DONEY, D. L., U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, P.O. Box 5677 - University Station, Fargo, ND 8105. - Wild beet in Egypt.

The wild beets of Egypt are considered to be some of the most primitive. Because of the long history of farming in Egypt, it was anticipated that few wild types would be found. On the contrary, many were found, due mainly to their use as a leaf vegetable by local farmers. Collections were made at selected locations scattered throughout the Delta area, west to Matruh, in the Fayyum area of Middle Egypt, and in the Luxor area of Upper Egypt. A more intensive collection effort was made around the Alexandria area. A total of 26 locations were sampled. Wild beets appear to be distributed throughout the Delta. They were more sparsely distributed in the Fayyum and Luxor areas, where farmers were found collecting and growing wild beets as a green vegetable. In these areas, the farmers are serving as a means of preserving the wild *Beta* germplasm; however, their actions may have exerted selection pressure for leaf type beets.

performance. As the severity of disease increased, resistance from P1 109401 gave better protection than Az The combined resistance and better than either alone. In greenhouse and rield tests, Az and a ractor from ND 41 (C48) reacted differently. In a field test unuer moderate and severe conditions, Rhizosen FNz resistance) and Rivor had 30% reduction in yield, whereas a line with B. maritime dources of resistance (C50) had 6% additional loss. The effects of differences in gene frequencies and genetic backgrounds may have contounded these results and could not by discounted.