

Rooted In Language: A Morphological Journey Through Amazigh Plant Names

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Abstract:

This article delves into the fascinating world of Amazigh plant names, exploring the morphological processes that govern their formation. Amazigh, a vibrant and evolving language, employs diverse methods of lexical creation, including derivation, compounding, and borrowing. By analyzing these mechanisms, we gain valuable insights into the relationship between the Amazigh people and their botanical environment, revealing their perception of nature and their linguistic creativity. Focusing on the morphology of plant names specifically, we uncover the intricate interplay of prefixes, suffixes, and compounding techniques that contribute to the richness and diversity of the Amazigh lexicon. Furthermore, we examine the impact of borrowing from other languages, such as Arabic and French, and its role in expanding the vocabulary associated with plants. By understanding the morphological processes at play, we can appreciate the unique linguistic features of Amazigh and recognize the importance of preserving this valuable cultural heritage.

Key Word: Amazigh; Morphology; Plant Names; Word Formation; Lexical Borrowing

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I. Introduction

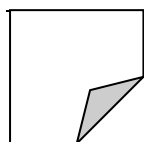
The study of plant names in any language offers a window into the cultural and environmental knowledge of its speakers. In the case of Amazigh, a language spoken by the indigenous people of North Africa, the names of plants reveal a deep connection to the natural world and a sophisticated system of word formation. This article investigates the morphological processes involved in creating Amazigh plant names, drawing upon linguistic concepts such as derivation, compounding, and borrowing as described by Bloomfield (1933), Matthews (1991), and Aronoff (1994).

The central research question guiding this exploration is: How do morphological processes contribute to the formation and diversity of Amazigh plant names? To address this question, we will first delve into the fundamental principles of morphology, examining how morphemes, the smallest units of meaning, combine to form words and how processes like affixation (Haspelmath, 2002) and compounding contribute to lexical expansion. Subsequently, we will focus on the specific morphological features of Amazigh plant names, analyzing real-world examples to illustrate the diverse ways in which these names are created and the cultural significance embedded within them. The analysis will encompass the role of borrowing from other languages, such as Arabic and French, and its impact on expanding the vocabulary associated with plants.

By exploring the intricate interplay of morphological processes in the context of Amazigh plant names, this article aims to shed light on the linguistic creativity of the Amazigh people and their enduring relationship with the botanical world around them.

II. Delving Into Morphology: Building Blocks Of Language

Before exploring the specific case of Amazigh plant names, it is essential to establish a foundational understanding of morphology, the branch of linguistics concerned with the internal structure of words and the processes of word formation. As Bloomfield (1933) articulated, morphology dissects words to uncover their constituent parts and the rules governing their combination. At the heart of morphology lies the concept of the morpheme, defined as the smallest unit of language carrying meaning (Matthews, 1991). Morphemes can be classified into two main categories: free morphemes and bound morphemes. Free morphemes can stand alone as independent words, such as "tree" or "flower," while bound morphemes must attach to other morphemes to convey meaning, like the plural suffix "-s" or the prefix "re-" indicating repetition.



Word formation processes play a crucial role in enriching a language's lexicon and enabling it to adapt to evolving needs. Among the most prevalent processes are affixation and compounding. Affixation, as described by Haspelmath (2002), involves adding prefixes or suffixes to a base morpheme to modify its meaning or grammatical function. For instance, the addition of the prefix "un-" to the adjective "happy" creates the opposite meaning, while the suffix "-ness" transforms it into a noun. Compounding, on the other hand, combines two or more free morphemes to form a new word with a distinct meaning, such as "sunflower" or "blackberry" (Aronoff, 1994). These compound words often reflect the characteristics or functions of the entities they represent, demonstrating the economy and expressiveness of language.

The study of morphology extends beyond mere word formation; it delves into the historical development of words and the ways in which languages borrow and adapt elements from one another. This dynamic interplay of linguistic processes contributes to the richness and diversity observed across the world's languages.

These fundamental principles of morphology, informed by the insights of prominent linguists, provide the necessary framework for understanding the formation of Amazigh plant names. By analyzing the types of morphemes employed and the word formation processes utilized, we can gain valuable insights into the linguistic structure and cultural significance of this specific vocabulary domain.

