRUS — a peninsula at the northern end of the Adriatic Sea, now mainly part of Croatia, divided from the mainland by the Monte della Vena, the highest peak being Monte Maggiore. Only Trieste is still Italian. The original Illyrian people were called Histri because the region was drained by the Hister (Danube) River.

ITALY, ITALIA — a peninsula extending from the European continent southward into the Mediterranean, with the Adriatic Sea on the east; to the north it is edged by the Alps of France, Switzerland, Austria and Slovenia. The earliest settlers may have been Italic Aryans from the north; Etruscans from Asia Minor or the Orient arrived on the Tuscan coast; and Greeks settled in the south. The plains south of the Tiber River (Latium) were settled by Latins, in due course becoming Rome. Ancient Italy was south of this, and north of Sicilian Italy, from the Adriatic to the Mediterranean. By the time of Dioscorides the Romans had conquered all of Italy.

JUDAEA, JUDEA — a division of Palestine under the Romans who later integrated it with Syria, eventually making Judaea and Samaria the unified province of Palestina Prima.

KISSAS — Cissus, a town in Macedonia on the mountain of the same name.

LACEDAEMONIA — Lacedaemon was the Eurotas Valley, occupied by the Lacedaemonians. Ancient Sparta, situated on the Acropolis hill on the west bank of the Eurotas River, was the chief city of Laconia, in the southeast Peloponnesos.

LATINS, LATINI — the Italic tribe who settled Latium, the territory south of the Tiber River among the Alban Hills where the city of Rome developed.

LEMNOS, LIMNOS — an island of the Greek Archipelago in the Aegean Sea, between the Chalcedon (Chalkidike) peninsula in northern Greece and Turkey.

LESBOS — now Lesvos, also called Mitilini after its main town; a Greek island in the Aegean Sea near the west coast of Asia Minor. Theophrastus was born at Eresus on this island. Lesbian means from Lesbos.

LIBYA (AFRICA) — Libya is a state in north Africa, south of the Mediterranean, with Egypt, the Sudan, Chad, Niger, Algeria and Tunisia as neighbours. Its two coastal provinces are the ancient Cyrenaica (qv) and Tripolitania, both part of the Roman Empire. Cyrenaica was settled by the Greeks, and Tripolitania by the Phoenicians. Africa was sometimes used to indicate Cyrenaica, Libya, or the lands beyond.
LIGURIA, LIGURIAN ALPS, on the APENNINE, a hill bordering the Alps — Liguria is a region of Italy along the north shore of the Gulf of Genoa (Ligurian Sea) up to the Maritime Alps and the Ligurian Apennines; its main city is Genova. The Apennine mountain range extends along the Italian peninsula, forming the watershed for the entire peninsula. The Ligurian Apennines stretch from Bocchetta dell’ Altare west of Savona (Bormida River) to La Cisa Pass, north of La Spezia (Magra River) sloping steeply to the Ligurian Sea, and gently on the north to the Po Valley.

LIPARIS, LIPARA — the Lipari (Aeolian) islands are an archipelago of seven islands and ten islets off the northeast coast of Sicily. Aeolus was the mythical king of the winds.

LUCANIA, LUCANIAN — an area of southern Italy, now called Basilicata, with the Gulf of Taranto in the Ionian Sea and the Gulf of Policastro on the Tyrrhenian Sea, northward to the Ofanto River; to the west are the Lucanian Apennines.

LYCIA — a district on the south Mediterranean coast of Asia Minor with Caria on the west, Phrygia and Pisidia on the north, and Pamphylia on the east; the Taurus mountain range is prominent, and the main river and city are Xanthus.

MACEDONIA, and by the river HALIOCMON — the south of the Balkan peninsula includes Greece, Bulgaria and Macedonia. Macedonia was originally only the area between Lake Kastoria and the Haliocmon (Aliakmon) River. By the time of Dioscorides it included the area of Macedonia within today’s Greece.

