

Bibliographic inventory of endomycorrhizal species associated to the rhizosphere of the date palm (*Phoenix dactylifera*)

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ABSTRACT: The work presented here aims to establish, from the bibliography, inventory of endomycorrhizal species reported in the rhizosphere of the date palm. 89 fungal species have been reported across the world (Egypt, Oman Soltanat, Southern Arabia, India, London, and the Arabian Peninsula). Morocco is represented by 29 species, reported in the regions of Tafilalet and Zagoura. The *Glomus* genus was the most represented, with 34 species followed by *Scutellospora* with 21 species and species of the genus *Acaulospora*, with 11 species. It then comes the genus of *Entrophospora* (5 species), *Gigaspora* (4 species) and *Diversispora* (3 species). The *Rhizophagus* genera are each represented by two species. By cons, a single species has been cited for each *Sclerocystis*, *Septoglomus*, *Paraglomus*, *Ambispora*, *Funneliformis*, *Claroideglomus* and *Archaeospora* genera.

KEYWORDS: *Phoenix dactylifera*, rhizosphere, endomycorrhizae, inventory, bibliography.

1 INTRODUCTION

The date palm (*Phoenix dactylifera* L.), monocotyledon, is widely adapted to arid climates zones in the Middle East and North African¹. These areas, the palm trees are an important part of the Saharan oasis protect the environment because vegetation against the effects of desertification and creates a microclimate essential for the proper development of the underlying cultures^{2,3,4}.

However, many constraints, climatic deteriorations especially with the emphasis of the drought and its effects on water availability, themselves founders of the oasis, soil salinity and fungal diseases such as fusarium, influence the performance of the palm trees⁵.

Palm groves that have demonstrated throughout history an amazing resilience and adaptation are currently more fragile. During the last decade, biotic and abiotic stresses and problems related to the management of oasis soils have increased the destruction of palm groves and the reduction of agricultural production in these environments⁶. These threats and hazards necessitate nursery production of good quality seedlings among others by the use of controlled mycorrhization.

In fact, mycorrhizae play an important role in the maintenance of plants in their habitats and their natural regeneration⁷. Described for the first time by Frank⁸, they refer, as their name suggests, to existing associations between soil fungi and plant roots. Only for half a century that the importance, significance and universality of these associations have been identified. Currently, it is estimated that 90% of land plants are mycorrhizal^{9,10}. Several studies have shown that mycorrhizae play an important role in plant species¹¹, mainly in the growth¹², mineral nutrition, especially phosphorus^{13,14}, water supply, the resistance of plants to drought and disease¹⁵ and nutrient accumulation^{16,17} and survival after transplantation.

Endomycorrhizae colonize the roots of young date palm seedlings and protect them against *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *Albedinis*^{18,19}. They also simulate plant growth, in particular at the level of nutrient-poor soils and improve establishment and survival^{20,21,22}, the distribution of certain fungal species AM depends on soil type, species of the host and some specific combinations plant-soil²³.

Better still, the diversity and distribution of the resulting CMA temporary ecological processes acting on plant and fungal communities such as the temperature, pH and the level of soil P and the genotype of plants. These are factors that limit the distribution of CMA species such as *Glomus* sp. and *Acaulospora leavis*²⁴. The CMA may also be influenced by the chemical and physical changes in factors such as soil type, cropping practices and other environmental factors such as soil moisture²⁵.

The short-term objective of this study is to collect native species in the rhizosphere of the date palm to multiply under controlled conditions in order to obtain an effective inoculum applicable nursery to produce vigorous plants can survive after transplantation. But before work in this direction, it seems important to know first the species of fungi in the rhizosphere endomycorrhizal date palm reported in various research projects.

Thus, the importance of the diversity of mycorrhizal fungi determines the importance of plant diversity and increases plant productivity²⁶. In Morocco, although mycological inventories have been established in recent years, including, those of El-Assfour²⁷; Haimed²⁸; Haimed²⁹; El Kholfy³⁰; Larouz³¹, Ouabbou³², Outcoumit³³, Ajana³⁴, Chliyah³⁵ and Nounsi³⁶. So far, no inventory of the date palm endomycorrhizal related species has been performed.

Inventory of endomycorrhizal species reported in the rhizosphere of *Phoenix dactylifera*

Acaulospora colossica P.A. Schultz, Bever & J.B. Morton, 1999 : Morocco³⁷.

Acaulospora denticulata Sieverd. & S. Toro., 1987 : Morocco³⁷.

Acaulospora longula Spain & N.C. Schenck, 1984: Arabian Peninsula³⁸.

Acaulospora sp1 Gerdemann and Trappe, 1974 :Egypt³⁹.

Acaulospora sp1 Gerdemann and Trappe, 1974 : Morocco².

Acaulospora sp1 Gerd. & Trappe, 1974: Morocco⁴¹.

