Scientists of Plant Taxonomy

1- **Theophrastus** (285-370 B.C.)

A student of Aristotle and known as the Father of Botany, he classified all the plants to trees, shrubs, undershrubs, and herbs, and distinguished between annual, biennial, perennial duration. Also differentiated between centripetal (indeterminate) and centrifugal (determinate) inflorescences, recognized differences in ovary position. In his Historia Plantarum he classified and described about 480 kinds of plants.

2- **Pliny** (23-79 A.D.)

A scientist from Italy, he wrote during his short life a Flora of 37 volumes in Historia Naturalis. He classified the tree plant to forest, fruit, and un-familiar trees.

3- **Dioscorides** (First Anno Domini Century)

He was a Greek physician, his Materia Medica, involved a description of morphology and medicinal characters for 600 plant species. He divided these plants to aromatic, culinary, and medicinal. From the plant names which was used by him and still use nowadays: *Aloe*, *Anemone*, *Phaseolus*, and *Aristolochia*.

4- **Otto Brunfels** (1464-1534 A.D.)

Born in Germany, his book Herbarium considered as a beginning of modern plant taxonomy, largely he depended on the works of Theophrastus, Dioscorides, and Pliny. He was the first person who recognized the perficti and imperfecti, groups of plants based on the presence and absence of flowers respectively.

5- **Andrea Cesalpino** (1519-1603 A.D.)

An Italian scientist, constructed a herbarium involved 768 dried plant, these plants consider as the ancient conserved plant specimens. He classified the plant in to woody and herbaceous plants, and then classified them according to the type of fruits and seeds, also depended on other characters as the ovary position. From his results that the fruiting organs are more important in the taxonomy.

6- **Casper Bauhin** (1560-1634 A.D.)

In 1623, he published a book involved 6000 plant species. For the first time, he used the binomial nomenclature (although he didn't use it inclusively), later, Linnaeus has been given the advantage for exploration   binomial nomenclature because he used it as a fixative system and without exceptions.

7- **John Ray** (1628-1705 A.D.)

An English scientist, he published a book under the title Historia Plantarum, involved 18000 plant species, and divided it as the following:

1- Herbae: (herbs)

A- Imperfectae: Algae, Fungi, Bryopsida, Pteridophyta

B- Perfectae:

a -Monocotyledonae

b- Dicotyledonae

2- Arborae: (trees and shrubs)

a -Monocotyledonae

b- Dicotyledonae