



Endemic Vascular Plants of Marble and Serpentine Parent Materials in Semiarid Grassland

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ABSTRACT

Endemism is an important criterion for identification of floristic regions and determination of floristic properties of these regions. Turkey is one of the world's major countries in terms of endemism over 3.000 endemic plant species. This study was carried out in order to determine the floristic composition and endemic plant species on the serpentine and marble (metamorphic rocks) parent material in semi-arid grassland in Çankırı-Eldivan. For this reason plant samples were collected in different growing season in 2014 (month of between April- September), approximately 4ha (Marble, 3.88 ha; Serpentine, 0.08 ha) area in Çankırı-Eldivan. Study area is located A4 square according to the grid system of P.H. Davis (1965-1988) and Irano-Turanian region in phytogeographic respect. As a result of the plant sampling carried out in the area; 16 families, 27 genera, 31 species determined in serpentine parent material. Among of these plants 9 of them are endemic plant. Endemism rate of the serpentine area is 29%. In addition, 20 families, 58 genera, 72 species of plants have been identified in marble parent material and 14 plant taxa of these species endemic. Endemism ratio is 19%. Results of this study showed that parent material effects of plant diversity and endemism ratio.

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Yarıkurak Meralarda Bulunan Mermer ve Serpantin Ana Materyalinin Endemik Vasküler Bitkileri

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ÖZET

Endemizm, floristik bölgelerin tanımlanması ve bu bölgelerin floristik özelliklerinin belirlenmesi için önemli bir kriterdir. Türkiye, 3.000'den fazla endemik bitki türü ile endemizm açısından dünyanın en büyük ülkelerinden biridir. Bu çalışma, Çankırı-Eldivan'da yarı kurak meralarda serpantin ve mermer (metamorfik kayalar) anamateryali üzerinde gelişen floristik kompozisyonun ve endemik bitki türlerinin belirlenmesi amacıyla yürütülmüştür. Bu kapsamda, bitki örnekleri 2014 yılı vejetasyon süresi içinde farklı dönemlerde (Nisan-Eylül ayları arasında) Çankırı-Eldivan'da yaklaşık 4 ha (Mermer (3,88 ha), Serpantin (0,08 ha)) alanda toplanmıştır. Çalışma alanı, P.H. Davis (1965-1985) grid sistemine göre A4 karesindedir ve İran-Turan fitocoğrafik Bölgesindedir. Alanda yapılan bitki örnekleme sonucunda; serpantin ana materyalinde 16 familya, 27 cins ve 31 tür tespit edilmiştir. Bu bitkilerden 9'u endemik bitkidir. Serpantinli alanının endemizm oranı %29'dur. Buna ek olarak, mermer ana materyalinde ise 20 familya, 58 cins ve 72 bitki türü ve bu türlerin 14'nün endemik bitki taksonu olduğu tespit edilmiştir. Endemizm oranı %19'dur. Bu çalışmanın sonuçları, ana materyalin bitki çeşitliliği ve endemizm oranının etkilerini göstermiştir.

Introduction

The continual rapid population growth, industrialization and the increase in demand for natural resources hereby have become a threat for living and nonliving resources that a country can have. The destruction in the living resources that are of great importance for the country causes impairment in the ecologic balance and decrease in the biological diversity. It is known that more than 1.7 million plant and animal species have been defined in the world and Turkey is among the richest countries in Europe and the Middle East in terms of biological diversity.

According to the 10th volume of the work entitled "Flora of Turkey and the East Aegean Islands" published by P.H. Davis, there are 8575 plant species in Turkey. 2651 of them are endemic. The ratio of endemism is 30.9% (Davis, 1965-1988). According to the results of the studies after the year two thousand, the number of taxa has reached to 12 000 increasingly with the definition of new species and subspecies. 2991 (2941 of them are from Turkey and 50 of them are from the East Aegean Islands) of these plants are endemic. The ratio of endemic taxa of the total plant taxa in Turkey (endemism) is 34.4% (Ekim et al., 2000; Güner et al., 2000; Erik and Tarıkahya, 2004, Özhatay and Kültür, 2006; Özhatay et al., 2011; Güner et al., 2012). Mediterranean and Eastern Anatolia are the richest regions in terms of endemic plant (Erik and Tarıkahya, 2004). These regions are followed by Central Anatolia, Black Sea, Aegean, Marmara and Southeast Anatolia respectively (Uyanık et al., 2013).

