

## A THORN BY ANY OTHER NAME: *AŠĀGU* ‘YANQOUT’<sup>1</sup>

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### 3.5. Introduction

The translation of the commonly attested plant *ašāgu*, usually written logographically <sup>giš</sup>Ú.KIŠI<sub>16</sub>, is the source of some confusion in the scholarly literature. It is rarely translated the same way twice, sometimes even receiving two contradictory translations within a single sentence. A brief survey gives the readings *Lycium europaeum*,<sup>2</sup> *Alhagi maurorum*,<sup>3</sup> ‘Dornstrauch, Kameldorn?’,<sup>4</sup> *Prosopis stephaniana*,<sup>5</sup> *Prosopis farcta*,<sup>6</sup> Arabic ‘Šōk’,<sup>7</sup> ‘acacia’,<sup>8</sup> ‘acacia-shrub’,<sup>9</sup> ‘a kind of acacia’,<sup>10</sup> ‘false carob’,<sup>11</sup> ‘mesquite’,<sup>12</sup> ‘oriental mesquite’,<sup>13</sup> and ‘spiny dwarf oriental mesquite’.<sup>14</sup>

This list can be simplified to some extent: *Alhagi maurorum* is the Latin name for Kameldorn (camel thorn); *Prosopis stephaniana*, *Prosopis farcta* and Arabic Šōk are all synonymous with one another. The remaining names, excluding *Lycium europaeum*, can be taken as three groups: acacia, mesquite, and ‘assyriologism’ - and all are, in one way or another, inaccurate and misleading.

Excluding the first three readings in the list, which will be discussed below, the translations given for *ašāgu* are all intended to represent the same plant – *Prosopis farcta*. While the identification of ancient plants is a difficult and uncertain art, the array of evidence that has been presented for this identification seems convincing, and we do not propose to re-investigate the question here.<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Campbell Thompson 1949 (*A Dictionary of Assyrian Botany*): 182-185.

<sup>3</sup> Landsberger 1937-1939 (*Afo* 12): 139-140, n. 26.

<sup>4</sup> Von Soden 1959-1981 (*AHw*): 77b s.v. *ašāgu(m)*.

<sup>5</sup> CAD A/2: 408 s.v. *ašāgu*.

<sup>6</sup> CAD A/2: 408 s.v. *ašāgu*; Civil 1987 (FS Reiner): 47; Maekawa 1990 (*BSA* 5): 124.

<sup>7</sup> Stol 1988 (*BSA* 4): 181.

<sup>8</sup> Herrero 1984 (*Thérapeutique*): 129; Schramm 2008 (*Compendium*): 49, 1.46 ‘Akazie’.

<sup>9</sup> Reiner 1995 (*Astral Magic*): 39.

<sup>10</sup> CAD A/2: 408 s.v. *ašāgu*; Veldhuis 1997 (*Education*): 108. Also CAD *passim*

<sup>11</sup> Maekawa 1990 (*BSA* 5): 124; Civil 1987 (SAOC 46): 40; Heeßel and Al-Rawi 2003 (*Iraq* 65): 237 i 27; Robson 1999 (*Mesopotamian Mathematics*): 163 n. 82; Molina and Such-Gutiérrez 2004 (*JNES* 63): 9 (with a question mark); Freedman 2017 (*Summa ālu III*): 99, T.55, 1.2.

<sup>12</sup> Civil 1987 (SAOC 46): 40.

<sup>13</sup> Langlois 2011 (*JMC* 18): 64.

<sup>14</sup> Moore, Hillman and Legge 2000 (*Abu Hureyra*): 66.

<sup>15</sup> See Campbell Thompson 1949 (*A Dictionary of Assyrian Botany*): 182-185; Maekawa 1990 (*BSA* 5): 124; Civil 1987 (SAOC 46): 40; Civil 1960 (*RA* 54): 67 for a discussion of the relevant evidence.

We will rather discuss the shortcomings of the various translations, and then offer a replacement, ‘Yanqout’, which will resolve the problem.

