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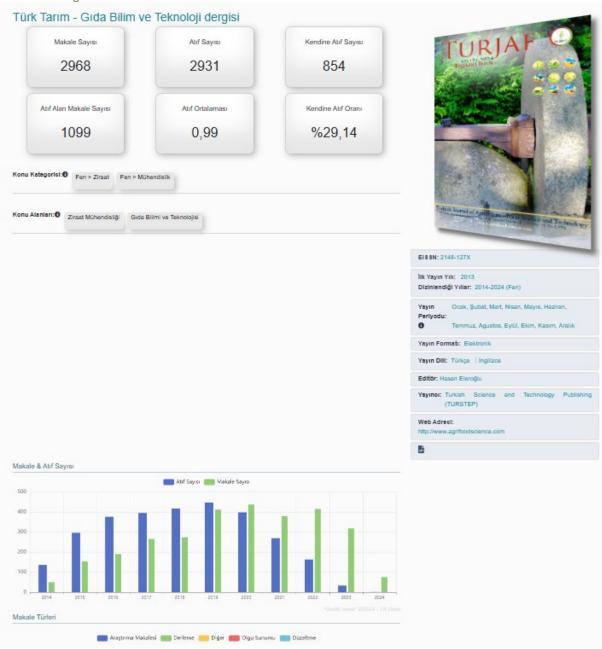
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TR – DİZİN Bilgileri





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Research of the Effect of Basil Plant Extract (Ocimum basilicum odoratum) Used as a Spray during Incubation of Chukar Partridge (Alectoris chukar) Eggs

Demirel Ergün^{1,a,*}, Atilla Taşkın^{2,b}, Fatma Ergün^{3,c}

^{*}Corresponding author

ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
Research Article	This research was conducted to investigate the effects of basil plant extract (O. basilicum odoratum) on incubation results and partridge behavior during prenatal and early postnatal periods when used in the incubation of Chukar partridge eggs (<i>Alectoris chukar</i>). The study utilized 160 eggs obtained from 14-
Received: 03.10.2024 Accepted: 03.11.2024	week-old Chukar partridges. The eggs were divided into groups based on the application of basil extract during incubation: a control group without spraying (K), a group sprayed with pure water (F0), a group with 1% extract (F1), and a group with 5% extract (F5). The hatchability rates for the groups (K, F0, F1, and F5) were determined to be 70.66±1.51%, 75.00±0.01%, 78.33±2.88%, and 81.00±1.00%, respectively.
Keywords: Incubation Basil Chukar Partridge Pasgar and Tona Scores Open Field Test	The highest hatching power was observed in F5 at 98.41±1.12%, while the lowest was in the K group at 93.00±1.00%. No effect was observed on hatching weight. The highest Tona (98.92±0.23) and Pasgar (9.57±0.08) scores were obtained in the F5 group. Additionally, in the open field test applied to the chicks, the time spent in the center was calculated as 3.64±0.11% for F1, 3.67±0.11% for F0, 4.60±0.23% for K, and 5.71±0.14% for F5. The runway score values for the chicks were found to be 1.33±0.57 for K, 2.23±0.27 for F0, 2.66±0.57 for F1, and 3.66±0.57 for F5. In conclusion, the application of 5% basil plant extract to partridge eggs was found to increase hatchability and hatching power, reduce malformation rates, and have a positive effect on chick quality. Furthermore, based on the results of open field and runway behavior tests, the extract showed potential for reducing fear and stress in newly hatched chicks.

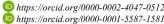
Türk Tarım – Gıda Bilim ve Teknoloji Dergisi, 12(s4): 2749-2757, 2024

Keklik (Alectoris chukar) Yumurtalarının İnkübasyonunda Püskürtme Şeklinde Kullanılan Fesleğen Bitki Ekstraktının (Ocimum basilicum odoratum) Etkisinin Araştırılması

MAKALE BİLGİSİ	ÖZ
Araştırma Makalesi	Bu araştırma, fesleğen bitki ekstraktının (<i>O. basilicum odoratum</i>) Kınalı keklik yumurtalarının inkübasyonunda kullanımının (<i>Alectoris chukar</i>) prenatal ve yeni çıkımı içeren postnatal dönemlerde olmak üzere, kuluçka sonuçları ile keklik davranışlarına etkisinin araştırılması amacıyla yürütülmüştür. Çalışmada
Geliş : 03.10.2024 Kabul : 03.11.2024	14 haftalık yaştaki kekliklerden elde edilen 160 adet yumurta kullanılmıştır. Yumurtalar inkübasyon sırasında püskürtme şeklinde uygulanan fesleğen kullanımına göre; püskürtme uygulanmayan kontrol (K), püskürtme uygulananlar saf su (F0), %1 ekstrakt (F1) ve % 5 ekstrakt (F5) şeklinde oluşturulmuştur. Grupların (K, F0, F1 ve F5) kuluçka randımanları sırasıyla %70,66±1,51, %75,00±0,01, %78,33±2,88 ve
Anahtar Kelimeler: Kuluçka Fesleğen Keklik Pasgar ve Tona Skoru Açık Alan testi	%81,00±1,00 olarak belirlenmiştir. Çıkım gücü ise en yüksek %98,41 ±1,12 ile F5 de, en düşük %93,00±1,00 ile K grubundadır. Çıkım ağırlığı üzerine etki gözlenmemiştir. F5 grubunda en yüksek Tona (98,92±0,23) ve Pasgar (9,57±0,08) skorları elde edilmiştir. Ayrıca çalışmada açık alan testin uygulanan civcivlerin merkezde geçirdikleri süre değerleri sırasıyla F1'de %3,64±0,11, F0'da %3,67±0,11, K'de %4,60±0,23 ve F5'de %5,71±0,14 olarak hesaplanmış, civcivlerin pist skor değerleri ise sırasıyla K'de 1,33±0,57, F0'da 2,23±0,27, F1'de 2,66±0,57 ve F5'te ise 3,66±0,57 olarak bulunmuştur. Sonuç olarak keklik yumurtalarına %5'lik fesleğen bitki ekstraktı uygulamasının kuluçka randımanı ve çıkım gücünü artırdığı, malformasyon oranını düşürdüğü, civciv kalitesi üzerinde olumlu bir etkiye sahip olduğu bulunmuştur. Ayrıca açık alan ve pist davranış testleri sonuçlarına göre yeni çıkan civcivlerde korku ve stresi azaltma potansiyeli görülmüştür.



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Giris

Kuluçka, kanatlıların nesillerini devam ettirebilmek için gösterdikleri doğal ve fizyolojik bir faaliyettir. Yapay kuluçka işleminde bu görev gelişmiş makineler tarafından gerçekleştirilmektedir. Kanatlıların evcilleştirilmesi sürecinde ve sonrasında insanlar, kuluçka işlemini yapay olarak sürdürebilmek için büyük uğraş vermişlerdir. Bu sayede doğal kuluckada sekillenen birçok olumsuzluğun önüne geçilerek cok sayıda döllü yumurtanın civcive dönüsmesi sağlanmıstır (Ateş ve ark., 2021). Kuluçka makinelerinin kullanımı, civciv üretiminde önemli bir artış sağlamakta, ancak bu süreçte bazı sorunlar da ortaya çıkmaktadır. Başka bir deyişle gelişmekte olan embriyolar kuluçka işlemi sırasında uygulanan çeşitli prosedürlerden olumlu ve olumsuz yönde etkilenmişlerdir (Ergün ve ark., 2023). Üretimde embriyolar üzerinde olumlu etki gösteren uygulamalar teşvik edilirken olumsuz etkilere karşı gerekli tedbirler alınmaktadır. Çünkü embriyoların bu dönemde karşılaşacakları çeşitli olumsuzluklar, ilerleyen dönemlerde verim düşüklüğü, gelişim bozukluğu gibi problemlerin ve hatta yüksek ölüm oranı gibi durumların ortaya çıkmasına neden olabilmektedir.

Kuluçka işlemi sırasında embriyolar için yüksek ve düşük sıcaklık, nem ve fiziksel travma gibi abiyotik stres faktörleri başlıca stresörlerdir (Delpont ve ark., 2018). Bu stresörler embriyoları olumsuz etkiler ve düşük çıkım ağırlığı, göbek kısmının kapanmaması gibi kalite düsüklüğüne neden olabilir, hatta ölümler gözlenebilir. Ayrıca ileriki dönemlerinde büyüme geriliği, kalp rahatsızlıkları ve bağışıklık sistemi bozukluklarına neden olabilmektedir (Lis ve ark., 2009). Normal şartlarda embriyolar stres durumundan, rezervlerindeki anti stres sahip antioksidan yapıları kullanarak özelliğine kurtulabilirler. Yumurta içerisindeki anti stres rezervler normal şartlarda yeterlidir. Fakat stres etkeninin şiddetinin ve süresinin artması durumunda ihtiyaç artar ve bazen yumurta içindeki rezervler artan ihtiyacı karşılayamaz. Bunun için inkübasyon sırasında embriyoların bazı ihtiyaçlarının dışardan karşılanması gerekebilir. Bu yöntemlerden birisi özel olarak hazırlanmış kimyasallar ve ekstraktlarının yumurta çeşitli bitki yüzeyine püskürtülmesidir (Ergün ve ark., 2023). Fesleğen (Ocimum basilicum) bu amaçla kullanılabilecek potansiyele sahip bitki türleri arasında yer almaktadır.

Lamiaceae familyasında yer alan ve ılıman iklimlerde yetişen fesleğen (O. basilicum), tek yıllık bir bitki türüdür (Aldarkazali ve ark., 2019). Bu tür uzun yıllar boyunca insanlar tarafından kaygı, ates, enfeksiyon, eklem bacaklı sokması, mide ağrısı, öksürük, baş ağrısı ve kabızlık gibi hastalıkların tedavisinde ve çesitli dini ritüellerde kullanılmıştır (Lee ve ark., 2005; Shahrajabian ve ark., 2020). Günümüzde ilaç, gıda ve koku gibi birçok sanayi kolunda yaygın olarak kullanılmaktadır. Fesleğen bitkisi yapısındaki değerli uçucu yağlar ve terpenler, fenilproponoidler, alkoller aldehitleri ve gibi fitokimyasallar nedeniyle antioksidan, antienflamatuvar, antimikrobiyal, antistres ve bağışıklık güçlendirici özellik gösterir (Feng ve ark., 2019; Ahmed ve ark., 2019; Shahrajabian ve ark., 2020). Bu çalışmada, fesleğen türlerinden birisi olan kokulu fesleğen (Ocimum basilicum odoratum) kullanılmıştır. Bu türü diğerlerinden ayıran en önemli özellik anason kokusuna sahip olmasıdır (Makri ve Kintzios, 2008).

sülüngiller Keklik (Perdicinae) (*Phasianidae*) familyasında bıldırcından büyük bazı kuşlara verilen ortak addır. Pek çok bölgede doğal olarak yetişen Kınalı keklik (Alectoris chukar) keklik türleri arasında en yaygın üretimi yapılan türdür. Bütün doğal yetiştirilen kuşlarda olduğu gibi bu türün doğadaki sayısı aşırı avlanma, habitat tahribatı ve gereksiz pestisit kullanımına bağlı olarak son yıllarda azalmıştır (Kara ve ark., 2021). Yetişkinleri 325 g civarında karkasa ulaşabilirler. Etleri beyaz renkte sindirimi kolay ve düşük oranda yağ ve kolesterol içermektedir. Ayrıca etlerinde başta potasyum olmak üzere ve kalsiyum, fosfor, magnezyum, demir gibi mineraller bulunur (Karakaya, 2003). Entansif yetiştiricilikte 32 haftalıkken yumurtlamaya başlayan keklikler 15,00–31,20 g ağırlığında 50 ile 65 adet yumurta verirler (Kırıkcı ve ark., 2018). Kuluçka süresi 23-25 gündür.

Bu çalışmada, keklik yumurtalarının inkübasyon işlemi sırasında antioksidan, antienflamatuvar, antimikrobiyal, antistres ve bağışıklık sistemini güçlendirici özellikleri olduğu bilinen *O. basilicum odoratum* bitki ekstraktının kuluçka özellikleri ve palaz davranışlarına etkisinin araştırılması amaçlanmıştır.

Materyal ve Yöntem

Çalışma Kırşehir Ahi Evran Üniversitesi, Ziraat Fakültesi, Zootekni Bölümü Hayvan Fizyolojisi ve Histolojisi laboratuvarında gerçekleştirilmiş ve çalışma için yerel etik kurulundan 30.05.2024 tarih ve 10-02 nolu etik izni alınmıştır.

Bitkisel Materyalin Hazırlanması

Çalışmada kullanılan fesleğen bitkisi Tarsol® ticari isimli tohumlar kullanılarak yetiştirilmiştir. Bitki örnekleri çiçeklenme döneminin başlangıcında toplanmıştır. Toplanan bitki örnekleri fiziksel kirlerden uzaklastırmak için distile su ile yıkanmış ve sabit tartıma ulaşıncaya kadar gölgede kurutulmuştur. Öğütücü yardımıyla parçalanan numuneden 10 g erlen içerisine alınıp üzerine 200 mL metanol ilave edilmiştir. Daha sonra ağzı kapalı bir şekilde manyetik karıştırıcıda 4 saat karıştırılmıştır. İşlem sonucunda karışım süzülerek içerisindeki alkol evaporatör yardımıyla 40°C'de uzaklaştırılmıştır. Elde edilen ekstraktın bir kısmından çalışma için %1 ve %5 saf su ekstraktları hazırlanmıştır. Geriye kalan kısmı ise fitokimyasal analizler için kullanılmıştır. Bu amaçla bitki ekstraktının folin-ciocalteu metodu kullanılarak gallik aside esdeğer olarak toplam fenolik madde miktarı, alüminyum nitrat metoduyla da kuersetine eşdeğer olarak toplam flavonoid madde miktarı tespiti yapılmıştır. Ayrıca bitki ekstraktının 2,2-difenil-1pikrilhidrazil (DPPH•) serbest radikal giderme aktivitesi, Cu²⁺ azaltma kapasitesi (CUPRAC) ve Fe³⁺-Fe²⁺ indirgeme gücü (FRAP) gücü belirlenmiştir (Ergün, 2022).

Yumurtaların İnkübasyonu

Çalışmada 160 adet keklik yumurtası (19,01±1,15 g) kullanılmıştır. Yumurtalar Kırşehir'de faaliyet gösteren Tarım ve Orman Bakanlığından ruhsatlı ev ve süs hayvanları satış yerinden temin edilmiştir. Çalışma 4 grup (her grupta 40 adet yumurta) olarak tasarlanmıştır. Her gruba ait 40 yumurta 4 adet aynı marka ve model kuluçka

makinasına (Çimuka®) ayrı ayrı yerleştirildi. Gruplar arasındaki yumurta dağıtımı homojen olacak şekilde tesadüfi olarak yapılmış ve yumurtalara inkübasyon öncesinde dezenfeksiyon işlemi uygulanmamıştır. Çalışmada yumurtalara inkübasyon işleminin ilk gününden itibaren 3'er gün arayla 5 kez 20'şer mililitre F0'a saf su, F1'e %1'lik ve F5'e ise %5'lik bitki ekstraktı püskürtme şeklinde uygulanmıştır. K'daki yumurtalara hiçbir uygulama yapılmamıştır. Bitki ekstraktının yumurtalar üzerine püskürtme işleminde el spreyli kullanılmıştır (Fouad ve ark., 2017; Gatea ve ark., 2023).

Yumurtaların inkübasyon işleminde 4 adet aynı marka ve model kuluçka makinası (Çimuka®) kullanılmıştır. İnkübasyon işlemi ilk 21 gün 37,7°C'de ve %60 nemde sürdürülmüştür (Yumurtalar günde 24 kez 45 derecelik açıyla döndürülmüştür). Keklik yumurtaları 21. günden sonra çıkım sepetlerine (37-37,2°C sıcaklık, %70 nispi nem) alınmıştır.

Yumurta Özelliklerinin Belirlenmesi

Yumurta ağırlığı (g): Yumurta ağırlıkları 0,01 g duyarlı hassas terazi yardımıyla belirlenmiştir.

Şekil indeksi: Yumurta boyutları dijital kumpas ile ölçülmüş, aşağıdaki formül yardımı ile % şekil indeksleri hesaplanmıştır.

Şekil İndeksi (%)=(Kısa eksen/Uzun eksen) × 100

Özgül ağırlık: Kuluçka işleminden önce her gruptan 5 adet ağırlıkları bilinen yumurtaların hacimleri dereceli silindir yardımıyla ölçülmüş, aşağıdaki formül yardımı ile yumurtaların özgül ağırlıkları hesaplanmıştır (Tilki ve Saatçi, 2004). Bu yumurtalar ölçüm işleminden sonra kuluçka işlemine tabii tutulmamışlardır.

Özgül Ağırlık (g/cm³)=Ağırlık/Hacim

Yumurta ağırlık kaybı (%): Önceden ağırlıkları ölçülmüş normal embriyo gelişimi olan yumurta ağırlıkları inkübasyonun 10. gününde tekrar ölçülmüş ve ağırlık kayıpları formül yardımıyla yüzde olarak hesaplanmıştır (Aşcı ve Durmuş, 2015).

YAK=[(BA-10. gün ağırlığı)/BA]×100

YAK: Yumurta ağırlık kaybı BA: Başlangıç ağırlığı

Kuluçka Özelliklerinin Belirlenmesi

Çalışmada; grupların döllülük oranı (DO), kuluçka randımanı (KR), çıkım gücü (ÇG), erken dönem embriyo ölümleri (EDÖ), orta dönem embriyo ölümleri (ODÖ), geç dönem embriyo ölümleri (GDÖ), gibi kuluçka özellikleri makroskobik olarak belirlenmiştir ve aşağıdaki formüller yardımıyla hesaplanmıştır (Ergün ve ark., 2023).

 $DO = (DYS/KYS) \times 100$

DYS: Döllü yumurta sayısı

KYS: Kuluçkaya konulan yumurta sayısı

 $KR=(KCS / KDS) \times 100.$

KCS: Kuluçkadan çıkan canlı civciv sayısı KDS: Kuluçkaya konan döllü yumurta sayısı $CG=(KCS / KDS) \times 100$

KCS: Kuluçkadan çıkan canlı civciv sayısı KDS: Kuluçkaya konan döllü yumurta sayısı

EDÖ=(ES6/DYS) ×100

ES6: Kuluçkanın 0-6 günleri arasında ölen embriyo sayısı

DYS: Döllü yumurta sayısı

 $OD\ddot{O}=(ES7/DYS) \times 100$

ES7: Kuluçkanın 7–18 günleri arasında ölen embriyo sayısı

DYS: Döllü yumurta sayısı

GDÖ=(ES19 /DYS) ×100

ES19: Kuluçkanın 19–21 günleri arasında ölen embriyo sayısı

DYS: Döllü yumurta sayısı

Malformasyon ve Malpozisyon: Kuluçka işlemi sonunda civciv çıkışı olmayan yumurtalar kırılmış makroskobik olarak incelenmiş ve kabuk altı embriyo ölümlerine bağlı malformasyon ve malpozisyon oranları belirlenmiş ve her grupta işleme tabi tutulan döllü yumurta dikkate alınarak hesaplanmıştır (Türker ve ark., 2018).

Civciv Özeliklerinin Belirlenmesi

Civciv çıkım ağırlığı (g): Gruplara ait çıkımı gerçekleşen civcivlerin ağırlıkları 0,01 duyarlı hassas terazi yardımıyla ölçülerek civciv ağırlıkları belirlenmiştir.

Civciv kalitesi (CK): Çalışmada yeni doğmuş civcivlerin değerlendirilmesinde kullanılan Apgar Skor'dan uyarlanmış bir civciv değerlendirme yöntemlerinden Pasgar skor ve diğer bir yöntem olan Tona skoru parametreleri kullanılarak gruplarda çıkımı gerçekleşen tüm civcivlerin kaliteleri belirlenmiştir Pasgar skoru 10 puanlık değerlendirme sistemidir. Bu sistemde civcivlerin refleksleri (aktivite/uyanıklık) ve göbek, bacaklar, gaga görünümleri kullanılır. Gözlemlenen her anormallik için toplam 10 puandan bir puan çıkarılır. Tona skoru ise 100 puanlık bir puanlama sistemidir. Bu sistemde civciv kalite parametresi olarak aktivite, tüy ve görünüm, geri çekilmiş yumurta sarısı, gözler, bacaklar, göbek bölgesi, zar ve kalan yumurta sarısı kullanılır. Tona skoru değerinin 100'e yakın olması iyi civciv kalitesini gösterir (Boerjan, 2002; Tona ve ark., 2003; Willemsen ve ark., 2008; Kamanlı ve Durmus. 2014).

Davranış Analizleri

Davranış analizleri aynı gözlemci tarafından yapılmış ve analiz sırasında beyaz önlük giyilmiştir. Ayrıca analizi olumsuz etkileyebilecek davranış, dikkat çekici renkli elbise, farklı koku gibi etkenlere dikkat edilmiştir.

Açık Alan Testi (OFT)

Çalışmada kuluçkadan çıkan civcivlerin (0 günlük) açık alana karşı tepkileri ölçülmüştür. Çalışmada Ergün ve Taşkın (2022)'nin muhabbet kuşları için kullandıkları platform kullanılmıştır (Şekil 1). Bu platform 35 cm yüksekliğinde ve 120 cm çapında yuvarlak yapıda ve merkezden perifere doğru 3 bölge olarak tasarlanmıştır. Bu test her gruptan rastgele seçilen 3 civcive uygulanmıştır. Civciv platformun başlangıç kısmına yerleştirilmiş daha

sonra civcivin 5 dakika boyunca hareketleri kamera yardımıyla kaydedilmiştir. Kayıtlar incelenerek civcivin platform içerisindeki oluşturulmuş bölmelerde geçirdikleri süre ve merkeze olan ziyaretleri hesaplanmıştır. Bu işlem her grup için farklı civcivler kullanılarak beş kez tekrarlanmıştır.

Pist Testi

Çalışmada yumurtadan çıkan civcivlerin yem arama ve yeme ulaşma davranışları ölçülmüştür. Test için kullanılan platform, Mezrai ve ark. (2022)'nin çalışmalarında kullandıkları kuş yolu platformunun modifiye edilerek bu çalışma için özel olarak ahşaptan tasarlanmış versiyonudur (Şekil 1). Test platformu bitişik vaziyette 20 cm yüksekliğinde 4 adet koridordan (110x12x20 cm) oluşmaktadır. Ayrıca platformunun final kısmında 4 adet yemlik bulunmaktadır. Her bir koridor 10 cm aralıkla 11 sanal bölmeye ayrılmıstır. Skor aralığı başlangıç (0) ile bitis (11) olarak alınmıştır. Kutu içerisinde getirilen civcivler 30 saniye bekletildikten sonra kutuların kapakları açılmış ve 3 dakika beklendikten sonra civcivlerin ulaştıkları mesafe kaydedilmiş ve süre sonunda civcivlerin ulaştıkları bölme numarası civciv skoru olarak değerlendirilmiştir. Civcivlerin herhangi birinin yeme ulaşması durumu süre sonu olarak kabul edilmiştir (Bertin ve ark., 2010). Bu test her gruptan farklı civcivler kullanılarak 10 tekrar yapılmıştır.

İstatistik Analizleri

Çalışma verilerinin analizinde SPSS (Version 17.1 for Windows, SPSS Inc. Chicago, IL) paket programı kullanılmış ve her grupta 40, toplam 160 yumurta ve civciv sonuçlarına tek yönü varyans analizi (ANOVA) uygulanmıştır (n=40 tekerrürlü). Çalışmada ANOVA'dan önce normallik testlerinden Kolmogorov-Smirnov Testi uygulanarak gruplardaki verilerin normal dağılım gösterdiği tespit edilmiştir (Montgomery, 2008). Farklılıkların önemli çıktığı durumlarda, bu farklılığın hangi uygulama ya da uygulamalardan kaynaklandığının belirlenebilmesinde ise

çoklu karşılaştırma testlerinden olan Duncan testi kullanılmıştır (Genç ve Soysal, 2018). Ayrıca çalışmadaki farklılıklar P<0.05 anlamlı kabul edilmistir.

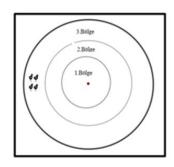
Bulgular ve Tartışma

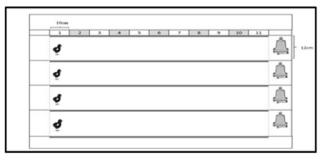
Çalışmada yumurtalara uygulanan fesleğen bitki ekstraktının toplam fenolik madde miktarı $258,57\pm11,23$ mg GAE/g ekstrakt ve toplam flavonoid miktarları ise $23,33\pm2,14$ mg KE/g ekstrakt olarak belirlenmiştir. Ayrıca bitki ekstraktının yüksek oranda radikal giderme aktivitesine sahip olduğu, $250-1000~\mu g/ml$ konsantrasyon aralığında Cu²+ indirgeyici antioksidan kapasitesinin ve Fe³+ indirgeme gücünün konsantrasyon artışına paralel olarak arttığı belirlenmiştir.

Çalışmada gruplara ait yumurta ağırlıkları inkübasyon süreci başlamadan tespit edilmiştir. Gruplara dağıtılan yumurtaların ortalama ağırlıklarının 19,01±1,15 g olduğu ve istatistik olarak önemli bir fark olmadığı belirlenmiştir

Yumurta dış kalite özelliğinin belirlenmesinde kullanılan yumurta özgül ağırlık değerleri gruplar arasında benzerlik göstermiştir (P>0,05). Bu değerin sırasıyla F0'da 0,37±0,01, F1'de 0,38±0,01, F5'de 0,39±0,01ve K'da ise 0,40±0,01 gr/cm³ olduğu hesaplanmıştır (Çizelge 1).

Çalışmada grupların yumurta şekil indeksleri hesaplanmış ve farklılıklar önemsiz bulunmuştur (P>0,05). Gruplara ait yumurta şekil indeks değerleri ortalamaları, F0'da 76,22±2,30, F1'da 75,96±0,47, F5'de 77,89±0,73 ve K' da 76,60±1,30 olarak gözlemlenmiştir (Çizelge 1). Keklik yumurtalarının kullanıldığı bir çalışmada yumurta şekil indeks değeri 74 olduğu bildirilmiştir (Alkan ve ark., 2007). Aygün ve Olgun (2019) yaptıkları çalışmada ise keklik yumurtalarının şekil indeks değerlerini 74.00 ile 75,97 arasında ölçülmüştür. Ayrıca Nedomova ve ark. (2009) yaptıkları çalışmada, yumurta şekil indeksi kuluçkalık yumurtaların kalitesini belirlenmesinde önemli bir kriter olduğunu beyan etse de Bilgiç (2022)'e göre Kınalı kekliklerde şekil indeksinin yumurta kalite ve kuluçka özelliklerini belirgin derecede etkilediği kesin değildir.





Açık alan testi platformu

Pist testi platformu

Şekil 1. Davranış test platformları Figure 1. Behavioural testing platforms

Çizelge 1. Kuluçkalık yumurta özellikleri *Table 1. Incubation egg characteristics*

Gruplar	Özgül Ağırlık (gr/cm³)	Şekil İndeksi	Civciv Çıkım Ağırlığı (gr)
K	$0,40\pm0,01$	$76,60\pm1,30$	14,33±0,25
F0	$0,37\pm0,05$	$76,22\pm2,30$	$14,42\pm0,90$
F1	0.38 ± 0.01	$75,96\pm0,47$	$14,21\pm1,07$
F5	$0,39\pm0,01$	$77,89\pm0,73$	14,12±0,23

^{*:} K (Kontrol), F0 (Saf su uygulanan grup), F1 (%1 Ekstrakt uygulanan grup), F5 (%5 Ekstrakt uygulanan grup)

Çizelge 2. Kuluçka özellikleri ve verim tablosu

Table 2. Incubation characteristics and yield table

Gruplar	DO (%)	ÇG (%)	KR (%)
K	82,46±4,44	$93,00\pm1,00^{\mathrm{b}}$	70,66±1,51°
F0	82,03±4,42	$94,46\pm0,68^{b}$	$75,00\pm0,01^{\rm b}$
F1	84,60±3,23	$98, 16\pm0,52^{b}$	$78,33\pm2,88^{a}$
F5	84,16±3,20	$98, 41 \pm 1,12^{a}$	$81,00\pm1,00^{a}$

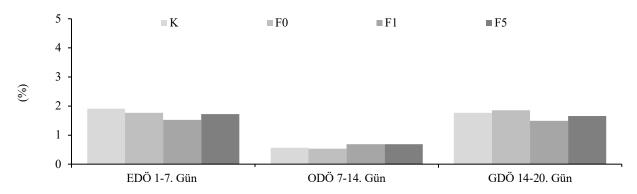
^{*:} Aynı harfle gösterilen ortalamalar arasındaki farklar P<0,05 düzeyinde önemsizdir; *: K (Kontrol), F0 (Saf su uygulanan grup), F1 (%1 Ekstrakt uygulanan grup), F5 (%5 Ekstrakt uygulanan grup), DO (Döllülük oranı), ÇG (Çıkım gücü), KR (Kuluçka randımanı)

Çizelge 3. Malpozisyon ve malformasyon oran taplosu

Table 3. Table of malposition, and malformation rates

Gruplar	Malpozisyon (%)	Malformasyon (%)
K	1,67±0,11	$3,31\pm0,32^{a}$
F0	1,58±0,08	$3,25\pm0,21^{a}$
F1	1,67±0,28	$3,46\pm0,28^{a}$
F5	1,72±0,32	$1,82\pm0,34^{b}$

^{*:} Bir sütunda farklı harfle gösterilen ortalamalar arasındaki farklar P<0,05 düzeyinde önemlidir; *: K (Kontrol), F0 (Saf su uygulanan grup), F1 (%1 Ekstrakt uygulanan grup), F5 (%5 Ekstrakt uygulanan grup)



Şekil 2. Farklı kuluçka evrelerinde (gün) embriyonik ölüm oranları

Figure 2. Embryonic mortality rates at different incubation stages (days)

Keklik civcivlerinin çıkım ağırlıkları ölçülmüş ve gruplar arasında farklılıkların olmadığı tespit edilmiştir (P>0,05). Bu değerler F0'da 14,42±0,90 g, F1'de 14,21±1,07 g, F5'de 14,12±0,23 g, K'da ise 14,33±0,25 g olarak ölçülmüştür (Çizelge 1). Benzer bir çalışmada Kınalı kekliklerde ortalama çıkım ağırlığı 13,40±0,11 g olduğu bildirilmiştir (Alkan ve ark., 2007). Farklı bir çalışmada ise Kınalı kekliklerdeki bu değer 14,55±0,10 g ile 14,68±0,10 g arasında ölçülmüştür (Cam ve ark., 2024).

