Bio109 Plants and People
What is Ethnobotany?

Ethnobotany is the area of Plant Biology that study the complex relationships between man and plants.
Ethnobotany

It is an interdisciplinary Science
  Chemistry
  Economic Botany
  Plant Physiology
  Pharmacology
  Ethnology
  Folklore
  Anthropology
  Archaeology
  Art History
  Mythology
Food
Clothing

Linen fields

Cotton use - New York Fall 2011 Fashion Week

Meryl Streep, Anne Hathaway, The Devil Wears Prada, 2006
Housing

Paper
Medicine

Medicinal plants for sale at the Oaxaca, Mexico Market, June 2006

Medicinal plants in African street market.
Flavors and Fragrances

Red pepper, World’s most famous spice. Mc Cormack’s Website 2011.

Crabtree & Evelyn partnered with the world’s leading English rose breeders to produce the flowers that are used for their signature perfume, Evelyn. It took 30,000 seedlings and hundreds of cuttings to find the perfect one.

Crabtree and Evelyn Website 2011

Lavender fields Provence France, Jul 05

Jasmine, rose, lily of the valley and iris, bergamot, lemon, neroli and ylang-ylang,

Cultural Practices and Rituals
And they lived happily ever after
The idea behind the flowers

Hyacinth – Constancy of love.

Sweet William – Gallantry

Lily-of-the-valley – Return of happiness

Ivy: Fidelity; marriage; wedded love; friendship; affection

Myrtle: the emblem of marriage; love.

http://www.officialroyalwedding2011.org
• **Hyacinth** – Constancy of love.

• **Hyacinthus**, family **Asparagaceae**.

• Native to **Turkey** and the Middle East.

• Bulb non edible, poisonous large due amounts of oxalic acid.

• Bulb juice can be used to remove rust produced by metals.

• One Greek myth associated to it.

• Symbol of rebirth in Persia and largely used as a symbolic flower in the celebration of the Persian New Year on the Spring Equinox.

• Great Economical as a flower since 17th century as a garden plant and as a Fragrance in the perfume industry. Perfumes with hyacinth fragrance include LAMB, Neil Morris fragrances, Guerlain Chamade, Penhaglion's Bluebell among many others.

• And……
Hyacinth

Public Figure

Wall

Hyacinth · Everyone (Most Recent)

Share:  Post  Photo

Write something...

RECENT ACTIVITY

- Hyacinth edited their Personal Information and Email.
- Hyacinth edited their Personal Information and Email.
- Hyacinth discussed editor on the Hyacinth discussion board.
- Hyacinth joined Facebook.

Like · Comment

There are no more posts to show.
Halloween
Christmas
Origins

8,000 (6000-5000 BC) Development of Agriculture – Lascaux

These objects were used as weights in the process of spinning threads. In Syria, flax was the first fiber to be spun (into linen), pre-dating the use of sheep’s wool.
Paleolithic and Neolithic Representations of Plants.

Pottery from Tepe Sialk, Iran, 5000 BC. The New York Times, 2001

Paleolithic scratched image on reindeer horn. Singer 1958 Fig 66

Cave painting, 3000 BC. Women gathering grain. Tassili n’Ajjer, Algeria.
A Field of Barley, Egypt New Kingdom, reign of Akhenaten, ca. 1349–1336 BC.
Antiquity

Wall paintings, Tomb of Menna, Thebes
1400 BC. University of Chicago.
Tomb of Nakht; picking grapes wall painting ca.
1400 BC

Fragment of wall painting. Nebamun’s garden. 1350 BC
Diorite statue of Khafre (Chephren) from Giza sculpture c. 2690-2130 BC 4th Dynasty, Old Kingdom
The relief sculpture shows the combination of the lotus (upper) and papyrus (lower), the heraldic plants of Upper and Lower Egypt, respectively.
Crocus Gatherers, Spring Fresco and Lily Fresco. Thera, Akrotiri Island of Santorini, Greece. Late Minoan I 1700-1550 BC
Ara Pacis Augustae, 1st BC. Symbols of Abundance. Fantastic plants.
Food of the Gods (Theobroma cacao) Scene from the Nuttall Codex where a cup of foaming chocolate is exchanged at the marriage of two Mixtec nobles, 8 Deer and 12 Serpent (in AD 1051)
Vera Cruz, Palma with Maize God Receiving a Human Sacrifice. 250/950

Codex Florentinus: 1547

Dancing Mayan Maize God. 700AD

Moche Maize-Cob Mother and Children. Peru, 450-550AD
Herbals and Bestiary

Illustration Of A Sea Monster From "D E Natura Rerum "

[Images of medieval herbal illustrations]
Mandrake, *Mandragora* spp., depicted in the *Tacuinum Sanitatis*. 
The World Tree

Western Mexico, Colima, 300 BCE and 400 CE

Norse Yggdrasil (19th Century illustration)
1492 and then.............GLOBALIZATION style 16\textsuperscript{th} century

Major Event in Western Ethnobotany. Plants were instrumental to the discovery of America and the development of the post-Columbus era.
Dr. Mark Plotkin, a renowned ethnobotanist and conservationist, studies plant use by Shamans (traditional healers) of the Amazon.