Among the factors which are effective in Turkey's having rich plant diversity are the climate of Turkey, its geographical location, Turkey's being a peninsula and its geomorphological structure (I.e. The mountains extend parallel along the shore, high mountainous areas). At the same time, different climate type, parent material and soil characteristics also affect the vegetation, accordingly the rate of endemism.

In line with this, the purpose of this paper is twofold: (1) to determine of floristic composition of vascular plant species grown on marble and serpentine parent material and (2) to compare of the endemism rates of vascular plant species growing in the soil formed on the marble and serpentine parent material which are different metamorphic rocks. In short, this paper undertakes to evaluate how the metamorphic rocks impact the endemism rates of vascular plant species in semiarid grassland. In this context, there is a linear relation between parent material and endemism. This study was carried out determination of endemic plant growth on different serpentine and marble parent material in semiarid grassland in Çankırı-Eldivan.

Material and Methods

Study Area

The study area is Eldivan country, which is affiliated to Çankırı province and located in the southeast of the province in central Kızılırmak District of Central Anatolia Region. Its location is between 40° 34' 41"-40° 20' 38" north latitude and 33° 36' 00"- 33° 25' 10" east longitude (Figure 1). The country is located in the Çankırı G31-d4

and G30-c3 map sections on a topographical map with a 1/25 000 scale. The marble parent material takes up 3.88 ha and the serpentine parent material takes up 0.08 ha in the study area (Figure 1).

According to the meteorological data (18 years of climatic data 1989-2007) about Eldivan District, the mean annual temperatures 10°C, the mean monthly average ranging from 1°C (January) to 2°C (July-August). The average annual precipitation is 496 mm, with the maximum monthly precipitation (53 mm) in December and the minimum (21 mm) in July (Anonymous, 2007).

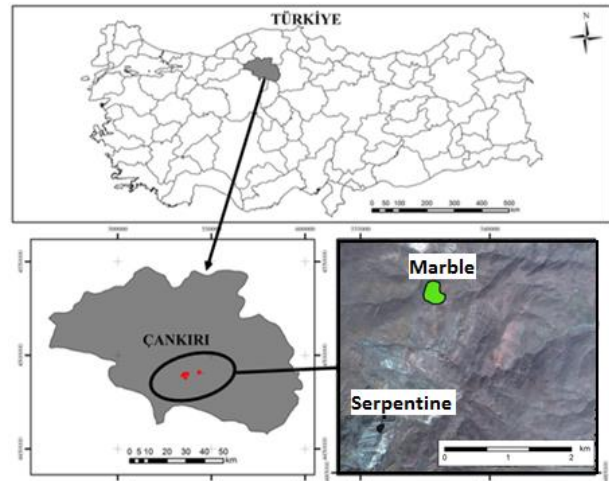


Fig 1 Map of the study area

Plant Sampling

Study area is located A4 square according to the grid system of P.H. Davis (1965-1985) and Iranian-Turan region in phytogeographic respect. Plant samples were collected and recorded periodically from April to September (the vegetation period) in 2014 in approximately 4ha (Marble, 3.88 ha; Serpentine, 0.08 ha) area in Çankırı-Eldivan.

It has been noted that plant samples are robust, their leaves are full, their flowers are open and undamaged, their fruits and seeds are mature. From each plant species at least two pairs of samples were taken and they were placed in the Herbarium of the Faculty of Science of Çankırı Karatekin University after being identified. Komarov (1978), Bor et al. (1969) and particularly the work of "The Flora of Turkey and Eastern Aegean Islands (Davis, 1965-1988)" were used in recognition of the samples of the plants.