III. Lexical Creation In Amazigh:

Like all languages, Amazigh employs various processes for lexical creation. The language boasts a rich and diverse word formation system, allowing for the creation of new words to meet the evolving communication needs of its speakers. One of the most common methods is derivation, utilizing prefixes and suffixes to modify the meaning or grammatical category of existing words. Compounding, another prevalent process, involves combining two or more existing words to create a new one. Additionally, Amazigh utilizes derivation processes to create new words from existing roots.

1. Creation by Derivation:

According to Chaker (1995), "Derivation is defined in general linguistics as the procedure of forming words by combining a lexical element (belonging to an open inventory) and a grammatical morpheme (belonging to a closed inventory). The notion of derivation is understood in opposition to that of compounding, which designates the procedure of forming words by combining lexical units."

Lexical derivation plays a vital role in enriching the Amazigh lexicon and is the most widespread means of creation within its linguistic system. It exists in two main types: grammatical derivation and expressive derivation. Two other types, verbal derivation and nominal derivation, contribute to creating secondary lexicon (expressive words, diminutives, augmentatives, onomatopoeia). This technique is widely used in Amazigh to create new words in various fields such as technology, science, agriculture, and economics. In short, lexical derivation is a creative and productive process that demonstrates the vitality of the language and its ability to adapt to the changing modern world.

a. Verbal Derivation

Verbal derivation involves forming a new verb from an existing one by adding an affix (prefix or suffix) that modifies the base verb's meaning. This process is extensively used in Amazigh to create new verbs and provides significant flexibility and richness to the language. In Amazigh, a verb consists of a consonant root and an aspectual marker, to which derivation patterns can be added.

For instance, the verb "nsya" (we bought) consists of the root "sy" (to buy), the person index "n" indicating the first person plural, and the positive perfect schema "----a". Derived verbs are formed by adding derivational morphemes (causative/reciprocal and passive) to the base verb.

- **Causative (factitive) verb:** This type indicates that the action described by the verb is caused by another person or thing. In Amazigh, it is formed by adding the prefix "s" or "ss" to the base verb, expressing the meaning of "to make do".

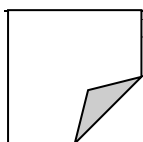
Examples:

- s + ffy ("s+go out") becomes ssuffy ("to make go out")
- s+gn ("s+sleep") becomes sgun ("to put to sleep")
- ss+kcm ("enter") becomes sskcm ("to make enter")

- **Passive form:** This form is created by adding the prefix "tty/ttu" and is formed from direct transitive verbs.

Examples:

- tty+agl ("tty+hang") becomes ttyagal ("to be hung")
- tty+amç ("tty+catch") becomes ttyamaç ("to be caught")
- ttu+qqn ("ttu+close") becomes ttuqqan ("to be closed")



- **Reciprocal form:** This lexical creation process in Amazigh involves adding the morphemes "m/my" to the simple form of the verb, expressing the simultaneity of the action between two or more participants.

Examples:

- my+ssn ("my+know") becomes myassan ("to know each other").
- mm+ çë ("mm+see") becomes mmçëan ("to see each other").

b. Nominal Derivation

Nominal derivation involves forming new words from an existing root or word by adding affixes or suffixes to change the word's grammatical category or give it a different meaning. In Amazigh, this is a productive process used to create new nouns from verbal or nominal roots. According to A. Barakate (2010), "Nominal derivation concerns the formation of different subclasses of nouns from a verbal, adjectival, or nominal base by associating a base and a morphological marker."

- **Nominal derivation from a verbal base:**

- **Verbal noun:** From a verb, we obtain the verbal noun, which is formed by associating vowel morphemes with the verbal root and changing vowels for vowel harmony.

Examples:

- a+ sti ("a+filter") becomes astay ("filtering")
- ti+ gnu ("ti+sew") becomes tigni ("sewing")
- ass+ lmd ("ass+learn") becomes asslmd ("learning")
- a+ mmuddu ("a+travel") becomes amuddu ("travel")

- **Agent noun:** The agent or patient noun refers to the one who performed the action in the case of action verbs and the one who undergoes the action in the case of the patient noun. In Amazigh, this category of nouns is often formed from a verb by prefixing "a" or "am".

Examples:

- a+xdm ("a+work") becomes axddam ("worker")
- am+ urar ("am+song") becomes amarir ("singer")
- am+ mmuddu ("am+leave") becomes amuddu ("traveler")

- **Instrument noun:** This category of nouns is derived from a verb to designate the instrument used to perform an action. In other words, it refers to the inanimate object introduced by the action or state verb. In Amazigh, instrument nouns are created by adding the prefixes "tas," "tas," or "tis" to the verb.