### 3.6. Identification

Despite the wide variation in translations, the actual identity of the *ašāgu*-plant is not meaningfully in question. The *ašāgu* is a pernicious and ubiquitous thorny weed - among the most common in Mesopotamia. It is said to cover fields, necessitating a great deal of labour to remove it,<sup>16</sup> and to have grown on graves and walls, among other places.<sup>17</sup> It is so plentiful that in a royal inscription, Ashurbanipal claims to have ‘filled the plain of the city Susa with their bodies like *baltu*-plant(s) and *ašāgu*-plant(s)’.<sup>18</sup>

As early as 1900, Meissner identified the *ašāgu*-plant with the modern Arabic ‘*šōke*’,<sup>19</sup> partly on the basis that it shares the characteristics of *ašāgu* and partly on grounds of etymology (*ašāgu*  $\approx$  *šōke*), which, as already mentioned, is *Prosopis farcta*. This identification has since been fortified on numerous grounds by Civil,<sup>20</sup> and taken up almost universally, though two alternatives have been put forward.

In a short footnote, Landsberger suggested that *ašāgu* was to be identified with *Alhagi maurorum* (camel thorn), identifying *eddetu* as *Prosopis stephaniana*.<sup>21</sup> He later rejected this suggestion, joining the prevailing view that *ašāgu* was to be understood as *šōk*, and identifying *eddetu* with *Lycium barbarum* (boxthorn or goji berry).<sup>22</sup> Landsberger’s initial suggestion is presumably the basis for the translation ‘Kameldorn?’ in the AHW.<sup>23</sup> Camel thorn is better understood as *baltu*.<sup>24</sup>

Campbell Thompson, in his posthumously published *Dictionary of Assyrian Botany* proposed *Lycium barbarum* (boxthorn) for *ašāgu*.<sup>25</sup> This has otherwise been understood to be *eddetu*.<sup>26</sup> Campbell Thompson does not distinguish between *ašāgu* and *eddetu* due to the fact

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Note that Campbell Thompson offers an alternative translation (*Alhagi maurorum*). This is discussed below.

<sup>16</sup> Civil 1987 (SAOC 46): 40-41.

<sup>17</sup> Campbell Thompson 1949 (A Dictionary of Assyrian Botany): 182-184.

<sup>18</sup> *šal-ma-ti-šū-nu ki-ma GIŠ.DIĪ u GIŠ.KIŠI*<sub>16</sub> *ú-mal-la-a ta-mir-ti URU.šū-šá-an* (Novotny and Jeffers 2018 (*RINAP 5/1*): 71, ll.91-92, & *passim*). The *baltu* plant has been convincingly identified with *Alhagi maurorum* (camel thorn) (Civil 1987 (FS Reiner): 41-42; Civil 1987 (SAOC 46): 40-41; CAD B: 65-66 s.v. *baltu*; Maekawa 1990 (*BSA* 5): 123-124).

<sup>19</sup> Meissner 1900 (*ZA* 15): 418.

<sup>20</sup> Civil 1960 (*RA* 54): 67; Civil 1987 (FS Reiner): 47.

<sup>21</sup> Landsberger 1937-1939 (*AfO* 12): 139-140, n. 26.

<sup>22</sup> Landsberger *apud* Adams 1965 (*Land Behind Baghdad*): 168, n.8.

<sup>23</sup> Von Soden 1959-1981 (AHw): 77b s.v. *ašāgu(m)*.

<sup>24</sup> Civil 1987 (FS Reiner): 41-42; Civil 1987 (SAOC 46): 40-41; CAD B: 65-66 s.v. *baltu*; Maekawa 1990 (*BSA* 5): 123-124. Note that Campbell Thompson proposed an identification with Capers (Genus *capparis*) (Campbell Thompson 1949 (A Dictionary of Assyrian Botany): 175-178; Campbell Thompson 1903 (*Devils I*): 137). Capers are probably rather to be identified with *supālu* (Civil *apud* Miller 1995 (*BASOR* 297): 59).

<sup>25</sup> Campbell Thompson 1949 (A Dictionary of Assyrian Botany): 182-185.

<sup>26</sup> Civil 1960 (*RA* 54): 67; CAD E: 23 s.v. *eddetu*; Molina and Such-Gutiérrez 2004 (*JNES* 63): 9-10.

that the same logogram, <sup>giš</sup>Ú.GÍR-*gunu* (<sup>giš</sup>Ú.KIŠI<sub>16</sub>), is used for both.<sup>27</sup> The two plants are certainly different, however, as detailed by the CAD:<sup>28</sup>

‘Although the logogram <sup>giš</sup>Ú.GÍR is shared by *eddetu* and *ašāgu*, these two thorny plants have to be kept apart because they are treated separately in Uruanna (cf. for *ašāgu*, Uruanna I 171-189, for *eddetu*, ibid. I 306-320) and appear different contexts (*sic*) (*ašāgu* always with *baltu*, *eddetu* with *amurdinnu*). In med. texts <sup>giš</sup>Ú.GÍR represents a masc. noun and has therefore to be read *ašāgu*.’