Çalışmada keklik yumurtalarının çıkım gücü ve kulucka randımanı oranları belirlenmiştir (Cizelge 2). Gruplar arasında çıkım gücü farklılıklar anlamlı bulunmuştur (P<0,05). En yüksek kuluçka çıkım gücü değeri %98,41±1,12 F5'de, en düşük değeri ise %93,00±1,00 olarak K'de tespit edilmiştir. Ayrıca çalışmada kuluçka randıman oranları arasındaki farklılıklar anlamlı bulunmuş ve kuluçka randımanı oranları sırasıyla K'da $\%70,66\pm1,51,$ F0'da $\%75,00\pm0,01,$ F1'de\%78,33\pm2,88, F5'de ise \%81,00\pm1,00, ve olarak hesaplanmıştır (P<0,05). Fesleğen bitki ekstraktı uygulamasının gruplar arasındaki farklılıkların oluşmasına olduğu görülmüştür. Ekstrakt uygulaması neden gelişmekte olan keklik embriyolarını olumlu yönde etkilemiştir. Bu etki sonucunda çıkım gücü ve kuluçka randımanı oranları artmıştır. Ördek yumurtaların inkübasyon işlemi sırasında kullanılan kiraz yaprağı ekstraktının benzer şekilde kuluçka randımanını artırdığı rapor edilmiştir (Ayuningtyas ve ark., 2022). Ayrıca kanatlı yumurtalarının inkübasyon işleminde %14 propolis ekstraktı kullanımının, %4 kimyon kullanımının, kekik ve kekik yağı kullanımının verimini artırdığı bildirilmiştir (Yıldırım ve ark., 2003; Copur ve ark., 2010; Bekhet ve Sayed, 2021).

Gruplara ait farklı dönem embriyo ölüm oranları arasındaki farklılıkların P>0.05 düzevinde önemsiz olduğu belirlenmiştir (Şekil 2). Erken dönem ölüm oranları F0'da $\%1,77\pm0,19$, F1'de $\%1,52\pm0,14$, F5'de $\%1,72\pm0,32$, K'da %1,91±0,26 olarak ve orta dönem ölüm oranları ise F0'da $\%0,53\pm0,02$, F1'de $\%0,69\pm0,31$, F5'de $\%0,69\pm0,31$, K'da %0,56±0,01 olarak belirlenmiştir (Şekil 2). Ayrıca geç dönem ölüm oranı en yüksek F0'da %1,81±0,16 olarak en düşük ise F1'de %1,49±0,01 olarak ölçülmüştür. Bu durum fesleğen bitkisinin farklı dönem embriyo ölüm oranları değerleri üzerine etkisinin olmadığı şeklinde açıklanabilir. Farklı türler üzerinde yapılmış çalışmalarda kekik esansiyel yağının, Satureja hortensis bitki ekstraktının ve karanfil esansiyel yağının erken, orta ve geç embriyo ölümleri üzerine etkisinin olduğu bildirilmiştir (Copur ve ark., 2010; Oliveira ve ark., 2020; Ergün ve ark., 2023).

Çalışmada grupların kabuk altı embriyo ölümleri olan malpozisyon ve malformasyon oranları tespit edilmiştir (Çizelge 3).

^{*:} EDÖ (Erken dönem embriyo ölümü), ODÖ (Orta dönem embriyo ölümü), GDÖ (Geç dönem embriyo ölümü)

^{*:} K (Kontrol), F0 (Saf su uygulanan grup), F1 (%1 Ekstrakt uygulanan grup), F5 (%5 Ekstrakt uygulanan grup)

Çizelge 4. Keklik civcivlerine ait Tona skoru (0-100) ile Pasgar skoru (0-10) tablosu

Table 4. Table of Tona score	(0-100) and Pasgar score (0-10) for partridge chicks

Gruplar	Tona Skoru	Pasgar Skoru
K	$97,67\pm0,77^{\mathrm{b}}$	9,51±0,01
F0	$97,65\pm0,14^{b}$	$9,52\pm0,02$
F1	$98,24\pm0,21^{ab}$	$9,52\pm0,19$
F5	$98,92\pm0,23^{a}$	$9,57 \pm 0,08$

^{*:} Bir sütunda farklı harfle gösterilen ortalamalar arasındaki farklar P<0,05 düzeyinde önemlidir; *: K (Kontrol), F0 (Saf su uygulanan grup), F1 (%1 Ekstrakt uygulanan grup), F5 (%5 Ekstrakt uygulanan grup)

Çizelge 5. Açık alan test oranları (%) ve yabancı cisme ulaşım sayısı (adet civciv)

Table 5. Open field test rates (%) and number of chicks reaching the foreign object (number of chicks)

Gruplar		Bölgelerde Geçirilen Süre (%)		Yabancı Cisme Ulaşan
_	1.Bölge	2.Bölge	3.Bölge	Civciv Sayısı (Adet)
K	4,60±0,23 ^b	$7,38\pm0,24^{a}$	87,35±0,75 ^b	2
F0	$3,67\pm0,11^{c}$	$5,52\pm0,36^{\circ}$	$90,59\pm0,67^{a}$	1
F1	3,64±0,11°	$6,46\pm0,11^{b}$	$89,92\pm1,77^{a}$	2
F5	$5,71\pm0,14^{a}$	$6,70\pm0,13^{b}$	$85,88\pm0,94^{b}$	4

^{*:} Bir sütunda farklı harfle gösterilen ortalamalar arasındaki farklar P<0,05 düzeyinde önemlidir; *: K (Kontrol), F0 (Saf su uygulanan grup), F1 (%1 Ekstrakt uygulanan grup), F5 (%5 Ekstrakt uygulanan grup)

Çalışma grupları arasındaki malpozisyon oranları benzer (P>0,05), fakat malformasyon oranları arasındaki farklılıklar önemli bulunmuştur (P<0,05). En düşük malformasyon değeri F5 grubunda %1,82±0,34 olarak ve en yüksek değer ise %3,46±0,28 olarak F1 grubunda tespit edilmiştir (Çizelge 3).

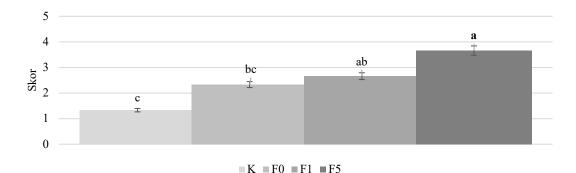
Çalışmada Tona ve Pasgar skoru kullanılarak çıkımı gerçekleşen bütün keklik civcivlerinin kalitesi belirlenmiştir (Çizelge 4). Gruplara arasındaki Tona skoru değer farklılıkları istatistiki olarak anlamlı bulunmuştur (P<0,05). Fakat grupların Pasgar skor değerleri benzer bulunmuştur. En yüksek yüksek Pasgar ve Tona skoru değeri F5'de 9,57±0,08 ve 98,92±0,23 olarak tespit edilmiştir. Tona skorunun 80 ile 100 arasında, Pasgar skorunda ise 8 ile 10 değerleri arasında olan civcivler kaliteli olarak kabul edilirler (Willemsen ve ark., 2008; Boerjan, 2002). Tespit edilen bu değer kaliteli civciv aralığında yer almaktadır.

Çalışmada kuluçkadan yeni çıkmış civcivlerin farklı bir ortama karsı tepki ve kesfetme düzeylerini değerlendirmek için açık alan testi uygulanmıştır. Civcivlerin davranıs analiz platformunun üç ayrı bölgesinde geçirdikleri süreler hesaplanmıştır. Ayrıca civcivlerin platformun merkezde asılı yabancı cisme (oyuncak) ulaşım sayıları da belirlenmiştir (Çizelge 5). Bu testte civcivlerin platformun merkezinde (1. Bölge) geçirdikleri süre çok önemlidir. Çünkü burada geçirdikleri sürenin uzunluğu yüksek düzeydeki keşif, düşük düzeydeki korku ve stresle ilişkilidir (Faure ve ark., 1983). Çalışmada civcivlerin merkezde geçirdikleri süre oranları farklılık göstermiştir (P<0,05). Bu değerler sırasıyla F1'de %3,64±0,11, F0'da $\%3,67\pm011$, K'de $\%4,60\pm0,23$ ve F5'de ise $\%5,71\pm0,14$ olarak hesaplanmıştır. Bu farklılıkların oluşmasında bitki ekstraktı uygulamasının etkisinin olduğu düşünülmektedir. Ayrıca merkezde geçirilen en uzun sürenin F5'de tespit edilmiş olması %5'lik bitki ekstraktı uygulamasının keklik civcivlerinde korku ve stresi azalttığı, merak ve keşifi artırdığı şeklinde yorumlanabilir. İşlem sırasında yumurta içerisine nüfuz eden fesleğen bitki ekstraktındaki fitokimyasallar embriyogenez sırasında duygu düzenleyici

beyin bölgelerinin gelişimini olumlu yönde etkilemiş; bu da civcivlerde gözlemlenen düşük stres yanıtı ve yüksek keşif motivasyonu ile karakterize davranışların ortaya çıkmasına katkıda bulunmuş olabilir. Bu etki yetiştiricilikte başta sürüde davranış bozukluklarının azaltılması ve verim seviyesinin yükseltilmesi için çok önemlidir.

Keklik civcivlerinin yem arama ve yeme ulaşma davranışları pist testi platformu kullanılarak belirlenmiş ve arasındaki farklılıkların önemli bulunmuştur (P<0,05). Civcivlere ait pist skor değerleri sırasıyla K'de 1,33±0,57, F0'da 2,23±0,27, F1'de 2,66±0,57 ve F5'te ise 3,66±0,57 olarak hesaplanmıştır (Şekil 3). Bu durum fesleğen bitki ekstraktının Keklik civcivlerinin stres ve korku gibi istenmeyen tepkilerin oluşmasını engellediği ve gelişmekte olan embriyoların duyusal algılama bilincinin gelişimine yardımcı olduğu şeklinde açıklanabilir. Çünkü kanatlılarda kuluçka sırasında uygulanacak pek çok faktör gelişmekte olan civcivlerin duyusal algılama bilincinin gelişmesini etkilediği bilinmektedir (Sneddon ve ark., 1998; Nielsen ve ark., 2015).

Son yıllarda yapılan birçok çalışmada kuluçka işlemi sırasında kullanılan bitkisel ve doğal ürünlerin kümes hayvanı üretimi üzerinde olumlu etkisini olduğu rapor edilmiştir. Papatya, yabani nanesi ve kekik gibi çeşitli bitki özütlerin döllenmiş yumurtaların kuluçka kabiliyeti olumlu yönde etkilediği bilinmektedir (Behnamifar ve ark., 2018). Ayrıca kekik, tarçın, adaçayı, biberiye gibi bitkilerden elde edilen uçucu yağların yumurta içerisine uygulanmasının yumurtadan çıkan civciv performanslarını iyi yönde etkilediği bildirilmiştir (Malheiros ve ark., 2012). Fesleğen çok çeşitli kullanım potansiyeline sahip önemli bir bitkidir. Sahip olduğu bu özelliği sayesinde fesleğen halk sağlığı, bitki ve hayvan sağlığı ve üretiminde de kullanım olanağı bulmuştur. Bıldırcın yumurtaları üzerinde yapılmış bir çalışmada fesleğenin kullanımın yumurtaların depolanma ömrü üzerine olumlu etkisinin olduğu ve yumurta iç kalite özelliklerini korumak için kullanılabileceği bildirilmiştir (de Araújo ve ark., 2023).



Şekil 3. Pist testi skorları *Figure 3. Pist test scores*

*: Bir sütunda farklı harfle gösterilen ortalamalar arasındaki farklar P<0.05 düzeyinde önemlidir *: K (Kontrol), F0 (Saf su uygulanan grup), F1 (%1 Ekstrakt uygulanan grup), F5 (%5 Ekstrakt uygulanan grup)

Farklı bir çalışmada ise fesleğen bitki ekstraktının çeşitli sinek larvalarının kuluçka kabiliyetleri üzerine etkisinin olduğu rapor edilmiştir (Al-Asadi ve Ibrahim., 2020). Çalışmada Keklik yumurtalarının inkübasyon işlemi sırasında fesleğen bitki ekstraktı uygulamasının kuluçka randımanı, çıkım gücü, malformasyon oranı, korku, stres, ilgi, yem arama ve araştırma gibi davranışlar üzerine olumlu etki gösterdiği sonucuna varılmıştır. Ayrıca bitki ekstraktının kullanımından kaynaklı herhangi bir istenmeyen sonuçla karşılaşılmamıştır. Sonuç olarak fesleğen bitki ekstraktının bu çalışmada kullanılan dozlarda keklik yetiştiriciliğinde kuluçka verimini artırıcı olarak kullanılabileceği kanaatine varılmıştır.

Beyan

Bu çalışma 7. Uluslararası Anadolu Tarım, Gıda, Çevre ve Biyoloji Kongresi'nde (Kastamonu, TARGİD 2024) sunulmuştur.

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The Biopotential of Bacterial Bioagents Isolated from Compost in Suppressing *Botrytis cinerea* and *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*

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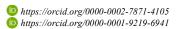
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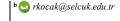
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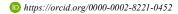
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Recycling plant residues through various processes is essential for addressing waste issues in our country, because it contributes to the protection of the environment and ecosystems. Composting is one of the most important recycling methods for plant residues. Composts are not only natural, but they also enhance soil fertility and exhibit fungitoxic properties on the mycelial and spore germination of fungi. This study aimed to isolate bacterial bioagents from compost derived from various agricultural and household organic wastes, and to assess their antagonistic potential against important plant pathogens Botrytis cinerea and Sclerotinia sclerotiorum under in vitro conditions. A total of eight bacterial isolates were obtained, identified as belonging to Bacillus spp. Dual culture tests were used to evaluate the potential of these bacterial candidates to inhibit the mycelial growth of phytopathogenic fungi. In vitro trials revealed that six bacterial isolates exhibited varying degrees of antagonistic effects (23.3%- 63.3%) on the mycelial growth of B. cinerea. Among the tested bacteria, two isolates were effective against S. sclerotiorum, demonstrating antifungal activity ranging from 80% to 83.3%. The results indicate that composts provide a favorable environment for microorganisms with antagonistic potential, suggesting that these cultivation environments could play a significant role in the biological control of fungal pathogens in agriculture. In conclusion, this study contributes to the development of sustainable agricultural practices by ensuring a more efficient utilization of organic waste.











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Introduction

The increasing global population is contributing to the rise in environmental pollution issues. Rising living standards have altered consumption habits, leading to changes in waste types. A large part of both household and industrial waste comes from organic material sourced from plants and animals. Plant waste includes various unprocessed parts, such as: cut grass, chopped stems, straw, leaves, branches, stalks, seeds, fruit peels. Additionally, it includes waste produced during the processing of plant products.

The recycling of plant (solid) waste helps protect both the environment and ecosystems, benefits urban ecology, reduces landfill waste, and prevents resource wastage.

Solid waste management, recycling, and the efficient use of resources are fundamental aspects of sustainability. Effective utilization of resources, which is the cornerstone of sustainability, is achieved through these practices.

Among the methods for ensuring sustainability and recycling plant waste, composting is considered the most effective (Akdoğan & Güleç, 2007). Composting is the process by which organic waste in solid waste is converted into simpler substances, or nutrients necessary for plants, through biochemical reactions by organisms. The primary reason composting has gained importance in solid waste management is that it is not only an environmentally friendly recycling method but also yields a product that is beneficial for agricultural purposes (Diaz et al., 2003). Compost is primarily used as a soil conditioner rather than a fertilizer. It has a high organic content, ranging from 90-95%. However, compost generally contains lower concentrations of macro and micronutrients, including phosphorus, potassium, and nitrogen, compared to commercial fertilizers. In terms of its characteristics, it is similar to peat moss (Knight, 1997). Composting is a

widely used method for the biological treatment of municipal and agricultural solid waste. Composting generally involves several stages: the processing of solid waste, the biological decomposition of its organic components, and the preparation and marketing of the final compost product. Utilizing waste in compost production is of significant importance both for contributing to the economy and for preventing environmental pollution (Tchobanoglous et al., 1993; Pekşen & Günay, 2009). Compost has commercial value and can be sold under names as organic fertilizer, soil conditioner, and growing medium. However, all these benefits can only be achieved through a controlled and successful composting process. For successful composting, the nutrient content of the waste used in the process is crucial. Materials must be combined in the correct proportions to start the decomposition and breakdown processes. The two fundamental elements required are nitrogen (N) and carbon (C). Materials such as kitchen scraps, egg shells, freshly cut grass, animal manure, and animal carcasses have high nitrogen content. In contrast, materials like dried leaves, branches, straw, sawdust, paper, and cardboard have high carbon content. In the composting process, materials high in nitrogen (N) are referred to as "green" materials, while those high in carbon (C) are referred to as "brown" materials. Typically, nitrogen-rich materials are green and include fresh grass, vegetables, and fruits, whereas carbonrich materials include straw, shredded branches, and sawdust. The ideal carbon-to-nitrogen (C/N) ratio for organic matter in a compost pile is generally considered to be around 25:1 or 30:1. This means that materials with 25 or 30 units of carbon should be mixed with materials containing 1 unit of nitrogen to achieve a balanced compost. Materials high in carbon content, such as straw and sawdust, are generally dry and lightweight. In contrast, materials high in nitrogen content, such as animal and poultry manure, fish scraps, and freshly cut grass, are wet, heavy, and dense. Manure from ruminants is preferred in composting because it is rich in microorganisms. Cow manure is particularly ideal, but manure from sheep, goats, and horses can also be used. Additionally, it is better to use manure in composting before it becomes excessively aged (Anonymous, 2021).

The concept of sustainable agriculture promotes the use of compost in farming. Compost not only provides nutrients to plants but also helps renew the organic matter content, contributing to more sustainable agricultural ecosystems (Marmo, 2008; Palanivell et al., 2013). Research conducted worldwide has shown that the use of compost can reduce dependency on chemical pesticides and fertilizers in agriculture (Hargreaves et al., 2008; Wang et al., 2011; Gonzalez-Gonzalez et al., 2024). Pesticides are

commonly used, especially in the management against fungal-origin diseases. However, the rapid development of resistance by pathogens to pesticides, along with the threat to natural balance, has led to the exploration of alternative methods. One of the increasingly important alternatives today is biological control, which has been extensively studied against various plant disease agents and has started to be used successfully as biopreparations (McDonald & Linde, 2002; Martin, 2003). In biological control, isolating microorganisms with antagonistic potential from nature and studying their effects on pathogen development are crucial (Soylu et al., 2021). The use of organic materials (such as animal manure, green manure, compost, and peat) is recommended in both traditional and biological systems, particularly for reducing disease rates caused by soil pathogens and improving soil structure (Gamliel & Stapleton, 2012; Kefalogianni et al., 2017). The application of compost alters microbial communities because it is a source of numerous and diverse beneficial microorganisms (Dai et al., 2018; Huang et al., 2019; Wang et al., 2020). A significant diversity of bacterial species has been isolated from compost to date, including microorganisms known as Plant Growth-Promoting Rhizobacteria (PGPR), which are believed to promote plant growth (Blaya et al., 2016). Additionally, compost bacteria can also act as biocontrol agents against phytopathogens, and their significant impact on the prevention of various plant diseases has been reported (Angelopoulou et al., 2014; Calderón et al., 2014; Baliah et al., 2016; Kefalogianni et al., 2017; Le et al., 2018; Özkaya & Soylu, 2022). Among these pathogens are Sclerotinia sclerotiorum (deBary), which causes white mold and can remain viable in soil for years as sclerotia, and Botrytis cinerea (deBary), known for gray mold, both of which cause significant economic losses in our country (Soylu et al., 2020).

In this study, the effects of beneficial bacteria obtained from compost mixtures produced as the end product of the aerobic decomposition of organic material on *S. sclerotiorum*, a pathogen causing root rot, and *B. cinerea* (deBary), which causes gray mold, were investigated *in vitro*.

Materials and Methods

Compost Production

Compost produced in 2021 and 2022 at the Selçuk University Çumra School of Applied Sciences experimental garden was used in the trial. The compost mixture, made from a combination of domestic and agricultural solid wastes, including fruit and vegetable peels, used tea leaves, eggshells, nut shells, freshly cut grass, tree leaves, pruned plant residues, and straw, is listed in Table 1.

Table 1. The materials used to create the compost from which the bacteria were obtained are as follows:

Compost Materials	Amount
Straw	25 kg
Dry, carbon-rich materials include dry leaves, shredded branches, either used alone or in combination	20 kg
Animal manure (Cow manure)	25 kg
Kitchen scraps (fruit and vegetable waste, nut shells, tea grounds)	
Freshly cut grass (left to sit for 1-2 days after mowing)	
Accelerators (to speed up the composting process), such as urea or any high-nitrogen material	
Enrichers: Egg shells (mineral-rich material)	Ap 10%*

^{*} Approximately 10% of the total compost materials

Table 2. Basic Chemical Properties of the Compost

Parameter	Method	Result
Water Saturation (%)	Saturation	59.4
Salinity (EC) (dS m ⁻¹)	Saturation	2.84
pH	Saturation	7.11
CaCO ₃ (%)	Scheiber	25.01
Organic Matter (%)	Walkley-Black	1.82
K (mg kg)	Olsen	8.10
P (mg kg)	A.Asetat-ICP	252.23

Preparation of Compost

A pit measuring 1.5 meters by 2.0 meters was dug in an unused area. At the bottom of the pit, layers of straw, dry branches, leaves, and shredded branches were placed. Manure, freshly cut grass, kitchen scraps, and soil were layered on top to form the compost pile. Urea was added to the second layer as an accelerator. The same process was repeated with four layers, stacking and lightly watering each layer until the pile reached a height of 1.5 meters. The pile was then covered with plastic. The pile was turned every eight days, completing the composting process in about a year. The basic chemical properties of the compost after fermentation are listed in Table 2.

Phytopathogenic Fungi

We obtained the fungal pathogens used in this study from the Mycology Laboratory of Selçuk University. These pathogens were *Botrytis cinerea*, isolated from tomatoes, and *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*, isolated from sunflowers. These fungi were cultured on Potato Dextrose Agar (PDA) and maintained as pure cultures on slant agar at +4°C during the experiment.

Obtaining Bacterial Isolates from Compost

A compost sample was collected from three locations within the experimental garden of Selçuk University Çumra School of Applied Sciences, mixed, and used as a single sample. We isolated bacteria from the compost samples using the serial dilution plating technique (Aneja, 2003). The sample was serially diluted with sterile distilled water (serial dilutions ranging from 10⁻¹ to 10⁻⁷), 200 µl from each dilution was spread onto Nutrient Agar (NA) plates. After incubating at 28°C for 48 hours, colonies were selected from these plates, and pure cultures were obtained and preserved long-term in 30% glycerol.

Identification of Bacterial Isolates

The identification of bacterial isolates used for biocontrol was performed using Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption/Ionization-Time of Flight Mass Spectrometry (MALDI-TOF MS), which accurately classified the bacterial isolates into species (Aktan & Soylu, 2020). The MALDI-TOF system is a cutting-edge diagnostic technology. It is based on the principle of comparing protein profiles obtained directly from bacteria by laser with those of known isolates in the device's database. Samples were sent to the Scientific Industrial and Technological Application Research Center at Bolu Abant İzzet Baysal University.

Determination of In Vitro Antagonistic Activities of Bacteria Isolated from Compost

Bacterial isolates obtained from compost were evaluated for antifungal activities against Botrytis cinerea and Sclerotinia sclerotiorum using dual culture method. The fungal pathogens used in this study were first inoculated onto Potato Dextrose Agar (PDA) plates containing Streptomycin sulfate and incubated at 25°C for 4-5 days to obtain fresh cultures. The bacterial isolates used in the experiment were spread onto Nutrient Agar (NA) plates and incubated at 25°C for 24 hours before pathogen inoculation. Dual culture assays were performed on antibiotic-free PDA plates. A disc of agar with fresh pathogen culture was placed in the center of a Petri dish (90 mm diameter), and bacterial isolates were streaked in a circle with a radius of 1.5 cm around the pathogen (Salman et al., 2022). The control group was not inoculated with bacteria. The Petri dishes were incubated at 27°C for a duration of 5 days. After incubation, the mycelial growth of the pathogen towards the bacterial isolates (measured in mm) was recorded, and the percentage of colony growth inhibition was calculated using the formula: %Inhibition = (1- (Treatment Growth / Control Growth)) × 100 (Tariq et al., 2010). In vitro biocontrol tests were conducted with three replicates for each treatment and repeated at two different times.

Statistical Analysis

Data were analyzed using one-way ANOVA with SPSS statistical software (SPSS Inc., version 17.0), and differences between isolates were compared using Tukey's test ($p \le 0.05$).

Results and Discussion

A total of 8 bacterial isolates were obtained from compost samples collected from the experimental garden at Selçuk University, Çumra Applied Sciences School (Table 1). In dual culture assays, 6 of the isolates showed antagonistic effects against the fungal pathogens. Among these isolates, only 3 effectively inhibited the mycelial growth of *Botrytis cinerea* and *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*, and these isolates were identified at the species level using MALDI-TOF MS analysis. According to the analyses, all the isolates were determined to belong to the genus *Bacillus* spp. The SÖ 1-2/SÖ 1-7 isolates, which have high antagonistic activity, were identified at the species level as *Bacillus cereus*, while the SÖ 1-16 isolate was identified as *Bacillus megaterium*.

Subsequently, the *in vitro* antagonistic potentials of the 8 candidate bacteria were determined. The bacterial isolates significantly inhibited the growth of phytopathogenic fungi in dual culture tests. The in vitro antagonistic potentials of the 8 antagonist bacterial isolates were evaluated against the gray mold pathogen B. cinerea, and it was found that 6 isolates of Bacillus spp. inhibited mycelial growth by 23.3% to 63.3%. Among the tested antagonist bacterial isolates, the one that most effectively suppressed mycelial growth was SÖ 1-16 (Bacillus megaterium), with up to 63.3% inhibition. This isolate was followed by SÖ 1-2 (Bacillus cereus) with a 48.8% inhibition rate and SÖ 1-7 (Bacillus cereus) with a 47.7% inhibition rate. Other isolates (SÖ 1-14, SÖ 1-4, and SÖ 1-5) inhibited mycelial growth of *B. cinerea* by 23.3%, 26.6%, and 31.1%, respectively. Among the 8 tested isolates, SÖ 1-1 and SÖ 1-3 did not inhibit the mycelial growth of the fungal pathogen (Table 3, Figure 1).

Among the tested antagonist candidates, *Bacillus* cereus (SÖ 1-7) was the most effective in inhibiting the

mycelial growth of the root rot pathogen *S. sclerotiorum*, achieving 83.3% inhibition and a mycelial growth of 1.5 mm. This isolate was followed by *Bacillus cereus* (SÖ 1-2), which showed 80% inhibition with a mycelial growth of 1.8 mm. Other antagonist bacteria were unable to inhibit the mycelial growth of *S. sclerotiorum* (Table 3, Figure 1).

The increasing interest in compost application in horticultural practices is a result of the integrated approach to managing plant diseases (Scharenbroch et al., 2011). The pH (neutral) and EC (high) values of composts, which depend on organic and mineral components, are important not only for plant growth and potential toxicity but also for the formation of microbial populations necessary to inhibit fungal pathogens. To prevent phytotoxic reactions, compost should be diluted with water before application to plants. However, more research is needed to evaluate the individual biotic factors of each component in determining their disease-suppressive effects (Pane et al., 2012).

Table 3. The potential of antagonist bacterial isolates obtained from compost to inhibit the mycelial growth of fungal pathogens under *in vitro* conditions^a.

		B. cir	B. cinerea		S. sclerotiorum	
İsolates	Genus/Species Names	Mycelial growth (cm) ^b	%İnhibition	Mycelial growth (cm)	%İnhibition	
SÖ 1-1	Bacillus spp.	9.00a	0	9.00a	0	
SÖ 1-2	Bacillus cereus	4.6c	48.8	1.8b	80	
SÖ 1-3	Bacillus spp.	9.00a	0	9.00a	0	
SÖ 1-4	Bacillus spp.	6.6b	26.6	9.00a	0	
SÖ 1-5	Bacillus spp.	6.2b	31.1	9.00a	0	
SÖ 1-7	Bacillus cereus	4.7c	47.7	1.5c	83.3	
SÖ 1-14	Bacillus spp.	6.b	23.3	9.00a	0	
SÖ 1-16	Bacillus megaterium	3.3d	63.3	9.00a	0	
Control	B. cinerea/S. sclerotiorum	9.00a	0	9.00a	0	

 $^{^{}a}$ The bacterial isolates were inoculated onto PDA and marked with a circular zone immediately after pathogen inoculation. The mycelial growth (cm) of the fungus towards the bacterial zone was measured in the petri dishes containing bacteria. The growth was compared with that in the control petri dishes, and the inhibition rates (%) were calculated.; b The experimental data were measured in 2 different petri dishes, and the averages were taken. The experiment was repeated twice at different times. The similar lowercase letters next to the mean values within the same column indicate that there is no statistically significant difference between the isolates. (Tukey Test, P≤0.05)

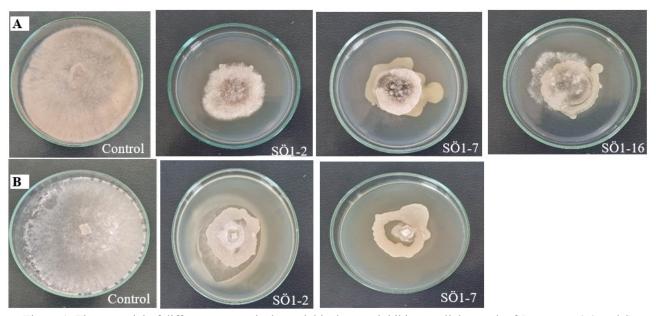


Figure 1. The potential of different antagonist bacterial isolates to inhibit mycelial growth of *B. cinerea* (A) and *S. sclerotiorum* (B) in *in vitro* dual culture tests.

The continuous use of synthetic pesticides for controlling air and soil-borne pathogens leads to resistance development and environmental pollution (Savary et al., 2019; Wang et al., 2021; Imran et al., 2023). This situation highlights the need for sustainable alternatives to manage plant diseases, including methods compatible with organic farming. Therefore, using compost as a biological control approach is a potential method to mitigate the damage caused by these chemicals and can be economically advantageous when employed. Biological control methods may involve a single organism or a group of beneficial organisms working together to suppress a pathogen and control disease (Collinge et al., 2022). This study has demonstrated that bacterial isolates derived from the compost produced are highly suppressive. Our results indicate the high microbial activity of the compost. Among the isolates with antagonistic properties in dual culture experiments, three exhibited 47.7%-63.3% inhibition rates, effectively suppressing the mycelial growth of B. cinerea. These results are consistent with studies on the in vitro suppressive effects of compost against various plant pathogens (Pane et al., 2010; Pane et al., 2012; Kara et al., 2016; Barghouth et al., 2023; Jiménez et al., 2023). In contrast, the effects of the isolates on the development of S. sclerotiorum showed significant variability, with two isolates proving to be the most effective against the soil-borne fungus, exhibiting 83.3% and 80% inhibition rates in mycelial growth. Previous studies have reported the role of such bacterial isolates in suppressing the development of significant soilborne plant pathogens (Soylu et al., 2005; Gupta et al., 2006; Kumar et al., 2012; Sönmez, 2018). Overall, our data support the conclusion that microorganisms thriving in the examined compost play a crucial role in pathogen suppression. It has been reported that solid compost and organic amendments can suppress soil-borne pathogens and play a significant role in stimulating the beneficial microbial components responsible for disease suppression (Giotis et al., 2009; Zaccardelli et al., 2011). Additionally, composts have been used as a source for isolating potential biological control agents. Bacterial isolates such as B. subtilis, B. licheniformis, and P. chrysogenum from compost have shown significant antagonistic effects against plant pathogens (Kone et al., 2010; Suarez-Estrella et al., 2012). The results obtained in this study suggest that compost harbors beneficial antagonists that could serve as a resource against plant pathogens.

