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## *Ethnobotanical survey of three members of family Lamiaceae among the inhabitants of Bejaia, Northern Algeria*

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### **Abstract**

**Background** This paper presents the uses of *Calamintha nepeta*, *Teucrium flavum* and *Thymus numidicus* in food and in traditional herbal medicines in six districts from Bejaia state, Northern Algeria. **Materials** A semi-structured interview was conducted to 52 informants, including questions on the demographic data of the informants and uses of the three medicinal plants to determine the alimentary and the medicinal uses of these plants in Bejaia state. **Results** The demographic data of the informants indicate that rural participants are the principal consumers of medicinal plants. Data regarding experience of medicinal plants preparation show that 36.5% was confined to the experienced informants, while 63.5% of the informants were inexperienced. Women used medicinal plants more frequently than men; it is recorded that there were 42.3% male informants and 57.7% female informants. Studied plants were used for curing a total of 10 diseases. Also, *C. nepeta* and *T. numidicus* were applied as condiment in food, but *T. flavum* was found to have no food uses in all districts. **Conclusion** Bejaia district is rich in biodiversity of food and medicinal plants and there is need for further studies to validate their use as potential drugs.

### **Keywords**

*Calamintha nepeta*; *Teucrium flavum*; *Thymus numidicus*; Bejaia state; alimentary uses; medicinal uses.