Campbell Thompson’s unification of the two plants as a single species naturally confused his identification of the plant(s) in question, and his suggestions have not been adopted by any subsequent writer.

With the exception of occasional translations offering ‘camelthorn’, evidently deriving from the AHw translation ‘Kameldorn?’,<sup>29</sup> all other translations are apparently intended to represent *Prosopis farcta*. The vast majority of these, however, offer a translation which is simply wrong. These fall into three groups – acacia, mesquite, and ‘assyriologism’ – and all are, in one way or another, inaccurate and misleading. We will discuss each of these groups in turn.

### 3.7. Acacia

Among the most common translations in modern works is that found in two of the major dictionaries – acacia.<sup>30</sup> The CAD translates *ašāgu* as ‘a kind of acacia’<sup>31</sup> and the ePSD gives ‘a thorny bush, acacia’.<sup>32</sup>

The genus *Acacia*, scientifically speaking, is no longer to be found in Mesopotamia. In 2005, in the light of phylogenetic studies, the genus was segregated into five distinct genera.<sup>33</sup> *Acacia* is now reserved for the overwhelmingly Australian genus, which comprises 981 species just 10 of which are native to other countries. For our purposes, however, acacia can be taken to mean the following five species, which are those originally classified as acacia that are endemic to Mesopotamia:

- *Faidherbia Albida*, Winter Thorn or White Acacia
- *Vachellia Gerrardii*, Red Thorn or Grey-haired Acacia
- *Vachellia Nilotica*, Egyptian Thorn or Gum-Arabic tree
- *Vachellia Tortillis*, Umbrella Thorn Acacia

<sup>27</sup> CAD E: 23 s.v. *eddetu*. Presumably the Sumerian name is to be interpreted as ‘Sword plant’ on the basis of the sharp thorns which are a trait common to both *eddetu* and *ašāgu*.

<sup>28</sup> CAD E: 23b s.v. *eddetu*

<sup>29</sup> E.g. Jacobsen 1985 (*OrNS* 54): 72; Worthington 2006 (*JMC* 7): 41.

<sup>30</sup> eg Abusch and Schwemer 2011 (*CMAwR I*): 468; Veldhuis 1997 (*Education*): 108; Freedman 1998 (*Šumma ālu I*): 81, l. 52; Reiner 1995 (*Astral Magic*): 37, n. 153 (especially confusing as Reiner also gives the Linnaean *Prosopis Farcta* and the Arabic *Šōk*, neither of which are names of acacia).

<sup>31</sup> CAD A/2: 408 s.v. *ašāgu* and other volumes *passim*; ePSD s.v. *kišig*.

<sup>32</sup> <https://oracc.museum.upenn.edu/epsd2/sux/o0032336> (accessed 21/8/2024)

<sup>33</sup> Murphy 2008 (*Muelleria* 26): 10-11.

- *Vachellia Oerfota* (syn. *Nubica*), Green-barked Acacia<sup>234</sup>

As already discussed, none of these are to be identified with *ašāgu*. Although they are thorny plants, they are also, for the most part, majestic trees - the White Acacia can reach up to 98' (30m) in height. They are wholly distinct from *Prosopis farcta*.

The root of this confusion is essentially modern taxonomic variation. Among the Linnaean names proposed for *Prosopis farcta* are *Acacia stephaniana*, *Acacia heterocarpa*, and *Acacia persica*.<sup>35</sup> Later studies have separated *Prosopis* from *Acacia* altogether, and so there is no scientific justification to consider *ašāgu* a type of acacia. More fundamentally, it is a deeply misleading translation – the *ašāgu* is a little, prolific plant, not a giant tree.

### 3.8. 'Assyriologism'

Three of the names found in modern translations - 'false carob', 'oriental mesquite', and 'dwarf oriental mesquite' - appear to have been invented by Assyriologists. No such plants are listed in the databases of Kew Gardens or the Royal Horticultural Society, and a search on Google returns almost exclusively Assyriological publications. The two forms of mesquite are more or less variations on 'Syrian mesquite' which will be discussed below. False carob, however, deserves further consideration.