The Bacillus species, known for its various antagonistic properties, are among the most studied in biological research due to their ability to synthesize antibiotic substances. These bacteria are noted for their production of antimicrobial compounds with different molecular structures, their resistance to pathogen resistance to these compounds, and their ability to form endospores that allow survival under harsh environmental conditions. As a result, they are considered the most suitable microbial species for biopesticide production (Stein, 2005; Abbas et al., 2019; Alvindia & Natsuaki, 2009; Kara & Soylu, 2022). In our study, three bacterial isolates identified as *Bacillus* were isolated, and all three isolates were found to be effective in vitro against *B. cinerea* and *S. sclerotiorum* diseases.

Recently, various approaches have been explored to enhance biocontrol activity, leading to significant advancements in the formulation and production of beneficial microorganisms, such as antagonistic bacteria, and the commercialization of biopesticides. However, to create a genuine alternative to synthetic chemicals by increasing biocontrol potential, further research is needed to discover new microbiomes, clarify their effects on pathogens, and improve our understanding of the interactions between pathogens, antagonists, and hosts.

Declarations

This paper was presented at the 7th International Anatolian Agriculture, Food, Environment and Biology Congress.

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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Investigation of the Bioactive Compounds of Wild Grown Prickly Pear (*Opuntia ficus-barbarica* A.Berger) Fruits and Peels in the İskenderun Region

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
Research Article	Due to global warming, there is increasing interest in plant-based foods with low water requirements and valuable bioactive compounds. This study evaluated the total phenolic content, flavonoid content, and antioxidant activities of fruit (M) and peel (K) extracts from prickly pear (<i>Opuntia ficus</i> -
Received: 07.10.2024 Accepted: 23.11.2024	barbarica A.Berger). Initially, samples were extracted using methanol. The phenolic contents in methanol extracts were determined as 835.66±21.12 mg GAE/100 g in K and 760.66±17.61 mg GAE/100 g in M, while total flavonoid contents were measured as 222.00±4.35 μg QE/g in K and 204.76±0.87 μg QE/g in M. Antioxidant activity was assessed using two methods: free radical scavenging activity (DPPH) and Cupric ion reducing antioxidant capacity (CUPRAC), with reduction capacities calculated as 40.93±1.46 μg TE/mL extract for M and 80.11±2.03 μg TE/mL extract for
Keywords: Antioxidant Phenolic Flavonoid Prickly Pear Opuntia ficus-barbarica A.Berger	K. The IC ₅₀ values of fruit and peel extracts were calculated and compared with standard BHT (Butylated hydroxytoluene), with the peel extract showing the closest value. Results demonstrated that both fruit and peel of Opuntia ficus-barbarica contain significant amounts of bioactive compounds and exhibit potent antioxidant activity. This study reveals the potential of this traditionally used medicinal plant as a health-promoting food component and natural antioxidant

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İskenderun Bölgesinde Kendiliğinden Yetişen Frenk İnciri (*Opuntia ficus-barbarica* A.Berger) Meyve ve Kabuklarının Biyoaktif Bileşenlerinin Araştırılması

MAKALE BİLGİSİ	ÖZ
Araştırma Makalesi	Küresel ısınma nedeniyle su gereksiniminin düşük ve yapısında değerli bileşenlerin bulunduğu bitkisel gıdalara olan ilgi giderek artmaktadır. Bu çalışmada, frenk inciri (<i>Opuntia ficus-barbarica</i>
Geliş : 07.10.2024 Kabul : 23.11.2024	A.Berger) meyve (M) ve kabuklarının (K) toplam fenolik, flavonoid madde miktarları ve antioksidan aktiviteleri değerlendirilmiştir. Bu amaçla öncelikle numuneler metanol ile ekstrakte edilmiştir. Metanol ekstraktlarında fenolik miktarları K'da 835,66±21,12 mg GAE/100 g, M'de 760,66±17,61 mg GAE/100 g; toplam flavonoid madde miktarları K'da 222,00±4,35 μg KE/g ve M'de 204,76±0,87 μg KE/g olarak belirlenmiştir. Antioksidan aktivite, serbest radikal giderme aktivitesi (DPPH) ve
Anahtar Kelimeler: Antioksidan Fenolik Flavonoid Frenk inciri Opuntia ficus-barbarica A.Berger	Bakır (II) indirgeme kapasitesi (CUPRAC) yöntemleriyle değerlendirilmiş, indirgeme kapasitesi M'de 40,93±1,46 μg TE/mL ekstrak ve K'da 80,11±2,03 μg TE/mL ekstrak olarak hesaplanmıştır. Meyve ve kabuk ekstraklarının IC ₅₀ değerleri hesaplanmış ve standart BHT (Bütil hidroksi toluen) ile karşılaştırıldığında en yakın değerin K'da olduğu görülmüştür. Sonuçlar, frenk inciri meyve ve kabuklarının önemli miktarda biyoaktif bileşen içerdiğini ve yüksek antioksidan aktiviteye sahip olduğunun görtermiçtir. Bu çalaşma, galenakçal olarak halk bekimliğinde kullanılan frenk incirinin
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Giriş

Nüfusun hızlı bir şekilde artığı dünyada gıda olarak kullanılan kaynakların kısıtlı olması var olan kaynaklara alternatif arayışını artırmıştır. Bunun sonucunda günlük diyete pek çok yeni meyve, sebze ve gıda maddesi eklenmiştir. Ülkemizin Ege ve Akdeniz bölgesinde kendiliğinden yetişen frenk inciri bu meyvelerden biridir. Frenk inciri (Opuntia ficus-barbarica A.Berger) Cactaceae familyasına ait çok yıllık bir kaktüs bitkidir (El-Mostafa ve ark., 2014). Yetiştiği bölgelerde "hint inciri, papaz yemişi, dikenli incir ve babutsa" gibi yerel isimlerle anılmaktadır (Dumanoğlu ve ark., 2020). Anavatanı olan Meksika'da kullanımı çok eski yıllara dayanmaktadır (Uzun ve Şengül, 1994; Jimenez-Aguilar ve ark., 2014). Kurak ve yarı kurak bölgelerde yetişen bu bitkinin meyveleri dikenli, bol çekirdekli ve kendine has bir aromaya sahiptir. Sarı çiçek açar ve meyvelerin renkleri kırmızıdan turuncu, sarı ve yesile kadar değismektedir (Toplu ve ark., 2009) (Sekil 1). Ülkemizde frenk inciri sadece Mersin, Adana, Osmaniye, Hatay, Antalya ile Güney Ege sahillerinde doğal olarak yetişmektedir. Ağustos ve Eylül aylarında olgunlaşan meyveler yaz aylarında toplanarak yerel pazarlarda satılmaktadır (Dengiz ve Zengin., 2016).



Şekil 1. Frenk incirinin çiçek ve meyve forumları Figure 1. Flower and fruit forms of the Prickly Pear

Bu meyveler beslenme açısından zengin içerikli gıda niteliğine sahiptir (Galati ve ark., 2003). Meyveler daha çok taze olarak tüketilmektedir. Bunun yanında meyve suyu, reçel, marmelat gibi ürünlere dönüştürülerek de değerlendirilmektedir (Yılmaz, 2010). Meyveler glikoz, vitaminler, renk pigmentleri, mineraller (magnezyum, kalsiyum, fosfor) bakımından zengin, doğal antioksidanlar (polifenoller, vitamin C ve selenyum), diyet lifi ve serbest aminoasitler içermektedir (Galati ve ark., 2003; Hernández-Urbiola ve ark., 2011; Jana, 2012). Halk arasında göbek düşmesi, ishal, mide ve bağırsak rahatsızlıkları, damar sertliği, topuk dikeni, bronşit, bademcik iltihabı gibi birçok hastalık için farklı şekillerde kullanılmaktadır (Ünalan, 2023). Ayrıca bu meyveler geleneksel tıp uygulamalarında başta kardiyovasküler hastalıklar olmak pek çok doku ve organ hastalıklarında, diyabet, immun bozuklukları ve romatizma gibi bozukluklarının tedavisinde de kullanıldığı bildirilmiştir (Trombetta ve ark., 2006; Park ve ark., 2013; Tilahun ve Walegerima, 2018).

Frenk inciri ile yapılan çalışmalar sınırlı sayıda olup genellikle yerel seleksiyon çalışmalarıdır (Karababa ve ark., 2004; Duru ve Türker, 2005; Tütüncü, 2016; Güven, 2017; Güzel, 2019). Bu çalışmada Hatay ili İskenderun ilçesinde doğal olarak yetişen frenk inciri meyve ve kabuklarının fenolik ve flavonoid madde miktarlarının ve antioksidan aktivitelerinin belirlenmesi ve meyve ve kabuk kısımlarındaki farklılıkların değerlendirilmesi amaçlanmıştır.

Materval ve Yöntem

Bitki Materyali

Çalışmada kullanılan meyve örnekleri Ağustos ayında Hatay ili İskenderun bölgesinde (36°34'03"N 36°12'33"E 120 m) özel mülk içerisindeki kendiliğinden yetişmiş bitkilerden toplanmıştır. Toplama işleminde meyvelerin olgunlaşmış (sarı ve turuncu renk) olmalarına dikkat edilmiştir. Toplanan meyve soğuk su ile yıkanarak fiziksel kirliliklerden ve dikenlerinden arındırılmıştır. Temizlenen meyveler soyularak kabuk (K) ve meyve (M) (çekirdekler dahil) olmak üzere iki kısma ayrılmıştır. Daha sonra, örnekler sabit tartıma ulaşıncaya kadar gölgede kurutulmuş ve kullanıma kadar +4°C'de buzdolabında saklanmıştır.

Bitki Ekstraktının Hazırlanması

Kurutulmuş örnekler öğütücü yardımıyla toz haline getirilmiş, 10 gr tartılarak üzerlerine 20 kat olacak şekilde metanol ilave edilmiştir. Karışım manyetik karıştırıcı yardımıyla oda koşullarında 24 saat karıştırıldıktan sonra süzülerek ayrılmıştır. Geriye kalan çökelek üzerine metanol ilave edilerek bir süre daha karıştırılmış, tekrar süzülerek başlangıçtakilerle birleştirilmiştir. Daha sonra içlerindeki alkol çözücü 45°C'de evaparatör yardımıyla uzaklaştırılarak numune ekstraktlar elde edilmiştir. Elde edilen ekstraklardan 1000 ppm konsantrasyonda stok çözelti hazırlanarak çalışmalarda kullanılmıştır (Ergün, 2021).

Toplam Fenolik Madde Tayini

Toplam fenolik madde miktarı Folin-Ciocaltaeu metodu kullanılarak belirlenmiştir (Slinkard ve Singleton, 1977). Standart olarak gallik asit kullanılmış ve sonuçlar mg gallik asit eşdeğeri (mg GAE/100 g) olarak ifade edilmiştir. Prensip olarak 0,1 mL ekstrak alınarak hacim 1,840 mL ye destile su ile tamamlanmış, üzerine 0,01 mL Folin-Ciocaltaeu reaktifi ilave edilmiştir. Oda sıcaklığında 3 dk inkübasyonun ardından %2'lik Na₂CO₃ çözeltisinden ilave edilmiş, 2 saat oda sıcaklığında inkübasyon sonucunda absorbaslar 760 nm'de köre (ekstrak yerine saf su ile hazırlanan çözelti) karşı okunmuştur.

Toplam Flavonoid Madde Tayini

Örneklerin toplam flavonoik içerikleri alüminyum nitrat metodu kullanılarak belirlenmiştir (Moreno ve ark., 2000). Standart olarak kuarsetin kullanılmıştır. Prensip olarak 0,1 mL alınarak hacim metanol ile 1,92 mL'ye tamamlanmış, üzerine 0,04 mL KCH₃COO (1 M) ilave edilmiş ve 1 dk sonra 0,04 mL Al(NO₃)₃ (%10) eklenerek 40 dk inkübe edilmiştir. Daha sonra absorbanslar 415 nm'de ölçülerek sonuçlar gram ekstrak başına mg kuarsetin eşdeğeri (mg KE/g ekstrakt) olarak ifade edilmiştir.

Serbest Radikal giderme Aktivitesi (DPPH)

Blois (1958) metodu kullanılarak örneklerin DPPH radikal giderme aktivitesi ölçülmüştür. Standart olarak BHT kullanılmıştır. 1000 ppm olarak hazırlanmış stok çözelti kullanılarak farklı konsantrasyonlarda (50, 100, 150 ve 200 μL/mL) ekstrakt çözeltileri hazırlanmıştır. Ekstrakt çözeltilerinden 0,5 mL alınıp üzerine 0,1 mM DPPH çözeltisinden 2 mL ilave edilerek karanlıkta ve oda sıcaklığında 30 dk inkübe edilmiş ve absorbans değişimleri 517 nm'de ölçülmüştür.

Daha sonra örneklerin radikal giderme aktiviteleri aşağıdaki formül yardımıyla hesaplanmıştır.

DPPH radikal giderme aktivitesi (%)=[(A₀-A₁/A₀)×100]

A₀, Kontrol reaksiyonunun absorbansı,

A₁, Test edilen ekstrakt örneğinin/ standart çözeltilerin absorbansı

Bakır (II) İndirgeme Kapasitesi (CUPRAC)

Örneklerin Cu²⁺ indirgeme kapasitesi Apak ve ark., (2004)'e göre yapılmıştır. Standart olarak Troloks kullanılmıştır. Farklı konsantrasyonlarda hazırlanan ekstrakt ve standart çözeltilerin Cu²⁺ indirgeme kapasitesini belirlemek için yapılan işlem sonrası örneklerin absorbans değerleri 450 nm'de köre karşı ölçülmüştür (Ergün, 2022).

İstatistik Analizleri

Çalışmada tüm analizlerde her bir örmekten 3 paralel çalışılmıştır. Elde edilen verilerin analizinde SPSS 22 V ® istatistik paket programı kullanılmıştır Öncelikle örneklere ait toplam fenolik ve flavonoid madde miktarı, antioksidan kapasite analiz sonuç farklılıkları tekyönlü varyans analizi (ANOVA) ile belirlenmiştir (Genç ve Soysal, 2018). Farklılıkların önemli olarak belirlendiği durumlarda, bu farklılığın hangi tür ya da türlerden kaynaklandığının belirlenebilmesinde ise çoklu karşılaştırma testlerden olan Duncan testi kullanılmıştır (Duggan ve ark., 2017). Çalışmada önemlilik düzeyi (P<0,05) seviyesinde belirlenmiştir.

Bulgular ve Tartışma

Çalışmada meyve ve kabuk ekstraktların toplam fenolik madde miktarları M'de 760,66±17,61 mg GAE/100g, K'da ise 835,66±21,12 mg GAE/100g olarak belirlenmiştir (Çizelge 1).

Belviranlı (2016) yılında bes farklı lokasyondan topladığı dikenli incir meyveleri üzerinde yaptığı çalışmada lokasyon farklılıkların fenolik madde miktarı üzerine istatiksel olarak farklılığa neden olmadığı ve lokasyonlardan toplanan meyvelerin toplam fenolik madde miktarının sırasıyla Adana'da 824,07, Alanya'da 844,9, Anamur' da 490,74, Fethiye'de 932,87 ve İskenderun'da ise 502,31 mg GAE/100 g olduğu bildirilmiştir. Çapar ve ark., (2023) yaptıkları çalışmada farklı yöntemlerle kuruttukları Opuntia ficus-indica meyvelerinde fenolik madde miktarlarını 511,06 ile 704,06 mg GAE/100 g kuru ağırlık olarak belirlemişlerdir. Opuntia türleri üzerine yapılmış benzer çalışmada meyvelerdeki toplam fenolik madde miktarı 164,6 ila 218,8 mg GAE/100 g arasında hesaplanmıştır (Fernández-López ve ark., 2010). Ayrıca Okur ve ark., (2019) yaptıkları çalışmada meyvelerdeki toplam fenolik madde miktarı 363,20±0,02 GAE/100g olarak belirlemiştir. Bu çalışmada bulunan toplam fenolik değerleri Belviranlı (2016) ve Çapar ve ark., (2023)'nın buldukları sonuçlara benzerlik gösterirken, Fernández-López ve ark., (2010) ve Okur ve ark., (2019)'nın

çalışmalarındaki sonuçlardan daha büyüktür. Bu farklılıkların oluşmasında coğrafya, iklim, hasat gibi yetişme farklılıkları, numunenin kuru ya da taze olmasının etkisinin olduğu düşünülmektedir. Çünkü bitkilerde bulunan fenolik yapıların birikimi ve biyosentezi çeşitli çevresel faktörlerden etkilendiği bilinmektedir (Emami Bistgani ve ark., 2017; Martín-Lara ve ark., 2018; Sharma ve ark., 2019).

Meyve ve kabuk örneklerindeki toplam flavonoid madde miktarı M'de 204,76 \pm 0,87 µg KE/g, K'da ise 222,00 \pm 4,35 µg KE/g olarak bulunmuştur (Tablo 1). Yeddes ve ark. (2013) çalışmalarında dikenli incir kabuklarındaki flavonoid madde miktarının, meyve posasındakinden daha yüksek olduğunu belirtmektedirler. Çalışmada toplam flavonoid miktarının kabukta yüksek çıkması Yeddes ve ark., (2013) sonuçları ile uyumludur. Turunçgiller üzerinde yapılmış birçok çalışmada benzer şekilde kabuklardaki flavonoid madde miktarının meyvelere göre yüksek olduğu bildirilmektedir (Guardia ve ark., 2001; Güzel ve Akpınar, 2017). Farklı çalışmalarda dikenli incir meyvelerindeki toplam flavonoid madde miktarı $193,7\pm9,7~\mu g~QE/g~(Vasquez.~2017)~ve~12,4\pm18,2~\mu g~QE~g^{-1}$ (Franco-Vásquez ve ark., 2020) olarak verilmektedir. Bu çalışmada bulunan değerler araştırmacıların değerlerinden yüksektir. Bu durumun oluşmasında numunelerin toplandığı ağacın, bölgenin, iklimin, bitki ekstraktının elde edilme şeklinin ve çözücü farklılığının etkisinin olabileceği düşünülmektedir (Pietrzak ve ark., 2017). Sonuçlardan bağımsız olarak frenk incirinin kabuk kısımlarında meyve kısımlarına kıyasla daha fazla fenolik ve flavonoid madde belirlenmiştir. Ayrıca her iki kısımda da flavonoid madde miktarları fenolik madde miktarından fazladır. Bu sonuç literatürdeki çalışmalarla uyumludur.

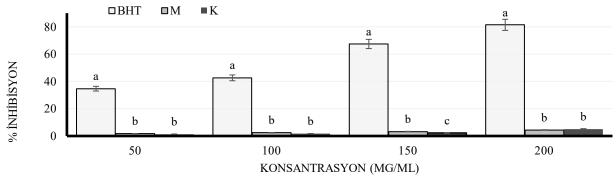
Meyve ve kabuk örneklerinin farklı konsantrasyondaki (50, 100, 150, 200 µg/mL) DPPH• serbest radikal giderme aktivitesi belirlenmiş ve standart olarak BHT kullanılmıştır (Şekil 2). Bütün konsantrasyonlar da meyve ve kabuk % inhibisyon değerleri BHT'den düşük bulunmuştur. Örneklerin en yüksek konsantrasyon olan 200 \Box g/mL'de radikal giderme aktiviteleri M'de %4,43±0,60, K'da %5,14±0,27 olarak hesaplanmıştır. *Opuntia ficus-indica* türünde yapılan bir çalışmada fırında kurutulmuş meyve ekstraktında % inhibisyon değeri %13,30 olarak bildirilmiştir (Çapar ve ark., 2023)

IC₅₀ değeri, DPPH• radikallerinin %50'sini temizlemek için gereken numune veya bileşiğin konsantrasyonunu temsil etmektedir. Çalışmada meyve ve kabuk ekstraktlarının IC₅₀ değerleri hesaplanmış ve örnekler arasında farklılıklar anlamlı bulunmuştur (P<0,05) (Çizelge 2). BHT'ye en yakın değer K'da tespit edilmiştir. IC₅₀ değerinin düşük olması antioksidan aktivitenin daha yüksek olması anlamına gelmektedir. Ekstraklarının antioksidan aktivitesi BHT ile karşılaştırıldığında, kabuk ve meyve ekstraklarının her ikiside BHT'den oldukça düşük aktiviteye sahiptir. Sonuçlara göre kabuk ekstraklarının antioksidan kapasitesi meyveden daha yüksektir.

Çizelge 1. Toplam fenolik ve flavonoid madde miktarları *Table 1. Total phenolic and flavonoid content*

Gruplar	Toplam Fenolik Madde Miktarı (mg GAE/100g)	Toplam Flavonoid Madde Miktarı (μg KE/g)
M	760.66±17.61	204.76±0.87
K	835.66±21.12	222.00±4.35

^{*:} M (Frenk inciri meyvesi), K (Frenk inciri meyve kabuğu)



Şekil 2. Numune ekstrakları ve BHT'nin farklı konsantrasyonlarda DPPH radikal giderme etkisi (M (Frenk inciri meyvesi), K (Frenk inciri meyve kabuğu), BHT (Bütil Hidroksitoluen)

Figure 2. DPPH• Radical Scavenging Effect of Sample Extracts and BHT at Different Concentrations (M (Prickly Pear Fruit), K (Prickly Pear Fruit Peel), BHT (Butylated Hydroxytoluene)

Çizelge 2. IC₅₀ değerleri *Table 2. IC*₅₀ *Values*

Gruplar	IC ₅₀ (μg /ml)
BHT	104,83±1,56°
M	$3427,28\pm24,39^{a}$
K	1972,33±4,50 ^b

^{*:} Aynı harfle gösterilen ortalamalar arasındaki farklar P<0,05 düzeyinde önemsizdir; *: M (Frenk inciri meyvesi), K (Frenk inciri meyve kabuğu), BHT (Bütil Hidroksitoluen)

Çizelge 3. Cu²⁺ - Cu⁺ Azaltma Kapasitesi (CUPRAC) değerleri *Table 3. Cu*²⁺ - *Cu*⁺ *Reduction Capacity (CUPRAC) Values*

Gruplar	CUPRAK (μg TE/mL)				
M	40,93±1,46				
K	$80,11\pm2,03$				

^{*:} M (Frenk inciri meyvesi), K (Frenk inciri meyve kabuğu)

Frenk inciri meyve ve kabuğunun Cu²²- Cu⁺ azaltma kapasitesi (CUPRAC) sırasıyla M'de 40,93±1,46 μg TE/mL ve K'da 80,11±2,03 μg TE/mL olarak hesaplanmıştır (Çizelge 3). Benzer çalışmalarda dikenli incir meyvelerinin Cu²+ Cu⁺ azaltma kapasitesi değerleri 297,97 mmol TE/100 g DW (Wang ve ark., 2024) ve 1421,82±139 μmol TE/L (Yaribeigi Darvishvand, 2020) olarak ölçülmüştür. Gouws ve ark. (2017) farklı kurutma teknikleri kullanılarak dikenli incir meyvesi üzerinde yaptıkları çalışmada oluşturulan grupların Cu²+ Cu+ azaltma kapasitelerinin 3261±172,9 μM TE ve 2743±272,8 μM TE olduğu bildirilmiştir.

Ülkemizde uzun yıllardır kendiliğinden yetişen ancak tüketimi son yıllarda popüler hale gelen frenk incir meyvesi ve bitkisi gıda olarak tüketilmesinin yanında sanayide hammadde olarak da kullanılmaktadır. Frenk inciri; çekirdek, kabuk ve meyve kısmı olmak üzere üç kısımdan oluşmaktadır. Meyve ağırlığının %3-7 si çekirdekler, %36-48'i kabuk ve %39-64'u ise meyve etinden oluşmaktadır (Al Juhaimi ve ark., 2020). Kabuk miktarının yüksek olması ve bu kısmın meyve olarak tüketilme olanağının olmaması kabukların değerlendirilmesinin son derece önemli olduğunu ortaya koymaktadır.

Sonuç

Araştırma sonuçları, frenk incirinin hem meyve hem de kabuk kısımlarının dikkat çekici düzeyde fenolik ve flavonoid bileşenleri içerdiğini ve güçlü antioksidan potansiyeline sahip olduğunu kesin olarak ortaya koymustur. Özellikle kabuk ekstraktlarının, kıyasla daha yüksek biyoaktif konsantrasyonu ve üstün indirgeme kapasitesi sergilediği belirlenmiştir. Bu bulgular ışığında, meyvenin besin olarak tüketiminin günlük antioksidan gereksinimini karşılamada etkili bir kaynak olabileceği, kabuklarının ise gıda endüstrisinde sentetik antioksidanlara doğal sürdürülebilir bir alternatif sunabileceği öngörülmektedir. Çalışma, geleneksel tıpta kullanılan bu değerli bitkinin fitokimyasal profilini ve antioksidan kapasitesini bilimsel verilerle destekleyerek literatüre önemli katkı sağlamıştır. Bu sonuçlar, frenk incirinin fonksiyonel gıda bileşeni ve kaynağı olarak doğal antioksidan potansiyelini vurgulamakla birlikte, bu çok yönlü bitkinin daha geniş kullanım alanlarını keşfetmek için ileri araştırmalara ihtiyaç olduğunu göstermektedir.

Teşekkür

Çalışmada kullandığımız bitki materyallerinin teminindeki yardımlarından dolayı sayın Nevzat ERGÜN'e tesekkür ederiz.

Beyan

Bu çalışma 7. Uluslararası Anadolu Tarım, Gıda, Çevre ve Biyoloji Kongresi'nde (Kastamonu, TARGİD 2024) sunulmuştur.

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Improved Tomato Varieties and Farm Size: Major Determinants of Level of Output of Tomato Crop in Ondo State, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT

Research Article

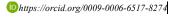
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Keywords: Economic performance Profitability Tomato farming Farm size Constraints

The study aimed to evaluate the economic viability and profitability of cultivating improved tomato varieties in Akure North and Ifedore Local Government Areas of Ondo State, Nigeria. Primary data were collected through a well-structured questionnaire, with a sample size of 150 farmers selected using snowball sampling through a multi-stage procedure. Data analysis involved descriptive statistics, farm budgeting techniques, and multiple regression. Findings revealed that 36.7% of farmers were within their active working age. Most farmers (71.3%) were female, and 73.3% were married, with an average household size of seven. Around 40.7% of the farmers had higher education (HND/B.Sc.), and 68.7% were members of farming associations. Economic analysis indicated a total cost of N208,374.04 and a net income of N601,625.96, yielding a return on investment (ROI) of 3.89, meaning N2.89 profit for every N1 invested. The study also highlighted that farm size, farming experience, educational level, and agrochemical applications significantly influenced tomato production. Challenges identified included unfavorable climate, theft, price instability, poor seed supply, and inadequate capital. The study recommended government support in providing subsidies and resources for farm expansion and better extension services to ensure a steady supply of improved tomato varieties.



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Introduction

Tomato farming remains crucial for food security and economic stability across many developing regions due to its nutritional benefits and role in daily food consumption (Li et al., 2020). However, challenges in productivity and market stability persist, largely due to reliance on traditional practices and local seed varieties that are often low-vielding and susceptible to diseases (Kom et al., 2022). Globally, malnutrition remains a significant issue. Approximately 868 million people suffer undernourishment, while nearly two billion experience health issues due to micronutrient deficiencies (Srivastav et al., 2022). In Nigeria, rural communities bear the brunt of these nutritional deficits, with tomatoes playing a pivotal role in combating these problems while supporting the rural economy. Again, approximately 90% of African farmers still rely on local seed varieties, often of poor quality, limiting yield and market value (Kom et al., 2022). Therefore, the introduction of improved tomato varieties offers a promising solution to increase yields, minimize post-harvest losses, and stimulate the development of processing and export industries, thereby contributing to economic growth (Maruen & Pavel, 2021; López-Sánchez et al., 2021). In response, the adoption of improved tomato

varieties and advanced agricultural technologies has gained attention as a pathway to enhance yields and reduce losses (Gatahi, 2020). Studies from various countries underline the transformative effects of adopting such technologies, though adoption rates and impacts vary significantly based on farm size, socio-economic factors, and geographic conditions (Afolami, 2001; Donkoh et al., 2013; Gatahi, 2020; Adams et al., 2021).

Recent research also highlights a strong relationship between farm size and the adoption of agricultural innovations, including improved tomato varieties (Gatahi, 2020; Adams et al., 2021). Larger farms often have greater access to financial resources, making it easier for them to invest in high-quality seeds, fertilizers, and irrigation systems (Fan & Rue, 2020). For instance, a study by Awotide et al. (2016) in Nigeria found that farm size was a significant predictor of technology adoption among smallholder farmers, as larger farms typically generate higher incomes and have greater access to credit. This dynamic is emphasized in research conducted in Kenya, where Muthini et al. (2023) observed that larger farms are more likely to adopt improved tomato varieties due to better financial resilience and risk tolerance, which smaller farms often lack. In contrast, smallholder farmers may face challenges in adopting improved varieties due to limited resources and a lack of access to agricultural extension services (Derera & Gikera, 2020). These constraints hinder the adoption of high-yielding, disease-resistant varieties, leaving smaller farms reliant on traditional, low-productivity varieties. Therefore, interventions that make technology accessible and affordable to smallholder farmers are essential for improving productivity at a broader scale.

Adopting improved tomato varieties has proven to be economically advantageous across various contexts (Gatahi, 2020; Adams et al., 2021). A study by Tetteh Anang et al. (2020) in Ghana demonstrated that the use of improved seed varieties increased both yield and profitability, significantly enhancing farmers' incomes. The research suggested that improved varieties not only boost yield per hectare but also lead to better-quality produce that can command higher prices in the market. Also, in Ethiopia by Ali et al. (2023), where farmers using improved tomato seeds saw a notable increase in their net income due to the enhanced productivity and reduced costs associated with disease management. Furthermore, studies show that improved varieties contribute to market stability by reducing the seasonal volatility that affects tomato prices (Panno et al., 2021; Ali et al., 2023; Salazar et al., 2023). Improved varieties often have a longer shelf life, which extends market availability and reduces post-harvest losses (Panno et al., 2021). A study in India by Shinde et al. (2022) showed that with better storage and handling techniques alongside improved varieties, farmers were able to reduce wastage and maintain a steady supply to meet demand even in off-peak seasons.

Despite the benefits, the adoption of improved tomato varieties is limited by factors such as lack of access to quality seeds, limited extension services, and financial constraints (Balana & Oyeyemi, 2022). For instance, López-Sánchez et al. (2021) identified that the high cost of improved seeds and the lack of financial support are critical barriers in Latin American countries. These barriers are also prevalent in African countries, where inadequate infrastructure and limited extension services restrict farmers' ability to adopt new technologies. Similarly, Maruen and Pavel (2021) highlight that institutional support, such as government subsidies for improved seeds and training programs for farmers, can be pivotal in overcoming these barriers.