Acaulospora sp2 Gerd. & Trappe. 1974 : Morocco⁴¹.

Acaulospora sp2 Gerdemann and Trappe, 1974 : Morocco².

Acaulospora sp3 Gerd. & Trappe, 1974 : Morocco⁴¹.

Acaulospora sp3 Gerdemann and Trappe, 1974 : Morocco².

Acaulospora spinosa Walker C et Trappe, 1981: Southern Arabia⁴².

Ambispora gerdemannii (S.L. Rose B.A.Daniels et Trappe) Walker C., Vestberg et A. Schubler, 2007: Southern Arabia⁴², Soltanat oman⁴³.

Archaeospora leptoticha (Schenck N.C & G.S. Sm.) J.B. Morton & D. Redecker. 2001 : Southern Arabia⁴².

Claroideoglomus drummondii Błaszk & Renker, Renker & Buscot, 2006 : Soltanat oman⁴³.

Diversispora omaniana walker C. et Schussler A., 2004: Arabian Peninsula⁴³.

Diversispora aurantia (Blaszk., Blanke, Renker & Buscot) Walker. C & Schüßler A., 2006 : Arabian Peninsula⁴³.

Diversispora spurca (Pfeiff.C.M, Walker.C & Bloss) WalkerC. & SchüßlerA. 2004: Arabian Peninsula⁴³.

Entrophospora infrequens (I.R.Hall) Ames R.N. & Schneid.R.W., 1979 : India⁴⁴ (Sharma *et al.*, 2014).

Entrophospora colombiana Spain & Schenck.N.C. 1984 : Southern Arabia⁴².

- Entrophospora kentinensis* Wu C.G & Liu.Y.S.,1995: Morocco³⁷.
- Entrophospora sp1* Ames R.N & Schneid R.W. 1979 : Morocco³⁷.
- Entrophospora sp2* Ames R.N & Schneid R.W. 1979 : Morocco³⁷.
- Funneliformis africanum* (Błaszk & Kovács) Walker C. & Schüßler A., 2010 : Soltanat Oman⁴³.
- Gigaspora albida* Scenck et Smith, 1982 : Southern Arabia⁴² (El-yahya'ei et al., 2011), India⁴⁴.
- Gigaspora dicipiens* Hall I.R & Abbott L.K., 1984 : India⁴⁴
- Gigaspora gigantea* (NicolsonT.H. & Gerd.) Gerd. & Trappe., 1974: Southern Arabia⁴² , India⁴⁴.
- Gigaspora margarita* BeckerW.N & Hall I.R. 1976: Egypt³⁹.
- Glomus caledonium* (NicolsonT.H & Gerd.) Trappe & Gerd. 1974: Egypt³⁹.
- Glomus verruculosum* Blaszk, 1997 : Egypt³⁹.
- Glomus aggregatum* Schenck N.C & Sm. G.S. 1982: Morocco^{2,41}, Southern Arabia⁴².
- Glomus arenarium* Błaszk., Tadych & Madej., 2001: Arabian Peninsula³⁸.
- Glomus aureum* Oehl et Sieverd., 2003 : Southern Arabia⁴².
- Glomus badium* Oehl, Redcker D. et Sieverd, 2005 : Southern Arabia⁴².
- Glomus caledonium* (NicolsonT.H. et Gerd.) Trappe et Gerd. 1974: Southern Arabia⁴².
- Glomus clarum* NicolsonT.H. et Schenck N.C., 1979 : Southern Arabia⁴², Maroc³⁷, Egypt³⁹.
- Glomus constrictum* Trappe, 1977 : Southern Arabia⁴², Morocco^{2,41}.
- Glomus coronatum* Giovann, 1991 : Southern Arabia⁴².
- Glomus eburneum* L.J.Kenn., J.C. Stutz et J.B. Morton, 1999 : Southern Arabia⁴².
- Glomus etunicatum* Becker et Gerderman. 1977 : Southern Arabia⁴², Arabian Peninsula³⁸, Morocco⁴¹.
- Glomus fasciculatum* Gerd .et Trappe, 1974 : Southern Arabia⁴², Maroc^{2,41}, Arabian Peninsula³⁸, India⁴⁴.
- Glomus geosporum* (Nicolson T.H. et Gerd.) Walker C., 1982 : Southern Arabia⁴².
- Glomus hoi* Berch. S.M et Trappe, 1985 : Southern Arabia⁴².
- Glomus intraradices* Schenck N.C. et Sm. G.S. 1982 : Southern Arabia⁴², Maroc⁴¹.
- Glomus macrocarpum* Tul. & C. Tul., 1844 : Morocco^{2,41} , Southern Arabia⁴².
- Glomus manihotis* Howeler R.H , Sieverd et Schenck N.C., 1984 : Southern Arabia⁴².
- Glomus microaggregatum* Koske ,Gemma et Olexia, P.D. 1986 : Southern Arabia⁴².
- Glomus microcarpum* Tul. et Tul. C.1845: Southern Arabia⁴², India⁴⁴.
- Glomus mosseae* (NicolsonT.H. et Gerd.) Gerd. et Trappe, 1974 : Morocco^{2,41}, Southern Arabia⁴², India⁴⁴, Egypt³⁹.
- Glomus proliferum* Dalpé et Declerck. 2000: Southern Arabia⁴², Maroc³⁷.
- Glomus pulvinatum* (Henn.) Trappe & Gerd. 1974: Arabian Peninsula³⁸.
- Glomus sinuosum* (Gerd et Bakshi.B.K) Almeida R.T et Schenck N.C., 1990: Southern Arabia⁴².
- Glomus sp1* Ames. R.N & Schneid. R.W., 1979 : Morocco⁴¹.
- Glomus sp1* Ames R.N. &. Schneid. R.W , 1979 : Morocco³⁷.
- Glomus sp1* Tul. et C. Tul.,1845 : Southern Arabia⁴².
- Glomus sp2* Tul. et C. Tul.,1845 : Southern Arabia⁴².
- Glomus sp2* Tul. & C. Tul., Emend Walker C. & Schüßler A.,1845 : Morocco³⁷.