Among the various translations given for *ašāgu*, false carob is one of the more frequently used, often given without further detail.<sup>36</sup> Those who do elaborate include a Linnaean name,<sup>37</sup> mesquite,<sup>38</sup> the Arabic *Šok*,<sup>39</sup> or a combination of these names.<sup>40</sup> The use of false carob in translating *ašāgu* is presumably due to the fact that the seeds of the plant were named *harub* in several ancient sources, not least Uruanna.<sup>41</sup> *Harub* is the etymological root of the modern word carob, but just as <sup>giš</sup>Ú.KIŠI<sub>16</sub> was a sort of ancient taxonomic marker of 'thorny plant', *harub* was used for the fruit of a number of unrelated plants. We should probably understand it to mean, essentially, 'legume'.

Apart from the fact that it is not attested outside Assyriological literature, false carob is a poor choice of common name for *Prosopis Farcta*. In the first place, there is practically no similarity between the carob and *Prosopis Farcta*.<sup>42</sup> The former is a large, imposing thornless tree, while the latter is a knee-height, thorny, pernicious weed. Moreover, when the name is given without elaboration it is easily confused with a number of other species.

<sup>34</sup> The common name is given in Dharani 2006 (*Field Guide*): 122 but is elsewhere the name of several other varieties of *Vachellia*.

<sup>35</sup> Hughes, Ringelberg, Lewis and Catalano 2022 (*Phytokeys* 205): 165.

<sup>36</sup> e.g. Heeßel and Al-Rawi 2003 (*Iraq* 65): 237; Robson 1999 (*Mesopotamian Mathematics*): 163; Molina and Such-Gutiérrez 2004 (*JNES* 63): 9; Freedman 2017 (*Šumma ālu* III): 99, T.55, l.2..

<sup>37</sup> Held 1965 (*FS Landsberger*): 397; Rumor 2016 (*FS Milano*): 600, n.76.

<sup>38</sup> Maekawa 1990 (*BSA* 5): 123.

<sup>39</sup> CAD E: 23b.

<sup>40</sup> Civil 1987 (*SAOC* 46): 40.

<sup>41</sup> Uruanna is being edited for publication by JoAnn Scurlock. My thanks to her for sharing relevant parts of the text.

<sup>42</sup> There is a possibility that false carob is a direct translation of the Spanish *algarroba*, which is a genus of plants previously understood to form a section of the genus *Prosopis*. As will be discussed below, this is now considered a separate genus, and in any case was never part of the name of *Prosopis Farcta*.

One of the very few non-Assyriological references to the false carob identifies it with *Cercis Siliquastrum*, the Judas tree.<sup>43</sup> The identification is made on the basis that the scientific name of carob is *Ceratonia Siliqua*, and *Siliquastrum* is a ‘pejorative term’ describing the false version. While this is accurate to a certain extent, the inference that the Judas tree is the false carob is not. As Dalla Francesca notes, both *Siliqua* and *Siliquastrum* have the common Latin root *siliqua* ‘pod’, the difference being that the Judas tree also bears the suffix *-aster* which expresses incomplete resemblance.<sup>44</sup> Thus, the carob is named for its pods, while the Judas tree is named for its almost-pods.

The only other plant the current writer could find identified as False Carob is the *Cassia fistula* or Golden Shower tree. This plant is so named on a website selling seeds,<sup>45</sup> but in no other source that I have found. The only parallel is found in a 16<sup>th</sup> century Flora usually attributed to Matthaeus Lobellius, but more likely produced by Christophe Plantin,<sup>46</sup> in which a picture of *Cassia* is labelled ‘*Siliqua, aut Cassia purgatr. Arabum, Carobiis similis*’. This work predates the Linnaean taxonomy, but *Carobiis similis* evidently describes the plant as ‘Carob-like’. There is no clear link between this work and the seed website, so it is possible that the name was arrived at independently. Regardless, the plant is nothing to do with *Prosopis farcta*.

A final possible source of confusion is the *Robinia Pseudoacacia*, the false acacia, or black locust tree. The fruit of the carob is also known as the ‘locust bean,’<sup>47</sup> and the two are frequently confused on this basis. As *Robinia* is known as false acacia and easily mistaken for the carob, the name ‘false carob’ could easily lead to a misunderstanding, despite the fact *Robinia* is native to America and was not introduced to the old world until the 17<sup>th</sup> Century.<sup>48</sup>

There is no sensible justification for translating the ancient plant name with a modern one that seems to have been made up purely for translation’s sake. Worse, though, is the fact that several other unrelated plants could, to some degree, be misunderstood as *ašāgu* as a result. The name ‘false carob’ should therefore be abandoned in modern translations.