In Nigeria, tomato farming is a significant economic activity, yet it faces productivity challenges due to the limited adoption of improved technologies (Akinbola et al., 2023). Previous studies (Abdulai et al., 2018; Bidzakin et al., 2020; Akinbola et al., 2023) have emphasized the need for improved seed varieties and modern farming practices to address these challenges. The adoption of improved tomato varieties could increase yields, reduce production costs, and create opportunities for smallholder farmers to participate in higher-value markets. Addressing these barriers through targeted interventions could provide a sustainable pathway for rural economic development and improved food security. This study, therefore, seeks to conduct an economic analysis of the production of improved tomato varieties in Akure North and Ifedore Local Government Areas of Ondo State. The specific

objectives include examining the socio-economic characteristics of tomato farmers, determining the profitability of improved tomato production, analyzing the factors affecting production, and identifying the key constraints faced by farmers.

Materials and Methods

This study was conducted in Akure North and Ifedore Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Ondo State, Nigeria, called the "Sunshine State." Akure North LGA includes five key groups: Iju, Ita-Ogbolu, Oba-Ile, Igoba, and Ogbese. These communities are situated between latitudes five°45' and 7°52'N, and longitudes four°20' and 6°05'E, with a populace of approximately 198,000. The vegetation is predominantly rainforest, characterized by dense bushes and grasses. Major monetary activities in Akure North include fishing and the cultivation of food and tree crops, which include cocoa, rubber, oil palm, and cashews. Farming and trading are the principal occupations of residents. Ifedore LGA, one of the 18 LGAs in Ondo State, has its headquarters in Igbara-Oke and is bounded to the north and east by Akure South LGA, to the south by Osun State, and the west via Ekiti State. The place lies inside longitude 4.89°E and latitude 6.89°N, overlaying approximately 295 km². According to the 2006 census, Ifedore had a population of 176,327. The LGA consists of essential cities with Igbara-Oke, Ijare, Ilara, Ipogun, Ibule, Isarun, Erigi, and Obo. Primary data were gathered for this research with a well-structured questionnaire. A multistage sampling technique was implemented. In the first stage, Akure North and Ifedore LGAs were purposively selected because of the awareness of farmers growing advanced tomato varieties. In the second stage, 5 groups were randomly selected from every one of the 2 LGAs. In the third stage, 15 tomato farmers were randomly selected from every community through the use of a snowball sampling technique, resulting in a total sample size of one hundred fifty (150) respondents. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, farm budgeting, and multiple regression. Descriptive statistics, such as frequency and percentage, were used to summarize the socio-economic characteristics of respondents, along with age, gender, marital popularity, and household size, as well as to pick out demanding situations faced by farmers. The budgeting method was used to determine the profitability of improved tomato production.

Model Specification

Budgeting techniques involved the method of calculating gross margin, profit, and Return on Investment (ROI) of improved varieties of tomato production in the study area. It is expressed as follows:

NR = TR - TC

Where:

NR = Net Revenue or Profit of Improved Varieties of Tomatoes Enterprise

TR = Total Revenue of Improved varieties of Tomatoes production

TC = Total Cost on Improved varieties of Tomatoes production

Return on Investment (ROI) = TR/TC

TC = Total Variable Cost (TVC)+Total Fixed Cost (TFC) TR = Output (Q) x Per Unit Price (P)

Gross margin = TR - TC

The multiple regression analysis was used to identify the factors affecting improved tomato variety production in the study area. The regression model in implicit form is given as:

$$Y = F(X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5U)$$

Where Y = Output of Improved varieties of Tomatoes (Naira)

 X_1 = Farm Size (ha)

 X_2 = Agro-Chemical (liter)

 X_3 = Farming experience (years)

X₄= Labor Cost (Naira)

 X_5 = Age of farmers (years)

 X_6 = Level of education (years)

 U_I = Error term.

The following functional forms were estimated for the production function and the one that best satisfies the theoretical, statistical, and econometric criteria for a production function was selected as lead equation. The functional forms that were estimated were: Linear, semilog, double log, and exponential.

Explicitly, the models were expressed as follows:

Linear function:

$$Yi = b_0 + b_1X_1 + b_2X_2 + b_3X_3 + b_4X_4 + b_5X_5 + b_6X_6 + Ui$$

Semi-Log:

$$\begin{aligned} Yi &= b_0 + b_{1log}X_1 + b_{2log}X_2 + b_{3log}X_3 + b_{4log}X_4 + b_{5log}X_5 \\ &+ b_{6log}X_6 + Ui \end{aligned}$$

Exponentials:

$$Log\ Yi = b_0 + b_1 X_1 + b_2 X_2 + b_3 X_3 + b_4 X_4 + b_5 X_5 + b_6 X_6 + Ui$$

Double log

$$\label{eq:log-Yi} \begin{array}{l} Log \ Yi = b_0 + b_{1log} X_1 + b_{2log} X_2 + b_{3log} X_3 + b_{4log} X_4 + \\ b_{5log} X_5 + b_{6log} X_6 + Ui \end{array}$$

Results and Discussion

Socio-Economic Characteristics of the Respondents

Gender plays a significant role in agricultural activities, with both men and women having specific responsibilities in farm labor. However, women in agriculture often face unique challenges, such as limited access to quality seeds, agricultural extension services, and credit, which can affect productivity. These roles vary by country and ecological zone. Studies in similar contexts (e.g., Oparinde et al., 2023; Olutumise et al., 2023) indicate that women may have less decision-making authority and fewer resources, impacting their ability to adopt improved farming techniques. The findings show that 28.7% of the respondents were male, while 71.3% were female. This suggests that tomato production in the study area is largely female-dominated, likely because men are more involved in cash crop farming, which is generally more lucrative. This aligns with the findings of Ajibade et al. (2021), who noted

that some agricultural activities are more suited to one gender than the other, with tomato production being more commonly handled by women. The age distribution of the respondents indicated that about 36.7% of farmers were between 31 and 40 years old, while 27.3% were aged 51 and above. This suggests that most farmers are within their productive years, which is expected to result in higher output. This finding is consistent with Gbigbi (2021), who reported that most Nigerian farmers fall within the productive age range. Table 1 reveals that 17.3% of the respondents were single, 73.3% were married, and 9.3% were widowed. The high proportion of married women actively engaged in tomato farming supports Ajibade et al. (2021) findings, which suggest that married women tend to focus more on their businesses to provide for their families. The study also showed that 34.7% of respondents had a household size of 1-5 members, while 55.3% had a household size of 6-10 members. Large household size may provide a labor advantage, as suggested by Adams et al. (2021), who found that larger households tend to achieve higher profits in tomato production, helping them meet basic family needs. The education level of the respondents showed that 40.7% had an HND or B.Sc. degree, while only 4% had no formal education. This indicates a relatively high level of literacy among farmers, which could facilitate the adoption of improved farming techniques and a better understanding of agricultural inputs such as fertilizers and chemicals. The majority (80.7%) of respondents cultivated tomatoes on small plots of land, ranging from 1-5 plots (648 square meters per plot). Only 18.7% had farms of 6-10 plots. This suggests that most farmers operate on small holdings due to limited financial resources, aligning with Fan & Rue's (2020) observation that farm size significantly affects the amount of farm produce. The farming experience of respondents indicated that 44.7% had been engaged in tomato farming for 1-5 years, 32.7% for 6-10 years, and 22.7% for over 11 years. Farmers with less experience are generally more open to adopting new technologies, which can enhance productivity and efficiency in tomato farming.

Improved Tomatoes Varieties in the Study Area

Table 2 reveals that 12.7% of the respondents were involved in the production of cherry, 3.3% in beefsteak, 14.0% in grape, 11.3% in plum, 4.7% in patio, 0.7% in Campari, and 1.3% in Brandywine tomato. Notably, the largest group, accounting for 52.0% of respondents, focused on UTC tomato production. This indicates that UTC tomatoes are the most popular variety among growers in the study area. The preference for UTC tomatoes may stem from their high yield and their extended shelf life, as they resist decay and souring for prolonged periods after harvest. Additionally, UTC tomatoes are ideal for making tomato paste due to their firm, fleshy texture, reddish hue with yellow stripes, and low water content.

Costs and Returns

The costs associated with producing improved tomato varieties included both fixed and variable expenses. Fixed costs comprised spending on tools such as hoes, cutlasses, knapsacks, wheelbarrows, and land rent. On the other hand, variable costs covered labor, transportation, herbicides, fertilizers, and seeds. In the study area, the average income from improved tomato variety production was estimated at N625,446.43.

Table 1. Socio-economic Characteristics of the Respondents

Variable	Frequency	Percentage	Mean		
Gender	•				
Male	43	28.7			
Female	107	71.3			
Marital Status					
Single	26	17.3			
Married	110	73.3			
Widowed	14	9.3			
Age					
20-30	21	14.0			
31-40	55	36.7	39.4		
41-50	33	22.0			
51-60	41	27.3			
Educational Status					
No formal	6	4.0			
Primary	51	34.0			
Secondary	20	13.3			
HND/B.ŠC	61	40.7			
Postgraduate	12	8.0			
Household Size					
1-5	52	34.7			
6-10	83	55.3	6.9		
11-15	15	10.0			
Experience (years)					
1-5	67	44.7			
6-10	49	32.7	6.1		
11 years and above	34	22.7	V-2		
Farm Size (plots)	-	•			
1-5	121	80.7			
6-10	28	18.7	1.5		
11-15	1	7			

Source: Field Survey, 2023

Table 2. Popular Types of Improved Tomatoes Varieties in the Study Area

Tomatoes	Frequen	cy Percentage (%)
Cherry Tomatoes	19	12.7
Beefsteak tomatoes	5	3.3
Grape tomatoes	21	14.0
Plum tomatoes	17	11.3
Patio tomatoes	7	4.7
Campari tomatoes	1	.7
Brandywine tomatoes	2	1.3
UTC	78	52.0

Source: field survey 2023

Table 3. Cost Structure and Returns of Improve Tomatoes Varieties Production

Items	Average	Percentage (%)
Fixed Cost	Value in (N)	
Land	13,333.33	11.5
Hoe	2,500	0.3
Cutlass	3,857.14	0.3
Knapsack	1,133.33	1.9
Wheelbarrow	2,146.67	2.0
Basket	850	0.3
Total Fixed Cost (TFC)	23,820.47	15.4
Labour		
Planting, Harvesting, Weeding	30,125	17.5
Variable Cost		
Transportation	75,000	24.5
Herbicides	16,071.43	10.5
Fertilizer	42,857.14	20.1
Seed	20,500	12.0
Total Variable Cost	184,553.57	84.6
Total cost TFC+TVC	208,374.04	100.0
Total Revenue= Qty*price	810,000	
Gross Margin=TR-TVC	625,446.43	
Net Farm Income NFI=(TR-TC)	601,625.96	
Return on investment=TR/TC	3.89	

Table 4. Results Showing the Factors Affecting the Production of Improved Tomato Varieties Production

Variable	Coefficient	Standard error	p-value
Constant	18.259	3.015	.009
farm size	0.391**	0.015	.000
Agrochemicals	0.341***	0.092	.005
farming experience	0.500**	0.242	.040
labor cost	-0.500	0.432	.239
Age of farmers	-0.206	0.406	.647
level of education	0.287***	0.036	.000
R	.949ª		
R square	0.9		
Adjusted R square	0.867		

Source: Data analysis, 2023

The total average variable cost amounted to N184,533.57, while fixed costs totaled N23,820.47, with depreciation calculated using the straight-line method. This resulted in an average total cost of N208,374.04 and a net income of N601,625.96. The return on investment (ROI) of 3.89 indicates that for every N1 invested in tomato production, there is an additional income of N3.80k. This demonstrates the profitability of tomato farming in the study area.

Factors that Affect the Production of Improved Tomato Varieties in the Study Area

Table 4 presents the results of a regression analysis on factors affecting the production of improved tomato varieties in the study area. Based on the R-squared value, F-ratio, and the number and signs of significant variables, the double-log functional form was chosen as the lead equation. The model's constant is statistically significant with a coefficient of 18.259 and a p-value of 0.009, indicating the baseline level of production when all other variables are held constant. Farm size is positively correlated with tomato production, with a coefficient of 0.391 and a p-value of 0.014, suggesting that larger farm sizes significantly contribute to higher production. Similarly, the use of agrochemicals has a strong positive effect on production, as indicated by a coefficient of 0.341 and a highly significant p-value of 0.005.

Farming experience also shows a positive impact on production, with a coefficient of 0.500 and a p-value of 0.040, implying that farmers with more years of experience tend to achieve better yields in tomato production. However, labor costs and the age of farmers do not significantly affect production, as reflected by their respective p-values of 0.239 and 0.647, showing no meaningful statistical relationship with production. It means that a unit increase in man-day and age of the farmers will cause a decrease in the output of tomato production by 0.50% and 0.21%, respectively. The probable reason for the insignificant labor variable in affecting tomato production which may be due to the predominant use of family labor or cooperative laborsharing among farmers, reducing reliance on paid labor. This finding contrasts with studies in more labor-intensive crops or commercial farming contexts, where labor costs are often significant. For example, Akinbola et al. (2023), Oladoyin et al. (2024) and Olubunmi-Ajayi et al. (2024) observed labor as a crucial factor in larger, commercial farms, while studies in similar smallholder settings often show minimal impact of labor costs on production outcomes. Educational level, however, plays a crucial role, with a coefficient of 0.287 and a p-value of 0.000, indicating that higher educational attainment significantly boosts tomato production, likely due to better understanding and adoption of improved farming techniques. The model's R-value of 0.949 suggests a very strong correlation between the independent variables and tomato production. The R-squared value of 0.949 means that 94.9% of the variation in tomato production is explained by the model, and the adjusted R-squared value of 0.867 confirms the model's high predictive power even when adjusted for the number of predictors.

Constraint Militating Improved Tomato Variety Production in The Study Area

Table 5 presents the various challenges faced by farmers in the study area, which were identified and ranked based on their significance. The findings indicate that the most significant challenge was unfavorable climatic conditions, followed by issues related to pilfering and theft. This suggests that a more favorable climate would significantly improve tomato production in the region. Tomato production in the area is particularly challenged by environmental factors, including high humidity and seasonal rainfall fluctuations, which can promote fungal diseases and complicate pest management. These climatic conditions can lead to increased post-harvest losses and variable yields, especially in the absence of adequate irrigation or pest control resources. Price instability was ranked third, while the poor availability of quality tomato seeds emerged as the fourth major constraint. These results highlight the importance of access to improved tomato seed varieties, which is critical for boosting crop yields. As a recommendation, subsidized improved seed varieties should be made accessible to farmers to enhance production levels. Inadequate capital, largely due to difficulties in accessing credit, was identified as the fifth most pressing issue. Additionally, the lack of market information, insufficient storage facilities, and the prevalence of pests and diseases were ranked sixth, seventh, and eighth, respectively.

Conclusion

The study on tomato production in Akure North and Ifedore Local Government Areas of Ondo State, Nigeria, has demonstrated that cultivating improved tomato varieties is a highly profitable enterprise. With a return on investment (ROI) of 3.89 and a net farm income of N601,625.96, the economic viability of tomato farming in the region is evident.

Table 5. Constraints militating improved varieties of tomatoes production

C/NI	Constraint	Very serious		Serious		Mild		Not at all		M	D 1-
S/N	Constraint	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	- Mean	Rank
1	Unfavorable climatic condition	57	38.0	53	35.3	27	18.0	13	8.7	1.97	1 st
2	Incidence of pilfering and theft	61	40.7	49	32.0	26	17.3	14	9.3	1.95	2^{nd}
3	Instability of price	62	41.3	53	35.3	25	16.7	10	6.7	1.89	$3^{\rm rd}$
4	Poor supply of tomato seeds	60	40.0	54	36.0	28	18.7	8	5.3	1.89	$3^{\rm rd}$
5	Inadequate capital	66	44	52	34.7	24	16.0	8	5.3	1.83	$5^{\rm th}$
6	Inadequate market information	71	47.3	48	32.0	21	14.0	10	6.7	1.80	6^{th}
7	Storage facility	77	51.3	44	29.3	19	12.7	10	6.7	1.75	7^{th}
8	Incidence of pest and disease	77	51.3	50	33.3	11	7.3	12	8.0	1.72	8 th

Source: Computed from Field survey, 2023.

Key factors contributing to increased tomato production include farm size, use of agrochemicals, farming experience, and educational level. However, the study also highlighted significant challenges faced by farmers, such as unfavorable climatic conditions, price instability, inadequate capital, and poor access to quality seeds. Based on the findings, the following recommendations are proposed to improve tomato production in the study area:

- The government should provide farmers with access to affordable loans and grants to expand their farm sizes, as farm size is a key determinant of output.
- Efforts should be made by the government to ensure a steady supply of improved tomato seeds at subsidized rates, which would help increase productivity and reduce reliance on low-quality local varieties. The government can collaborate with private seed companies and agricultural research institutions to increase the production of high-quality, diseaseresistant tomato seeds.
- Given that unfavorable climatic conditions were identified as a major challenge, farmers should be trained by the extension workers on climate-resilient agricultural practices to mitigate the effects of climate variability.
- Again, strengthening agricultural extension services is crucial. These services should focus on educating farmers about the latest agrochemical applications and improved farming techniques, leveraging the relatively high educational level among farmers.
- To address the challenges of price instability and postharvest losses, investments should be made in market information systems and storage facilities. Investing in market information systems and storage facilities offers a dual benefit: it stabilizes prices and minimizes postharvest losses, directly increasing farmers' incomes and ensuring a steady food supply, while creating a profitable, scalable opportunity that aligns with global sustainability goals and reducing economic risks tied to market volatility. This would help stabilize prices and extend the shelf life of tomatoes, reducing wastage and increasing profitability.

Limitation of the Study

The use of snowball sampling, while practical for reaching tomato farmers in the study area, may introduce sampling bias due to reliance on existing networks. This could limit the diversity of the sample and affect the generalizability of the findings to broader populations. Additionally, measurement errors could arise from self-reported data, especially regarding production costs and yields, as these rely on farmers' recall and record-keeping practices, which may vary.

Declarations

This study was presented at the 7th International Anatolian Agriculture, Food, Environment and Biology Congress, (Kastamonu, TARGID 2024)

Ethical Approval Certificate

The research project was approved by the Faculty of Agriculture's IRB committee, Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba-Akoko, Ondo State, Nigeria in accordance with the law and the national ethical guidelines of Nigeria. (Approval date: 20 July 2023 and number: AD/FATAAUA/IRB/23/132).

Author Contribution Statement

OPO: The author carried out the conceptualization, Methodology, Resources, Investigation, writing review and editing

Fund Statement

No funding was received to conduct the research

Conflict of Interest

The author declares no conflict of interest.

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Improvement of *Bacillus subtilis* Natto Viability by Alginate and Xanthan Gum as a Wall Material

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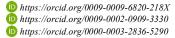
ABSTRACT

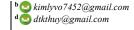
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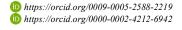
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Keywords: Bacillus subtilis natto Alginate Xanthan gum Encapsulation Probiotic In this study, *Bacillus subtilis* natto was encapsulated in alginate, either coated with or mixed with xanthan gum as a supplemental component. The encapsulated bacteria were then evaluated for their survival in simulated gastric fluid (SGF) and simulated intestinal fluid (SIF). The results showed that *B. subtilis* natto biomass had a thrombolytic ability compared to the control sample. The viability of encapsulated *B. subtilis* natto was improved in which alginate 2.5% (w/v) had a high encapsulation efficiency, and there was no difference between the samples with or without the xanthan gum supplement. In the SGF and SIF tests, the viability of *B. subtilis* in samples supplemented with xanthan gum was higher than in samples that contained only alginate. Additionally, there was no significant difference in viability between the samples that mixed xanthan gum with alginate and those that were coated with it. The results indicated that adding xanthan gum is necessary to increase alginate's protective effect on *B. subtilis* natto.











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Introduction

Probiotics are strains of live bacteria introduced directly into the human body through the oral route (food in general and functional foods in particular) in a specific dose to support health (C. Zhang et al., 2021). The probiotic microorganisms include Bifidobacteria, plantarum, Lactobacillus Lactobacillus paracasei, Bacillus subtilis natto, etc. Bacillus subtilis natto has received much attention thanks to its outstanding ability to produce Natokinase enzyme which can dissolve blood clots and reduce cardiovascular disease (Wang et al., 2020; Sumi et al., 1987). B. subtilis natto is a bacillus, grampositive, arbitrarily aerobic, has moving ability, is sporeforming, and has been proven to be safe in experimental studies on animals and humans (Hong et al., 2008; J. Zhang et al., 2020). In addition, B. subtilis natto is known for its ability to produce nattokinase, a protease containing 275 amino acids, which has been shown to have potent fibrinolytic activity (Lampe & English., 2016). However, although the B. subtilis natto viability in intestinal and gastric fluid conditions which have pH 7.4 and 2.0 respectively and temperature at 37°C is strong, the vegetative cells of the strain are susceptible to these

environments (Hong et al., 2008). In the spore form, B. subtilis natto has the ability to overcome adverse conditions such as simulated gastrointestinal conditions. However, the germination rate of these spores in the gastrointestinal tract is very low only 8% (Hatanaka et al., 2012). Therefore, protecting B. subtilis cells in a vegetative form is essential to provide health benefits to the host. Previous studies showed that encapsulation effectively protects probiotic bacteria under adverse conditions such production process, storage, and simulated gastrointestinal conditions. Many encapsulation techniques and different wall materials have been studied, in which extrusion compression is a simple and low-cost encapsulation method, and the operating conditions are not harsh to improve encapsulation performance (Frakolaki et al., 2021). In addition, alginate is an edible biopolymer derived primarily from brown seaweed and is a widely used material in extrusion encapsulation due to its ability to form gels in the presence of divalent cations. This property enables the encapsulation of a variety of substances (Raus et al., 2021). Alginate is also an inexpensive and non-toxic biomaterial commonly used in

extrusion encapsulation (Afzaal et al., 2019). The extrusion technique with alginate as the primary wall material significantly improved the viability of probiotic bacteria under simulated gastrointestinal conditions (Afzaal et al., 2019). However, due to the porous structure of the alginate gel network, it facilitates the diffusion of H⁺ ions, causing cell death and reducing the encapsulation efficiency (Chavarri et al., 2010; Vaziri et al., 2018). To limit this issue, additional coatings such as chitosan, pectin, gelatin, and xanthan gum were included to improve the alginate gel structure network and enhance the viability of probiotic bacteria (Chavarri et al., 2010; Khorshidi et al., 2021; Vaziri et al., 2018). Xanthan gum is a natural material with safe properties and application in a lot of fields such as pharmaceutics, cosmetics, and food. Besides, xanthan gum is unaffected by pH conditions, thermally stable, and entirely biodegradable (Singhvi et al., 2019). These properties could be a potential supplement to limit the porous structure of the alginate gel network. This study assessed the thrombolytic ability of a bacterial strain by comparing the biomass and culture fluid to a control. Additionally, the protective effectiveness of alginate, both with and without the addition of xanthan gum, was evaluated for its impact on the viability of B. subtilis in simulated gastric fluid (SGF) and simulated intestinal fluid (SIF).

Materials and Methods

Materials

B. subtilis natto strain was obtained from strain collection of the Faculty of Food Science and Technology, Ho Chi Minh City University of Industry and Trade. The strain was cultured in nutrient broth for 20 hours. The biomass after culture was collected by centrifugation and continued to wash the biomass with 10 ml of saline water twice. Then, the biomass was collected and suspended in saline water. Alginate (Zhanghai et al.) and xanthan gum (Himedia) Co., Ltd) were sterilized at 121°C for 15 minutes before use.

Test the Ability of Bacteria to Dissolve Thrombosis

The experiments were conducted following a previous study (Prasad et al., 2006) with some modifications. Briefly, 200 µl of pig blood (slaughter pig's blood was stored at 4°C before use) and 400 µl of distilled water were added into the Eppendorf tubes. The tube was then shaken and let for 1 hour to allow the blood to clot. After coagulating blood, the Eppendorf tube was added 100 µl of fluid culture or biomass of *B. subtilis*, or saline water was used as control samples. The Eppendorf tube was incubated at 37°C, and the fibrinolytic ability was every two hours of incubation.

Evaluation of the Effect of Carrier on Encapsulation Performance B. Subtilis Natto

The encapsulated process by extrusion compression technique was carried out according to Lieu et al. (2019) with the following main steps: Alginate (2.5% w/v) with or without xanthan gum 0.5% (w/v) (AX samples) or alginate (2.5% w/v) (A samples) was mixed with *B. subtilis* natto. The mixtures were then put into a piston, dripped into CaCl₂ solution through a 0.5 mm needle, and incubated to

solidify completely. The inoculants were then collected, and the A sample was further incubated in xanthan gum at 0.5% (w/v) (sample AXc) (by shaking machine at 100 rpm) to form a xanthan gum coating at room temperature. The encapsulation efficiency was calculated according to the following formula (Lieu et al., 2019):

$$\label{eq:encapsulation} \text{Encapsulation yield (\%)} = \frac{\sum log CFU_{after}}{\sum log CFU_{before}} \times 100\%$$

Effect of Simulated Gastrointestinal Conditions on the Viability of B. Subtilis Natto Encapsulated

The viability of *B. subtilis* natto under simulated digestive fluid conditions was carried out according to Lieu et al. (2019). The simulated gastric fluid (SGF) (containing 9 g/l NaCl) was adjusted to pH 2 by 5M HCl, and the simulated intestinal fluid (SIF) (containing 9 g/l NaCl + 3 ml/l cow bile) was adjusted to pH 6.5 by 5M NaOH.

1 gram of the sample was added to 99 ml of NaCl pH 2 (corrected with 5M HCl) and incubated for 2 hours. Then, 1 ml of the SGF solution was transferred to the SIF condition and incubated for 4 hours. The *B. subtilis* natto in free cell form was used as control samples. The viability of *B. subtilis* natto was determined by plating on a nutrient agar medium.

Statistical Analysis

The experimental data were analyzed using one-way ANOVA in IBM SPSS Statistics 25 software. The mean was compared by Tukey's test at the 5% probability level (p < 0.05). The experiments were repeated three times, and the results are represented as mean \pm standard deviation.

Results and discussion

The Ability of Bacteria to Dissolve Thrombosis

The thrombolytic ability of *B. subtilis* natto was shown in Figure 1. The results obtained show that there was a significant difference in the thrombolytic ability between the three samples. The post-culture liquid and biomass of *B. subtilis* natto showed significantly different hemolysis compared with the distilled water control (Figure 1).

The thrombolytic ability of B. subtilis natto is one of the significant properties of this strain (Prasad et al., 2006). Previous studies have shown that B. subtilis natto cultures can effectively dissolve thrombosis. Ju et al. (2019) showed B. subtilis Subsp. natto WTC016 isolated from the soil had a thrombolytic ability (Ju et al., 2019). A study by Hong et al. (2009) indicated that although neither of the reference strains was haemolytic, all of the isolates exhibited either complete or incomplete haemolysis. Interestingly, lecithinase activity was also produced in some isolates, including Natto. The production of lecithinase activity in some isolates, including Bacillus subtilis natto, is reported in the reference for their biochemical profiling. Haemolysis was evaluated by streaking onto tryptose blood agar containing sheep's blood at 5% and incubation for 24 h at 37 °C (Hong et al., 2009). Similarly, Moharam et al. (2019) demonstrated that cultures of the B. subtilis Egy strain could dissolve thrombosis (Moharam et al., 2019). Additionally, Pinontoan et al. (2021) confirmed that Bacillus subtilis G8 has powerful fibrinolytic activity and this activity has variety thrombolytic enzymes joined (Pinontoan et al., 2021).

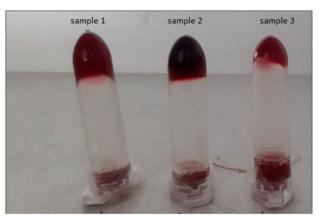


Figure 1. Dissolve thrombosis test.

The order of samples is as follows: Sample 1 is the culture fluid of bacteria, sample 2 is distilled water, and sample 3 is the bacterial biomass solution.

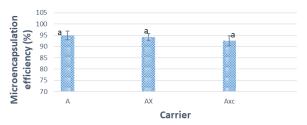


Figure 2. Effect of the carrier on the encapsulation efficiency Bacillus subtilis natto.

(A) alginate 2.5% (w/v); (AX) alginate 2.5% (w/v) with xanthan gum 0.5% (w/v); (Axc) alginate 2.5% (w/v) coated by xanthan gum 0.5% (w/v)

These studies demonstrated that the fluid obtained after the culture of *B. subtilis* natto contains the enzyme nattokinase and has effective thrombolysis. The results obtained from this study showed that, in addition to the culture fluid obtained, the biomass of *B. subtilis* natto also showed thrombolytic potential (Figure 1). This suggests that maintaining the viability of *B. subtilis* natto is necessary to enable them to exert their beneficial effects on the host organism.

The Effect of Carrier on Encapsulation Performance B. Subtilis Natto

The role of wall material in the viability of *B. subtilis* natto was presented in Figure 2. The experiment compared wall materials such as alginate and xanthan gum (mixing or coating to alginate) for encapsulation efficiency. The encapsulation efficiency of A, AX, and Axc was $94.85 \pm 1.92\%$; $94.22 \pm 1.55\%$; and $92.65 \pm 2.13\%$ respectively.

During fermentation, *B. subtilis* natto produced beneficial metabolic compounds (Hong et al., 2008). However, *B. subtilis* (natto) can lead to an unique smell, and an obvious stratification can appear in the fermented mixed milk stored for a long time (Nie et al., 2017) which is the cause of consumer pickiness. Therefore, encapsulation of *B. subtilis* natto could reduce the unexpected sensory property. A variety of wall materials are commonly used in the encapsulation process and alginate is used due to its safety, low cost, and high efficiency (Afzaal et al., 2019). Alginate was commonly used as wall material for extrusion and emulsion techniques. The emulsion technique helps to produce particles with a smaller size than the extrusion technique

(My Dong et al., 2020). However, particles obtained by the extrusion technique are more straightforward, and the composition does not contain oil, which is a component of the preparation process by emulsification. Previous studies showed that alginate wall material had high encapsulation efficiency. Sohail et al. (2011) demonstrated that the encapsulation efficiency of L. rhamnosus GG and L. acidophilus NCFM was higher than 90% with alginate 2% (w/v) (Sohail et al., 2011). Similarly, the encapsulation efficiency of *Bacillus subtilis* SL-13 by alginate 2% (w/v) was 90.92% (Tu et al., 2015). Despite high encapsulation efficiency, the alginate structure is easily broken during drying (Kusuktham et al., 2013). Therefore, the combination of alginate with wall material has also received much attention. The combination of alginate with additional wall material has been reported in previous studies. The encapsulation efficiency of L. plantarum NCDC201 and L. casei NCDC297 in alginate-coated alginate was 72.48% and 63.54%, respectively (Rather et al., 2017). Singh et al. (2019) showed that the encapsulation efficiency of Lactobacillus gastricus BTM7 in the mixture of skimmed milk powder and alginate was over 75% and reached the highest in the ratio of 1:1 mixture of skimmed milk powder and alginate with an efficiency of 94% (Singh et al., 2019).

Similarly, the encapsulation efficiency of two bacterial strains, L. plantarum and L. rhamnosu, by alginate, alginate - Skim milk mixture, and alginate - skim milk coated with chitosan were higher than $94.54 \pm 0.03\%$ (Padhmavathi et al., 2021). In addition, the influence of the concentration of wall materials on the ability to protect bacteria has also been studied. The study by Mandal et al. (2006) showed that the higher the alginate concentration, the greater the viability of L. casei NCDC298 bacteria (Mandal et al., 2006). The low concentration of alginate wall material affected the shape of the shrink particles, and the convex surface was not smooth after drying (Kusuktham et al., 2013; Ramos et al., 2018). These effects can make the particles easily broken or have high permeability affected probiotic bacteria inside the particles. The results obtained from this study showed that alginate 2.5% (w/v) provided a high encapsulation efficiency, and there was no difference between the samples (Figure 2). This showed that adding xanthan gum, either coated or combined, had no significant effect on the encapsulation efficiency.

