Overview

1. The project
2. The team
3. Overview of arctic plants
4. Peoples and languages of the Arctic
5. Case studies

Plants and peoples of the North

1. Arctic plants are circumpolar
2. Indigenous peoples and languages vary over the ranges of these plants.
3. There have been recent migrations of peoples across the plant ranges.
Fundamental questions

How have plant names and uses changed with these migrations?

How has this knowledge been affected by contact and language attrition?

The collaborators

Simone Whitecloud

Lenore Grenoble

Lenore Grenoble

Ecologist seeks linguist

"As you begin to search for a linguist who can accompany you in the field, you will likely find several types of potential collaborators. You may discover that there are university linguists who are specialized in one or more languages of your study area. But if you visit a university linguistics department, do not be surprised to find many researchers dedicated to contemporary approaches such as transformational linguistics or sociolinguistics."

Overview of arctic plants

Arctic flora

- 1500 plant species
- 60% shared
- 90% shared in the north
Migration of people and information

Reconstructing knowledge
- issues with documenting knowledge that is lost
- have lost knowledge, but not as much as they think
- who are the experts?
  - our own interviews with self-identified experts
  - interviews by others archived at the Greenland National Archives & Museum
Reconstructing knowledge

• issues with documenting knowledge that is lost
• have lost knowledge, but not as much as they think

• who are the experts?
  • our own interviews with self-identified experts
  • interviews by others archived at the Greenland National Archives & Museum
  • Vilde Grønlandske planter til mad drikke og helse (Jespersen 1985)
  • Published field guides
  • Published sources aimed for non-scientists (Walks with Aalasi)
  • Scientific articles (e.g. Porsild1953)

Sources are in various languages:
  Danish
  English
  French (??)
  Inuktitut
  Kalaallisut
“The recipes for Norse dishes are modern inspirations . . . We will not argue that these recipes reflect the Norse fare in Greenland—but rather that the Norsemen might have appreciated these dishes”

(Larsen & Oldenberg 2000: 213)

Recipes in Larsen & Oldenberg (2000) are coded as follows:

- Traditional Greenlandic Fare
- Norse Fare
- Colonial Greenlandic Fare
- Contemporary Greenlandic Fare

Who are the experts?

- Anne Sofie Hardenberg, culinary ambassador to Greenland
- ‘Our meat is the best of the world, and the herbs too’

Anne Sofie Hardenberg - kaffemik 2, Cooking Greenland Style

Case Studies

- Angelica archangelica
  - angelica
- Ledum palustre ssp. decumbens
- Ledum groenlandicum
  - Labrador tea

Artic plants

Angelica archangelica

Linguistic data:
- anglicka
- archangelica

Recipes:
- Angelica

Flora:
- other plants

Preparation:
- 2-3 cm wide

Kal
- kuanniq, quaralik, issulik

E
- Norwegian angelica, angelica

Lat
- Apiaceae: Angelica archangelica

D
- Fjeld-kvan

ECI
- kuaniq

Inuk
- kwaniq

Preparation:
- type of edible seaweed

Schneider (1985-149):
- angelica. Schneider (1985-149) kelp type of edible seaweed, long stem 2-3 cm wide.
### Challenges encourage collaboration

- Challenges in plant identification
- Challenges linguistics
  - tracing the etymologies
- understanding the languages and names
- accessing and reconstructing the information and the experts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kal</th>
<th>qajaasat</th>
<th>qajaasaq</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lat</td>
<td>Ledum groenlandicum</td>
<td>this is the large-leaved species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Labrador tea</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Grønlandsk post</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kal</th>
<th>qajaasaaraq</th>
<th>FG 73</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lat</td>
<td>Ericaceae: Ledum palustre ssp. decumbens</td>
<td>this is the narrow-leaved species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>mose-post</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iñuq</td>
<td>qijukaaptaq</td>
<td>Aalasi 16, 78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wupiaq</td>
<td>ilaqqiqluq</td>
<td>Anderson et al. 1977: 285</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>