### 3.9. Mesquite

The final set of translations constitutes the ‘mesquite’ group: ‘mesquite’,<sup>49</sup> ‘oriental mesquite’,<sup>50</sup> and ‘spiny dwarf oriental mesquite’.<sup>51</sup> While ‘oriental mesquite’ is unknown

<sup>43</sup> Dalla Francesca 2016 (Biodiversity): 235. False carob is also given as the common name of *Ceratonia siliquastrum* in the English translation of a short work by Hermann Hesse, *Klage um einen alten Baum* (Hesse 2022 (*Trees*): 75). The name is not found in the original German (Hesse 1973 (*Kunst*): 377). I have not found the name attested anywhere else.

It is worth noting that Landsberger in his initial proposal to identify *eddetu* as *Prosopis Stephaniana* cautioned against confusing it with *Ceratonia siliqua* ‘carob’ (Landsberger 1937-1939 (*AfO* 12): 140, n.26).

<sup>44</sup> *Cercis* is from the Greek *κερκίς* ‘weaver’s shuttle’, also alluding to the shape of the pods.

<sup>45</sup> <https://ninaseeds.com/en/products/graines-cassia-fistula-cassier-faux-sene-faux-caroubier> (accessed 31/8/24).

<sup>46</sup> Plantin 1591 (*Icones Stirpium seu Plantarum Vol. II*): 104. Regarding the authorship of the book, see Du Mortier 1862 (*Opuscles*): 18, n.2.

<sup>47</sup> OED *sub voce* Locust II 5.

<sup>48</sup> If this is doubted, it should be noted that the current writer spent over an hour perplexed at the apparent presence of *Robinia* in Mesopotamia.

<sup>49</sup> Civil 1987 (SAOC 46): 40.

outside of assyriological literature, the basic identification with ‘mesquite’ is not wholly unjustified. The United States Department of Agriculture gives Syrian mesquite as a common name of *Prosopis farcta*,<sup>52</sup> on the basis that it is a member of the same genus as the native American ‘mesquite.’ This is a misnomer in several ways, however - Syrian Mesquite is neither Syrian nor Mesquite.

In the first place, though present in Syria, *Prosopis Farcta* is relatively uncommon there. In Jordan, Iran, and Central Asia, on the other hand, it is extremely common.<sup>53</sup> Moreover, as with acacia, the *Prosopis* genus has recently been disintegrated by molecular phylogenetic studies.<sup>54</sup> Until 2022, 57 species were classified as belonging to the genus *Prosopis*, divided taxonomically into five sections. The new world ‘mesquite’ species belonged to section *Algarobia*.<sup>55</sup> *Prosopis farcta* is one of just three old world species in the genus, all of which formed the section *Prosopis*.<sup>56</sup>

Under the new classification, the earlier ‘sections’ have become distinct genera in their own right. As a result, no species of ‘mesquite’ belongs to the genus *Prosopis*, and none of the three species belonging to the revised genus have generally accepted vernacular names.<sup>57</sup>

Mesquite is scientifically wrong, therefore, but, more fundamentally, it is just as misleading as any of the other common names discussed so far. Not only is mesquite an exclusively new world plant, unknown in ancient Mesopotamia, it does not share several of the major characteristics of *ašāgu*. While there are a wide range of species of Mesquite, varying in size and shape, the normal range is from 4-10 metres in height, with a thick central trunk. Simply put, mesquite is the name of several species of mid-sized, usually thorny, shrubs and trees.<sup>58</sup> This is not descriptive of *ašāgu*, and so should not be offered in translations.

### 3.10. Yanqout

As a weed native to no English speaking countries, *Prosopis Farcta* does not have a common English name in any real sense. As neither ‘mesquite’, nor ‘acacia’, nor ‘false carob’ will do, and no other English common name is apparent, it is necessary to find a new common name.

To this end, the present writer contacted Nick Pasiecznik, a professional botanist with an extensive history of research into *Prosopis*. Dr Pasiecznik advised me to gather a list of

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<sup>50</sup> Langlois 2011 (*JMC* 18): 64.

<sup>51</sup> Moore, Hillman and Legge 2000 (Abu Hureyra): 66.

<sup>52</sup> <https://plants.usda.gov/core/profile?symbol=PRFA2> (accessed 1/9/2024). Note that the name ‘Syrian mesquite’ is not, to my knowledge, used in Assyriological literature.

<sup>53</sup> Pasiecznik, N. personal communication. Presumably the names ‘oriental mesquite’ and ‘thorny dwarf oriental mesquite’ were attempts to circumvent this problem, but being assyriological inventions they suffer from the same shortcomings as ‘False carob’. In any case, given the fact that ‘mesquite’ is now taxonomically distinct from *Prosopis*, there seems no more reason to use the name than there would be ‘rose’ or ‘ivy’.