Effect of Simulated Gastrointestinal Conditions on The Viability of B. Subtilis Natto Encapsulated

The viability of *B. subtilis* natto after two hours of incubation under SGF and SIF conditions was presented in Figure 3. Under SGF conditions, in samples containing free cells, the density of *B. subtilis* natto decreased rapidly from 9.21 ± 0.19 to 6.78 ± 0.2 Log CFU/ml. In contrast, for encapsulated bacteria, the reduction was significantly less (p < 0.05). Specifically, the *B. subtilis* viability in A, AX, and Axc samples was reduced from 9.35 ± 0.11 to 7.41 ± 0.14 Log CFU/ml; 9.33 ± 0.15 to 7.80 ± 0.13 Log CFU/ml, and 9.15 ± 0.16 to 7.96 ± 0.14 Log CFU/ml, respectively.

The viability of *B. subtilis* natto in free cell form was significantly affected by the SIF medium (Figure 3). The survival rate of *B. subtilis* was decreased by 4 Log CFU/ml after incubation in simulated digestive fluid conditions and

remained at 5. 58 Log CFU/ml. In the case of encapsulated samples, the viability of encapsulated *B. subtilis* in A, AX, and Axc samples was 6.25 ± 0.18 Log CFU/ml, 6.91 ± 0.14 Log CFU/ml, and 6.96 ± 0.2 Log CFU/ml respectively.

The fibrinolytic activity, health benefits of *B. subtilis* natto depend on their enzyme production ability (Ju et al., 2019; Nie et al., 2017). *B. subtilis*, in the form of spores, gave the germination rate in the digestive fluid only 8% (Hatanaka et al., 2012). In the spore state, all cellular activity halts, and enzyme production ceases. Therefore, it is essential to exist as vegetative cells. Previous studies showed that *B. subtilis* was sensitive to low pH conditions, leading to spore formation to protect them from the effects of simulated digestive fluid. However, the spore counts after 6 hours of surviving under the above conditions reached about $74 \pm 1\%$, and the re-germination rate of spores was not high, about 8%, leading to not bringing high efficiency to the digestive system (Hatanaka et al., 2012).

The encapsulation technique showed a significant improvement in the viability of the bacteria under SGF conditions Zhang et al. (2021) showed that the survival rate of encapsulated B. subtilis 04178 in the alginate-chitosan mixture was 18.19% more effective than that of the unencapsulated control under pH 2.5 conditions (Zhang et al., 2021). Similarly, the protective effect of *Lactobacillus* gastricus BTM7 in the mixture of skimmed milk powder and alginate under the SGF condition was nearly 2 Log CFU/ml higher than that of free-form bacterial cells (Singh et al., 2019). A study by Rather et al. (2017) also demonstrated that the viability of encapsulated L. plantarum NCDC201 cells was 47.5% higher than that of free bacteria at pH 2 for 2 hours (Rather et al., 2017). Besides, the survival rate of encapsulated bacteria was 1.5 to 4 Log CFU/ml higher than free cell bacteria, as reported by Xiao et al. (2020) and Shu et al. (2018) (Shu et al., 2018; Xiao et al., 2020). Alginate is a widely used food additive because of its proven safety and is also used to protect probiotics from extreme conditions such as SGF, SIF, and storage at 4°C (Chavarri et al., 2010; Vaziri et al., 2018). However, the porous gel structure of alginate was affected by low pH, high permeability, and low stability, reducing the protective power of this material under low acid conditions (Chavarri et al., 2010; Vaziri et al., 2018). The supplement wall material helps to limit the porous structure of the gel network of alginate, which improves the viability of probiotic bacteria under low pH conditions. Padhmavathi et al. (2021) indicated that a mixture of alginate-skim milk wall material coated with chitosan significantly improved the viability of probiotic bacteria (Padhmavathi et al., 2021). Similarly, My et al. (2020) suggested that the calcium-alginate coated with skim milk showed higher L. acidophilus viability than the mixture of calcium-alginate and skim milk or calcium-alginate alone (My Dong et al., 2020). Xanthan gum is a suitable complementary material with low pH stability thanks to its rigid, helical structure and thermal stability (Singhvi et al., 2019). Thanks to the addition of xanthan gum to the alginate gel structure, the viability of the probiotics was significantly enhanced (Khorshidi et al., 2021; Shu et al., 2018). The present study showed that the viability of encapsulated B. subtilis in alginate was significantly improved compared with the control sample (Figure 3). The B. subtilis viability in samples supplemented with xanthan gum (AX and Axc samples) was higher than that of the samples using only alginate (A sample), and there was no significant difference between containing xanthan gum mixing or coating (Figure 3).

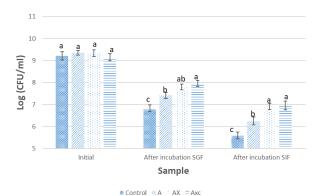


Figure 3. Effect of SGF and SIF on the viability of Bacillus subtilis natto.

The letters a, b, and c represent significant differences between samples (p < 0.05)

Besides the SGF condition, the SIF condition also affects probiotic bacteria. Previous studies showed that the viability of encapsulated probiotic cells was significantly higher than that of the free cell samples (Shu et al., 2018; Singh et al., 2019; Xiao et al., 2020). Rather et al. (2017) indicated that the viability of *L. plantarum* NCDC201 and *L. casei* NCDC297 in encapsulated form was higher than in free cell form at about 4 Log CFU/ml and 5 Log CFU/ml, respectively (Rather et al., 2017).

A study by Padhmavathi et al. (2021) showed that the mixed alginate-skim milk coated with chitosan remarkably improved the viability of L. plantarum and L. rhamnosus in SIF conditions (Padhmavathi et al., 2021). My et al. (2020) suggested that the interference of skim milk with the cross-linking of the calcium ions with alginate degraded the particle structure and decreased the L. acidophilus viability in simulated digestive fluid compared to that of the mix of alginate- skim milk (My Dong et al., 2020). Similarly, Padhmavathi et al. (2021) indicated that skim milk was used for encapsulation and chitosan coating, making the microspheres stronger than uncoated ones. In this study, there was no significant difference in the protective effect of AX and Axc, showing that in SIF conditions, the protective effect of the two methods was the same (Figure 3). These results indicated that the xanthan gum concentration (0.5% w/v) was suitable encapsulation which did not interfere with the alginate structure.

Conclusion

The results obtained from the study showed that *B. subtilis* natto biomass had a thrombolytic ability compared to the control sample. The survival rate of *B. subtilis* natto was significantly affected under SGF and SIF conditions. The wall material by alginate enhanced the *B. subtilis* natto viability, and adding xanthan gum is necessary to increase the protective effect of *B. subtilis* natto of alginate.

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this article.

Declarations

This study was presented at the 7th International Anatolian Agriculture, Food, Environment and Biology Congress, (Kastamonu, TARGID 2024)

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Type Traits of Primiparous Holstein-Friesian and Red-Holstein Cows Raised Together in a Farm in Aydın Province

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ABSTRACT

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The aim of this study was to compare the type traits of primiparous Holstein-Friesian (HF) and Red-Holstein (RH) cows reared mixed in a private farm in Aydın province, Türkiye. In this study, 120 heads composed of HF and RH primiparous cows were used and the effects of breed, calving year (2023, 2024) and calving age (<26 mo and ≥26 mo) on type traits were also investigated. Five nonlinear 100 score traits and 18 linear type traits were measured. The effect of breed on chest width (P<0.01), body condition score (P<0.01), rear legs set angle (P<0.01), hock structure (P<0.05), rear udder width (P<0.01), udder depth (P<0.01), central ligament (P<0.05), rear udder height (P<0.01), fore teat length (P<0.05) and mammary acuity (P<0.01) were found statistically significant and the overall mean scores for these traits were 5.32 ± 0.13 , 6.97 ± 0.17 , 4.83 ± 0.09 , 4.87 ± 0.08 , 5.04 ± 0.09 , 5.74±0.09, 4.73±0.04, 5.37±0.08, 8.35±0.08, 5.38±0.08 and 7.32±0.17, respectively. Also, the effect of calving year on body depth (P<0.01), udder depth (P<0.05) and rear teat placement (P<0.05) and the effect of calving age on chest width (P<0.05), rear legs set angle (P<0.05) and rear teat placement (P<0.05) were found statistically significant. For non-linear 100 scores, the breed effects on dairy strength (P<0.01), foot & legs (P<0.05), udder (P<0.01) and total score (P<0.01) were significant and the means were 82.30±0.17, 81.63±0.11, 83.98±0.09 and 83.03±0.07, respectively. As a result, the significant breed effect found in some type traits showed that HF and RH genotypes, which differ only in color genes, have been considered and reared as different breeds since the 1950's, causing significant differences in some type traits of these two genotypes.



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Introduction

The priority criteria given to the selection methods by farmers have been changing within the time. Before, breeding cattle were selected according to their coat colour, horniness, body size, etc, and such features were used until the mid 1900's when they began to focus on productivity criteria (Künzi, 1994). Later on, those old selection practices have been replaced by a type of selection based on measurable characteristics of the animal's body called type traits. Type traits are then referred to as specific characteristics used to measure the body conformation of the animal by scoring its physical appearance, structure and functional abilities. The type traits are also used in breeding programs for the selection of healthier and more productive cows, that are able to withstand a high production. The type traits constitute the measurable external appearance that are generally transferred to the offspring and their heritability indexes have already been calculated. With the existence and using of type traits as a selection tool, cows are no longer evaluated as good or bad according to the targeted trait, but most of the body parts are measured and scored and this method is also used to grade the

bulls according to the traits of their daughters (Boettcher et al., 1997; Güler et al., 2020). In dairy cows, the type traits can be taken as predictors of reproduction (Schneider et al., 2003), milk production, longevity and culling of the cows (Zavadilová & Štípková, 2012), body weight (Veerkamp & Brotherstone, 1997; Berry et al., 2004), health (Rogers et al., 1991; Pryce et al., 1998; Juozaitiene et al., 2006) and fertility (Pryce et al., 1998; Royal et al., 2002; Harris, 2015). The type traits have also a relationship with profitability, herd life, udder health, milk components and milk somatic cell count (Gengler et al., 1997; Rogers et al., 1998).

Historically, the evaluation of cattle based on type traits was thought for the first time in 1976 and the first linear traits were implemented in 1979 (Vinson et al., 1982; Lucas et al., 1984). In 1983, the Holstein Association began to use the type traits in evaluating cows and the basic standard for Holstein cows was installed in the year 1997. In Türkiye, a group of 10 classifiers was trained in 1995 and the proper conformation recording was installed in 1999 and the results were published in the year 2000 by the

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Şahin, 2011). There are various scoring methods that have been developed especially for dairy cows. Funk & Hansen (1991) used 1 to 50 scores. The International Conformation Recording Association (ICAR) developed a linear scoring method utilizing 1 to 9 scores and this method has been taken as scoring standard for linear type traits and was utilized in this study. ICAR also developed a non-linear method using 100 scores that is subjective and the score depends mostly on the precision of the classifier (ICAR, 2018) and this method was also used in this study. In type traits scoring, three composites are taken into consideration such as body, feet and legs and udder composites. The ideal for dairy cows is that their body must be strong, with a good stature, wide rump and enough depth of the body. The legs' structure must also be suitable and strong enough to support the entire body and the udder must have a high capacity to transform and produce more milk. The udder must also be at a suitable height and depth to avoid being vulnerable to mastitis. In most of the studies, body composite traits were not given importance in most of the studied effects (Wesseldijk, 2004; Ndihokubwayo & Koç, 2024) but feet and legs traits were given a little emphasis while great importance was given to udder traits, which directly gained a great use as a selection tool in most breeding schemes (Wesseldijk, 2004).

The aims of this study were to compare the type traits of primiparous Red-Holstein (RH) cattle, which have attracted the attention of Turkish breeders in recent years, and primiparous Holstein-Friesian (HF) cattle raised together in a dairy cattle farm, as well as to determine the effect of some environmental factors on these traits.

Materials and Methods

Classifier, Animal and Farm Materials

In this study, a total of 120 heads composed of mixed HF (n=58) and RH (n=62) cows reared in a private farm

was used. The farm is located in Cincin village of Koçarlı county, Aydın province of Türkiye. All of the animals used in this study were imported from Hungary in 2023 as gestant heifers and all were in their first lactation. The cows were born in 2021 and 2022 in Hungary and started calving in 2023-2024 in Türkiye. The linear and non-linear scoring was processed after 2 hours from the milking time and only cows whose lactation period was between 30 and 150 days were scored. In addition, all the scores were processed by one expert and author who received a suitable training for trait recording.

Methods

Linear Type traits

In this study, 18 traits were assessed for linear type traits such as stature (ST), chest width (CW), body depth (BD), rump angle (RA), rump width (RW), body condition score (BCS), rear legs set angle (RLA), rear legs rear view (RLV), hock structure (HS), foot angle (FA), fore udder attachment (FUA), rear udder height (RUH), rear udder width (RUW), central ligament (CL), udder depth (UD), fore teat length (FTL), rear teat placement (RTP) and mammary acuity (MA). The traits were scored using 1 to 9 scores as 1-3 for lower scores, 4-6 for intermediate scores and 7-9 for higher scores. According to the targeted trait, the lower and higher scores may not be preferred for a suitable selection and there is an ideal score for each trait. The detailed score limits and ideal scores are presented in Table 1.

Non-linear 100 scoring method

The 100 scoring method was also used to determine the overall score out of 100 for the dairy cows. This method is subjective and is based on: dairy strength (DS, 15%), frame (20%), foot and leg (FL, 25%) and udder (40%) all to form a total of 100 scores. ICAR (2018) established the variation of the scores as follows: 50-74: Fair/Poor/Insufficient, 75-79: Good, 80-84: Good plus, 85-89: Very good and 90-97: Excellent.

Table 1. Score limits and ideal scores for the linear type traits (ICAR, 2018)

T:4-	A 1-1ii		- Ideal scores		
Traits	Abbreviations	1-3	4-6	7-9	- Ideal scores
Stature	(St)	Lower	Intermediate	Higher	9
Chest width	(CW)	Narrow	Intermediate	Wide	9
Body depth	(BD)	Shallow	Intermediate	Deep	7
Rump angle	(RA)	High pins	Intermediate	Low pins	5
Rump width	(RW)	Narrow pins	Intermediate	Wide pins	7
Body condition score	(BCS)	Thin	Intermediate	Fat	5-6
Rear legs set angle	(RLA)	Straight	Intermediate	Sickled	5
Hock structure	(HS)	Coarse	Intermediate	Fine & thin	9
Rear legs rear view	(RLV)	Toes out	Intermediate	Bow-legged	8
Foot angle	(FA)	Low	Intermediate	Steep	7
Fore udder attachment	(FUA)	Loose	Intermediate	Strong	9
Rear udder height	(RUH)	Low	Intermediate	High	9
Rear udder width	(RUW)	Narrow	Intermediate	Wide	9
Central ligament	(CL)	Weak	Intermediate	Strong	7-8
Udder depth	(UD)	Deep	Intermediate	High	6
Fore teat length	(FTĹ)	Short	Intermediate	Long	4
Rear teat placement	(RTP)	Wide	Intermediate	Close	7
Mammary acuity	(MA)	Defect	Intermediate	Perfect	9

Table 2. Least square means and standard errors of linear type traits scores.

Traits	Breed	$\overline{\zeta} + S_{\overline{x}}$	Calving Year $\overline{X} + S_{\overline{x}}$		First Calvin	$g Age \overline{X} + S_{\overline{x}}$	Overall $\overline{X} + S_{\overline{x}}$
	HF (n=58)	RH (n=62)	2023 (n=70)	2024 (n=50)	<26 mo (n=53)	≥26 mo (n=67)	n=120
ST	NS6.41±0.18	6.79 ± 0.15	NS6.57±0.14	6.63 ± 0.19	NS6.62±0.16	6.58 ± 0.14	6.66 ± 0.10
CW	**6.05±0.24	4.61 ± 0.20	NS5.14±0.19	5.53 ± 0.25	**4.99±0.22	5.68 ± 0.18	5.32 ± 0.13
BD	NS5.41±0.16	5.46 ± 0.14	**5.81±0.14	5.05 ± 0.18	NS5.25±0.15	5.61 ± 0.15	5.52 ± 0.09
RA	NS6.25±0.30	7.27 ± 0.26	$NS6.88\pm0.14$	7.04 ± 0.31	$NS6.88 \pm 0.27$	7.04 ± 0.23	6.97 ± 0.17
RW	NS4.13±0.13	4.50 ± 0.12	$NS4.33\pm0.11$	4.33 ± 0.14	NS4.24±0.12	4.41 ± 0.11	4.34 ± 0.08
BCS	**4.48±0.15	5.11 ± 0.13	NS4.96±0.13	4.63 ± 0.16	NS4.86±0.14	4.73 ± 0.12	4.83 ± 0.09
RLV	**5.18±0.14	4.58 ± 0.12	$NS4.87\pm0.11$	4.89 ± 0.15	NS4.89±0.13	4.87 ± 0.11	4.87 ± 0.08
RLA	NS6.47±0.18	6.21 ± 0.16	NS6.47±0.15	6.22 ± 0.19	*6.57±0.17	6.12 ± 0.14	6.33 ± 0.10
HS	*5.30±0.16	4.81 ± 0.14	NS5.02±0.13	5.09 ± 0.17	NS5.07±0.15	5.04 ± 0.13	5.04 ± 0.09
FA	NS4.21±0.10	4.23 ± 0.09	NS4.32±0.08	4.14 ± 0.11	NS4.27±0.09	4.19 ± 0.08	4.24 ± 0.06
FUA	NS4.51±0.14	4.66 ± 0.12	NS4.51±0.12	4.67 ± 0.15	NS4.60±0.13	4.58 ± 0.11	4.58 ± 0.08
RUW	**6.04±0.16	5.42 ± 0.14	NS5.80±0.13	5.66 ± 0.17	NS5.62±0.15	5.84 ± 0.12	5.74 ± 0.09
RUH	**4.86±0.08	4.56 ± 0.07	$*4.84\pm0.06$	4.58 ± 0.08	$NS4.73\pm0.07$	4.69 ± 0.06	4.73 ± 0.04
CL	*5.59±0.13	5.17 ± 0.11	$NS5.32\pm0.11$	5.45 ± 0.14	NS5.37±0.12	5.40 ± 0.10	5.37 ± 0.07
UD	*8.61±0.14	8.11 ± 0.12	NS8.35±0.12	8.37 ± 0.15	$NS8.36\pm0.13$	8.36 ± 0.11	8.35 ± 0.08
RTP	NS5.70±0.29	6.27 ± 0.29	*6.42±0.24	5.55 ± 0.31	*5.61±0.27	6.36 ± 0.23	6.11 ± 0.17
FTL	*5.64±0.14	5.18 ± 0.12	NS5.31±0.11	5.51 ± 0.15	NS5.47±0.13	5.34 ± 0.11	5.38 ± 0.08
MA	*7.89±0.31	6.75 ± 0.26	NS7.23±0.25	7.52 ± 0.32	NS7.43±0.28	7.31 ± 0.24	7.32 ± 0.17

NS: Not significant. **: Significant for P<0.01. *: Significant for P<0.05. ST: stature, CW: chest width, BD: body depth, RA: rump angle, RW: rump width, BCS: body condition score, RLV: rear legs rear view, RLA: rear legs set angle, HS: hock structure, FA: foot angle, FUA: fore udder attachment, RUH: rear udder height, RUW: rear udder width, CL: central ligament, UD: udder depth, RTP: rear teat placement, FTL: fore teat length, MA: mammary acuity.

Statistical analysis

The following statistical model (1) was used to analyze the data:

$$Y_{ijkl} = \mu + a_i + b_j + c_k + e_{ijkl} \tag{1}$$

Where:

 Y_{ijkl} : the observation of the traits; a_i : the effect of breed (i= HF and RH); $b_{j:}$ the effect of calving year (j= 2023, 2024; c_k : the effect of first calving age (k= <26 months, \geq 26 months) and e_{ijkl} : the random error. The GLM procedure of SAS (SAS, 2010) was used to analyse the data and the differences between the least-square means of fixed factor level were considered as statistically significant at P<0.05 (2-tailed), based on Tukey's adjustment type I error rate.

Results and discussion

The least square means (LSM) and the standard errors (SE) of linear and non-linear scores of the traits are presented in Tables 2 and 3.

Linear Type Traits

The LSM, SE and the significance of the linear type traits were summarized in Table 2. It was found that the breed effects on CW (P<0.01), BCS (P<0.01), RLV (P<0.01), HS (P<0.05), RUW (P<0.01), UD (P<0.01), CL (P<0.05), RUH (P<0.01), FTL (P<0.05) and MA (P<0.01) were found statistically significant and the overall mean scores for these traits were 5.32 ± 0.13 , 4.83 ± 0.09 , 4.83 ± 0.09 , 4.87 ± 0.08 , 5.04 ± 0.09 , 5.74 ± 0.09 , 4.73 ± 0.04 , 5.37 ± 0.08 , 8.35 ± 0.08 , 5.38 ± 0.08 and 7.32 ± 0.17 , respectively.

Considering the significant differences of breed scores, the means for CW scores in HF (6.05 ± 0.24) was bigger than RH cows (4.61 ± 0.20) but, both scores were intermediate even though the HF score was better and

promising, greater than the findings of Duru (2005) who found 4.59 as mean score in HF. The HF score was also bigger than 4.98±0.05 found by Cerçi & Koç (2006) in HF cows, also bigger than 5.5±0.1 found by Güler at al. (2018) in Brown-Swiss and 5.4±0.1 found by Güler et al. (2020) in Simmental cows even though the RH score was smaller than these scores. The HF score was also bigger than 5.00 score found by Erkmen & Kul (2021) in HF, bigger than 5.79 found by Alıc (2007) in HF and less than 6.56 found by Ermetin (2007) in HF, 6.83 by Marinov et al. (2015) in HF, 7.13 by Akdağ (2019) in HF and less than the mean 6.26 found by Ndihokubwayo & Koç (2024) in both HF and RH dairy cows. As for the BCS, the mean score for HF was 4.48 ± 0.15 and 5.11 ± 0.13 for RH and both scores were intermediate and the RH score was ideal (5-6) but, the HF score was also almost ideal, good and may improve later depending on the nutrition practices.

For the RLV scores in HF (5.18 ± 0.14) and 4.58 ± 0.12 in RH cows, both means are intermediate and almost ideal (5), but the HF mean was bigger than 4.89 score found by Duru (2005) in HF cows and both HF and RH means higher than 4.10 score found by Alıç (2007) in HF and smaller than 6.08 found by Ermetin (2007) in HF cows. Also, the mean score of the HS $(5.30\pm0.16 \text{ in HF} \text{ and } 4.81\pm0.14 \text{ in})$ RH) were both intermediate and the HF score was higher than 5.09±0.07 found by Çerçi & Koç (2006) in HF cows. As for the RUW, the mean score 6.04±0.16 in HF was found higher than 5.42±0.14 in RH but both scores were intermediate and good. Regarding the UD, even though 8.61±0.14 in HF was higher than 8.11±0.12 in RH, both scores were higher, meaning deep udder and they are suitable for dairy cows and these scores were found bigger than all the means found by other researchers about the UD trait. As for the RUH, the scores 4.86±0.08 in HF and 4.56±0.07 in RH were all intermediate and greater than 3.40 found by Akdağ (2019) in HF and less than the means found by Alıç (2007), Marinov et al. (2015), Duru (2005) and Erkmen (2020).

Table 3. Least square means and standard errors of non-linear 100 scores.

Factors	n	DS	Frame	FL	Udder	TS100
Breed		*	NS	*	*	**
HF	58	83.07 ± 0.30	83.05 ± 0.24	81.97±0.19	84.23 ± 0.15	83.32 ± 0.13
RH	62	81.61 ± 0.26	83.13 ± 0.21	81.27 ± 0.16	83.71 ± 0.13	82.71±0.11
Calving Year		NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
2023	70	82.15 ± 0.25	83.05 ± 0.20	81.75±0.16	84.00 ± 0.13	83.02 ± 0.11
2024	50	82.54 ± 0.32	83.13 ± 0.26	81.49 ± 0.20	83.94 ± 0.16	83.00±0.14
First Calving Age		NS	NS	NS	NS	*
<26 mo	53	82.23 ± 0.27	82.83 ± 0.22	81.59 ± 0.17	83.83 ± 0.14	82.84 ± 0.12
≥26 mo	67	82.46 ± 0.24	83.36 ± 0.19	81.65±0.15	84.12 ± 0.12	83.19 ± 0.10
Overall	120	82.30 ± 0.17	83.12 ± 0.14	81.63 ± 0.11	83.98 ± 0.09	83.03 ± 0.07

NS: Not significant. **: Significant for P<0.01. *: Significant for P<0.05. DS: dairy strength, FL: feet and legs.

For the CL, 5.59±0.13 in HF was found higher than 5.17±0.11 in RH and the HF score was a little less than Duru (2005) who found 5.39 in HF cows. For the FTL, 5.64±0.14 in HF was found higher than 5.18±0.12 in RH and both scores were intermediate and more than ideal (4). The RH score was similar to the one calculated by Gökçe (2011) and the HF score was greater than Çerçi & Koç (2006), Ermetin (2007), Marinov et al. (2015) and Erkmen (2020) and less than 6.52 score found by Akdağ (2019). As far as the MA is concerned, 7.89±0.31 of HF was higher than 6.75±0.26 in RH cows and both scores show a perfect udder, fact that is suitable for the farmers.

Also, in this study, the effects of calving year on BD (P<0.01) and RUH (P<0.05) and the first calving age on CW (P<0.01), RLA (P<0.05) and both effects on RTP (P<0.05) were found statistically significant. In this study, the significant effect of first calving age on BD was also found by Erdem et al. (2017) in their study aimed at determining the changes in linear type trait scores in Simmental cows.

Comments about Some Linear Type Traits

In conformation recording, the extreme (very small or very high) scores are not preferable for most of the traits in dairy cows (Table 1) and may be the cause of early culling of cows from the herd, shortening the herd life. There are also some scores that are ideal when they are higher. For example, the wider chest means the high capacity of liver and heart. The extremes for RLA (very straight or very sickled legs) are not ideal because they limit the walking capability and can cause the disability of the cow (Şahin, 2011). They can also cause foot and legs lesions (Kumlu, 2000; Çerçi & Koç, 2006). Also, when the udder is higher, it is great for lactating cows for mastitis resistance because when the udder is deeper, it is closer to the ground and is susceptible to catch mastitis. The intermediate scores that are between 4 and 6 are good and the most of the scores that were calculated in this study were intermediate and good.

Non-linear 100 Scores

As a second method of conformation recording, the non-linear 100 scores method was used and the LSM and their SE were detailed in Table 3. In this study, the effects of breed on DS (P<0.05), FL (P<0.05), udder (P<0.05) and the TS (TS100 P<0.01) were found statistically significant and their overall means were 82.30 ± 0.17 , 81.63 ± 0.11 , 83.98 ± 0.09 and 83.03 ± 0.07 , respectively. Regarding the

breeds (HF and RH), only the effect of breed on frame was not significant (P>0.05). The breed effect on some udder traits was also found by Mazza et al. (2016) and Ndihokubwayo & Koç (2024) and they all advised that more importance may be put on udder traits during selection based on type traits. The fact of not finding the frame difference between the HF and RH cows may be explained that these two breeds differ only by colour genes, have been taken as different breeds since the 1950's and until now they do not show a remarkable difference in body traits. Other effects such as the calving year and the first calving age were not found statistically significant unless the first calving age on TS100 (P<0.05). Regarding the breed effect of non-linear 100 scores, all the found scores were greater than the findings of Duru (2005), Alıç (2007), Ermetin (2007) and Erkmen (2020) and were less than the findings of Akdağ (2019). Generally, all the mean scores found for the non-linear method were good plus and suitable for a dairy herd.

Prediction of the Future of the Dairy Cows According to the Breed Effect

The CW mean score, which is higher in HF (6.05 ± 0.24) than RH (4.61±0.20) cows, will make farmers choose them than RH cows. As for the BCS, which is a little higher and ideal in RH (5.11±0.13) than HF (4.48±0.15) may change within the time depending on nutrition practices and other farm management factors and cannot help in deciding for the future prediction of dairy cows. The HS is promising for HF (5.30 ± 0.16) than RH (4.81 ± 0.14) for the future but, based on the current score difference, this should cause the early culling of RH than HF cows. As for the RUW, RUH and CL will continue to improve in both breeds as the udder development increases with increased parities. The UD scores for both HF (8.61 ± 0.14) and RH (8.11 ± 0.12) are promising actually and the mastitis incidence in the herd is reduced but, in the future, the UD score will decrease as the parity increases and the high intensity of decrease is generally seen in RH cows than HF. Berry et al. (2022) also confirmed that some of the type traits may be altered within the time, reason why some udder traits' scores may vary within the time. The FTL and MA for both HF and RH are quite promising even in the future. As far as the non-linear 100 scores is concerned, all the significant traits (for breed) were seen to be generally a little higher in HF cows than RH and the TS100 (83.32±0.13 for HF and 82.71±0.11 for RH) were both good plus and suitable for farming dairy cows.

Conclusion

This study showed the importance of using type traits as a tool for classifying dairy cattle. The significant breed effect found in most of type traits showed that HF and RH genotypes, which differ only in color genes, have been considered and reared as different breeds since the 1950's, causing significant differences in some type traits of these two genotypes. The extreme scores of type traits may cause early culling of the cows, reducing herd life. The animals used here were in their first lactation, the scores of most of the traits will change as the parities will increase and it was given a future prediction of the dairy cows in this herd. Finally, the two methods used in this study showed coincidences for the significance of the breed effect on most of the type traits.

Declarations

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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Investigation of the Effects of Agricultural Waste and Nitrogen Doses on Corn Plant

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
Research Article	The increasing cultivation of corn has led to a growing demand for plant nutrients. The present study aimed to investigate the effects of applying plant residues and liquid animal manure as fertilizers on corn plant growth. Therefore, it was aimed to investigate the effects of using plant residues and liquid
Received: 15.10.2024 Accepted: 20.11.2024	animal waste as fertilizer on corn plants. In the research, the characteristics of corn plant such as tassel emergence time, plant height, first node diameter, stem thickness in the plant, number of leaves in the plant, total leaves area above with cob leaf, cob length, thousand grain weight, and grain yield were investigated. It was recorded that the examined characteristics that plant height, upper cob leaf area, cob length, thousand grain weight, grain yield values of the corn plant showed statistically significant
Keywords: Corn Liquid Animal Waste Plant Waste Fertilizer Yield	differences in terms of agricultural plant waste, fertilizer applications, and agricultural plant waste x fertilizer application interaction. It was determined that the diameter of the first internode according to the agricultural plant residues, while the days to tassel emergence, stem thickness, and leaf number were not affected by the applied factors. According to the research results, it was determined that chickpea straw, which gave the highest results in terms of many features, can be used in corn cultivation as agricultural plant waste in terms of organic agriculture. When the effects of liquid animal waste and urea fertilizer on corn cultivation were examined, it was recorded that the 40 kg da ⁻¹ dose of nitrogen fertilizer gave higher values than the liquid animal waste doses.