Results

As a result of the identification of plant samples, which were collected and recorded periodically from April to September (the vegetation period) in 2014 to evaluate the flora of the region, naturally marble parent material vegetation consist of 20 families 58 genus 72 species, serpentine vegetation formed from in 16 families, 27 genus, 31 species (Table 1a,1b).

Table 1a Floristic composition of study area

PM	Family	Species	E	P	
S	Rosaceae	<i>Sanguisorba minor</i> Scop. subsp. <i>muricata</i> (Spach) Briq.		Widespread	
	Plumbaginaceae	<i>Acantholimon caesareum</i> Boiss. & Bal.	LC	Irano-Turanian	
	Linaceae	<i>Linum trigynum</i> L.		Mediterranean	
	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Euphorbia herniariifolia</i> Willd. var. <i>herniariifolia</i>			
	Crassulaceae	<i>Sedum album</i> L.		Widespread	
	Cistaceae	<i>Fumana paphlagonica</i> Bornm. & Janchen	LC	Irano-Turanian	
	Asteraceae	<i>Anthemis cretica</i> L. subsp. <i>albida</i> (Boiss.) Grierson			Widespread
		<i>Crepis foetida</i> L. subsp. <i>commutata</i> (Spreng.) Babcock			
		<i>Inula montbretiana</i> DC.			Irano-Turanian
		<i>Xeranthemum annuum</i> L.			Widespread
	Caryophyllaceae	<i>Minuartia anatolica</i> (Boiss.) Waron var. <i>arachnoidea</i> McNeill	LC		Irano-Turanian
		<i>Dianthus balansae</i> Boiss.	LC		
	Poaceae	<i>Bromus scoporius</i> L.			
		<i>Bromus tectorum</i> L. subsp. <i>tectorum</i> L.			
		<i>Aegilops columnaris</i> Zhukovsky			Irano-Turanian
		<i>Pennisetum orientale</i> L. C. M. Richard			Irano-Turanian
	Brassicaceae	<i>Alyssum sibiricum</i> Willd.			
		<i>Alyssum murale</i> Waldst. & Kit. var. <i>murale</i> Waldst. & Kit.			
		<i>Alyssum pateri</i> Nyar. subsp. <i>pateri</i> Nyar.	LC		Irano-Turanian
		<i>Erysimum leucanthemum</i> (Steph.) Fedtsch.			
	Boraginaceae	<i>Onosma sericeum</i> Willd.			Irano-Turanian
		<i>Onosma isauricum</i> Boiss. & Heldr.	LC		Irano-Turanian
		<i>Alkanna orientalis</i> (L.) Boiss. var. <i>orientalis</i> (L.) Boiss.			Irano-Turanian
	Lamiaceae	<i>Teucrium polium</i> L.			Widespread
		<i>Lamium purpureum</i> L. var. <i>purpureum</i> L.			Europe-Siberian
Fabaceae	<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i> L. subsp. <i>boissieri</i> (Sag.) Bornm.			Widespread	
	<i>Trifolium arvense</i> L. subsp. <i>arvense</i> L.				
	<i>Paracaryum ancyritanum</i> Boiss.	LC		Irano-Turanian	
Illecebraceae	<i>Paronychia beauverdii</i> Czech.	NT		Irano-Turanian	
Apiaceae	<i>Astrodaucus orientalis</i> (L.) Drude			Irano-Turanian	
Campanulaceae	<i>Campanula lyrata</i> , subsp. <i>lyrata</i> Lam.	LC			
M	Iridaceae	<i>Crocus ancyrensis</i> (Herbert) Maw	LC	Irano-Turanian	
	Liliaceae	<i>Muscari neglectum</i> Guss.			
	Plantaginaceae	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i> L.		Widespread	
	Ranunculaceae	<i>Ranunculus arvensis</i> L.		Widespread	
	Convolvulaceae	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i> L.		Widespread	
	Globulariaceae	<i>Globularia orientalis</i> L.		Irano-Turanian	
	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Euphorbia macroclada</i> Boiss.			
	Illecebraceae	<i>Paronychia beauverdii</i> Czech.	NT		Irano-Turanian
	Crassulaceae	<i>Sedum hispanicum</i> L. var. <i>hispanicum</i> L.			Irano-Turanian
	Brassicaceae	<i>Alyssum sibiricum</i> Willd.			
		<i>Alyssum hirsutum</i> Bieb.			
		<i>Alyssum desertorum</i> Stapf. var. <i>desertorum</i> Stapf.			Widespread
		<i>Alyssum pateri</i> Nyar. subsp. <i>pateri</i> Nyar.	LC		Irano-Turanian
<i>Erysimum crassipes</i> Fisch. & Mey.					
Boraginaceae	<i>Alkanna orientalis</i> (L.) Boiss. var. <i>orientalis</i> (L.) Boiss.			Irano-Turanian	
	<i>Onosma tauricum</i> Pallas ex Willd. var. <i>tauricum</i>				
Boraginaceae	<i>Nonea pulla</i> (L.) DC. subsp. <i>monticola</i> Rech. Fil.	LC			
	<i>Buglossoides arvensis</i> (L.) I.M. Johnston			Widespread	
Scrophulariaceae	<i>Lappula barbata</i> (Bieb.) Gürke			Irano-Turanian	
	<i>Verbascum lasianthum</i> Boiss. ex Bentham				
Rosaceae	<i>Veronica multifida</i> L.	LC		Irano-Turanian	
	<i>Potentilla recta</i> L.			Widespread	
	<i>Sanguisorba minor</i> Scop. subsp. <i>muricata</i> (Spach) Briq.				