<sup>54</sup> Hughes, Ringelberg, Lewis and Catalano 2022 (*Phytokeys* 205): 147-148.

<sup>55</sup> Now combined with section *Monilicarpa* as the genus *Neltuma* (Hughes, Ringelberg, Lewis and Catalano 2022 (*Phytokeys* 205):

<sup>56</sup> The others are *Prosopis koelziana* and *Prosopis cineraria*.

<sup>57</sup> Pasiecznik 2001 (*Prosopis*): 20.

<sup>58</sup> Hughes, Ringelberg, Lewis and Catalano 2022 (*Phytokeys* 205): 169-171

common names in the languages of countries to which *P. Farcta* is native.<sup>59</sup> This list eventually consisted of 44 different names in 17 languages, but unfortunately offered no clear favourite. As the plant currently has no acceptable common name, however, he selected the Arabic name *Yanqout* on the basis that it belongs to the most common language in the regions to which the plant is native, and is not ambiguous in that, as far as is known, it refers only to *Prosopis Farcta*.<sup>60</sup>

### 3.11. Conclusion

In translating ‘acacia’ or ‘mesquite’, modern editions present a misleading view of the meaning of ancient texts. To a Mesopotamian, an instruction to do something with *ašāgu* essentially entailed walking to any nearby field, or even just to a clump growing from a wall, selecting the most abundant weed there, and picking it, or tying something to it,<sup>61</sup> or leaving something underneath it.<sup>62</sup> It did not require going to a giant tree and either getting enough rope to girdle it, or climbing up high enough to find a thorny bit. A direction to ‘put basalt, sulphur (and) *ru’ītū*-mineral on (glowing) *ašāgu*-thorn coal’<sup>63</sup> did not demand the practitioner to chop down a tree, or find a fallen branch, but simply to go and tear up some low weeds and chuck them in a fire.

Acacia, mesquite and yanqout all belong to the same taxonomic clade – *Mimosoideae*. As such, they share common traits, and have at times been considered to be even more closely related. Genetic research has now clarified the situation, however, and *Prosopis* stands as a distinct genus, not much more closely related to the others than a domestic dog is to a wolf or a jackal. They are distinct, and often very different, plants, and there is no obvious justification, except convention, for continuing to use any of the translations discussed above. Translations involving *ašāgu* can be made more accurate and simpler by adopting a single translation for what is, as far as is known, a single species of plant – *Prosopis farcta* ‘Yanqout’.

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<sup>59</sup> Pasiecznik, N. personal communication. See appendix for the list.

<sup>60</sup> Though *Tamūr al-Fakīra* 'Poor woman's dates' was a close second. The hint of a pun in Dr Pasiecznik's choice of the name Yanq-Out for an undesirable weed is, as far as I know, unintentional, but I noticed it several days later and not to draw attention to it would be remiss.

<sup>61</sup> See, e.g. Stadhouders 2018 (*RA* 112): 163 in which the practitioner is instructed to ‘rope [a frog] to an *ašāgu*’.

<sup>62</sup> See, e.g. Reiner 1958 (*Šurpu*): 38, 1.63.

<sup>63</sup> Abusch and Schwemer 2011 (CMAwR I): 141, 1.27'-28'.

