Figures

I.1	Bottle of Turlington's Balsam of Life, c. 1880	4
I.2	Albarello drug jar used for 'balsam of the philosophers'	5
1.1	Fruit and flowers of Calotropis procera, known as 'Apples of	
	Sodom'	24
1.2	Front cover of Michel-Marie Jullien, L'Arbre de la Vierge à	
	Matarieh, fourth edition	27
1.3	Church at Matarea, Egypt, constructed from 1902	28
1.4	Chapel in the gardens of Matarea constructed by the College of	
	Jesuits, Cairo	28
1.5	Sycamore fig in the gardens of Matarea	28
1.6	Woodcut map of Cairo from Sebastian Münster, Cosmographia;	
	and detail	30-1
1.7	Illustration of the balsam tree and the walled compound of	
	Matarea from Tractatus de herbis manuscript, Salerno,	
	c. 1280–1310	32
1.8	Sketch of a manuscript illustration of the balsam tree and	
	the walled compound of Matarea from a pharmacological	
	manuscript including the Tractatus de herbis	32
1.9	Illustration of the chapel and surrounding features of the	
	plantation of Matarea from the travel journal of Bernardino da	
	Gallipoli	34
1.10	Water-lifting device (sāqiya) with the obelisk of Heliopolis and	
	in the gardens of Matarea	34
2.1	Map of the sites associated with ancient balsam cultivation and	
	production	54
2.2	Painted relief showing trees carried in baskets	54

2.3	Map of the ancient incense routes in Arabia and the Horn of Africa	56
2.4	View of ancient Petra, Jordan	57
2.5	Installation used in the production of perfumes, 'Ein Boqeq,)/
2.)	Israel. After Fischer, Gichon and Tal, 'En Bogeg	65
2.6	Installation used in the production of perfumes, 'Ein Feshka,	0)
2.0	Israel. After Dov Porotsky in Hirschfeld, 'The rose and the	
	balsam'	66
2.7	Ceramic juglet wrapped in palm leaves found in the Qumran	ÜC.
2./	region	67
20	č	0/
2.8	Obverse and reverse faces of a 'Judaea capta' sesterce minted	69
2.9	by Vespasian in 71 CE	05
2.9	Relief showing the Triumph through Rome of Titus, Arch of Titus, Rome. 71 ce	70
2 10		/ (
2.10	Inscription panel on the floor mosaic of the synagogue in En-Gedi, Israel	73
2.11		/3
2.11	Detail of the floor mosaic in the church of St George, Madaba, Jordan	74
3.1	Stereoscopic photograph of obelisk located at 'Ayn Shams	/4
<i>J</i> .1	(Heliopolis)	90
3.2	Sheet of papyrus	92
3.3	Map of Cairo and the surrounding areas in the medieval	92
5.5	period	94
3.4	•	24
3.4	Qubba of Yashbak min Mahdi at al-Malaqa bi'l-Matariyya, Cairo	102
3.5	Illustration of Yashbak's palace	102
3.6	View of the Palace of Qawsun, renovated by Amir Yashbak	103
3.0	•	104
4.1	min Mahdi, at al-Malaqa bi'l-Matariyya, Cairo	
4.1 4.2	Balsam tree from the Arabic Dioscorides, dated 1083	127
	Balsam tree being harvested	129
4.3	Balsam tree being harvested. From <i>Kitāb al-diryāq</i>	130
4.4	Balsam tree within a walled garden with guards	131
4.5	Balsam tree in the <i>Book of Simples</i> of Matthaeus Platearius	132
4.6	Woodcut illustration of a branch from a balsam tree from the	122
	1591 edition of Prosper Alpin. De halsamo dialogus	133

viii | THE QUEEN OF SHEBA'S GIFT

4.7	Illustrations of the fruit and wood of the balsam tree from John	
	Gerard, Herball	134
4.8	Illustration of the fruit of the balsam tree from John Gerard,	
	Herball	134
4.9	Woodcut illustration of a balsam tree from Prosper Alpin,	
	De plantis Aegypti	135
4.10	Illustration of a balsam tree from Pierre Pomet, Histoire	
	générale des drogues	136
4.11	Illustration of a balsam tree. From Benoît de Maillet,	
	Description de l'Égypte	137
4.12	Mecca balsam (Commiphora opobalsamum): entire plant	139
5.1	Giorgio Vasari, Lorenzo de' Medici receiving gifts from the	
	ambassador of the Mamluk sultan	159
5.2	Reception of the Venetian ambassadors in Damascus, after	
	1511	160
5.3	Pilgrim ampulla, Palestine, sixth century. Museo del Duomo,	
	Monza	166
5.4	Metal flask containing Zamzam water	166
6.1	Fragmentary head of Mithradates VI Eupator	193
6.2	Portrait of Emperor Nero from the obverse face of an aureus	194
6.3	Dioscorides and student holding a mandrake plant. Arabic	
	Dioscorides	199
7.1	Diagram showing the recipe for pastilles of Hedychroum from	
	Kitāb al-diryāq	222
7.2	Diagram showing the theriac of Andromachus. Kitāb al-diryāq	223
7.3	Pewter container for theriac, Venice	224
7.4	Theriac stamp, Venice, 1601–80	225
7.5	Drug jars for holding Mithridatium	226
7.6	Glazed albarello for storing theriac, Italy, 1641	227
8.1	Ceramic ampulla with relief images of St Menas and camels.	
	Egypt	242
8.2	Bird-shaped gold ampulla, made in 1661 by Sir Robert Viner	
	and the coronation spoon	254
8.3	Cornice block showing the anointing of a pharaoh, temple of	
	Harendotes, Philae Island, Egypt	255

LIST OF FIGURES | ix

8.4	Samuel anointing David. Silver plate, 629–30	258
8.5	Samuel anointing David, Theodore Psalter, Constantinople,	
	1066	259
8.6	Drawing of a detail from an ivory plaque with baptism of	
	Clovis, c. 850	260
9.1	Fifteenth- or sixteenth-century glazed dish set into a vault in	
	the mosque of Nushabad, Iran	280