PM: Parent Material, S: Serpentine, M: Marble, E: Endemism, P: Pyhtogeographic region

Table 1b Floristic composition of study area

PM	Family	Species	E	P
M	Fabaceae	<i>Dorycnium pentaphyllum</i> Scop. subsp. <i>anatolicum</i> (Boiss.) Gams		Irano-Turanian
		<i>Medicago lupulina</i> L.		Widespread
		<i>Medicago minima</i> (L.) Bart. var. <i>minima</i> (L.) Bart.		Irano-Turanian
		<i>Astragalus lydius</i> Boiss.	LC	Irano-Turanian
		<i>Astragalus leucothrix</i> Freyn & Bornm.	LC	Irano-Turanian
		<i>Astragalus karamasicus</i> Boiss. & Bal.	LC	Irano-Turanian
		<i>Astragalus microcephalus</i> Willd.		Irano-Turanian
		<i>Onobrychis armena</i> Boiss. & Huet	LC	
		<i>Onobrychis hypargyrea</i> Boiss.		
		<i>Lotus aegaeus</i> (Gris.) Boiss.		Irano-Turanian
Apiaceae	<i>Eryngium bithynicum</i> Boiss.	LC	Irano-Turanian	
Caryophyllaceae	<i>Dianthus zederbaueri</i> Vierh.	LC	Irano-Turanian	
M	Poaceae	<i>Taeniatherum caput-medusae</i> (L.) Nevski subsp. <i>crinitum</i> (Schreber) Melderis		Irano-Turanian
		<i>Bromus japonicus</i> Thunb. subsp. <i>japonicus</i> Thunb.		Widespread
		<i>Bromus tectorum</i> L. subsp. <i>tectorum</i> L.		Europe-Siberian
		<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i> L.		
		<i>Koeleria cristata</i> (L.) Pers.		
		<i>Festuca valesiaca</i> Schleich. ex Gaudin		
		<i>Aegilops umbellulata</i> Zhukovsky subsp. <i>umbellulata</i> Zhukovsky		Irano-Turanian
Poaceae	<i>Poa bulbosa</i> L.		Widespread	
Plumbaginaceae	<i>Acantholimon caesareum</i> Boiss. & Bal.	LC	Irano-Turanian	
M	Lamiaceae	<i>Salvia cryptantha</i> Montbr & Auch. ex Bentham	LC	Irano-Turanian
		<i>Salvia virgata</i> Jacq.		Irano-Turanian
		<i>Thymus sipyleus</i> subsp. <i>sipyleus</i> var. <i>sipyleus</i> Boiss.	LC	
		<i>Stachys byzantina</i> C. Koch		Europe-Siberian
		<i>Teucrium polium</i> L.		Widespread
		<i>Sideritis montana</i> L. subsp. <i>montana</i> L.		Mediterranean
		<i>Nepeta nuda</i> L. subsp. <i>albiflora</i> (Boiss.) Gams		Irano-Turanian
M	Asteraceae	<i>Cirsium arvense</i> (L.) Scop. subsp. <i>vestitum</i> (Wimmer & Grab.)		Widespread
		<i>Anthemis tinctoria</i> L. var. <i>pallida</i> DC.		
		<i>Anthemis tinctoria</i> L. var. <i>tinctoria</i> L.		Widespread
		<i>Anthemis triumfettii</i> (L.) All.		
		<i>Achillea biebersteinii</i> Afan.		Irano-Turanian
		<i>Crupina vulgaris</i> Cass.		
		<i>Leontodon asperrimus</i> (Willd.) J. Ball		Irano-Turanian
		<i>Scorzonera cana</i> (var. <i>cana</i> (C. A. Meyer) Hoffm.		
		<i>Tripleurospermum elongatum</i> (Fisch. & Mey.) Bornm.		
		<i>Carduus nutans sensu lato</i>		Widespread
		<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i> L. subsp. <i>solstitialis</i> L.		
		<i>Centaurea virgata</i> LAM.		Irano-Turanian
		<i>Xeranthemum annuum</i> L.		Widespread
<i>Echinops viscosus</i> DC. subsp. <i>bithynicus</i> (Boiss.) Rech.				
<i>Inula oculus-christi</i> L.		Europe-Siberian		