MAGI — the Magi tribe of Media, a class of Zoroastrian (qv) priests in ancient Media and Persia reputed to possess supernatural powers, being specialists in divination from dreams, astrology, and magic. In Dioscorides’ time the name was used for those claiming occult powers of Babylonian or Oriental origin. See Media.

MAGNESIA, in Caria — Magnesia ad Sipylum now called Manisa, is the capital of a vilayet in west central Turkey, near Smyrna (Izmir) on the Aegean Sea coast, in the Hermus (Gediz) River Valley. See Caria.

MASSALEOTICA — possibly Massalia, Massilae, Massilia, now Marseille, France.

MECCA — one of the twin capitals of Saudi Arabia, on the west coast of the Arabian Peninsula, east of Jidda, its port on the Red Sea.

MEDIA — a kingdom in northwest Persia ruled by the Medes or Madai tribes originally from southern Russia. Median territory lay from Susiana in southern Persia to the Halys River in central Asia Minor. See Magi.

MEGARA — capital of Megaris, opposite the island of Salamis, near Athens.

MELIA — Meliani was an inland Chaonian town in southern Albania.

MELOS — an island in the Cyclades group in the Aegean Sea, north of the Sea of Crete and the island of Crete, now Milos or Milo.

MEMPHIS, in Arcadia — Memphis was the capital of ancient Egypt, south of Cairo across the River Nile. The Egyptian name was M en-nefer, or M emphis in Greek. Its sacred name Hikuptah indicated house of the ka (genius) of Ptah, its great God, or Aiguptos in Greek. Memphis cannot be traced in Arcadia. The department Arcadia (qv) lies in the the Peloponnesus in southern Greece.

MESSINA — an area in the Peloponnesus, south of Arcadia and Sicritis, west of Laconia, now Messina, forming the Gulf of Messina in the Mediterranean.

MOSUL — the second largest city of Iraq, on the west bank of the Tigris River, northwest of Baghdad in the region formerly called Assyria; its Aramaic name was Hasna ‘Ebraya; ancient Nineveh is east of Mosul on the east of the Tigris River.

MYRIA, in the HELLESPONT, Asia — Myria was the northwest province of Asia Minor with Pergamum the capital city, on the Caicus River, with the Aegean Sea to the west and the Hellespont (Dardanelles) on the northwest. The Hellespont is the narrow strait from the Aegean Sea to the Sea of Marmara.
NABATAEA (in Arabia) — a kingdom in the Middle East in the northwest of the Arabian Peninsula, now called Jordan, east of Palestine (Israel), surrounded by Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and the Gulf of Aqaba.

NARBONA, near Spain — first called Narbo Martius, the first Roman colony in Gaul, named Narbona in the time of Dioscorides, now Narbonne, it is a city in southern France in the department of Aude, east of Carcassonne near the Mediterranean. Gallia Narbonensis indicated all of southern France in Roman times.

NAXOS, NAXIAN — the largest island of the Cyclades group, a Greek archipelago in the south Aegean Sea.

NEW CARTHAGE, in Spain — a port on the Mediterranean Sea in the province of Murcia in southeast Spain southeast of Madrid, a magnificent natural harbour, called Carthago Nova by the Romans, now Cartagena. See Carthage.

NILE RIVER — the world’s longest river, its farthest source being the Kagera River near Lake Tanganyika. It flows along the Rift Valley, the edge of the Abyssinian Plateau, the Red Sea hills, the Sudanese plain, the Nubian Desert, a Libyan limestone trough in Egypt, then into the extensive Nile Delta below Cairo, and into the Mediterranean Sea.

NISYRUS — a small island in the Carpathian Sea near the Triopium promontory of Caria.

OLYMPUS, mountain in Lyca — a number of mountains in Greece, Asia Minor and Cyprus were named Olympus, the most famous being the Greek Olympus Thessalus in north Thessaly, Olympus Bithynus at Uludag near Bursa in northwest Turkey, and Olympus in Lyca, Asia Minor. See Lyca.