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| Common Name                               | Language        | Notes and Sources                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Syrian Mesquite                           | English         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://plants.usda.gov/core/profile?symbol=PRFA2">https://plants.usda.gov/core/profile?symbol=PRFA2</a></li> <li>• <i>Passim</i></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Persian Mesquite                          | English         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.physchemres.org/article_38495.html">http://www.physchemres.org/article_38495.html</a></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Dwarf Mesquite                            | English         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.wildflowers.co.il/russian/plant.asp?ID=345">http://www.wildflowers.co.il/russian/plant.asp?ID=345</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://www.iosrjournals.org/iosr-jdms/papers/Vol13-issue5/Version-2/P013527277.pdf">http://www.iosrjournals.org/iosr-jdms/papers/Vol13-issue5/Version-2/P013527277.pdf</a></li> </ul> |
| Prickly Prosopis                          | English         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.biblicalgardens.com/Noet_Kedumim_List.html">http://www.biblicalgardens.com/Noet_Kedumim_List.html</a></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Thorn Bush                                | English         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://bnature.info/project/prosopis-farcta/">http://bnature.info/project/prosopis-farcta/</a></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| ú-gír 'thorn plant'                       | Sumerian        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not specific to <i>P. Farcta</i></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| še-tu <sup>mušen</sup> 'Dove's droppings' | Sumerian        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A name of the fruit only cf. 2 Kings 8:65</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <i>Ašāgu</i>                              | Akkadian        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Harūbu</i> 'pods'                      | Akkadian        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A name of the fruit only, not specific to <i>P. Farcta</i></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <i>Kharamba</i>                           | Arabic          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perhaps derived from Akkadian <i>Harūbu</i></li> <li>• Guest 1974, Flora of Iraq 3: p. 41</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <i>Kharnūb</i> 'Carob'                    | Iraqi Arabic    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A name of the fruit only in Amara, but of the whole plant in Basra.</li> <li>• Perhaps derived from Akkadian <i>Harūbu</i></li> <li>• Guest 1974, Flora of Iraq 3: p. 41</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                 |
| <i>Shōk/Shauk</i> 'Thorns'                | Iraqi Arabic    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Used from Mosul south.</li> <li>• Perhaps derived from Akkadian <i>Ašāgu</i></li> <li>• Guest 1974, Flora of Iraq 3: p. 41</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <i>Ausaj</i> 'Thorns'                     | Arabic          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perhaps derived from Akkadian <i>Ašāgu</i></li> <li>• Mandaville 1990, Flora of Eastern Saudi Arabia: p. 457.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| ششلان ( <i>Sheshlaan</i> )                | Egyptian Arabic | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://westerndesertflora.geolab.cz/herbarium/Prosopis_farcta.php">http://westerndesertflora.geolab.cz/herbarium/Prosopis_farcta.php</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://eol.org/pages/703106/names/common_names">http://eol.org/pages/703106/names/common_names</a></li> </ul>                                                 |
| شيلشيلآوي ( <i>Shilshilāwi</i> )          | Arabic          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guest 1974, Flora of Iraq 3: p. 41</li> <li>• <a href="http://eol.org/pages/703106/names/common_names">http://eol.org/pages/703106/names/common_names</a></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                |
| عَقِيل (عَقِيل) ( <i>Eaqil/Euqqyl</i> )   | Arabic          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://eol.org/pages/703106/names/common_names">http://eol.org/pages/703106/names/common_names</a></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| عَجُول (عَجُول) ( <i>Eajul/Eajwl</i> )    | Arabic          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://eol.org/pages/703106/names/common_names">http://eol.org/pages/703106/names/common_names</a></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

|                                             |               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| عقول (عقول) ( <i>Eaqul/Eaqwl</i> )          | Arabic        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://eol.org/pages/703106/names/common_names">http://eol.org/pages/703106/names/common_names</a></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <i>Shamuth</i>                              | Arabic        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://eol.org/pages/703106/names/common_names">http://eol.org/pages/703106/names/common_names</a></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <i>Yanqout</i>                              | Arabic        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.floraofqatar.com/fabaceae.htm">http://www.floraofqatar.com/fabaceae.htm</a></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <i>Yunbūt</i>                               | Arabic        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guest 1974, Flora of Iraq 3: p. 41</li> <li>• <a href="http://faculty.ksu.edu.sa/assaeed/Pages/Prosopis_farcta.aspx">http://faculty.ksu.edu.sa/assaeed/Pages/Prosopis_farcta.aspx</a></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <i>Tamūr al-Fakīra</i> 'Poor woman's dates' | Syrian Arabic | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guest 1974, Flora of Iraq 3: p. 41</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| נבוט השדה ( <i>Yinvot Hshdh</i> )           | Hebrew        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.wildflowers.co.il/russian/plant.asp?ID=345">http://www.wildflowers.co.il/russian/plant.asp?ID=345</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596">http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596</a></li> </ul>                                                                            |
| <i>Kharul / Hizma</i> (pl. <i>Hizmi</i> )   | Hebrew        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.biblicalgardens.com/Noet_Kedumim_List.html">http://www.biblicalgardens.com/Noet_Kedumim_List.html</a></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <i>Pishik Dyrnagy</i>                       | Azeri         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596">http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596</a></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <i>Pshik-Dernak</i>                         | Turkmen       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.gbif.org/species/5358492/vernaculars">http://www.gbif.org/species/5358492/vernaculars</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596">http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596</a></li> </ul>                                                                                        |
| <i>Kharpup</i>                              | Armenian      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perhaps derived from Akkadian <i>Ḥarūbu</i></li> <li>• <a href="http://www.gbif.org/species/5358492/vernaculars">http://www.gbif.org/species/5358492/vernaculars</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596">http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596</a></li> </ul>                                 |
| كهورك (Kahoorak)                            | Farsi         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perhaps derived from Akkadian <i>Ḥarūbu</i></li> <li>• <a href="http://www.actaplantarum.org/floraitaliae/viewtopic.php?t=83879">http://www.actaplantarum.org/floraitaliae/viewtopic.php?t=83879</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596">http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596</a></li> </ul> |
| جفجفه (Jagjage)                             | Farsi         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.gbif.org/species/5358492/vernaculars">http://www.gbif.org/species/5358492/vernaculars</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596">http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596</a></li> </ul>                                                                                        |
| <i>Khirnūk</i>                              | Kurdish       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perhaps derived from Akkadian <i>Ḥarūbu</i></li> <li>• Guest 1974, Flora of Iraq 3: p. 41</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