PM: Parent Material, S: Serpentine, M: Marble, E: Endemism, P: Pyhtogeographic region

Distribution of the species identified in the study area is examined according to the phytogeographical regions; the Irano-Turanian species of origin are in the majority. This indicates that the region is located in the Irano-Turanian phytogeographic region in terms of plant phytogeography and that within the A4 grid according to the Grid system of Davis (1965). In addition, there are species belonging to the Euro-Siberian with Mediterranean phytogeographical region and phytogeographical regions are unknown or widely spread in the study area. Plant taxa distributions collected during the vegetation period in different parent material quadrats is located Table 2 on the basis of family, genus and taxa.

When Table 2 is examined, the maximum number of species is determined on the marble parent material. In this context, the plant samples collected due to the parent material in the study area 23 of them are endemic; 14 (19%) in marble and 9 (29%) endemic species in serpentine parent material. When we examine the distributions of endemic taxa according to phytogeographical regions; while there are no taxa in the Euro-Siberian and Mediterranean phytogeographical regions, the phytogeographic regions belonging to the endemic taxa of the study area include 18 taxa and phytogeographic regions of Irano-Turanian unknown or 5 widely distributed taxa (Table 3). The endangered taxa

of the subspecies of species and subspecies are classified as dangerous according to Version 2.3 published in 1994 by the IUCN Species Survival Commission "IUCN Red List Categories" (Ekim et al. 2000), a book entitled "Red Data Book of Turkish Plants" (Ekim et al. 2000). According to these changes, lc and cd subcategories of LR category are merged into LC category; The nt subcategory was also evaluated as NT category. Accordingly, the dangerous classes of endemic taxa of species and subspecies collected from the study area are rearranged according to "IUCN Red List Categories" Version 6.2 and shown in Table 1 and Table 3.

When the endemism cases of the species of the whole area collected from the research area are compared with the results of other studies conducted in the areas close to the research area, the endemism rate is calculated as 22% according to the total number of taxa determined in both research areas and it shows the highest endemism rate according to other studies. Although the size of the area in the other study areas and therefore the increase in the number of total number of taxa collected are effective in determining this ratio, this situation has been lost in our study and it has been seen that the difference of main material is effective on endemism (Table 4).