Examples:

- tas--+râl ("tas+close") becomes tasrâlt ("lid").
- tis---+ gnu ("tis+sew") becomes tignit ("needle")
- ta--+srm ("ta+sharpen") becomes tasramt ("pencil sharpener")

2. Creation by Compounding

Compounding involves combining two or more lexemes to form a new word with a meaning different from that of its components. Chaker (1995) defines compounding as "The procedure of forming words by combining lexical units."

A compound word is defined as:

"A word containing two, or more than two, lexical morphemes and corresponding to a significant unit" (Dubois et al., 1994).

In Amazigh, compounding is a common process for forming new words and is highly productive due to its ability to create a large number of new words to name new and emerging realities in daily life and in scientific and technical fields. There are two forms of compounds in Amazigh: proper or juxtaposed compounds and compounds by synapsy.

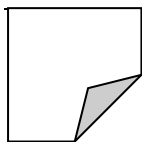
a. Proper or Juxtaposed Compounds

These are formed by merging two lexemes of the same grammatical category (noun+noun) or different categories (noun+verb/noun+preposition+noun). In synchrony, they are considered as a single entity through freezing. In Amazigh, compounds can be formed by juxtaposing two or more lexemes without altering their original form. This can involve two nouns, a noun and an adjective, a noun and a verb, etc.

- **Noun + noun:**

Examples:

- iyes ("bone") + amar ("chin, beard") becomes ayesmar ("lower jaw")
- iys ("bone") + idis ("side") becomes ayezdis ("rib")



○ aggu ("smoked") + asif ("river") becomes agusif ("downpour, shower");

• **Verb + noun:**

Example:

○ slm ("sucks") + aggurn ("flour") becomes slmaggurn ("butterfly")

• **Noun + qualifying participle:**

Example:

○ aman ("water") + äënin (fallen) becomes amanäënin ("dew")

• **Verb + verb:**

Examples:

○ bbi ("pinch, bite") + rwl ("run away") becomes bbirwel ("earwig")

○ bbi ("cut") + su ("drink") becomes bbisu ("bread, olive oil, and tea")

○ bbi ("cut") + zdi ("tie or sew") becomes ibbizdi ("anything")

• **Preposition + noun:**

Example:

○ ngr ("between") + asif ("river") becomes grsif ("place name").

b. Synaptic Compounds

Synaptic compounds are a form of lexical composition where the constituent elements are closely linked and form a single word. They are characterized by a loss of autonomy of the elements that compose them, unlike proper or juxtaposed compounds. In other words, the constituent elements cannot be used separately to form other words. Barakat (2010) states the existence of different forms of synapsy in Amazigh and that they have the characteristic of linking the elements of these words by syntactic components and joined by grammatical elements. They are lexicalized phrases composed of lexemes joined by grammatical elements. Lexicalized phrases will be written in a single block or by introducing hyphens between the constituent elements of the compound. Example: "ils-n-uzgr" mullein (lit. tongue of ox).

3. Creation by Borrowing

Lexical creation through borrowing involves introducing foreign words into a given language to express an idea that has no equivalent in the original language. This process is common in all languages due to linguistic and cultural contact between different communities. In the case of Amazigh, lexical borrowing has been influenced by Arabic, French, and Spanish, with which it has had contact over the centuries. As a result, we find lexical borrowings from these languages in Amazigh, particularly in the fields of technology, politics, and culture. Chaker (1988) noted that "The influence of Arabic on the various Berber dialects is therefore noticeable everywhere. Arabic pressure is of course immediately visible in the lexical domain, and Arabic loanwords represent an appreciable proportion of the vocabulary in most Berber dialects. But it is also clear - although less profound - at the level of phonological and morpho-syntactic systems."

There are two types of borrowing: internal (interdialectal) borrowing and external borrowing.

a. Internal Borrowing

To fill lexical gaps, dialects borrow from other Berber dialects. This is a 'healthy' borrowing as it is internal. By looking at different denominations of each dialect that complement each other, we ensure inter-comprehension and a rapprochement between the spoken languages to better succeed in standardizing the Amazigh language. Internal borrowing is a process of lexical creation in which a language borrows words or morphological elements from another language belonging to the same linguistic group. As far as Amazigh is concerned, internal borrowing is common between Tamazight, Tarifit, and Tachlhit, or between other Amazigh dialects (Tuareg, Kabyle, Chaoui, etc.).