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Tarımsal Atığın ve Azot Dozlarının Mısır Bitkisine Etkilerinin İncelenmesi

MAKALE BİLGİSİ	ÖZ
Araştırma Makalesi	Mısır tarımındaki artışa paralel olarak bitki besin elementlerine duyulan ihtiyaç da yükselmektedir. Bu çalışmada, bitkisel atıklar ve sıvı hayvan gübrelerinin mısır bitkisinde gübre olarak kullanılmasının bitki gelişimi üzerindeki etkileri incelenmiştir. Bölünmüş parseller deneme deseninde
Geliş : 15.10.2024 Kabul : 20.11.2024	yürütülen çalışmada, tarımsal bitki atıkları olarak nohut, buğday samanı ve kontrol grubu ana materyal olarak kullanılmış, ikinci alt faktör olarak ise kontrol grubu, sıvı hayvan atığı ve üre dozları uygulanarak mısır bitkisi üzerindeki etkileri araştırılmıştır. Araştırmada mısır bitkisinin tepe püskülü çıkış süresi, bitki boyu, ilk boğum çapı, bitkide sap kalınlığı, bitkide yaprak sayısı, koçan ve
Anahtar Kelimeler: Mısır Sıvı Hayvan Atığı Bitki Atığı Gübre Verim	yukarısındaki toplam yaprak alanı, koçan uzunluğu, bin tane ağırlığı, ve tane verimi özellikleri incelenmiştir. Mısır bitkisin incelenen özelliklerinden bitki boyu, koçan yukarısı yaprak alanı, koçan uzunluğu, bin tane ağırlığı, tane tane verim değerleri, tarımsal bitki atığı, gübre uygulamaları, tarımsal bitki atığı × gübre uygulama interaksiyonunda istatistiki olarak önemli farklılıklar gösterdiği kaydedilmiştir. İncelenen diğer özelliklerden ilk boğum çapı tarımsal bitki atıklarına göre istatistiki olarak önemli farklılıklar gösterdiği, tepe püskül çıkış süresi, sap kalınlığı, bitkide yaprak sayısının ise uygulanan faktörlerden etkilenmediği belirlenmiştir. Araştırma sonucuna göre birçok özellikler bakımından en yüksek sonuçları veren nohut samanının organik tarım açısından tarımsal bitki atığı olarak mısır yetiştiriciliğinde kullanılabilirliği tespit edilmiştir. Sıvı hayvansal atık ve üre gübresinin ise mısır yetiştiriciliği üzerine etkisine bakıldığında, azot gübresinin 40 kg da ⁻¹ dozunun, sıvı hayvansal atık dozlarına göre daha yüksek değerler verdiği kaydedilmiştir.



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Giriş

İnsanlık tarihi boyunca süregelen tarım faaliyetleri, medeniyetlerin gelişimiyle birlikte çeşitli uygulamalarının ortaya çıkmasına ve zamanla değişmesine neden olmuştur. Arazi yapılarının bozulması, küresel ısınma, gıda güvenliği gibi sorunlar konvansiyonel tarımın uzun vadede sürdürülebilir olmayacağını göstermiştir (Gliessman, 2007). Bu nedenle, üretim artısıyla birlikte kaliteyi ön planda tutmayı ve uygun yetiştirme tekniklerine fırsat veren alternatif yöntemler önemlilik arz etmiştir. Bu alternatif yöntemlerden bir tanesi ise uygun yetiştirme tekniklerinin yanı sıra insan, hayvan ve çevre sağlığını da ön planda tutan "organik tarım" yöntemidir. Araştırmalar, organik tarım kullanımının; biyolojik çeşitliliği zenginleştirdiğini (Hole ve ark., 2005), toprak verimliliğini arttırdığını (Watson vd, 2002) ve konvansiyonel tarımın oluşturduğu zararlı çevresel etkileri azalttığını (Bengtsson, ve ark., 2005; Badgley, 2007) göstermektedir. Organik tarım sistemlerinde, bitki ve sıvı hayvansal atıklarının gübre olarak değerlendirilmesi, toprak verimliliğini artırmak ve sürdürülebilir bir tarım uygulaması gerçekleştirmek için sıklıkla tercih edilen yöntemler arasındadır.

Mısır, çok çeşitli kullanım alanlarına sahip çok yönlü bir bitkidir. Mısır, insan gıdası, hayvan yemi ve endüstriyel amaçlar için yetiştirilir. Mısır, insanlar için önemli bir kalori ve besin kaynağıdır. İyi bir karbonhidrat, lif, vitamin ve mineral kaynağıdır. Mısır, çiftlik hayvanları, kümes hayvanları ve diğer hayvanlar iyi bir enerji ve protein kaynağıdır (Uskutoğlu ve İdikut, 2024). İnsan ve hayvan beslenmesinde kullanıldığı gibi endüstri alanında da yoğun olarak kullanılan bir sıcak iklim tahıl bitkisidir. Tarımın tamamen mekanize olması, bitkinin kısa sürede yetişmesi, diğer ürünlere göre daha yüksek verim vermesinden dolayı mısır bitkisinin tarımı tercih edilmektedir. İdikut ve Kara, (2013) çalışmalarında mısırın besleyici değerinin yüksek olduğunu, tanesinde %50'den fazla oranda nişasta olduğunu ve böylece iyi bir enerji kaynağı olduğunu belirtmislerdir. Mısır Türkiye'de hemen hemen bütün bölgelerde farklı kullanım amaçlarıyla yetiştirilmektedir. Yetiştiriciliği sırasında çok fazla bitki aksamını kısa sürede oluşturduğu için topraktan fazla miktarda besin maddesi kaldırmaktadır. Bu nedenle bu araştırmada çevre dostu üretim yapılması için bitki ve sıvı hayvansal atıkların kullanılmasıyla mısırda tane veriminin arttırılması amaçlanmıştır.

Materyal ve Yöntem

Araştırma, Kahramanmaraş Merkez ilçe ekolojik koşullarında 2019 yılında Kahramanmaraş Sütçü İmam Üniversitesi Ziraat Fakültesi'ne ait Tarla Bitkileri deneme alanında gerçekleştirilmiştir. Çalışmada "P 0729" adlı ikinci ürün mısır çesidi kullanılmıştır. Deneme alanı bölünmüs parseller deneme desenine göre üç tekerrürlü kurulmuştur. Ekimden önce deneme alanı 8-10 cm derinlikte kültivatör ile sürülmüştür. Ana parseller, bitki atıklarından buğday samanı, nohut samanı ve kontrol olmak üzere üç uygulamadan oluşmuştur. Bitki materyali uygulamasında nohut ve buğdayın dekarda elde edilen bitki artığı miktarı dikkate alınarak uygulanmıştır. Söz konusu bitki artığı uygulamasında dekara 350 kg nohut samanı ve 650 kg buğday samanı serpilip tırmıkla karıştırılarak tesviye edilip deneme alanı ekime hazır hale getirilmiştir. Mısır bitkisi, mibzerle 70x20 cm bitki sıklığında ekilmiştir. Ekim ile beraber damla sulama sistemi kurularak sulama yapılmıştır. Ekimle birlikte dekara 6 kg saf fosfor gübresi uygulanmıştır. Denemenin alt parseller uygulamalarından olan kontrol, sıvı hayvan gübresi ve üre dozları uygulama şekli Çizelge 1'de verilmiştir.

Alt parsellere uygulanan gübre dozları bölünerek farklı zamanlarda uygulanmıştır. Gübre uygulama işlemi mısır bitkisi 50 cm boya ulaşıncaya kadar devam etmiştir. Her gübre uygulamasından sonra damla sulama sistemi ile 6 saat süre ile bitkiler sulanmıştır. Deneme toplamda 1'er hafta arayla 9 kere sulanmıştır. Sulama işlemi bitkilerin su ihtivacı dikkate alınarak uygulanmış ve koçan yapraklarının kurumasına kadar sürdürülmüştür. Mısır bitkisi el çapası ve traktör çapası olmak üzere 2 kere çapalanmıştır. Tarladaki bitki zararlıları dikkate alınarak sap ve koçan kurdu için insektisit kullanılmıştır. Hasat işlemi için tanenin nem miktarı ve tanenin somağa bağlandığı nokta dikkate alınarak elle yapılmıştır.

Denemenin yürütüldüğü dönemde Kahramanmaraş ilinin iklim verileri Çizelge 2'de verilmiştir (Anonim a, 2019). Araştırmada mısır bitkisinin yetiştirilmesinde ve gelişmesinde önemli etkiye sahip olan iklim ve toprak özeliklerinin yanı sıra bitki atıkları da kullanıldığı için bitki atıklarının kimyasal yapısının da önemli etkisinin olduğunu düşünülerek nohut ve buğday samanının kimyasal bileşenlerinin analizleri de yapılmıştır. Kimyasal bileşen analizlerinin sonuçları ise Çizelge 3'de verilmiştir.

Çizelge 1. Mısır bitkisine farklı dozlardaki sıvı hayvansal atık ve azot gübresinin uygulama şekli ve dozları. Table 1. Application methods and doses of different doses of liquid animal waste and nitrogen fertilizer to corn plants.

Ana Parsel Uygulamaları		Alt Parsel Uygulamaları						
• -		Sıvı	Sıvı	Üre	Üre			
Kontrol	Kontrol	Hayvansal	Hayvansal	1. Doz	2. Doz			
(0 kgda ⁻¹)		Atık 1. Doz	Atık 2. Doz					
	0 kg da ⁻¹	1000 lt da ⁻¹	2000 lt da ⁻¹	20 kg da ⁻¹	40 kg da ⁻¹			
		Sıvı	Sıvı	Üre	Üre			
Buğday Samanı	Kontrol	Hayvansal	Hayvansal	1. Doz	2. Doz			
(650 kgda ⁻¹)		Atık 1. Doz	Atık 2. Doz					
	0 kg da ⁻¹	1000 lt da ⁻¹	2000 lt da ⁻¹	20 kg da ⁻¹	40 kg da ⁻¹			
		Sıvı	Sıvı	Üre	Üre			
Nohut Samanı	Kontrol	Hayvansal	Hayvansal	1. Doz	2. Doz			
(350 kg da ⁻¹)		Atık 1. Doz	Atık 2. Doz					
	0 kg da ⁻¹	1000 lt da ⁻¹	2000 lt da-1	20 kg da ⁻¹	40 kg da ⁻¹			

Çizelge 2. Denemenin yürütüldüğü 2019 yılında Kahramanmaraş iline ait iklim verileri.

Table 2. Climate data for Kahramanmaraş province in 2019 when the experiment was conducted.

Aylar	Ortalama Nispi	Toplam	Ortalama	Maksimum	Minimum
Aylal	Nem (%)	Yağış (mm)	Sıcaklık (°C)	Sıcaklık (°C)	Sıcaklık (°C)
Temmuz	47,2	0,1	28,4	38,9	18,9
Ağustos	47,7	0,1	29,5	43,1	20,7
Eylül	41,2	1,5	26,3	37,9	14,7
Ekim	55,1	36,6	21,3	34,9	11,5
Kasım	56,2	39,1	13,5	25,5	5,0
Toplam	-	77,4	-	-	-
Ortalama	49,48	-	23,8	36,06	14,16

Çizelge 3. Nohut ve buğday samanının kimyasal bileşenlerinin analizleri.

Table 3. Analysis of chemical components of chickpea and wheat straw.

Analizler	Nohut Samanı	Buğday Samanı	Analiz Metodu
Toluen-aseton-etanol çözünürlüğü (%)	7,395	5,679	(Anonim, 2007)
Holoselüloz oranı (%)	66,742	79,825	Wise' nin klorit metodu (Wise, 1962)
Selüloz oranı (%)	39,228	52,937	Hoffer metodu (Kürschner and Hoffer, 1969)
Lignin oranı (%)	13,419	27,717	TAPPIT 222 om-88 (Anonim, 1992)
Kül (%)	8,332	13,944	TAPPIT 211 om-85 (Anonim, 1992)

Çizelge 2'de, denemenin yapıldığı 2019 yılına ait Kahramanmaraş ilinin iklim verileri verilmiştir. Mısırın yetişme süresine önemli etkisi olan Temmuz, Ağustos ve Eylül aylarının nisbi nem bakımından %50'nin altında olduğu ve toplam yağış miktarının da çok düşük olduğu, ortalama sıcaklığın, maksimum sıcaklığın ve minimum sıcaklığın ise yüksek olduğu görülmektedir.

Çizelge 3'de görüldüğü gibi kimyasal bileşen analiz sonucuna göre toluen-aseton-etanol çözünürlüğü nohut samanında (%7,395) buğday samanına (%5,679) göre daha fazladır. Diğer kimyasal bileşen analizlerine göre ise buğday samanı nohut samanına oranla daha yüksek değerlere sahip olmuştur. Buğday samanında lignin ve selüloz oranının daha yüksek çıkması bitki atıklarının daha sert olmasını sağlamaktadır. Deneme alanının toprağı, özellikle organik madde (%1,41) ve fosfor (5,78 ppm) açısından fakir, ancak potasyum (146,1 ppm) bakımından zengindir. Toprak yapısı kumlu-killi, pH değeri hafif alkali (7,53), kireç içeriği yüksek (%4,02) ve tuz içeriği düşük (%0,11) olarak belirlenmiştir. Toplam azot miktarı (%0,78) ise yüksek bulunmuştur (Anonim b, 2019).

Bitkinin gelişme dönemleri izlenerek gözlem ve ölçümler yapılmıştır. Tepe püskülü çıkış süresi (gün), bitki boyu (cm), ilk boğum çapı (cm), bitkide sap kalınlığı (cm), bitkide yaprak sayısı (adet bitki⁻¹), koçan ve yukarısındaki toplam yaprak alanı (cm), koçan uzunluğu (cm), bin tane ağırlığı (gr) ve tane verimi (kg da⁻¹) özellikleri incelenmiştir. İncelenen özelliklerin varyans analizi ve ortalamalarının karşılaştırılması Jump İstatistik paket programında yapılmıştır.

Bulgular ve Tartışma

Kahramanmaraş koşullarında yürütülen bu çalışmada, nohut ve buğday saplarının toprağa karıştırılmasıyla ekilen mısır bitkisine uygulanan farklı sıvı hayvan gübresi ve azot dozlarının tepe püskülü çıkış süresine (gün), bitki boyuna (cm), ilk boğum çapına (cm), etkileri Çizelge 4'de, bitkide sap kalınlığına (cm), bitkide yaprak sayısına (adet bitki⁻¹), koçan ve yukarısındaki toplam yaprak alanına (cm) etkileri Çizelge

5'de, koçan uzunluğuna (cm) bin tane ağırlığına (g), ve tane verimine (kg da-1) etkileri ise Çizelge 6'da verilmiştir.

Tepe püskülü çıkış süresine tarımsal bitki atığı, gübre tarımsal bitki atığı × gübre interaksiyonu uygulamalarının etkisinin istatistiksel olarak önemsiz olduğu görülmüştür. Tepe püskülü çıkış süresi 37,00 ile 48,66 gün arasında değişmiştir. Tepe püskülü çıkış süresi bakımından erkencilik nohut samanının uygulandığı sıvı hayvansal atığın 2. dozunda (37,00 gün), en gec tepe püskülü çıkış süresi ise buğday samanının kontrol (48,66 gün) uygulamasında görülmüştür (Çizelge 4.). Daha önce yapılan çalışmalarda Yılmaz (2024), Bursa ilinde ikinci ürün olarak yetiştirilen mısır bitkisinde ekim sıklığı ve uygulanan azot gübre dozlarının tepe püskülü çıkış süresi bakımından istatistiki olarak önemli olmadığını belirterek bizim bulgularımızı desteklemektedir. Cui ve ark. (2015), mısır çeşitlerinde gölgelemenin etkisi üzerine yaptıkları araştırmada tepe püskülü çıkışının önemsiz olduğunu belirtmiştir. Bazı araştırmalarda ise mısıra uygulanan faktörlere göre tepe püskülü çıkış süresinin istatistiki olarak önemli olduğu tespit edilmistir (İdikut ve Kara (2013), Öktem ve Toprak (2013), Rah Khosravanı ve ark. (2017), Taş ve Öktem (2017), Yürekli ve ark. (2021)). Araştırmalardan tepe püskülü çıkış süresinin kullanılan çeşide, ekim zamanına, mısır türlerine, gölgelemeye, lokasyonlara, sulama koşullarına ve uygulanan gübre faktörlerine göre değişiklik gösterebildiği anlaşılmaktadır. Yürütülen araştırmada tek çeşit kullanılması, denemenin yürütüldüğü Temmuz ve Ağustos aylarında sıcaklıkların yüksek, nemin düşük olması, tepe püskülü oluşumunu hızlandırarak önemli farklılığın oluşmasının ortadan kalmasına neden olduğu düşünülmektedir.

Bitki boyunda tarımsal bitki atığı, gübre uygulamaları ve tarımsal bitki atığı × gübre interaksiyonu uygulamaları istatistiki olarak (P<0,01) önemli farklılık oluşturmuştur. Buğdayın bitki atığı uygulamasında mısır bitkisinin bitki boyunun 157,95 cm ile nohut ve kontrol uygulamasından daha düşük olduğu kaydedilmiştir. Farklı azot doz ve sıvı hayvan gübre uygulamasında bitki boyları 169,12-186,86 cm arasında değişim görülmüştür.

Çizelge 4. Bitki atıklarının, farklı dozdaki azot ve sıvı hayvan atığı dozlarının mısır bitkisinin tepe püskülü çıkış süresine (gün), bitki boyuna (cm) ve ilk boğum çapına (cm) etkileri.

Table 4. Effects of plant wastes, different doses of nitrogen and liquid animal waste on the tassel emergence time (days),

piani i	0 \ / 2	oae alameter (cm) of corn f	nants.	
TBAU/GU	Kontrol	Nohut	Buğday	Gübre Doz Ort.
		Tepe püskülü çıkış süre	esi (gün)	
Kontrol	43,66±3,76	43,00±3,76	$48,66\pm3,76$	45,11±1,54
Üre 1. doz	$46,33\pm3,76$	$42,66\pm3,76$	$47,00\pm3,76$	$45,33\pm1,54$
Üre 2. doz	$44,00\pm3,76$	$42,33\pm3,76$	$47,33\pm3,76$	$44,55\pm1,54$
SHG 1. doz	$43,00\pm3,76$	$44,33\pm3,76$	$47,66\pm3,76$	$45,00\pm1,54$
SHG 2. doz	$42,33\pm3,76$	$37,00\pm3,76$	$46,33\pm3,76$	$41,88\pm1,54$
Ortalama	43,86±1,14	41,86±1,14	$47,40\pm1,14$	44,37
	•	Bitki boyu (cm)	
Kontrol	176,46cd±4,44	190,30ab±4,44	153,60e±4,44	169,12c±1,81
Üre 1. doz	183,46bc±4,44	$194,13a\pm4,44$	$167,33e\pm4,44$	$186,31a\pm1,81$
Üre 2. doz	$194,26a\pm4,44$	$195,96a\pm4,44$	$170,36d\pm4,44$	$186,86a\pm1,81$
SHG 1. doz	192,90ab±4,44	184,83bc±4,44	$147,80e\pm4,44$	$175,17b\pm1,81$
SHG 2. doz	193,53ab±4,44	174,03d±4,44	$156,66e\pm4,44$	$172,74bc\pm1,81$
Ortalama	$187,32a\pm1,59$	$187,85a\pm1,59$	$157,95b\pm1,59$	178,04
F Değeri		TBAU: 119,27**, GU:	9,06**, TBAU×GU: 7,7	70**
		İlk boğum çapı (c	em)	_
Kontrol	2,32±0,11	$2,47\pm0,11$	2,87±0,11	2,29±0,05
Üre 1. doz	$2,38\pm0,11$	$2,47\pm0,11$	$2,21\pm0,11$	$2,35\pm0,05$
Üre 2. doz	$2,45\pm0,11$	$2,51\pm0,11$	$2,16\pm0,11$	$2,27\pm0,05$
SHG 1. doz	$2,21\pm0,11$	$2,34\pm0,11$	$2,03\pm0,11$	$2,19\pm0,05$
SHG 2. doz	$2,42\pm0,11$	$2,25\pm0,11$	$2,08\pm0,11$	$2,25\pm0,05$
Ortalama	2,36a±0,57	$2,41a\pm0,57$	$2,11b\pm0,57$	2,29
F Değeri		TBA	U:7,75*	

^{**:} p<0,01, *: p<0,05, SHG: Sıvı hayvan gübresi, TBAU: Tarımsal bitki atık uygulaması, GU: Gübre uygulaması

Çizelge 5. Bitki atıklarının, farklı dozdaki azot ve sıvı hayvan atığı dozlarının mısır bitkisinin sap kalınlığına (cm), yaprak sayısına (adet bitki⁻¹) ve koçan ve yukarısındaki toplam yaprak alanına (cm) etkileri.

Table 5. Effects of plant wastes, different doses of nitrogen and liquid animal waste on the stem thickness (cm), number of leaves (plant⁻¹) and total leaf area on the cob and above (cm) of corn plants.

TBAU/GU	Kontrol	Nohut	Buğday	Ortalama
		Sap kalınlığı (cm)	<u> </u>	
Kontrol	$2,00\pm0,11$	$1,97 \pm 0,11$	$1,76 \pm 0,11$	$1,91 \pm 0,04$
Üre 1. Doz	$2,05\pm0,11$	$1,93 \pm 0,11$	$1,74 \pm 0,11$	$1,91 \pm 0,04$
Üre 2. Doz	$1,96 \pm 0,11$	$2,03 \pm 0,11$	$1,81 \pm 0,11$	$1,93 \pm 0,04$
SHG 1. Doz	$1,80 \pm 0,11$	$1,91 \pm 0,11$	$1,43 \pm 0,11$	$1,81 \pm 0,04$
SHG 2. doz	$1,97 \pm 0,11$	$1,79 \pm 0,11$	$1,75 \pm 0,11$	$1,83 \pm 0,04$
Ortalama	$1,96 \pm 0,06$	$1,93 \pm 0,06$	$1,76 \pm 0,06$	1,88
	F	Bitkide yaprak sayısı (adet	bitki ⁻¹)	
Kontrol	$11,00 \pm 0,35$	$11,33 \pm 0,35$	$11,07 \pm 0,35$	$11,13 \pm 0,14$
Üre 1. Doz	$11,00 \pm 0,35$	$11,93 \pm 0,35$	$10,80 \pm 0,35$	$11,24 \pm 0,14$
Üre 2. Doz	$11,67 \pm 0,35$	$11,73 \pm 0,35$	$11,40 \pm 0,35$	$11,60 \pm 0,14$
SHG 1. Doz	$11,27 \pm 0,35$	$11,13 \pm 0,35$	$11,13 \pm 0,35$	$11,17 \pm 0,14$
SHG 2. Doz	$11,53 \pm 0,35$	$10,93 \pm 0,35$	$10,73 \pm 0,35$	$11,07 \pm 0,14$
Ortalama	11,29±0,13	$11,41 \pm 0,13$	$11,02 \pm 0,13$	11,24
		yukarısındaki toplam yap		
Kontrol	2078,58±161,76 ab	$2198,35 \pm 161,76$ ab	$1214, 08 \pm 161, 76^{e}$	$1830,78 \pm 66,04$ b
Üre 1. doz	$2065,56 \pm 161,76$ ab	$2274,61 \pm 161,76$ ab	$1548,01 \pm 161,76^{de}$	$1962,72 \pm 66,04$ ab
Üre 2. doz	2331,51 ±161,76 ab	$2385, 18 \pm 161,76$ a	$1483,56 \pm 161,76^{de}$	$2066,78 \pm 66,04$ a
SHG 1. doz	2347,04 ±161,76 ab	$1774,07\pm161,76$ ^{cd}	$1274,08 \pm 161,76$ e	$1781,73 \pm 66,04$ bc
SHG 2. doz	2045,57 ±161,76 bc	$1436,16\pm161,76^{\text{ de}}$	$1332,08 \pm 161,76$ e	$1604,60 \pm 66,04$ °
Ortalama	2173,67 ±84,07 a	2003,67 ±84,07 ^a	1370,46 ±84,07 ^b	1849,27
F Değeri	T	BAU: 25,35**, GU: 7,16	**, TBAU × GU: 4,33**	

^{**:} p<0,01, SHG: Sıvı hayvan gübresi, TBAU: Tarımsal bitki atık uygulaması, GU: Gübre uygulaması

En yüksek bitki boyunun azot doz uygulamalarından elde edildiği, kontrol ve hayvan sıvı gübre uygulamalarından önemli derecede farklılık oluşturduğu kaydedilmiştir. Tarımsal bitki atığı x gübre interaksiyonu uygulamalarında mısır bitkisinin boyu 147,80 -195,96 cm arasında değişmiştir. En uzun bitki boyu nohut samanına

uygulanan ürenin 2. dozunda, kontrole uygulanan ürenin 2. dozunda ve nohut samanına uygulanan ürenin 1. dozunda (sırasıyla 195,96 cm, 194,26 cm ve 194,13 cm) gözlemlenirken, en kısa bitki boyu ise buğday samanına uygulanan sıvı hayvansal atığın 1. dozunda (147,80 cm) görülmüştür (Çizelge 4.).

Daha önce yapılan çalışmalarda Kan (2011), Konya yöresinde mısır yetiştiriciliğinde organik ve inorganik gübre dozlarının bitki boyu bakımından değişkenlik gösterdiğini 1. yıl 189,75-214,15 cm, 2. yıl ise 188,50-223,25 cm arasında değiştiğini bildirmiştir. Sing ve ark. (2012), çalışmalarında mısır bitkisinde azot miktarının artması ile bitki boyunun arttığını tespit etmişlerdir. Altunlu ve ark. (2019), mikrobiyal gübre uygulamalarının bitki boyunu olumlu etkilediğini belirterek bitki boyunu 150,1-174,0 cm arasında değiştiğini belirtmişlerdir. Cokkızgın ve ark. (2022) Kahramanmaraş koşullarında üç organik (sığır, solucan, leonardit) uygulamasında bitki boyunun 157,87-180,71 cm arasında olduğunu kaydetmişlerdir. Bapaimu ve ark. (2024), çalışmalarından farklı dozlardaki (0, 20, 25 ve 30 ton ha⁻¹) inek gübresi uygulamasında en yüksek bitki boyunu 138 cm ile 30 ton ha-1 gübre dozunda tespit etmiştir. Nohut samanındaki uygulamalarda, buğday samanına göre vüksek olmasının nedenin nohut samanındaki çözünürlüğün buğday samanına göre yüksek olmasından kaynaklandığı düşünülmektedir. Çizelge 3'de veriler bu durumu açıklamaktadır.

İlk boğum çapında tarımsal bitki atığı uygulamaları istatistiki olarak (P<0,05) farklılıklar oluştururken, gübre ve tarımsal bitki atığı × gübre interaksiyonu uygulamalarının istatistiki olarak farklılıklar oluşturmadığı görülmüştür. Tarımsal bitki atığı uygulamasında en yüksek ilk boğum çapı nohut samanı ve kontrol uygulamalarında (sırasıyla 2,41 cm ve 2,36 cm) gözlemlenirken en düşük ise buğday samanı (2.11 cm) uygulamasında tespit edilmiştir

(Çizelge 4.). Esfandiary ve ark. (2012), İran'ın yarı kurak koşullarında mısır çeşitlerinde ilk boğum çapının 19 ile 21 mm arasında değiştiğini bildirmişlerdir. Mısır bitkisinde ilk boğum çapının kalınlığının topraktan aldığı besinle ve kök yayılımıyla ilgili olduğu bildirilmiştir (Ngairangbam ve ark., 2024).

Tarımsal bitki atığı, gübre, tarımsal bitki atığı x gübre interaksiyonu uygulamalarında istatistiki olarak koçanın sap kalınlığı bakımından bağlandığı farklılıklar oluşturmadığı kaydedilmiştir. Koçanın bağlandığı sap kalınlığı 1,43 – 2,05 cm arasında değişmiştir (Çizelge 5.). Daha önce yapılan çalışmalarda Grazia ve ark. (2003), çalışmalarında mısır bitkisinde azot ve fosfor gübre interaksiyonunun sap kalınlığı bakımından istatistiki olarak önemsiz olduğunu bildirmişlerdir. Özel ve Öktem (2021), mısır bitkisinde vermikompost uygulamasının sap kalınlığı bakımından istatistiki olarak önemli olmadığını belirterek mısırda sap kalınlığını 22,12 ile 24,00 mm arasında değer aldığını tespit etmislerdir.

Tarımsal bitki atığı, gübre ve tarımsal bitki atığı x gübre interaksiyonu uygulamalarında istatistiki olarak bitkide yaprak sayısı bakımından fark görülmemiştir. Bitkide yaprak sayısı 10,73-11,93 adet bitki⁻¹arasında değişmiştir (Çizelge 5.). Daha önce yapılan çalışmalarda Budaklı ve Çarpıcı (2009), mısır bitkisinde farklı azot dozlarının (0, 10, 20, 30 ve 40 kg da⁻¹) yaprak sayısına etkisini incelediği çalışmasında en az yaprak sayısının dekara 0 kg azot uygulamasında, en fazla yaprak sayısının ise dekara 30 ve 40 kg azot uygulamasında elde etmiştir.

Çizelge 6. Bitki atıklarının, farklı dozdaki azot ve sıvı hayvan atığı dozlarının mısır bitkisinin koçan uzunluğuna (cm), bin tane ağırlığına (gr) ve tane verimine (kgda⁻¹) etkileri.

Table 6. Effects of plant wastes, different doses of nitrogen and liquid animal waste on cob length (cm), thousand grain weight (gr) and grain yield (kgda⁻¹) of corn plants.