- Glomus* sp2 Ames. R.N & Schneid. R.W., 1979 : Morocco⁴.
- Glomus* sp3 Tul. et Tul.C., 1845 : Southern Arabia⁴².
- Glomus spurcum* Pfeiff. C.M, Walker C. & Bloss., 1996: Southern Arabia⁴² (Al-yahya'ei *et al.*, 2011).
- Glomus verruculosum* Blaszk ., 1997 : Southern Arabia⁴².
- Glomus versiforme* (P. Karst.) Berch. S.M., 1983: Southern Arabia⁴², Arabian Peninsula³⁸.
- Paraglomus occultum* (Walker C) J.B. Morton et Redecker D., 2001: Southern Arabia⁴².
- Racocetra fulgida* (Koske et Walker.C) Oehl, Souza F.A et Sieverd., 2009 : Southern Arabia⁴².
- Racocetra gregaria* (Schenck N.C. et NicolsonT.H.) Oehl, Souza F.A et Sieverd, 2009: Southern Arabia⁴².
- Rhizophagus Arabicus* Dang. P.A. 1896 : Arabian Peninsula⁴³.
- Rhizophagus* Dang. P.A. 1896 : London⁴⁵.
- Sclerocystis coreimoides* (Berk. & Broome) Redecker D. & Morton J.B, Morton & Bruns, 2000: India⁴⁴.
- Scutellospora aurigloba* (Hall I.R.) Walker C. & Sanders F.E., 1986: Southern Arabia⁴².
- Scutellospora calospora* (Nicolson T. H. et Gerd.) Walker C. et Sanders F.E., 1986 : Southern Arabia⁴².
- Scutellospora castanea* Walker C. 1993: Southern Arabia⁴².
- Scutellospora cerradensis* Spain & Miranda J., 1996: Southern Arabia⁴².
- Scutellospora erythropha* (Koske & Walker C.) Walker C. & Sanders F.E., 1986: India⁴⁴.
- Scutellospora fulgida* Koske & Walker C. 1986: Southern Arabia⁴².
- Scutellospora gilmorei* (Trappe & Gerd.) Walker C. & Sanders F.E., 1986: Southern Arabia⁴².
- Scutellospora gregaria* (Schenck N.C. & Nicolson T.H.) Walker C. & Sanders, F.E., 1986: Morocco⁴¹.
- Scutellospora heterogama* (NicolsonT.H. & Gerd.) Walker C. & Sanders F.E., 1986: Southern Arabia⁴², India⁴⁴, Soltanat Oman⁴³.
- Scutellospora nigra* (Redhead J.F.) Walker C. & Sanders F.E., 1986: India⁴⁴, Soltanat Oman⁴³.
- Scutellospora nodosa* Błazsk. 1991 : Southern Arabia⁴².
- Scutellospora pellucid* (Nicolson T.H. & Schenck N.C.) Walker C. & Sanders F.E., 1986: Southern Arabia⁴².
- Scutellospora projecturata* Kramad & Walker C., 2000 : Southern Arabia⁴².
- Scutellospora reticulata* (Koske D.D. Mill. & Walker C.) Walker C. & Sanders F.E., 1986: Southern Arabia⁴².
- Scutellospora* sp. Walker C. & Sanders F.E., 1986: Egypt³⁹.
- Scutellospora* sp1 Walker C. & Sanders F.E., 1986: Morocco⁴¹.
- Scutellospora* sp1 Walker C. & Sanders F.E., 1986: Morocco².
- Scutellospora* sp2 Walker C. & Sanders F.E., 1986: Morocco⁴¹.
- Scutellospora* sp2 Walker C. & Sanders F.E. 1986: Morocco².
- Scutellospora spinosissima* Walker C. & Cuenca, 1998 : Southern Arabia⁴².
- Scutellospora weresubiae* Koske & Walker C., 1986: Southern Arabia⁴².
- Septoglomus nakheelum* Sieverd , Silva G.A. & Oehl., 2011: Arabian Peninsula⁴³.