Table 2 Distribution of species detected in the study area

Parent Material	Family	Genus	Taxa
Marble	20	58	72
Serpentine	16	27	31

Table 3 Endemic taxa number, phytogeographical regions and conservation status of different parent material floristic composition (LC: Least Concern, NT: Near Threatened)

Parent Material	Endemic Taxa Number	Conservation status	Phytogeographical Regions
Serpentine	6	LC	Irano- Turanian (7) Wide Spread-Unknown (2)
	1	NT	
	2	It's not certain	
Marble	10	LC	Irano- Turanian (11) Wide Spread-Unknown (3)
	1	NT	
	3	It's not certain	

Table 4 Comparison of the proportion of endemic plants collected from the study area with the data obtained from studies conducted near the study area

Endemism	Study Areas											
	1		2		3		4		5		6	
	Taxa	%	Taxa	%	Taxa	%	Taxa	%	Taxa	%	Taxa	%
Endemic	23	22	63	18	62	15	35	9	31	12	31	9

1. Endemic Vascular Plants of Metamorphic Rocks in Semiarid Grassland (Dölarıslan et al. 2017); 2. Çankırı-Korubaşı Tepe ve Civarı (Ertuğrul, 2011); 3. Çankırı/Yapraklı Ormanları (Mutlu, 2006), 4. Dumanlı Dağı (Çankırı) Florası (Duran and Duman, 1996); 5. Kabalı Dağı (Çerkeş/Çankırı) (Erdoğan, 2001); 6. Gürgenli Dağı (Çankırı/Türkiye) (Ergül, 2000)

Discussion and Conclusion

According to the result of plant sampling realized on about 4 ha, two different parent materials, the floristic composition of serpentine parent material comprises of 27 genus and 31 species belonging to 16 families and the floristic composition of marble parent material comprises of 58 genus and 72 species belonging to 20 families. Within this scope, the vegetation varies in the regions which have a different parent material and soil characteristics under the same climate type.

In the study conducted by Şahin et al. (2015), sampling of the plants at 41 grasslands in Çankırı province was made. In this study, the parent material classification in these grasslands was not made, and also the endemism rate of these areas was determined as 12.8%. Since the number of endemism cannot be compared with the data in the fields, use of the endemism ratio is more useful in flora studies. For instance, as it is stated by Duran (2013) that the variation in parent material and soil types has an important role in the determination of the diversity of plant communities and their spread areas. Besides, there is a close relation between the endemism ratio and the structure of the parent material. Gemici et al. (1992) stated in their study

that the serpentine unified with the ultramafic rocks is remarkable in terms of endemism and also these types of rocks demonstrate spread in the important part of the districts in Anatolia. Within this scope, 23 of the plant samples gathered subject to the parent material in the study area are endemic and there are 14 endemic species in the marble parent material (metamorphic) and 9 endemic species in the serpentine (metamorphic). The populations spread on the ultramafic rocks often differ from the populations in the calcareous ranges. According to Kruckeberg (1954), this event is defined as "serpentinomorphism". The reason why the floristic composition on such kind of rocks is remarkably different and rich in terms of endemic, probably, is geological isolation. This isolation could provide the formation of new species in such kind of ranges. In their studies, Gemici et al. (1992) and according to Mason (1946a, 1946b), it is indicated that some of the narrow spread species on the ultramafic rocks can be called as "edaphic endemic". So, 9 of the 31 taxa determined in the serpentine parent material in the study area can be called as edaphic endemic. The literature also supports this outcome. For example, Mutlu (1995), in addition to

Duran (2012), found high endemism number and ratio in serpentine parent material. Also, Duran (2012) indicated that the high endemism ratio is a typical feature found in all serpentine area in Turkey.

A limitation in the present study should be acknowledged. Although the rate of endemism is decisive, this study may have limited generalizability because data were collected from a limited area of marble and serpentine parent materials. Therefore, the study findings need to be validated in larger grassland areas.

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