TBAU/GU	Kontrol	Nohut	Buğday	Ortalama
Koçan uzunluğu (cm			<u>S</u>	
Kontrol	$13,58 \pm 0,58$ fg	16,28 ±0,58 bc	10,59 ±0,58 ¹	13,49 ±0,24 °
Üre 1. doz	$16,70\pm0,58$ bc	$17,38 \pm 0,58$ b	$13,42 \pm 0,58$ fg	$15,83 \pm 0,24^{b}$
Üre 2. doz	18,59 ±0,58 ^a	$18,98 \pm 0,58$ a	$14,06\pm0,58$ ef	17,21 ±0,24 a
SHG 1. doz	$15,68 \pm 0,58$ cd	$15,08 \pm 0,58$ de	$11,32 \pm 0,58$ hi	$14,02 \pm 0,24$ °
SHG 2. doz	$14,43 \pm 0,58$ ef	$13,39 \pm 0,58$ fg	$12,38 \pm 0,58$ gh	$13,40\pm0,24$ °
Ortalama	15,80 ±0,16 a	16,22 ±0,16 a	$12,35 \pm 0,16$ b	14,79
F Değeri	TI	BAU: 183,90**, GU: 49,2	6**, TBAU × GU: 6,20**	•
Bin Tane Ağırlığı (gr	:)			
Kontrol	$231,07 \pm 6,70$ g	$246,70\pm6,70$ c-f	$229,06\pm6,70^{\text{ g}}$	235,61 ±2,74 °
Üre 1. doz	$245,72 \pm 6,70^{\text{ def}}$	$261,19 \pm 6,70$ b	$240,87 \pm 6,70$ efg	$249,26 \pm 2,74$ b
Üre 2. doz	$281,76\pm6,70^{\text{ a}}$	289,21 ±6,70 ^a	$259,37 \pm 6,70$ bcd	$276,78 \pm 2,74$ a
SHG 1. doz	$241,12 \pm 6,70$ efg	$236,13 \pm 6,70 \text{ fg}$	$246,00 \pm 6,70$ c-f	$241,09 \pm 2,74$ °
SHG 2. doz	$236,22 \pm 6,70$ fg	$253,32 \pm 6,70$ b-e	$259,68 \pm 6,70$ bc	$249,74 \pm 2,74$ b
Ortalama	$247,18 \pm 4,99$ b	257,31 ±4,99 ^a	$247,00 \pm 4,99$ b	250,50
F Değeri	7	ΓΒΑU: 1,40**, GU: 33,47	7**, TBAU × GU:4,94**	
Tane Verimi (kg da-1				
Kontrol	$655,95 \pm 66,77$ de	$774,17 \pm 66,77$ cd	$590,59 \pm 66,77$ °	673,57 ±27,26 °
Üre 1. doz	$750,92 \pm 66,77$ cd	$864,68 \pm 66,77$ bc	$681,79 \pm 66,77$ de	$781,42 \pm 27,26$ b
Üre 2. doz	1205,12 ±66,77 a	991,25 ±66,77 ^b	$756,85 \pm 66,77$ cd	$1068,79 \pm 27,26^{a}$
SHG 1. doz	850,83 ±66,77 °	$749,77 \pm 66,77$ cd	$576,82 \pm 66,77$ e	$725,81 \pm 27,26$ °
SHG 2. doz	825,31 ±66,77 °	$606,16\pm66,77$ e	571,87 ±66,77 °	$667,78 \pm 27,26$ °
Ortalama	857,63 ±31,46 a	797,21 ±31,46 a	535,58 ±31,46 b	763,47
F Değeri	<u>_</u>	BAU: 13,31*, GU: 17,69	**, TBAU × GU: 6,95**	

^{**:} p<0,01, *: p<0,05, SHG: Sıvı hayvan gübresi, TBAU: Tarımsal bitki atık uygulaması, GU: Gübre uygulaması

Öztürk ve Büvükgöz (2021),bazı mısır popülasyonlarında yaprak sayısının 7,73 ile 13,38 adet arasında değiştiğini tespit etmişlerdir. Maryani ve ark. (2024), deterjan içeren çamaşır atıklarından elde edilen mısır bitkisindeki etkisini arastırdıkları çalışmalarında yetiştiriciliğin 5. ve 10. günlerinde yaprak sayısının arttığını fakat 15. günde besin elementlerinin alınamamasından özellikle basta azot eksikliğinden dolayı yaprak sayısında azalma olduğunu belirterek mısır bitkisi için ihtiyaç duyulan besin maddelerinin bitki gelişimi bakımından önemli olduğunu vurgulamışlardır. Bapaimu ve ark. (2024), çalışmalarından farklı dozlardaki (0, 20, 25 ve 30 ton ha⁻¹) inek gübresi uygulamasında en yüksek yaprak sayısının 8,56 adet ile 25 ton ha⁻¹ gübre dozunda tespit etmiştir. Mısır bitkisinde yaprak sayısında genetik özelliğin etkisi yüksek olmakla birlikte, çok fazla stres yaratıcı faktörlerin yaprak sayısını azaltıcı etkisini olabileceği bildirilmiştir (Blancon ve ark., 2024).

Koçan ve yukarısındaki toplam yaprak alanı değerleri tarımsal bitki atığı, gübre dozları, tarımsal bitki atığı × gübre interaksiyon uygulamaları bakımından istatistiki olarak (P<0,01) önemli farklılıklar görülmemiştir. Koçan ve yukarısındaki toplam yaprak alanı 2173,67-1274,08 cm² arasında değişmiştir. Tarımsal bitki atığı uygulamalarında kontrol ve nohut samanının (sırasıyla 2173,67, 2003,67 cm²) buğday samanına (1370,46 cm²) göre koçan ve yukarısındaki toplam yaprak alanı bakımından yüksek olduğu gözlemlenmistir. Gübre uygulamalarına göre en yüksek koçan ve koçan yukarısı yaprak alanı 2066,78 cm² ile ürenin ikinci dozundan elde edildiği, ürenin birinci dozu hariç diğer gübre uygulamalarından önemli derecede farklılık oluştuğu kaydedilmiştir. En düşük koçan ve yukarısı yaprak alanı 1604,60 cm² ile hayvan sıvı atığının ikinci dozundan elde edildiği, hayvan sıvı atığının birinci dozu hariç diğer gübre uygulamalarından önemli derecede farklılık oluştuğu belirlenmiştir. Tarımsal bitki atığı x gübre interaksiyonu uygulamalarında en yüksek koçan ve yukarısındaki toplam yaprak alanı nohut samanına uygulanan ürenin 2. dozunda (2385,18 cm²) gözlemlenirken, en düsük koçan ve yukarısındaki toplam yaprak alanı buğday samanı uygulamasının kontrol, sıvı hayvansal atığın 1. ve 2. dozları (sırasıyla 1214,08, 1274,08 ve 1332,08 cm²) uygulamalarında tespit edilmiştir (Çizelge 5.). Daha önce yapılan çalışmalarda Thenveettil ve ark. (2024), mısır bitkisine uyguladıkları K gübresinin %0,7'den % 1.3'e çıkması yaprak alanında artış sağladığını fakat daha fazla artışın yaprak alanına etki etmediğini, K eksikliğinde ise yaprak alanının önemli bir şekilde azaldığını bildirmişlerdir. Mutmainna (2024), mısır bitkisine uygulanan organik gübre, fosfat çözücü madde ve organik gübre + fosfat çözücü maddenin yaprak alanına etkisini araştırdığı çalışmasında en yüksek yaprak alanının 2000 cm² ile organik gübre + fosfat çözücü maddede en düşük yaprak alanının ise 1200 cm² ile kontrol uygulamasında görüldüğünü tespit etmiştir.

Koçan uzunluğunda, tarımsal bitki atığı, gübre ve tarımsal bitki atığı x gübre interaksiyonu uygulamalarının istatistiki olarak (P<0,01) önemli farklılık oluşturduğu belirlenmiştir. Tarımsal bitki atığı uygulamalarında nohut samanı ve kontrol uygulamasının (sırasıyla 16,22 ve 15,80 cm) buğday samanına (12,35 cm) göre koçan uzunluğu bakımından yüksek olduğu gözlemlenmiştir. Gübre uygulamasında üre gübresinin 2. dozu en yüksek koçan uzunluğuna (17,21 cm) sahip olduğu, onu ikinci sırada azot

dozunun birinci dozunun izlediği kendi aralarında istatistiksel önemli farklılık oluştururken uygulamalardan da önemli derecede farklılık oluşturduğu kaydedilmiştir. En düşük koçan uzunluğu sırasıyla sıvı hayvansal atığın 2. dozu, kontrol ve sıvı hayvansal atığın 1. dozunda (13,40, 13,49 ve 14,02 cm) görülmüştür. Tarımsal bitki atığı x gübre interaksiyonu uygulamalarında koçan uzunluğu 10,59-18,98 cm arasında değiştiği kaydedilmiştir. En yüksek koçan uzunluğu nohut samanına ve kontrole uygulanan ürenin 2. dozunda (sırasıyla 18,98 ve 18,59 cm) gözlemlenirken, en kısa koçan uzunluğu ise buğday samanına uygulanan kontrol (10,59 cm) uygulamasında tespit edilmiştir. (Çizelge 6.). Daha önce yapılan çalışmalarda Sarikurt ve Bengisu (2020), çalışmalarında Diyarbakır koşullarında ikinci ürün mısır çeşitlerinde koçan uzunluğunu 14,50-19,41 cm arasında, Yılmaz (2024), Bursa ilinde ikinci ürün olarak yetiştirilen mısır bitkisinde en yüksek koçan uzunluğunu 30 kg da⁻¹ uygulamasında 19,2 cm, en düsük koçan uzunluğunu ise 7,5 kgda⁻¹ uygulamasında 16.1 cm olarak, Bapaimu ve ark. (2024), farklı dozlardaki (0, 20, 25 ve 30 tonha-1) inek gübresi uygulamasında en yüksek koçan uzunluğunu 19,56 cm ile 25 ton ha⁻¹ gübre dozunda tespit etmiştir. Koçan uzunluğu çeşidin genetik özelliği olması yanı sıra, verimle ilişkili olduğu ve çevresel faktörlerden etkilendiği daha önceki araştırıcıların bulgularından da anlaşılmaktadır (Kovacevic ve ark., 2024).

Bin tane ağırlığı bakımından gübre ve tarımsal bitki atığı × gübre interaksiyonu uygulamalarında istatistiki olarak (P<0,01) önemli bulunmuştur. Nohut samanı uygulamasında mısırın bin tane ağırlığı 257,31 g ile kontrol ve buğday samanı uygulamasından önemli derecede farklılık oluşturmuştur. Kontrol ve buğday samanı uygulamasında mısırın bin tane ağırlığı aynı grupta yer alarak nohut saman uygulamasından daha düşük değere sahip olduğu görülmüştür. Gübre uygulamasında üre gübresinin 2. dozu en yüksek bin tane ağırlığına (276,78 gr), kontrol ve sıvı hayvansal atığın 1. dozu ise en az bin tane ağırlığına (sırasıyla 235,61 ve 241,09 gr) sahip olmuştur. Tarımsal bitki atığı × gübre interaksiyonu uygulamalarında bin tane ağırlığı 229,06-289,21 gr arasında değiştiği, en yüksek bin tane ağırlığı nohut samanında ve kontroldeki azottun 2. dozunda (sırasıyla 289,21 ve 281,76 gr) gözlemlenirken, en az bin tane ağırlığı ise buğday samanının kontrolünde ve kontrol uygulamasında (sırasıyla 229,06 ve 231,07 gr) tespit edilmiştir. (Çizelge 6). Daha önce yapılan çalışmalarda Esfandiary ve ark. (2012), İran'ın yarı kurak koşullarında mısır çeşitlerinde bin tane ağırlığının 190 ile 224 g, İdikut ve ark. (2020), 17 adet hibrit mısır çeşitlerinde bin tane ağırlığının 274,0 ile 383,9 g, İdikut ve ark (2021) yerel patlak mısır çeşitleri bin tane ağırlığının 128,79-181,06 g, Yılmaz (2024), Bursa ilinde ikinci ürün olarak yetiştirilen mısır bitkisinde en yüksek bin tane ağırlığını 30 kg da⁻¹ azot uygulamasında 271,3 g, en düşük bin tane ağırlığını ise 7,5 kg da-1 azot uygulamasında 194,3 g olarak tespit etmiştir. Bin tane ağırlığının çeşide, yetiştirildiği bölgeye ve uygulanan faktörlere göre değistiği daha önce yapılan çalışmalardan anlaşılmaktadır. Yürütülen çalışmada da bin tane ağırlığının uygulama faktörlerden etkilendiği görülmektedir. Bin tane ağırlığı genotiplerin veriminin belirlenmesinde direkt etili olan faktörlerden biridir (Reddy ve ark., 2022).

Tarımsal bitki atığı (P<0,05), gübre (P<0,01) ve tarımsal bitki atığı x gübre interaksiyonu (P<0,01) uygulamalarının tane verimi üzerine etkisi istatistiksel olarak önemli bulunmuştur. Tarımsal bitki atığı uygulamalarında kontrol ve nohut samanı uygulamasının (sırasıyla 857,63 ve 797,21 kg da⁻¹) buğday samanına (535,58 kgda⁻¹) göre tane verimi bakımından yüksek olduğu gözlemlenmiştir. Gübre uygulamasında üre gübresinin 2. dozu en yüksek tane verimini (1068,79 kg da-1) gerçekleştirdiği, sıvı hayvansal atığın 2. dozu, kontrol ve sıvı hayvansal atığın 1. dozu en düşük tane verimine (sırasıyla 667,78, 673,57 ve 725,81 kgda⁻¹) sahip olduğu kaydedilmiştir. İnteraksiyon uygulamasında tane verimi 571,87-1205,12 kgda⁻¹ arasında değişmiştir. Tarımsal bitki atığı x gübre interaksiyonu uygulamalarında en yüksek tane verimi kontrole uygulanan ürenin 2. dozunda (1205,12 kgda⁻¹) gözlemlenirken, en düşük tane verimi ise buğday samanına uygulanan sıvı hayvansal atığın 2. dozunda, sıvı hayvansal atığın 1. dozunda ve kontrolde (sırasıyla 571.87. 576,82 ve 590,59 kgda⁻¹) görülmüştür (Çizelge 6.). Daha önce yapılan çalışmalarda Pangaribuan ve ark. (2019), lamtoro yaprakları, muz hörgüçleri ve hindistan cevizi liflerinden elde edilen bir özüt karışımından elde edilen sıvı organik gübrenin tatlı mısır üzerinde inorganik gübre ve 25, 50, 75 ve 100 lha⁻¹ sıvı organik dozlarının verim üzerine etkisini inceledikleri araştırmalarında en yüksek verimin 17,81 ton ha⁻¹ ile 100 lha⁻¹ sıvı organik gübre dozunda olduğunu belirtmişlerdir. Alp ve Koca (2020), Aydın koşullarında mısır çeşitlerinde yapmış oldukları araştırmada tane veriminin 1177,3 ile 1703,4 kg da⁻¹ arasında değiştiğini bildirmişlerdir. Doğan ve ark. (2020), çalışmalarında ikinci ürün mısır yetiştiriciliğinde 2 farklı çeşide uygulanan ticari gübre, çiftlik gübresi, tavuk gübresi ve solucan gübresinde en yüksek tane veriminin ticari gübrenin uygulandığı Dekalb 5401 çeşidinde 1219,2 kg da olarak tespit etmişlerdir. Yılmaz (2024), Bursa ilinde ikinci ürün olarak yetistirilen mısır bitkisinde en yüksek tane verimini 30 kg da⁻¹ uygulamasında 955,2 kgda⁻¹, en düşük tane verimi ise 7,5 kg da⁻¹ uygulamasında 648,0 kg da⁻¹ olarak tespit etmistir.

Sonuç

İklim koşulları, su ve gübre temini mısır bitkisi yetiştiriciliğini belirleyen temel unsurlardır. tarımında tarımsal atıkların gübre olarak kullanımı, doğal çevrenin korunmasını sağlarken, gübre harcamalarını da en aza indirecektir. Bu nedenle ikinci ürün mısır ekim öncesi, birinci ürün olarak yetiştirilen buğday ve nohut samanı toprağa karıştırılmış, mısır bitkisinin çıkışından sonra da farklı dozlarda hayvanın sıvı atığı ve azot gübresi uygulanmıştır. Tarımsal bitki atığı, gübre uygulamaları, tarımsal bitki atığı × gübre uygulama interaksiyonunda mısır bitkisin bitki boyu, koçan yukarısı yaprak alanı, koçan uzunluğu, bin tane ağırlığı, tane verimleri istatistiksel olarak önemli farklılıklar göstermiştir. Bitki boyunda, ilk boğum çapında, koçan ve yukarısındaki toplam yaprak alanında, koçan uzunluğunda ve bin tane ağırlığında nohut samanı uygulamasındaki üre gübresinin 2. dozunda (40 kg da⁻¹), tane veriminde ise kontrole uygulanan üre gübresinin 2. dozunda (40 kg da⁻¹) en yüksek değerler elde edilmiştir. Yürütülen çalışmada nohut samanının buğday samanına göre daha yüksek pozitif etkide bulunduğu belirlenmiştir. Nohut samanının selüloz ve lignin değerlerinin buğday samanına göre daha düşük olması ve organik tarım açısından kullanılabilir olduğunu göstermektedir. Farklı dozlardaki sıvı hayvansal atık ve azot dozlarının etkisi bakımından ise üre gübresinin 2. dozu (40 kg da⁻¹) mısır yetiştiriciliği bakımından ön plana çıkmıştır.

Beyan

Bu çalışma 7. Uluslararası Anadolu Tarım, Gıda, Çevre ve Biyoloji Kongresi'nde (Kastamonu, TARGİD 2024) sunulmuştur.

Etik Onay Belgesi

Çalışmamız için etik onay belgesine ihtiyaç yoktur.

Yazar Katkı Beyanı

Yazarlar makaleye eşit oranda katkı sağlamış olduklarını beyan eder.

Çıkar Çatışması

Yazarlar çıkar çatışması beyan etmemektedir.

Kaynaklar

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Evaluation of Linear Type Traits of Simmental (Fleckvieh) Cattle in a Private Farm in Karacabey District of Bursa Province

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
Research Article	In this study, linear type traits of Simmental (SIM) cattle of Austrian and German origin, raised in a disease-free private cattle farm with the capacity of 550 heads in Karacabey District of Bursa
Received: 18.10.2024 Accepted: 02.12.2024	Province, were evaluated. The overall average score of linear type traits for body structure, rump height (RH), rump length (RL), rump angle (RA), rump width (RW), back length (BL), body depth (BD), chest length (CL), muscularity (M); for udder structure, fore udder attachment (FUA), teat length (TL), teat tickness (TT), front teat placement (FTP), fore udder length (FUL), rear udder length (RUL), udder depth (UD), central ligament (CL), rear teat angle (RTA), rear teat attitude (RTA), rear
Keywords: Dual purpose cattle Linear type traits Body structure Foot-leg structure Udder structure	teat placement (RTP), rear udder height (RUH); for foot-leg structure, hock agularity (HA), hock development (HD), hoof angle (HFA), hoof height (HH) and ankle angle (AA) were determined as 142.73±0.207 cm, 43.66±0.164 cm, 5.13±0.039, 20.02±0.114, 85.15±0.384 cm, 75.31±0.194 cm, 5.76±0.033, 5.41±0.035, 5.23±0.055, 5.47±0.060 cm, 3.49±0.025 cm, 4.01±0.043, 5.44±0.043, 5.11±0.041, 3.40±0.059, 4.66±0.066, 4.49±0.045, 4.62±0.048, 4.80±0.057, 5.60±0.049, 4.89±0.041, 4.94±0.050, 4.29±0.033, 4.31±0.32 cm and 5.57±0.035, respectively. As a result, it has been determined that there are significant differences between the values reported in the literature for the BD, UD, HA, HH and HFA traits of SIM breed and the averages obtained in this study, and these differences are thought to result from the SIM genotype originating from Germany and Austria with increased milk yield and the operating conditions.

Türk Tarım – Gıda Bilim ve Teknoloji Dergisi, 12(s4): 2797-2805, 2024

Bursa İli Karacabey İlçesinde Özel Bir İşletmede Yetiştirilen Simmental (Fleckvieh) Irkı Sığırların Dış Görünüş Özelliklerinin Değerlendirilmesi

MAKALE BİLGİSİ	ÖZ
Araştırma Makalesi	Bu çalışmada Bursa ili Karacabey ilçesinde hastalıklardan ari 550 baş sağmal kapasiteye sahip özel bir işletmede yetiştirilen Almanya ve Avusturya orijinli 494 baş Simmental (SIM) ırkı sığırın dış görünüş
Geliş : 18.10.2024 Kabul : 02.12.2024	özellikleri değerlendirilmiştir. Dış görünüş özelliklerinden beden yapısına ait Sağrı yüksekliği (SY), Sağrı uzunluğu (SU), Sağrı eğimi (SE), Sağrı genişliği (SG), Omuz-bel uzunluğu (OBU), Beden derinliği (BD), Göğüs genişliği (GG) ve Kaslılık (K), meme yapısına ait Ön meme bağlantısı (ÖMB), Ön meme başı uzunluğu (ÖMBU), Ön meme başı kalınlığı (ÖBK), Ön meme başı yerleşimi (ÖMBY), Memenin önden görünümü (MÖG), Memenin baldırdan görünümü (MBG), Meme taban yüksekliği (MTY), Meme merkez
Anahtar Kelimeler: Kombine verimli sığır Dış görünüş özellikleri Beden yapısı Ayak-bacak yapısı Meme yapısı	bağı (MMB), Meme başı yönü (MBY), Arka meme başı pozisyonu (AMBP), Arka meme başı yerleşimi (AMBY), Arka meme yüksekliği (AMYU), ayak bacak yapısına ait olarak da Arka bacak açısı (ABA), Diz yapısı (DY), Tırnak açısı (TA), Tırnak taban yüksekliği (TTY) ve Bilek açısı (BAç) özelliklerine ait genel ortalama puanlar sırasıyla 142,73±0,207 cm, 43,66±0,164 cm, 5,13±0,039, 20,02±0,114 cm, 85,15±0,384 cm, 75,31±0,194 cm, 5,76±0,033, 5,41±0,038, 5,23±0,055, 5,47±0,060 cm, 3,49±0,025 cm, 4,01±0,043, 5,44±0,043, 5,11±0,041, 3,40±0,059, 4,66±0,066, 4,49±0,045, 4,62±0,048, 4,80±0,057, 5,60±0,049, 4,89±0,041, 4,94±0,050, 4,29±0,033, 4,31±0,32 cm ve 5,57±0,035 olarak belirlenmiştir. Sonuç olarak, SIM ırkı sığırların BD, MTY, ABA, TTY ve TA özelliklerine ait literatürde bildirilen değerler ile bu çalışmada elde edile ortalamalar arasında önemli farklılıklar bulunduğu belirlenmiş, bu farklılıkların süt verimi yükseltilmiş Almanya ve Avusturya orijinli SIM genotipinden ve işletme koşullarından kaynaklandığı düsünülmektedir.



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Giris

Süt sığırcılığında işletme karlılığı açısından en etkili faktörlerin başında sığırların yüksek verimli ve uzun ömürlü olması gelmektedir. Sığırların yüksek verimlerini uzun süre devam ettirmeleri vücut yapılarının da buna olanak sağlayacak özellikte olmasını zorunlu kılmaktadır.

Damızlık hayvanların seçilmesinde ölçülebilen verim kayıtlarının yanı sıra dış görünüş özellikleri de etkilidir ve bu özellikler birçok ülkede ıslah programlarına dahil edilmiştir. Verim kayıtlarının tutulmadığı işletmelerde ise dış görünüş özelliklerine göre damızlık seçimi yapılmaktadır (Şengör, 1985). Damızlık sığırlarda dış görünüş özellikleri açısından ideal tip karşılaştırmasına gidilmiştir. İdeal tip belirlenirken bazı özelliklerin tespitinde belirli ölçüler kullanılırken bazı özelliklerde ise tecrübeli ve eğitimli uzmanlar tarafından subjektif değerlendirmeler yapılmaktadır (Kumlu ve ark., 2004).

Süt sığırı ırklarının yanında Simmental, Esmer gibi kombine verimli sığır ırklarında da dış görünüşe göre değerlendirmeler yapılmaya başlanmıştır. Sığırlarda dış görünüşe göre sınıflandırmada meme yapısı, beden yapısı, ayak-bacak yapısı, süt tipi formu çeşitli ağırlıkla hesaplanmaktadır (Tapkı, 2001). Sığırlarda süt veriminin arttırılması yönünde yapılacak seleksiyon çalışmalarında süt verimi ile ilişkili olan çeşitli özelliklerin, özellikle de meme özelliklerinin daha fazla önem kazandığı belirtilmiştir (Şen ve Şekerden, 1994).

Sığır ıslahında, işletmelerde sığırların verim özellikleri ile dış görünüşü bir bütünü oluşturur. Bu nedenle seleksiyonda verim özelliklerine göre değerlendirilerek damızlığa ayrılan hayvanların dış görünüş özelliklerinin de uygun olması gerekmektedir (Şekerden ve Erdem, 1992).

Günümüzde ülkemiz ve dünya sığır popülasyonunda önemli bir yere sahip olan Simmental (SIM) ırkı sığırlarda dış görünüş özellikleri üzerinde de durulmaktadır. SIM ırkı sığırlarda süt verim özelliklerinin geliştirilmesi amacıyla bazı ülkelerde uygulanan ıslah programları olumlu sonuçlar vermiş ve son yıllarda süt sığırcılığında süt verimi yükseltilmiş Avusturya ve Almanya kökenli SIM (Fleckvieh) sığırları ile sadece süt verim özellikleri açısından değil aynı zamanda çeşitli verim özellikleri açısından da Siyah-Alaca (SA) ile rekabet edecek düzeye sahip olduklarından dolayı yetiştiriciler tarafından tercih edilmektedir.

Süt ve kombine verim yönlü sığırlarda meme özellikleri işletme karlılığını önemli düzeyde etkilemektedir. Seleksiyon açısından meme özelliklerinin bilinmesi; süt verimini, süt akıs hızını, süt veriminin meme loblarına dağılımı hakkında fikir veren ön meme bağlantısı, ön meme oranı/payı, sağıma uygunluk konusunda değerlendirilmesi gibi nedenlerinden dolayı oldukça önemlidir. Meme kusuru olarak memenin vücuda bağlantı noktasındaki zayıflık ve diğer meme kusurları yüksek verimin ihtiyaç duyduğu yoğun aktiviteyi devam ettiremeyeceği ihtimalinden dolayı sığırlarda ekonomik ömrün kısalması, mastitis gibi süt sığırcılığında ekonomik açıdan önemli meme hastalıklarına yakalanma risklerinin artışına neden olacaktır (Tapkı, 2001). Tüm bu sebepler göz önünde bulundurulduğunda süt veriminin arttırılması yönünde yapılacak seleksiyon çalışmalarında süt verimi ile çeşitli ilişkili olan özelliklerin, bilhassa özelliklerinin üzerinde durulmasının önem kazandığı ifade edilmiştir (Şen ve Şekerden, 1994).

Dünya Simmental Fleckvieh Federasyonu (WSFF) tarafından SIM ırkı sığırlarda sınıflandırmada kullanılmak üzere beden yapısı olarak; Sağrı yüksekliği (SY), Sağrı uzunluğu (SU), Sağrı eğimi (SE), Sağrı genişliği (SG), Omuz-bel uzunluğu (OBU), Beden derinliği (BD), Göğüs genisliği (GG) ve Kaslılık (K), meme yapısı özellikleri olarak; Ön meme bağlantısı (ÖMB), Ön meme bası uzunluğu (ÖMBU), Ön meme başı kalınlığı (ÖBK), Ön meme başı yerleşimi (ÖMBY), Memenin önden görünümü (MÖG), Memenin baldırdan görünümü (MBG), Meme taban yüksekliği (MTY), Meme merkez bağı (MMB), Arka meme başı yerleşimi (AMBY), Arka meme başı pozisyonu (AMBP), Arka meme yüksekliği (AMYU) ve Arka meme başı yönü (MBY), ayak bacak yapısı özellikleri olarak da Arka bacak açısı (ABA), Diz yapısı (DY), Tırnak açısı (TA), Tırnak taban yüksekliği (TTY) ve Bilek açısı (BAç) değerlendirilmektedir (Anonim 2019).

Süt sığırlarının ve Kombine verimli sığırların doğrusal (linear) değerlendirilmesi yönteminde her bir özellik için 1-9 arasında puan verilmektedir. Bu puan, ele alınan özellik bakımından hayvanın iyi ya da kötü olduğuna yönelik bir değerlendirime yapmaktan çok o özellik bakımından değerlendirilmesi anlamına gelmektedir (Anonim, 2002). Buna karşın bazı özellikler doğrusal, bazı özellikler ise ölçülerek değerlendirilmektedir (Çizelge 1).

Bu çalışmanın amacı, son yıllarda yetiştiriciler tarafından tercih edilen ve ülkemiz koşullarında üzerinde özelliklerine yönelik fazla araştırma yapılmamış olan süt verimi yükseltilmiş Avusturya ve Almanya kökenli SIM sığırların dış görünüş özelliklerinin belirlenmesidir.

Materyal ve Yöntem

Bu araştırma Bursa İli, Karacabey İlçesi'nde, Bursa İli Damızlık Sığır Yetiştiricileri Birliği üyesi olan ve hastalıktan ari Avusturya ve Almanya orijinli SIM ırkı sığırlar yetiştiren özel bir işletmede yürütülmüş ve toplam 494 baş sığır dış görünüşe göre değerlendirilmiştir. Bu işletmede barınakta otomatik suluk, otomatik hidrolik ve zincirli gübre sıyırıcılar, kilit sistemli yemlik, yemlik yolu, serinletici fanlar ve kauçuk yataklık mevcuttur. İşletmede verim düzeylerine yetiştirilen sığırlar gruplandırılmakta, ihtiyaçlarına uygun miktarda ve şekilde Toplam Karışım Rasyonu (TMR) sağımdan sonra günde üç defa verilerek beslenmektedir. Hayvanlardan beklenen verimin alınabilmesi için yüksek protein içerikli keif yemlerle beraber kaba yem olarak da ağırlıklı olarak mısır ve buğday silajı kullanılmaktadır. İşletmede sığırların ayaklarında süt ve döl verim kayıtlarının tutulması amacıyla sağımhaneye senkronize pedometreler bulunmakta ve sürü takibi için hayati öneme sahip olan veriler tutulmaktadır.

İneklerin dış görünüşlerine göre sınıflandırılması bu makalenin ilk yazarı tarafından yapılmıştır. Sınıflandırmacı, Türkiye Damızlık Sığır Yetiştiricileri Merkez Birliği'nin SA ve Esmer ırkı sığırlarda dış görünüşe göre sınıflandırma kurslarına katılmış, 2021-2023 yılları arasında değişik zamanlarda işletmeyi ziyaret ederek SIM ırkı ineklerin sınıflandırmasını gerçekleştirmiştir.

Çizelge 1. Simmental ırkı sığırlarda dış görünüş özelliklerinin puanlanması

Table 1. Characteristics of linear type traits of Simmental cattle

Dış Görünüş Yapısı	Özellikler	En Düşük:1	En yüksek:9
	Meme merkez bağı (MMB)	Çok zayıf	Çok güçlü
	Meme taban yüksekliği (MTY)	Çok alçak	Çok yüksek
	Arka Meme başı yönü (MBY)	Dışa doğru	İçe doğru
	Arka meme yüksekliği (AMYU)	Çok alçak	Çok yüksek
	Arka meme başı pozisyonu (AMBP)	Çok açık	Çok bitişik
Meme Yapısı	Arka meme başı yerleşimi (AMBY)	Çok açık	Çok bitişik
wienie rapisi	Memenin baldırdan görünümü (MBG)	Daha dar	Daha geniş
	Memenin önden görünümü (MÖG)	Daha dar	Daha geniş
	Ön meme başı yerleşimi (ÖMBY)	Lobun dışına doğru	Lobun içine doğru
	Ön meme bağlantısı (ÖMB)	Çok zayıf	Çok güçlü
	Ön meme başı kalınlığı (ÖBK)	1 cm	7 cm
	Ön meme başı uzunluğu (ÖMBU)	2 cm	11 cm
	Tırnak açısı (TA)	Dar açılı	Dik açılı
	Diz yapısı (DY)	Çok kaba	Çok kuru
Ayak/Bacak Yapısı	Bilek açısı (BAç)	Dar açılı	Dik açılı
	Arka bacak açısı (ABA)	Dizlere çok yakın	Paralel
	Tırnak taban yüksekliği TTY	1 cm	5 cm
	Kaslılık (K)	İçbükey	Dışbükey
	Göğüs genişliği (GG)	Çok dar	Çok geniş
	Sağrı eğimi (SE)	Yükselen	Alçalan
Dadan Vanus	Sağrı yüksekliği (SY)	120 cm	170 cm
Beden Yapısı	Sağrı uzunluğu (SU)	30 cm	69 cm
	Sağrı genişliği (SG)	16 cm	31 cm
	Omuz-bel uzunluğu (OBU)	70 cm	99 cm
	Beden derinliği (BD)	70 cm	99 cm

Doğrusal tanımlamada Dünva Simmental Fleckvieh Federasyonu (WSFF)'nun belirlediği özellikler ve standartlar dikkate alınarak 25 özellikten 17'si 1-9 arasında puanlama yapılarak değerlendirilmiş, SY, SU, SG, OBU, BD, ÖMBU, ÖBK ve TTY cm biriminden ölçü bastonu, kumpas/cetvel aracılığıyla ölçülmüştür (Kumlu, 1999; Şahin & Özcan, 2003). Dış görünüşe göre sınıflandırma, hayvanların doğumlarını takip eden ilk 30.-150. günleri arasında yapılmış, dış görünüş özellikleri konusunda çeşitli özellikler açısından kusurlu ya da meme problemi, topallık gibi farklı sebeplerden dolayı sağlıklı olmayan hayvanlar sınıflandırılmamıstır. Sınıflandırılan özellikler incelenirken o özelliğin en ideal şeklinden uzaklığına bağlı olarak puanlama yapılmış ve sadece incelenen özelliğe odaklanılmıştır.