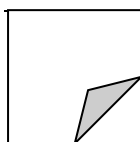
Examples:

• taddart / taxamt / tigmī are dialectal variations for the word "house".

• afrux / arba / aḥnjir are dialectal variations for the word "child".

b. External Borrowing

External borrowing in linguistics is the introduction of a foreign word or expression into a given language. It refers to foreign words borrowed from other languages and is a common process in the evolution of languages. Borrowed words may undergo phonetic or semantic changes in the borrowing language to adapt to the



rules of that language. External borrowing has played a significant role in enriching the Amazigh lexicon. The contact of Amazigh with other languages, particularly Arabic, French and more recently English, is evident in its lexicon, with borrowed terms often undergoing adaptation to fit the language's phonology and morphology (Soussi, 2021). This is particularly noticeable in the realm of plant names, where numerous borrowings from Arabic have been integrated into the Amazigh vocabulary; the borrowed term becomes 'Amazighized'. Here are some examples of external borrowings:

The Arabic word is adapted to Amazigh by adding the article "l".

- lɛab: "the door"
- lkas: "the glass"
- lɛit: "the room"

Or by adding Amazigh prefixes of the masculine singular "a" or the feminine "ta.....", for example:

- aḥllaq: "barber"
- anjjaë: "carpenter"
- taḥanut: "shop"

Borrowings from French:

- Èëadyu: "radio"
- lbaliza: "the suitcase"
- tamubil: "car"

4. Creation by Calque

Lexical creation in Amazigh can also occur through calquing, which involves literally translating a term or expression from a foreign language using the linguistic elements of the target language. Calquing is often used to introduce new or foreign concepts into Amazigh and is defined as follows:

"Linguistic calquing is said to occur when, to demonstrate (denomination) a new notion or object, a language A translates a simple or compound word belonging to a language B into a simple word already existing in the language or into a compound term formed from words also existing in the language." (Dubois et al., 1994).

There are two types of calques: lexical calque and semantic calque:

According to Talmenssour (2021: pp.23,24):

- Lexical calque: "Consists of creating a new term by translating a foreign term and transposing it into the target language."
- Semantic calque is: "A process that consists of adding, under the influence of another language, a new meaning to a word already existing."

These two forms of calque are generally used in the creation of neologisms in the Amazigh language. Here are some examples of lexical calque in the Amazigh grammatical vocabulary published by the Royal Institute of Amazigh Culture in 2008:

- "aslvn" which is a derivative of the verb "slv" which means to stick, to say "affixal".
- "aÄfËan" is a derivative of the verb "ÄfË" to say "suffixal".
- "amagut" which is derived from the adjective "iggut" for the word "plural"

Examples of semantic calque:

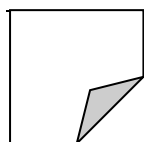
- "igr" the cultivated field, the meaning is used to say "the semantic field".
- aÇuË "root" to say the verbal or nominal root.
- anaw which means "gender or species", it is used in the grammatical vocabulary to talk about the feminine or masculine gender of the noun.

IV. Morphological Analysis Of Amazigh Plant Names

Studying the lexicon of plants morphologically offers insight into the conception and perception of the Amazigh people, their natural surroundings, and their reasoning.

1. Formation of Plant Names by Derivation

Derivation is the most widely used and productive process in naming Amazigh vernacular names, as demonstrated by several examples in our corpus.



a. The Masculine Form of Plant Names

In Amazigh, the formation of the masculine singular is often marked by the use of the morphemes "a /i/u". The initial "a" of the masculine singular is frequent in the formation of plant names in the Tashlhit dialect.

Examples:

- argan: "argan tree"
- ačuka: "Barbary Thuya"
- ačää: "Sumac varnish"
- ačaiim: "Limonium"
- ačçmay: "Rush"
- azgäär: "Jujube tree"
- azuknni: "Oregano"
- askkun waskkun: "Oat"

In some cases, the initial morpheme of the masculine singular "a" undergoes phonetic changes and becomes "wa" or "u".

According to Basset (1929), "wa" is a variant of the morpheme "a" in certain regions of North Africa. This form is common in the Berber dialects of the Atlas, where it is used to form the masculine singular of some plant names.

