

## THE OLDEST DOCUMENTARY RECORDS AND MACROFOSSIL FINDS OF SOME MEDICINAL PLANTS IN FINLAND

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The paper presents the oldest documentary records of some medicinal plants and their earliest macrofossil finds in Finland. The oldest document comes from the Naantali/Nådendal monastery and is dated to the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The plants used for medicinal purposes were presented there as popular names. The second document, dated to the 16<sup>th</sup> century and written by the reformer of Finland and the Bishop of Turku/Åbo, Mikael Agricola, presents 22 'useful' plants or 'herbs' in the calendar of his '*Prayer Book*' (*Rucousciria Bibliasta*, in Finnish), and the names were also given as their popular forms. The third document, *Catalogus Plantarum* by Elias Tillandz, the professor of the Academy of Turku, presents plants with Latin and some of them also with Finnish names, for the first time. This small book, the first Finnish Flora, was published in 1673 and the second edition in 1683, with a short Latin description of the plants and their medicinal use.

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