

Supplemental Table 1: Count of phytoliths by modern plant species and plant part.

Species	Plant Part				Woody Tissue	Grand Total
	Culm	Leaf	Thorn	Whole		
<i>Acacia mellifera</i>	0	0	0	0	57	57
<i>Acacia nilotica</i>	0	130	0	0	30	160
<i>Acacia tortilis</i>	0	107	0	0	62	169
<i>Aloe secundiflora</i>	0	93	0	0	7	100
<i>Aristida adoensis</i>	0	280	0	0	0	280
<i>Asparagus africanus</i>	0	40	0	0	38	78
<i>Balanites aegyptiaca</i>	0	21	0	0	36	57
<i>Barleria eranthemoides</i>	0	113	0	0	17	130
<i>Boscia angustifolia</i>	0	304	0	0	235	539
<i>Cissus cactiformis</i>	0	0	0	0	140	140
<i>Cissus quadrangularis</i>	0	0	0	0	25	25
<i>Commiphora africana</i>	0	0	0	0	29	29
<i>Commiphora merkeri</i>	0	0	23	0	0	23
<i>Commiphora spp</i>	0	121	0	0	0	121
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	0	219	0	0	0	219
<i>Hypoestes forskoolii</i>	0	107	0	0	2	109
<i>Maerua tryphilla</i>	0	109	0	0	59	168
<i>Melhania parviflora</i>	0	44	0	0	139	183
<i>Ocimum spp.</i>	0	44	0	0	78	122
<i>Pennisetum mezianum</i>	50	284	0	0	0	334
<i>Salvadora persica</i>	0	2	0	0	14	16
<i>Sansevieria robusta</i>	0	0	0	0	23	23
<i>Sarcostemma viminale</i>	0	0	0	0	12	12
<i>Sporobolus africanus</i>	0	0	0	330	0	330
<i>Sporobolus consimilis</i>	0	237	0	0	0	237
<i>Sporobolus panicoides</i>	217	0	0	0	0	217
<i>Sporobolus spp.</i>	0	227	0	0	0	227
<i>Ximения caffra</i>	0	194	0	0	11	205
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>2676</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>1014</b>	<b>4310</b>