OSTHANES — Ostra was a city of the Indian people, the Siramnai (Rhamnai).

OSTRACEAN — Ostra, Ostranes, a town in Umbria in the territory of the Senones.

PACHYNUM, promontory near Syracuse — the cape on the southeast tip of Sicily, south of Syracuse, in the Mediterranean Sea.

PALMYRA, in Syria — Palmyra i.e. palm city, its Arabic name Tadmor, is an oasis northeast of Damascus.

PAMPHYLIA — a narrow strip of the south coast of Asia Minor between Lycia and Cilicia, bordering on Pisidia.

PAPHOS, PARIAN — one of the larger islands of the Cyclades group south of the Greek mainland in the Aegean Sea.

PARNASSUS — a mountain in the Pindus range in Greece north of the Gulf of Corinth, in the territory of Phocis; the town and Temple of Delphi were on its southern side; Mount Lycorea, one of its twin peaks, is the site of the Corycian Grotto.

PELOPONNESUS — the mainland peninsula of Greece south of the Gulf of Corinth and Patrai, with the narrow Isthmus of Corinth joining it to Attica; its provinces Arcadia and Argolis included the towns of Sparta and Olympia, site of the Olympic games, now Peloponnese.

PERGA — important ancient city of Pamphylia between the rivers Catarrhactes and Cestrus, on a little island northeast of Attalia.

PERSIA — the southwest Asian country, original home of the Aryan race, and now Iran. The Persian Empire of ancient times extended from Egypt to the Indus River. The Mesopotamian civilizations of Sumeria, Babylonia and Assyria preceded it.

PETRA, in Judaea — a city in Jordan, capital of the Nabataeans, a people of Arabic background, situated halfway between the port of Ezion-geber in the Gulf of Aqaba, and Gaza on the Mediterranean Sea.

PHILADELPHIA, in Lydia — Philadelphia was ‘the city of the open door’ in Lydia on the great trade route from Susa, capital of Persia, east through Sardis and Philadelphia to Ephesus on the Aegean Sea; Lydia was an area in central Asia Minor with Sardis as its capital, and for a period the Greek states
on the coast of Asia Minor and much of the interior of Phrygia came under Lydian control, but its political power had waned long before the time of Dioscorides. See Sardis.

PHOENICIA — a district on the Syrian coast inhabited by Semitic traders called Phoenicians, the main independent city-states were Tyre, Sidon, Beirut and Byblos. Trading posts established by the Phoenicians included Carthage in north Africa and Cádiz in Spain. By the time of Dioscorides, Phoenicia had been added to the Roman province of Syria.

PHOTOLOE — a mountain forming the boundary between Arcadia and Elis.

PHORYGIA — the western Anatolian Plateau of central Asia Minor, its capital Gordion on the Sangarios River was taken by the Cimmerians in the seventh century BCE.

PISIDIA, in PAMPHYLIA — Pisidia, an ancient province of Asia Minor, lay east of Caria, south of Phrygia, west of Cilicia and north of Lycia and Pamphylia; Pamphylia occupied the coastal area to the southeast of Pisidia.

PITYUSA, an island near Spain — two islands off the south coast of Spain and west of the Baleares, called Ebusus (Ivisa), and Ophiussa (Formentera).

PLAGIOPOLIS — possibly Placia, a small Pelasgian colony at the foot of Mount Olympus in Greece.

PNICITIS — Eclesia (Pnyx) means place of assembly.

PONTUS, PONTIC — an ancient kingdom in northeast Asia Minor on the south shore of the Black Sea as far as the Halys River. The herbalist Crateaus, whose beautiful drawings illustrate the Codex Vindobonensis of Dioscorides, was physician to Mithridates VI of Pontus.

PROPONTIS, around the island Besbicum — a small sea which unites the Euxine and Aegean Seas, and divides Europe from Asia.

PSOPHIS, in Arcadia — a town in the northwest of Arcadia on the river Erymanthus, originally called Phegia.

