Illustration of plants, flowers, and fruits is part of artistic traditions from prehistory to modern times.

Paleolithic representation of a plant scratched on a reindeer horn.

Ancient Egypt

Tomb of Osiris with sacred tamarisk.
History of Horticulture: Lecture 40

Flora, goddess of flowers

Garden painting, Pompeii
Casa del Bracciale d'Oro

Silver cup decorated with olives, House of Menader, Pompeii
History of Horticulture: Lecture 40

Festoons

New World Cucurbits, Maize & Beans

Cucurbita maxima
Cucurbita pepo
Phaseolus vulgaris
Zea mays
Giuseppe Arcimboldo (1526–1593)

Summer
Portrait of Rudolph II

Fall
Giovanna Garzoni (1600–1670)

Ceramic Bowl with Pears and Morning Glories

Flowers in a Vase on a Marble Base with two Seashells and Butterflies

Peter Paul Rubens (1577–1640)
Flemish Flower Paintings (17th century)

Paulus Theodorus van Brussel, *Fruit and Flowers*

Jacob van Walscappelle, *Flowers in Glass Vase*

Jan Davidsz de Heem
Olive Trees with Yellow Sky and Sun, 1889
Wheat Field with Cypresses at the Haute Gardine Near Eygalieres, 1889

Irises 1889, 1890

Pears
Sunflowers, 1888

Still Life with Apples, a Pear, and a Ceramic

Still Life with Tomatoes

Paul Gauguin (1848–1903)