Turhan Baytop's Books and their Contributions to Turkish Pharmacy

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Turhan Baytop (1920–2002) was a professor of pharmacognosy at the Istanbul University Faculty of Pharmacy. From the very beginning of his career, he was interested in two subjects in particular: plants of Turkey and the Turkish history of pharmacy. From 1943 to 1999, he collected more than 10,000 plant specimens from Turkish flora. In 1960, he set up the first history of pharmacy museum in Turkey, and in 1990, he organized the first national congress for the history of pharmacy, which created widespread interest in the subject throughout the country. Apart from his scientific papers, Professor Baytop is the author of 19 books in Turkish, English, and Japanese, which primarily deal with Turkish flora (i.e., The Bulbous Plants of Turkey, 1984, co-authored with Brian Mathew, and Researchs on the Flora of Istanbul, 2002), medicinal and poisonous plants of Turkey (i.e., Phytotherapy in Turkey: In the Past and Today, 1984), and the history of pharmacy (i.e., History of Pharmaceutical Industry in Turkey, 1997, and Research on the Turkish History of Pharmacy, 2000). These volumes still serve as primary references in the field. In this paper, Turhan Baytop’s books and their contributions to Turkish pharmacy will be discussed.