PUTEOLI — see Dicaearchia.

RAVENNA, Italy — a province and the capital in Emilia-Romagna in northeastern Italy, northeast of Florence near the Adriatic Sea.

RED SEA — a narrow sea separating Africa and Arabia, between the Gulf of Suez and the Gulf of Aqaba.

RHODES — the largest island in the Greek Dodecanese or Sporades archipelago, in the Aegean Sea close to Turkey, its capital city of Rhodes was the site of the Colossus of Rhodes, one of the seven wonders of antiquity.

ROME, ROMAN — capital of the Roman Empire and now of Italy, in central Italy on the Tiber River; initially a ford across the Tiber between Etruria and Latium. The seven hills of Rome are the Capitoline, the Quirinal, the Viminal, the Esquiline, the Caelian, the Aventine and the Palatine. Rome is surrounded by the plains of the Campagna.

SALAMINE, in Cyprus — a Cyprian city in the middle of the east coast, north of the river Pediaeus.

SAMIA — a town of Elis in the district Triphony, south of Olympia, between Lepreum and the Alpheus.

SAMPHARITICI — Sampha was a town in Phoenicia.

SAMOTHRACE, SAMOTHRACIA — a Greek island in the north Aegean Sea, near the Gulf of Saros in Thrace, now called Samothraki.

SANTONICUM in Sardoni — the Santoni or Santones were a celtic people. See Sardonia.

SARACEN, SARacen — Saracen was a Graeco-Roman name for the nomadic peoples of the Syrian and Arabian deserts, the Arabs.

SARDIA, SARDINIA — Sardi is Sardinia, a large island in the Mediterranean, west of the Italian peninsula and south of Corsica, first colonized by Phoenicians, then Carthaginians, and later the Romans.

SARDIS — capital city of Lydia, Asia Minor, at the north base of Mount Tmolus, northeast of Smyrna (Izmir), in the valley of the Hermus (Gediz) River. See Philadelphia.

SARDONIS, in Galatia — Sardoum or Sardonicum mare, part of the Mediterranean on the west and south of Sardinia. See Galatia.
SCIOS, in the Aegean Sea — see Chios.

SCYTHIA, near the riverPontus — In Dioscorides’ time Scythia was the country south of the Danube delta in modern Romania now called the Dobruja. Its inhabitants were the Scythae or Scythians. After 395CE the northern province of the diocese of Thrace in Greece was called Scythia. Pontus was on the southern shore of the Black Sea.

SELEUCIA, near Syria — Seleucia-on-Tigris in Mesopotamia was the capital of the Syrian Seleucid Empire, at one time stretching from Asia Minor to north India; the Romans divided Seleucid Syria into three kingdoms, and established several Roman provinces including Seleucid Mesopotamia.

SEMINUS, SELINUSIAN — a Greek city, now in ruins, near Castelvetrano on the southwest coast of Sicily.

SICILIA, SICILY, AGRIGENTINES — a Mediterranean island near the southwest tip of the Italian peninsula, with the Straits of Messina separating it from Italy, and Tunisia in the southwest. Sicily was Rome’s first colony. Agrigento is a province of Sicily.

SICYONIA — a small district in the northeast of Peloponnese, surrounded by Corinth, Achaia, Phlius, Cleonea, and the Corinthian gulf.

SIDON— a port on the Mediterranean in southwest Lebanon, south of Beirut and north of Tyler.

SINOPE — now the city of Sinop in Turkey, on the southern shore of the Euxine Sea (Black Sea).

SMYRNA — a major port in Turkey now called Izmir, on the Aegean coast of Ionia, Asia Minor.

SOLIS, a hill — Soloi, Mons Solis, a promontory on the southwest coast of Mauretania.

SPAIN — a country in southwest Europe occupying most of the Iberian Peninsula, surrounded by the Bay of Biscay, the Pyrenees Mountains, France, the Mediterranean, the Straits of Gibraltar, Portugal, and the Atlantic Ocean; called Hispaniae by the Romans.