Plant Name in Free State	Plant Name in Annexation State	Example in Amazigh	Translation in English
ačää	wačää	amud n wačää	Sumac varnish grains
argan	wargan	taddagt n wargan	Argan tree
azuknni	uzuknni	atay d uzuknni	Oregano tea
ačuka	učuka	amud n učuka	Thuya grains

The initial "i" is used to indicate both the masculine singular and the masculine plural:

• **"i" as a masculine singular morpheme:**

Examples:

- Ifrskkl: "Launaea arborescente"
- Ifzi: "White horehound"
- Iggiz: "Moroccan lavender"
- Ikikr: "Bitter vetch"
- Irgl: "Sage-leaved cistus"
- Iwrmi: "Mountain rue"
- Izri: "White mugwort"
- Irni: "Lords-and-ladies"
- Inčieki: "Lycium"

• **"i" as a masculine plural morpheme:**

Examples:

- Ibawwn: "Beans"
- Illan: "Black millet"
- irden: "Durum wheat"

Plant names with the initial "u":

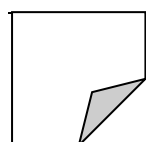
- ujjerk
- ukkan

b. The Feminine Form of Plant Names

In Amazigh, the feminine form is generally created by adding the discontinuous morphemes "t-----t" with its variants (ta/ti/tu). These morphemes are more frequent in the creation of plant names.

Examples:

- Tabuëçigt: "Datura"
- taddut: "Moroccan gum tree"



- tasaft: "Holm oak"
- tasmmumt: "Cultivated sorrel"
- ĩawęęiĭ: "Globularia alypum"
- taylulut: "Caper"
- tinęi: "Withania frutescens"
- ĩibnāęi: "Hollyhock"
- Timęęgllit: "Helichrysum italicum"
- timzrit: "Burning nettle"

The initial "t" and final "a" ("t.....a") is the morpheme for the feminine singular or plural.

- **Feminine singular:**

Examples:

- tarubi: "Madder"
- tasra: "Cristallium"
- taslva: "Setaria"
- taluāa: "Poppy"
- tawriwra: "Castor oil plant"
- tięmi

- **Feminine plural:**

Examples:

- timjja: "Round mint"
- timlkuāa
- timęęęa: "Bitter wild chicory"
- timzzira

2. Formation of Plant Names by Compounding

The formation of Amazigh plant names through compounding is widespread. We have identified examples in our corpus, with juxtaposition being the most frequent form of compounding in Amazigh. Within this category, we can distinguish compound names of the type noun + n + noun / verb + noun / noun + adjective:

a. noun + n + noun

- aāil n wuccen: "Belladonna"
- aęalim n-wuccn (lit: onion of jackal): "Sea squill or Officinal squill"
- ajjig n tafukt (lit, flower of the sun): "sunflower"
- ĩbawwn n-tvęni (lit. Bean of the ogress): "Anagyris foetida"
- ĩkikr n ĩęāā (lit, Vetch of birds): "Vetch"
- ĩęrir n tęāā (lit. the silk of birds): Dodder close
- tumęin n ĩvrdayn (lit, Barley of rats): "Barley of rats"

b. Verb + noun

- Zelaāāę zzelaāāę (lit, zzl: to stretch /āāę: foot): "Caylusea hexagyna"
- magraman magraman (lit, go to meet water): "Sticky fleabane"

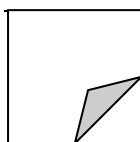
c. noun + adjective

- ali ĩjjan (lit, ali the stinky) ali ĩjjan: "Goosefoot". The word "ali" reminds us of the insect in Tashlhit dialect "ali butuzlin" (lit, ali with scissors) called in French "earwig". According to our informants, as soon as a problem occurs, it is attributed to Ali.

We note that the form "noun + n + noun" is the most productive form in the formation of plant names by the compounding process. The majority of the plant names mentioned above are formed based on the shape of a part of the plant (flowers, stem, root...).

3. Plant Names Formed by Borrowing

Borrowing is the concrete result of the mixing of languages and cultures and is used to fill lexical gaps. The trace of Amazigh's contact with other cultures (Punic, Latin, Arabic, French) is visible in its lexical base, but Arabic borrowing remains the most present. Indeed, the majority of borrowings in Amazigh come from Arabic, which has provided many words, especially in the religious and cultural domain. Borrowings from Arabic and



French are adapted to the morphological form and pronunciation of the Amazigh lexicon. We have identified several examples:

a. Names adapted by prefixing "l", the definite article of Moroccan Arabic

Examples:

- lɓabunj: "Roman chamomile"
- lbçaë: "Pepper"
- lbsbas: "Fennel"
- lgrgao: "Walnut tree"
- lḥbaq: "Basil"
- ljaëjië: "Arugula"
- lmodnnus: "Parsley"
- loïëaca: "Geranium-Rosat"
- lpimç: "Chickpea"
- lqzbur: "Coriander"
- lwiza: "Lemon verbena"
- lwwaya: "Sarsaparilla"

b. Borrowings from French are adapted by adding the morpheme "l"

Examples:

- Lkorjit: "zucchini"
- liccu: "cabbage"

We note that the majority of Arabic borrowings into Amazigh are formed by prefixing the article "l", which is also the case in the lexical field of flora. This adaptation allows for a more fluid integration of foreign borrowings into Amazigh while preserving their original pronunciation and morphology. But we have found other examples that have been integrated into Amazigh while keeping the same form.

c. Borrowings that retain the original form of the Arabic word

There are borrowings in Amazigh that retain the original form of the Arabic word, without undergoing any morphological or phonetic modification:

Examples:

- Mrkdduc: "Marjoram"
- rriḥan: "Myrtle"
- ssanuj: "Cultivated nigella"
- ssalmiya: "Common sage"
- naonao: "Spearment"
- jnjlan: "Sesame"

Borrowings that are adapted to Amazigh morphology by affixing the discontinuous feminine morpheme "t.....t".

Examples:

- taflayyut: "Pennyroyal mint"
- taëëummant: "Pomegranate tree"
- talxuxt: "Peach"

4. Plant Names Formed by Calque

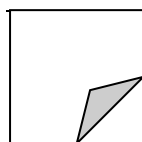
We have identified plant names calqued from Arabic and French.

Examples:

- "ajjig n tafukt" nwwar ccms "Sunflower"
- "açalim n uccn" bsel ddib "Sea squill"
- "takhsayt taçgâavt" elgroa ḥamëa "Cucurbita maxima"

The following example has the same form in French, Amazigh, and Arabic: "İumçin ivrdayn" coië lfiran (barley of rats).

Calque is less productive in creating the flora lexicon in Amazigh, and it is difficult to verify who calqued from whom and whether they are truly calques, since the reality is the same and their description is based on the observation of the plant. This shows that despite the differences between these languages, there are similarities in the terms used to designate plants, and this may be due to cultural and linguistic exchanges over the centuries.



V. Conclusion

Lexical creation in Amazigh occurs through various processes, including derivation, compounding, and borrowing. Borrowing is widely used to fill lexical gaps in Amazigh and to describe plants that do not have a specific name in the local language. These borrowings result from the contact of the Amazigh language with other languages, such as Arabic and French, and have been adapted to fit the phonology and morphology of Amazigh.

Our analysis of the Amazigh plant corpus has revealed several key patterns in the formation of plant names. The frequent use of the initial vowel "a" for masculine singular nouns and the initial "t" for feminine nouns, along with various derivational morphemes, demonstrates the language's intricate system of word formation. Additionally, compounding plays a significant role in creating plant names, often reflecting the plant's physical characteristics or its relationship to the environment. Borrowings from Arabic and French, adapted to fit the Amazigh linguistic structure, further enrich the plant lexicon and highlight the historical and cultural interactions of the Amazigh people.

While this study has primarily focused on the morphological processes involved in creating Amazigh plant names, it is important to acknowledge the broader sociolinguistic context that influences language use and evolution. As Soussi (2021) highlights, the multilingual nature of Moroccan society and the increasing prominence of English in various domains have significant implications for the future of Amazigh and its lexicon.

Furthermore, as Soussi (2018) has discussed, the Amazigh language faces challenges related to language shift and endangerment due to factors such as urbanization, the dominance of languages like Darija, and historical marginalization. Consequently, the intricate knowledge encoded within the plant lexicon, including names, classifications, and traditional uses, could be lost if the language ceases to be actively used and transmitted across generations.

However, there is hope for the future. Ongoing revitalization efforts, including language documentation projects, educational initiatives, and community-based programs, are working to preserve and promote the Amazigh language and its cultural heritage. By supporting these initiatives and encouraging the intergenerational transmission of language and traditional knowledge, we can contribute to ensuring the continued vitality of the Amazigh plant lexicon and the invaluable cultural knowledge it contains. This, in turn, will help maintain the connection between the Amazigh people and the natural world, fostering a deeper appreciation for the rich biodiversity and cultural heritage of the region.

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