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**CHARACTERISTICS AND ECOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF
 CRATAEGUS L. PLANTS IN THE CONDITIONS OF
 KARAKALPAKSTAN**

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ABSTRACT

The article provides information on the aim of our work is to study the biological features of the species of the genus hawthorn, in connection with their introduction in the conditions of the Southern Aral Sea region. Introduction of new plant species is an important issue for the Republic of Karakalpakstan, characterized by severe soil and climatic conditions. Hawthorn was first introduced in England in 1750. Already in the XVIII and XIX centuries, hawthorns appeared in Holland, France, Denmark, and Sweden, but only up to 40 species were used in landscaping. In many botanical gardens of the former USSR in the 1930s-1940s, work began on the introduction of hawthorns into culture.

KEYWORDS: Hawthorn, *Crataegus L.*, introduction, flowers bloom, vitamins, flora, Botanical Gardens, Southern Aral Sea region.

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