STOECHADES — see Galatia, Islands of.

SYRIA — Greater Syria stretched from the Taurus Mountains to the Sinai Desert, including modern Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Israel, and parts of Turkey and Iraq.

TAPHOSIRIUS, in Egypt — a city of lower Egypt, on the northwest frontier, in the Lybia Nomos, near Alexandria.

TARENTUM, TARANTO — founded by Spartans as Taras, a city and province in Apulia, southeast Italy, in the Gulf of Taranto.

TAURUS MOUNTAINS, in Cappadocia — part of the Alpine mountain system of Eurasia stretching from the Greek Pindus Mountains to the Iranian Zagros Mountains. See Cappadocia.

THABANA, GALILEE — Thabor, Tabor, or Atabyrium, an isolated mountain east of the plain of Esdraelon in Galilee. Galilee in Palestine (Israel), west of the River Jordan, stretches from Haifa and the Plain of Esdraelon, to Lebanon. It was a Roman tetrarchate ruled by the Herods.

THAPSUS, an island — a city on the east coast of Sicily on a peninsula of the same name. Also a city on the east coast of Byzacena, in Africa Proertia.

THASSOS, THASIAN — an island in the north Aegean Sea off the coast of Thrace (Greek Macedonia), across the Thassos Straits from Napolis (Kavala) on the mainland, now called Thasos.

THEBES, in Egypt (THEBAN, THEBAICAN) — the Egyptian city of Waset, later called Thebes by the Greeks, after their own Thebes in Boeotia, it lies on the banks of the Nile River south of Cairo.

THESSALY, THESSALIA, near the river Peneus — Thessaly was part of ancient Greece on the east coast, surrounded by Macedonia, Epirus, Doris, Locris and the Aegean Sea. The Peneus River (Pindos), rising in the Pindus Mountains to the west, flows through Larissa and Tempe into the Thermaic Gulf in the Aegean Sea.

THRACE, by the river Strimon, THRACIAN — Thrace (now Macedonian Greece) is the ancient name of the Balkan area south of the Danube River,
west of the Black Sea, east of the Strimon River and north of the Aegean Sea. The Strimon River (also called Strymon, and now Strum), rising in the mountains of western Bulgaria, flows south through Thrace to the Gulf of Strimon in the Aegean Sea.

THUSCAN — see Etruria.

TMOLUS, a hill in Libya near MAURETANIA — Tmolus is a mountain near Sardis, capital city of Lydia in Asia Minor, northeast of Smyrna (now Izmir). Mauretania, the Roman province of Mauritania Tingitana, named after Tingis (Tangier), included northwest modern Morocco and west Algeria (Numidia). It was later extended to the Bou Regreg River at Sale, with its capital the city of Volubilis. See Sardis.

TRALLES — flourishing merchant city in Asia Minor on the south foot of Mount Messogis, on the River Eudon. Also called Antea, Seleucia, and Antiochia. There was also a city called Trales in Phrygia.

TROY, TROJAN — a settlement in Asia Minor three miles inland on the northwest Aegean coast, near the mouth of the Hellespont. Also called Illos, Illion, or Ilium, it was the site of the Trojan War. Nine settlements were built in turn upon the ruins of former settlements, but it lost importance with the growth of Constantinople.

TYRRENIA — see Etruria.

VESTINUM, VESTIN MOUNTAINS — the Vestini were a Sabellian people living in central Italy between the Appenines and the Adriatic Sea, near the rivers Matius and Aternus.

ZACYNTHUS — the most southerly Greek island in the Ionian Sea, ten miles west of Elis in the Peloponnesus, also called Zante or Zakynthos, and settled in ancient times by Arcadians.

ZOROASTRIAN, ZOROASTRES — also called Mazdaism, a religion founded in the eighth or seventh century BCE by a reformer of the Iranian religion. He was known as Zarathushtra (in Greek, Zoroaster).