Endomycorrhizal species reported in the rhizosphere of *Phoenix dactylifera* concerned only few countries in the world: Morocco, Egypt, Oman, Southern Arabia, India, London, Arabian Peninsula. 89 fungal species are cited and it is the species belonging to the genus *Glomus* which are the most dominant, 34 species, followed by the *Scutellospora* genus, 21 species and those of *Acaulospora*, 11 species. *Entrophospora* is represented by 5 species, *Gigaspora* by 4 species and only three species for *Diversispora* genus. The *Rhizophagus* and *Racocetra* genera are represented by two species each. For cons, the

Sclerocystis genres Septoglosum, Paraglosum, Ambispora, Funneliformis, Claroideglosum Archaeospora and are represented by only one species each.

Table 1: Number of endomycorrhizal species isolated in the rhizosphere of the date palm in different countries of the world

countries	Morocco	Egypt	Southern Arabia	Soltanat Oman	India	London	Arabian Peninsula
Number of species	29	7	48	5	11	1	11

2 DISCUSSION

The inventory of endomycorrhizal fungi presented in this work, will have a global vision on the wealth of endomycorrhizae associated with the rhizosphere of date palm, reported in different countries. The date palm is among the plants that can harbor both ectomycorrhizae⁴⁶ and endomycorrhizae^{47,48,49}. The number of mycorrhizal species (89) remains very modest in your opinion, which means that the species associated with the rhizosphere of the date palm are little studied. Regular samples in different areas of the palm groves that can help develop a comprehensive inventory of species.

It should also be noted that it is the species belonging to the Glomus genus, which are the most dominant (34 species) relative to other species^{50,51,52,53,54}. The species of this genus better attending semiarid and arid environments. Thus, they are considered the most suitable habitat subject to constraints such as drought and soil salinity^{55,56}. Better yet, in terms of behavior of sporulation of AMF species, the majority of Glomus species sporulate studied throughout the year unlike other species such as those belonging to the Scutellospora and Acaulospora genera sporulate mainly in spring and tautomne⁴¹.

The diversity of species endomycorrhizal observed in the rhizosphere of the date palm growing in different countries of the world (Egypt, Oman Sultanate, Southern Arabia, India, London, and the Arabian Peninsula) depends on several factors, such as seasonality², soil edaphic factors⁵⁷ as well as climate factors⁵⁸. In addition, it was reported that even the kinds of MFA of the same family and species of the same genus have different symbiotic capabilities, ability evaluated by the root colonization rate by the AMF and the number of spores formed⁵⁹. In another study on the distribution of CMA in arid environments, Jacobson⁶⁰ noted that the humidity at ground level also has a significant influence on populations of CMA. Indeed, Kaushal⁶⁹ mentioned that in semi-arid areas, the AMF populations are highest during the rainy season. In the same way, agricultural practices⁶¹, including soil fertilization^{62,63} and irrigated agriculture may also affect the composition of the AMF and may even lead to low species diversity of AMF^{64,65}. Similar studies have shown that sporulation is seasonal fungal endomycorrhizal^{66,67,68}.

The highest number of endomycorrhizal species was reported in Southern Arabia, 48 species, this number is probably due to environmental parameters characteristic of this area of the world (arid)⁴². In Morocco, the number is also important, 29 species, compared to that reported in other agro ecosystems. It should also be noted that 12 species were isolated from the rhizosphere of the olive tree growing in mixture with the date palm in palm groves of Tafilalt and Zagoura⁴⁰.

The presence of endomycorrhizal fungi at the palm of soil is necessary to sustain date palms in their habitat. They facilitate, indeed, access to minerals and plants to water, and increase tolerance to abiotic stress conditions (drought, salinity or soil) and biotic (pathogens attacks)³⁷ (Sghir *et al.*, 2014). Studies on the diversity of AMF associated with date palm around the world are still rare⁴² (Al-Yahya'ei *et al.*, 2011). All these studies have concerned only a few sites only with limited samples. Better yet, the problem of identification of the spores is very difficult. Therefore, it is likely that the species mentioned in this work are a small part of a large complex of fungi existing endomycorrhizal. This number which is still underestimated could be improved further research work will be made in this area in order to better use of endomycorrhizal fungi in the sustainability and conservation of date palm cultivation in the oases.

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