|                                           |         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Kharnuf</i>                            | Kurdish | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perhaps derived from Akkadian <i>Harūbu</i></li> <li>• Guest 1974, Flora of Iraq 3: p. 41</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <i>Belaver</i>                            | Kurdish | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.actaplantarum.org/floraitaliae/viewtopic.php?t=83879">http://www.actaplantarum.org/floraitaliae/viewtopic.php?t=83879</a></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <i>Estiri/Astri</i> 'Prickles/thorns'     | Kurdish | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guest 1974, Flora of Iraq 3: p. 41</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Mimozka</i><br><i>Kolbasoobraznaya</i> | Russian | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perhaps derived from Akkadian <i>Harūbu</i></li> <li>• <a href="http://www.gbif.org/species/5358492/vernaculars">http://www.gbif.org/species/5358492/vernaculars</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596">http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596</a></li> </ul>                                 |
| <i>Mimozka Nabitaya</i>                   | Russian | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.gbif.org/species/5358492/vernaculars">http://www.gbif.org/species/5358492/vernaculars</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596">http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596</a></li> </ul>                                                                                        |
| <i>Mimozka Vypolnennaya</i>               | Russian | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.gbif.org/species/5358492/vernaculars">http://www.gbif.org/species/5358492/vernaculars</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596">http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596</a></li> </ul>                                                                                        |
| <i>Dzhindzhak</i>                         | Tajik   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perhaps derived from Arabic <i>Shauk</i>, and so from Akkadian <i>Ašāgu</i></li> <li>• <a href="http://www.gbif.org/species/5358492/vernaculars">http://www.gbif.org/species/5358492/vernaculars</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596">http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596</a></li> </ul> |
| <i>Zhinzhak</i>                           | Uzbek   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perhaps derived from Arabic <i>Shauk</i>, and so from Akkadian <i>Ašāgu</i></li> <li>• <a href="http://www.gbif.org/species/5358492/vernaculars">http://www.gbif.org/species/5358492/vernaculars</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596">http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596</a></li> </ul> |
| <i>Jinjak</i>                             | Urdu    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perhaps derived from Arabic <i>Shauk</i>, and so from Akkadian <i>Ašāgu</i></li> <li>• <a href="http://www.gbif.org/species/5358492/vernaculars">http://www.gbif.org/species/5358492/vernaculars</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596">http://openup.nhm-wien.ac.at/commonNames/references/scientificName/98596</a></li> </ul> |
| <i>Çediotu</i>                            | Turkish | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.feedipedia.org/node/262">http://www.feedipedia.org/node/262</a></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <i>Çeti</i>                               | Turkish | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.feedipedia.org/node/262">http://www.feedipedia.org/node/262</a></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

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|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Acatin</i>     | Spanish <sup>?</sup> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bovey 2016, Mesquite: History, Growth, Biology, Uses and Management: page 223</li> <li>• <a href="https://icbemp.gov/science/rice1_1.pdf">https://icbemp.gov/science/rice1_1.pdf</a></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                   |
| Αρκοσκουρουπαθκιά | Greek                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://savvastryfonosplants.com/prospis-farcta/">http://savvastryfonosplants.com/prospis-farcta/</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://www.flora-of-cyprus.eu/cdm_dataportal/taxon/5045fc62-1cc9-4d58-a0a7-beaad9646f16">http://www.flora-of-cyprus.eu/cdm_dataportal/taxon/5045fc62-1cc9-4d58-a0a7-beaad9646f16</a></li> </ul> |
| Σκουρούπαθος      | Greek                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://savvastryfonosplants.com/prospis-farcta/">http://savvastryfonosplants.com/prospis-farcta/</a></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                          |