

Benito Valdés

## Progenitors of cultivated plants in the Iberian Peninsula

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In the Mediterranean area agriculture began in the Neolithic with the introduction into cultivation in the Middle East of a group of cereals, legumes and other crops, which cultivation expanded latter to Europe and the rest of the Mediterranean at a speed not higher than one km per year. None of these crops reached the Iberian Peninsula before the Bronze Era, and during the Paleolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic, primitive inhabitants survived by hunting, fishing and by gathering fruits, seeds, leaves, roots, etc. of a high number of native plants, of which Evergreen Oak (*Quercus ilex* subsp. *ballota* (Desf.) Samp.) played a basic role, but also Hazel (*Corylus avellana* L.), Stone Pine (*Pinus pinea* L.), Wild Olive (*Olea europaea* var. *sylvestris* (Mill.) Lehr.), White Beam (*Sorbus aria* (L.) Crantz), Rowan (*S. aucuparia* L.), Wiode Service Tree (*S. torminalis* (L.) Crantz), etc, whose use has never been abandoned. Some new crops are being obtained in the Iberian Peninsula by domestication from their native progenitors. Indications are given on the introduction into cultivation of Borage (*Borago officinalis* L.), Golden Thistle (Spanish Oyste Plant; *Scolymus hispanicus* L.) and Bladder Campion (*Silene vulgaris* (Moench) Garke)..

Address of the author:  
Benito Valdés,  
Department of Plant Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Biology, University of Seville, Seville, Spain. E-mail: bvaldes@us.es

