

Research paper

## Evaluation of the Life Cycle of Two Wild Plant Species; Senna (*Cassia italica* Mill.) and Handal (*Citrullus colocynthis* L.)

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### ABSTRACT

The present study was carried out in Wadi Abu Salam (63 Km. east of Berber, River Nile State, Sudan), during 2004/5 and 2005/6 seasons. The life cycle of two major desert plant species, Senna (*Cassia italica*) and Handal (*Citrullus colocynthis*), were studied. For the purpose of this study, Wadi Abu Salam area is divided into three sections; upper, middle and lower. The life cycle of Senna plant was 121 and 112 days in the first and second seasons, respectively. Handal plant completed its life cycle in 137days in both seasons. The plant height of Senna was 82cm in both seasons. For Handal, the plant length was 77 and 107cm. in the first and second season, respectively.

**Keywords:** *Cassia*, *Citrullus*, *colocynthis*, *Handal*, *Italica*, *Senna*