Laktasyon sıraları bakımından 5 farklı laktasyon sırası dikkate alınmış, 5 ve üzerindeki laktasyonlar 5'inci laktasyon grubuna dahil edilmiştir. Buzağılama yılı olarak 2020, 2021 ve 2022 yılı olarak üç yıl mevcut olup, 2023 yılında buzağılayan hayvan sayısı az olduğundan bu yıldaki hayvanlar 2022 yılına dahil edilmiştir. Buzağılama mevsimi olarak Mart-Mayıs ayları birinci (ilkbahar), Haziran-Ağustos ayları ikinci (yaz), Eylül-Kasım ayları üçüncü (sonbahar) ve Aralık-Şubat ayları dördüncü (kış) mevsim grubu olmak üzere dört mevsim grubu dikkate alınmıştır.

Verilerin analizi: Elde edilen verilerin analizinde SAS 9.4 paket programından yararlanılmış olup, kullanılan istatistik model aşağıdaki gibidir:

$$Y_{ijkl} = \mu + BY_i + BM_j + LN_k + e_{ijkl}$$

Y_{ijkl}= *i.* Buzağılama yılındaki. *j.* buzağılama mevsimindeki, *k.* laktasyon sırasındaki, *l.* ineğe ait değeri,

 $\mu = \text{populasyonun beklenen ortalaması,}$

 $\mathrm{BY_i} = i$. buzağılama yılının etkisini (i=2020, 2021 ve 2022 yılları),

BM_j = j. buzağılama mevsiminin etkisini (j=1 (ilkbahar), 2 (yaz), 3 (sonbahar) ve 4 (kış) mevsimi),

LN_k; *k*. laktasyon sırasının etkisini (k= 1, 2, 3, 4 ve 5+), e_{ijkl}; normal dağılım gösteren hata etkisini ifade etmektedir.

Bulgular ve Tartışma

SIM ırkı sığırların dış görünüş özelliklerinin laktasyon sırası, buzağılama mevsimi ve buzağılama yıllarına ait ortalamaları ve çoklu karşılaştırma testi sonuçları Çizelge 2, Çizelge 3 ve Çizelge 4'te verilmiştir. Laktasyon sırası etkisi beden yapısı özelliklerinden SY, BD, GG ve K için önemliyken (P<0,05), SU, SE, SG ve OBU özellikleri için önemsizdir (P>0,05). Diğer taraftan, buzağılama yılı etkisi SE dışındaki diğer tüm beden yapısı özellikleri için önemli (P<0,05) bulunurken, buzağılama mevsimi etkisi tüm beden yapısı özellikleri için önemsizdir (P>0,05).

Çizelge 2. SIM ırkı sığırlarda beden yapısına ait dış görünüş özelliklerinin sabit etkili faktörlere göre en küçük kareler ortalamaları, genel ortalamaları, standart hataları ve çoklu karşılaştırma testi sonuçları

Table 2. Least square means, general means, standard errors and multiple comparison test results according to fixed effect factors of body structure in SIM cattle

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		SY	SU	SE	SG	OBU	BD	GG	K
F	n	(cm)	(cm)	SE	(cm)	(cm)	(cm)	OO .	K
r	11	$\overline{\overline{X}}_{\pm}S_{\overline{X}}$	$\overline{\overline{\mathbf{X}}}_{\pm} S_{\overline{X}}$	$\overline{\overline{\mathbf{X}}}_{\pm}S_{\overline{X}}$	$\overline{\overline{X}} \pm S_{\overline{X}}$	$\overline{\overline{X}} \pm S_{\overline{X}}$	$\overline{X} \pm S_{\overline{X}}$	$\overline{\overline{\mathbf{X}}}_{\pm}S_{\overline{X}}$	$\overline{\overline{\mathbf{X}}}_{\pm}S_{\overline{X}}$
LS		**	ÖD	ÖD	ÖD	ÖD	**	**	*
1	52	138,95±0,668a	$43,69\pm0,530$	$5,06\pm0,127$	$19,93\pm0,370$	$83,45\pm1,242$	72,40±0,623a	$5,14\pm0,105^{a}$	$5,24\pm0,123^{ab}$
2	66	141,82±0,605ab	$43,97\pm0,480$	$5,02\pm0,115$	$20,64\pm0,335$	84,47±1,124	$73,52\pm0,567^{a}$	$5,39\pm0,095^{a}$	$5,16\pm0,111^a$
3	112	143,54±0,458 ^b	$44,39\pm0,364$	$5,11\pm0,087$	$20,21\pm0,254$	$86,91\pm0,852$	$76,92\pm0,430^{b}$	$5,85\pm0,072^{b}$	$5,36\pm0,084^{ab}$
4	141	$142,52\pm0,438^{b}$	$43,32\pm0,348$	$5,13\pm0,083$	$19,89\pm0,242$	$85,01\pm0,814$	$76,57\pm0,411^{b}$	$5,92\pm0,069^{b}$	$5,56\pm0,080^{bc}$
5+	123	143,32±0,524 ^b	$43,65\pm0,416$	$5,32\pm0,100$	$20,25\pm0,290$	$85,54\pm0,975$	$75,78\pm0,492^{b}$	$6,05\pm0,083^{b}$	$5,73\pm0,096^{c}$
BY		*	**	ÖD	*	**	*	*	*
2020	108	140,54±0,063a	44,65±0,500a	$5,07\pm0,119$	20,86±0,346a	86,66±1,163a	$75,34\pm0,587^{ab}$	$5,86\pm0,099^a$	$5,67\pm0,115^{a}$
2021	211	142,16±0,037ab	44,57±0,290a	$5,08\pm0,069$	20,47±0,202a	87,31±0,678a	$75,44\pm0,342^{a}$	$5,70\pm0,058^{a}$	$5,28\pm0,067^{b}$
2022	175	$143,40\pm0,417^{b}$	41,19±0,331 ^b	$5,23\pm0,079$	19,22±0,231 ^b	$80,26\pm0,775^{b}$	73,74±0,391 ^b	$5,43\pm0,066^{b}$	$5,28\pm0,073^{b}$
BM		ÖD	ÖD	ÖD	ÖD	ÖD	ÖD	ÖD	ÖD
1	65	$44,13\pm0,596$	$5,22\pm0,143$	$20,49\pm0,415$	86,10±1,396	$75,59\pm0,705$	$5,66\pm0,118$	$5,57\pm0,014$	$44,13\pm0,596$
2	124	$43,55\pm0,376$	$5,20\pm0,090$	$19,91\pm0,262$	$83,79\pm0,881$	$73,09\pm0,445$	$5,60\pm0,075$	$5,49\pm0,087$	$43,55\pm0,376$
3	179	$43,46\pm0,290$	$5,09\pm0,070$	19,91±0,202	$84,79\pm0,678$	$75,34\pm0,343$	$5,68\pm0,058$	$5,36\pm0,067$	$43,46\pm0,290$
4	126	$44,09\pm0,337$	$5,00\pm0,081$	20,42±0,235	$85,63\pm0,789$	$74,33\pm0,398$	$5,74\pm0,067$	$5,28\pm0,078$	$44,09\pm0,337$
GO	494	43,66±0,164	$5,13\pm0,039$	20,02±0,114	85,15±0,384	75,31±0,194	$5,76\pm0,033$	5,41±0,038	43,66±0,164

F: Faktör; LS: Laktasyon Sırası; BY: Buzağılama Yılı; BM: Buzağılama Mevsimi; GO: Genel ortalama; SY: sağrı yüksekliği, SU: sağrı uzunluğu, SE: sağrı eğimi,SG: sağrı genişliği, OBU: omuz bel uzunluğu, BD: beden derinliği, GG: göğüs genişliği, K:kaslılık, ÖD: önemli değil. *: P<0,05'e göre önemli, **: P<0,01'e göre önemli, a,b,c: aynı harfi taşıyan gruplar arasındaki fark önemsizdir.

SIM ırkı sığırların beden yapısına ait özelliklerden SY'ye ait genel ortalama 142,73±0,207 cm, SU'ya ait genel ortalama 43,66±0,164 cm, SG'ye ait genel ortalama 20,02±0,114 cm, OBU'ya ait genel ortalama 85,15±0,384 cm, BD'ye ait genel ortalama 75,31±0,194 cm olarak ölçülmüş, SE'ye ait genel ortalama 5,13±0,039, GG'ye ait genel ortalama 5,76±0,033 ve K'ye ait genel ortalama ise 5,41±0,038 olarak belirlenmiştir.

Laktasyon sırası etkisi ÖMB, ÖMBU, MÖG, MTY, MMB ve AMYU özellikleri için önemliyken (P<0,05), ÖBK, ÖMBY, MBY, AMBP ve AMBY özellikleri için önemsizdir (P>0,05). Buzağılama yılının etkisi meme özelliklerinden MÖG, MBY, MTY, MMB ve AMYU özellikleri için önemli (P<0,05), ÖMB, ÖMBU, ÖBK, ÖMBY, MBY, AMBP ve AMBY özellikleri için önemsizdir (P>0,05). Buzağılama mevsiminin etkisi ise ÖBM, MÖG, MBG ve DY özellikleri için önemli (P<0,05), diğer özellikler için önemsizdir (P>0,05). Meme özelliklerinden ÖMB, ÖMBU, ÖBK, ÖMBY, MÖG, MBG, MTY, MMB, MBY, AMBP, AMBY ve AMYU özelliklerine ait genel ortalamalar ise sırasıyla 5,23±0,055, $5,47\pm0,060$ cm, $3,49\pm0,025$ cm, $4,01\pm0,043$, $5,44\pm0,043$, $5,11\pm0,041,$ $3,40\pm0,059,$ $4,66\pm0,066,$ $4,49\pm0,045,$ $4,62\pm0,048,$ $4,80\pm0,057$ ve $5,60\pm0,049$ hesaplanmıştır. Doğrusal tanımlama özellikleri için meme yapısına ait ortalama değerler içerisinde en düşük skor MTY $(3,40\pm0,059)$, en yüksek skor ise $5,60\pm0,049$ ile AMYU özelliğine aittir.

Ayak/bacak yapısı özelliklerine bakıldığında ise laktasyon sırası etkisi DY ve BAç özellikleri için önemliyken (P<0,05), ABA, TA ve TTY özellikleri için önemsiz (P>0,05) bulunmuştur. Buzağılama yılı etkisi yalnızca DY özelliği için önemliyken (P<0,05), buzağılama mevsiminin etkisi tüm ayak/bacak özellikleri için önemsizdir (Çizelge 4). Ayak/bacak özelliklerinde en düşük puan TA için hesaplanmış ve genel ortalaması 4,29±0,033 bulunmuştur. ABA'ya ait genel ortalama

 $4,89\pm0,041$, DY'ye ait genel ortalama $4,94\pm0,050$, TTY'ye ait genel ortalama $4,31\pm0,32$ cm iken, BAç'a ait genel ortalama ise $5,57\pm0,035$ ile en yüksek ortalama olarak elde edilmistir.

SIM ırkı sığırlarda ilk laktasyondaki ineklerin SY ortalaması beklenildiği gibi diğer laktasyon sıralarından daha düşük (138,95±0,668 cm) bulunmuş, halen büyümelerine devam eden SIM sığırlarda SY ortalaması ikinci laktasyonda 141,82±0,605 cm olarak hesaplanmıştır. Birinci laktasyon sırasına ait SY ortalaması ikinci laktasyon sırası ile benzerken (P>0,05), diğer laktasyon sıralarından farklı (P<0,05) bulunmuştur. İkinci ve sonraki laktasyon sıraları arasındaki farklılıklar ise önemsizdir (P>0,05). Buzağılama yılı bakımından en düşük SY ortalaması, işletmenin faaliyete başladığı yıl dikkate alındığında genel olarak birinci ve ikinci laktasyondaki hayvanların çoğunlukta olduğu 2020 yılı (140,54±0,063 cm) için elde edilmiş olup, bu yıl ortalaması 2021 yılı ile benzerken (P>0,05), 2022 yılından farklıdır (P<0,05). Bu çalışmada SIM sığırlar için bulunan SY ortalaması (142,73±0,207 cm) Strapáková ve ark. (2021)'nın aynı ırk için bildirdiği ortalamaya (144,31±0,07 cm) yakınken, bazı araştırmalarda (Novotný ve ark., 2017; Zavadilová ve ark., 2009) bildirilen değerlerden (sırasıyla 139,07±4,232 cm ve 137,3±4,17 cm) ise daha yüksek olduğu belirlenmiştir. Genel olarak yurt içi ve yurt dışında yapılan çalışmalarda süt sığırlarında SY'nin 142-150 cm arasında olduğu (Çerçi & Koç, 2006), bu araştırmadan elde edilen değerin literatür bilgileri ile uyumlu olduğu görülmektedir.

Süt sığırlarının dış görünüşe göre değerlendirilmesinde dikkate alınmayan SU özelliği, SIM ırkının değerlendirilmesinde kullanılan özelliklerden birisidir. Bu çalışmada SIM ırkı sığırlarına ait bulunan ortalama değerin (43,66±0,164 cm), aynı ırk üzerine yapılan araştırmalardan elde edilen sonuçlardan (Strapáková ve ark. (2021)'nın bildirdiği, 53,31±0,05 cm; Novotný ve ark. (2017)'nın bildirdiği 53,50±2,228 cm; Zavadilová ve ark. (2009)'nın

bildirdiği 52,7±2,08 cm) düşük olduğu belirlenmiştir. Sığırlarda uzun sağrı istenmektedir. SU'nun ortalama değerlerden çok daha düşük olması dış görünüşünü ve vücut harmonisini olumsuz etkileyecektir. Ayrıca çok kısa sağrılarda güç doğum yaşandığı da düşünülürse bu özellik üzerine dikkat edilmesi gerekmektedir.

SIM ırkı sığırlara ait SG ortalaması bu çalışmada 20,02±0,114 cm hesaplanmıştır. Kumlu ve ark. (2004), SA ırkında SG'nin 16-20 cm arasında olmasının normal kabul edildiğini belirtmiş, SG'nin dar olmasının doğum zorluğunu artıracağı, fazla geniş olmasının ise ideal tip görünüşünü bozacağını ifade etmişlerdir. Bu araştırmada elde edilen ortalamanın genel olarak istenilen değere yakın olduğu söylenebilir. SIM ırkı sığırların doğumda anatomik açıdan kafataslarının SA'lara göre bir miktar daha büyük olduğu düşünüldüğünde bu çalışmadan elde edilen sonuç, ilk laktasyondaki inekler dahil, bu işletmedeki hayvanlarda

güç doğum riskinin çok görülmeyeceğini düşündürdüğü gibi hayvanların ideal dış görünüşten de uzaklaşmayacağını göstermektedir.

Sütçü sığırlardan farklı olarak SIM ırkı sığırların dış görünüşlerine göre değerlendirilmesinde dikkate alınan ve sığırların sırtında kalça çıkıntılarının birleşme noktası ile cidago arasındaki mesafenin ölcülmesiyle elde edilen genel ortalama OBU'ya ait $85,15\pm0,384$ hesaplanmıştır. Bu çalışmada OBU'ya ait elde edilen ortalama Strapáková ve ark. (2021)'nın bulduğu değerden (83,39±0,07 cm) biraz yüksek bulunmuştur. OBU'nun kısa olması sığırlarda vücut uzunluğunun da kısa olacağı, çok uzun olması da vücut uzunluğunun çok uzun olması anlamına geleceği için hem sığırlarda ideal tip görüntüsünden uzaklaşılacak hem harmoni bozulacaktır.

Çizelge 3. SIM ırkı sığırlarda meme yapısına ait dış görünüş özelliklerinin sabit etkili faktörlere göre en küçük kareler ortalamaları, genel ortalamaları, standart hataları ve çoklu karşılaştırma testi sonuçları

Table 3. Least square means, general means, standard errors and multiple comparison test results according to fixed effect factors of udder structure in SIM cattle

	Tac		acture in SIM cattle				
	_	ÖMB	ÖMBU (cm)	ÖBK (cm)	ÖMBY	MÖG	MBG
F	n	$\overline{\overline{\mathbf{X}}}_{\pm}S_{\overline{X}}$	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}_{\pm}S_{\overline{X}}$	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}_{\pm}S_{\overline{X}}$	$\overline{\overline{\mathbf{X}}}_{\pm}S_{\overline{X}}$	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}_{\pm}S_{\overline{X}}$	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}_{\pm}S_{\overline{X}}$
LS		**	*	ÖD	ÖD	**	**
1	52	$6,00\pm0,179^a$	$5,11\pm0,150^{a}$	$3,41\pm0,080$	$3,93\pm0,139$	$4,85\pm0,139^a$	4,23±0,133a
2	66	$5,93\pm0,162^{a}$	$5,32\pm0,136^{ab}$	$3,53\pm0,073$	$4,15\pm0,126$	$5,24\pm0,126^{ab}$	$4,72\pm0,0121^{b}$
3	112	$5,01\pm0,123^{bc}$	$5,52\pm0,103^{ab}$	$3,56\pm0,05$	$3,83\pm0,095$	$5,55\pm0,095^{bc}$	$5,08\pm0,091^{bc}$
4	141	$5,27\pm0,117^{b}$	$5,55\pm0,098^{ab}$	$3,51\pm0,053$	$4,05\pm0,091$	$5,67\pm0,091^{c}$	$5,36\pm0,087^{cd}$
5+	123	4,74±0,141°	$5,69\pm0,118^{b}$	$3,52\pm0,063$	$3,96\pm0,109$	$5,64\pm0,109^{bc}$	$5,53\pm0,105^{d}$
BY		ÖD	ÖD	ÖD	ÖD	*	*
2020	108	$5,47\pm0,168$	$5,35\pm0,141$	$3,52\pm0,076$	$4,07\pm0,130$	$5,54\pm0,130^a$	$5,00\pm0,125^{ab}$
2021	211	$5,21\pm0,098$	$5,35\pm0,082$	$3,42\pm0,044$	$3,93\pm0,076$	$5,52\pm0,076^a$	$5,20\pm0,073^a$
2022	175	$5,49\pm0,112$	$5,62\pm0,094$	$3,57\pm0,050$	$3,96\pm0,087$	$5,10\pm0,087^{b}$	4,74±0,083 ^b
BM		*	ÖD	ÖD	ÖD	*	*
1	65	$5,46\pm0,201$ ab	$5,67\pm0,169$	$3,51\pm0,090$	$3,81\pm0,116$	$5,47\pm0,156^{ab}$	$4,99\pm0,150^{ab}$
2	124	$5,19\pm0,127^{a}$	$5,29\pm0,107$	$3,53\pm0,057$	$3,91\pm0,099$	$5,61\pm0,099^a$	$5,22\pm0,095^a$
3	179	$5,64\pm0,098^{b}$	$5,42\pm0,082$	$3,46\pm0,044$	$4,16\pm0,076$	$5,15\pm0,076^{b}$	$4,76\pm0,073^{b}$
4	126	$5,27\pm0,114^a$	$5,37\pm0,095$	$3,53\pm0,051$	$4,05\pm0,088$	$5,32\pm0,088^{ab}$	$5,96\pm0,085^{ab}$
GO	494	$5,23\pm0,055$	$5,47\pm0,060$	$3,49\pm0,025$	$4,01\pm0,043$	$5,44\pm0,043$	$5,11\pm0,041$
	_	MTY	MMB	MBY	AMBP	AMBY	AMYU
F	n	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}_{\pm}S_{\overline{X}}$	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}_{\pm}S_{\overline{X}}$	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}_{\pm}S_{\overline{X}}$	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}_{\pm}S_{\overline{X}}$	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}_{\pm} S_{\overline{X}}$	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}_{\pm}S_{\overline{X}}$
LS		**	*	ÖD	ÖD	ÖD	**
1	52	5,43±0,191a	$5,08\pm0,214^{a}$	$4,80\pm0,147$	$4,95\pm0,155$	$5,26\pm0,184$	$4,27\pm0,158^a$
2	66	$3,94\pm0,173^{b}$	$5,12\pm0,194^{a}$	$4,71\pm0,133$	$4,81\pm0,140$	$5,02\pm0,167$	$4,91\pm0,143^{b}$
3	112	3,23±0,131°	$4,83\pm0,147^{a}$	$4,67\pm0,101$	$4,54\pm0,106$	$4,68\pm0,126$	$5,15\pm0,109^{b}$
4	141	$3,07\pm0,125$ cd	$4,63\pm0,141^{ab}$	$4,66\pm0,096$	$4,60\pm0,101$	$4,77\pm0,121$	$5,15\pm0,104^{b}$
5+	123	$2,56\pm0,150^{d}$	$4,25\pm0,168^{b}$	$4,72\pm0,115$	$4,56\pm0,122$	$4,70\pm0,145$	5,26±0,124 ^b
BY		*	**	ÖD	ÖD	ÖD	*
2020	108	3,56±0,179 a	$5,16\pm0,200^a$	$4,77\pm0,138$	$4,83\pm0,145$	$4,97\pm0,173$	$4,93\pm0,148^{ab}$
2021	211	3,63±0,104 ab	$4,99\pm0,117^{a}$	$4,73\pm0,080$	$4,66\pm0,084$	$4,90\pm0,100$	$5,17\pm0,086^{a}$
2022	175	3,96±0,119 ^b	$4,20\pm0,134^{b}$	$4,63\pm0,092$	$4,59\pm0,096$	$4,78\pm0,116$	$4,74\pm0,099^{b}$
BM		ÖD	ÖD	ÖD	ÖD	ÖD	ÖD
1	65	$3,60\pm0,215$	$4,84\pm0,241$	$4,65\pm0,166$	$4,61\pm0,174$	$4,87\pm0,207$	$4,98\pm0,178$
2	124	$3,73\pm0,136$	$4,65\pm0,152$	$4,74\pm0,104$	$4,73\pm0,110$	$4,92\pm0,131$	$5,01\pm0,112$
3	179	$3,71\pm0,105$	$4,85\pm0,117$	$4,75\pm0,080$	$4,72\pm0,084$	$4,88\pm0,101$	$4,93\pm0,086$
4	126	$3,56\pm0,122$	$4,79\pm0,136$	$4,72\pm0,093$	$4,72\pm0,098$	$4,86\pm0,117$	$4,87\pm0,101$
GO	494	$3,40\pm0,059$	$4,66\pm0,066$	$4,49\pm0,045$	$4,62\pm0,048$	$4,80\pm0,057$	$5,60\pm0,049$

F: Faktör; LS: Laktasyon Sırası; BY: Buzağılama Yılı; BM: Buzağılama Mevsimi; GO: Genel ortalama; ÖMB: ön meme başlartısı, ÖMBU: ön meme başluzunluğu, ÖBK: ön meme başlakılınlığı, ÖMBY: ön meme başlyerleşimi, MÖG: memenin önden görünümü, MBG: memenin baldırdan görünümü, MTY: meme taban yüksekliği, MMB: meme merkez bağl, MBY: meme başlyönü, AMBP: arka meme başlı pozisyonu, AMBY: arka meme başlı yerleşimi, AMYU: arka meme yüksekliği, ÖD: önemli değil, *: P<0,05'e göre önemli, **: P<0,01'e göre önemli, a,b,c,d: aynı harfi taşlyan gruplar arasındaki fark önemsizdir

Çizelge 4. SIM ırkı sığırlarda ayak/bacak yapısına ait dış görünüş özelliklerinin sabit etkili faktörlere göre en küçük kareler ortalamaları, genel ortalamaları, standart hataları ve çoklu karşılaştırma testi sonuçları

Table 4. Least square means, general means, standard errors and multiple comparison test results according to fixed effect factors of foot-leg structure in SIM cattle

		ABA	DY	TA	TTY (cm)	BAç
Faktör	n	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}_{\pm} S_{\overline{\chi}}$	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}_{\pm} S_{\overline{\chi}}$	$\overline{\mathbf{X}} \pm S_{\overline{X}}$	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}_{\pm} S_{\overline{X}}$	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}_{\pm} S_{\overline{\chi}}$
Lak. Sırası		ÖD	*	ÖD	ÖD	*
1	52	$4,60\pm0,131$	$5,20\pm0,162^a$	$4,25\pm0,107$	$4,26\pm0,104$	$5,25\pm0,112^{a}$
2	66	$4,80\pm0,119$	$5,09\pm0,146^a$	$4,39\pm0,097$	$4,46\pm0,095$	$5,46\pm0,101^{ab}$
3	112	$4,89\pm0,090$	$4,95\pm0,111^a$	$4,26\pm0,074$	$4,28\pm0,071$	$5,49\pm0,077^{ab}$
4	141	$4,93\pm0,086$	$4,77\pm0,106^{ab}$	$4,32\pm0,070$	$4,33\pm0,069$	$5,67\pm0,073^{b}$
5+	123	$5,04\pm0,103$	$4,54\pm0,127^{b}$	$4,20\pm0,084$	$4,24\pm0,082$	$5,74\pm0,088^{b}$
Buz. Yıl		ÖD	*	ÖD	ÖD	ÖD
2020	108	$4,79\pm0,123$	$4,61\pm0,151^{a}$	$4,18\pm0,100$	$4,23\pm0,098$	$5,45\pm0,105$
2021	211	$4,85\pm0,072$	$4,96\pm0,088^{ab}$	$4,31\pm0,059$	$4,30\pm0,057$	$5,51\pm0,061$
2022	175	$4,92\pm0,082$	$5,18\pm0,101^{b}$	$4,38\pm0,067$	$4,41\pm0,065$	$5,60\pm0,070$
Buz. Mev.		ÖD	ÖD	ÖD	ÖD	ÖD
1	65	$5,03\pm0,148$	$4,64\pm0,182$	$4,24\pm0,120$	$4,28\pm0,117$	$5,62\pm0,126$
2	124	$4,71\pm0,093$	$4,92\pm0,115$	$4,36\pm0,076$	$4,42\pm0,074$	$5,58\pm0,079$
3	179	$4,81\pm0,072$	$5,02\pm0,088$	$4,31\pm0,059$	$4,32\pm0,057$	$5,50\pm0,061$
4	126	$4,86\pm0,084$	$5,07\pm0,103$	$4,22\pm0,068$	$4,24\pm0,066$	$5,39\pm0,071$
Gen. Ort.	494	4,89±0,041	4,94±0,050	4,29±0,033	4,31±0,32	5,57±0,035

ABA: arka bacak açısı, DY: diz yapısı, TA: tırnak açısı, TTY: tırnak taban yüksekliği, BAç: bilek açısı, ÖD: önemli değil, *: P<0,05'e göre önemli, **: P<0,01'e göre önemli, a,b,c: aynı harfi taşıyan gruplar arasındaki fark önemsizdir

SIM ırkı sığırlar için bu çalışmada BD'ye ait ortalama 75,31±0,194 cm olarak ölçülmüştür. BD üzerine laktasyon sırası, buzağılama yılı etkileri önemli iken (P<0,05), buzağılama mevsimi etkisi önemsizdir (P>0,05). İlk laktasyondaki SIM ineklerde beklenildiği gibi BD ortalaması (72,40±0,623 cm) diğer laktasyon sıralarına ait ortalamalardan daha düşük bulunmuş, bu laktasyondaki değer ikinci laktasyondaki ile benzerken, bu iki laktasyon sırasına ait değerler diğer laktasyonlardakinden farklı (P<0,05) bulunmuştur. Bu çalışmada elde edilen BD ortalaması çeşitli araştırmalarda (Strapáková ve ark., 2021; Novotný ve ark., 2017; Zavadilová ve ark., 2009) SIM 1rk1 için bildirilen değerlerden (sırasıyla 82,92±0,08 cm, 79,55±4,021 cm ve 77,2±4,78 cm) daha düşük bulunup bu durumun işletmedeki besleme düzeyi ve düve yetiştirme programından kaynaklandığı düşünülmektedir. BD'nin sığırlarda kaba yem tüketim kapasitesini etkilediği düşünülürse (Çerçi & Koç, 2006), bu işletmede SIM sığırların yem tüketiminin düşük olacağı ve dolayısıyla süt ve döl verim özelliklerinde düşüş meydana gelebileceği söylenebilir.

SE için genel ortalama skor 5,13±0,04 olarak hesaplanmış, bu özellik üzerine incelenen faktörlerin etkisi önemsiz bulunmuştur (P>0,05). SE için hesaplanan ortalama Strapáková ve ark. (2021)'nın bulduğu (5,15±0,02) değerle benzerlik göstermişken, Erdem ve ark. (2017)'nın bulduğu değerden (4,93±0,03) yüksek, aynı ırk üzerinde yapılan bazı çalışmalardan (Novotný ve ark., 2017; Zavadilová ve ark., 2009; Jovanovac & Raguž, 2011; Strapák ve ark., 2011; Güler ve ark., 2020) ise (sırasıyla 5,46±1,031, 5,7±0,92, 5,27±0,96, 5,34±0,833 ve 6,0±0,1) düşük bulunmuştur. Bu çalışmadan elde edilen SE skoru döl tutmama sorununun yaşanmaması açısından istenilen aralıktadır.

GG'ye ait genel ortalama 5,76±0,033 olarak belirlenmiştir. Bu değer, aynı ırkta bu özellik için Strapák ve ark. (2011)'nın elde ettiği değerle benzerken (sırasıyla 5,77±1,31 ve 5,74±2,316), bazı araştırmalarda (Erdem ve

ark., 2017; Güler ve ark., 2020) elde edilen değerlerden (4,45±0,03 ve 5,4±0,1) ise yüksektir. GG özelliği üzerine laktasyon sırası (P<0,01) ve buzağılama yılı (P<0,05) etkili iken, bu araştırmada elde edilen değer sığırlarda genel görünümü koruma açısından önemli olup kabul edilen sınırlar arasındadır.

K özelliği için bulunan ortalama (5,41±0,038), Strapák ve ark. (2011)'nın bulduğu ortalamadan (5,63±1,169) düşük iken bazı araştırma sonuçlarından (Strapáková ve ark., 2021; Zavadilová ve ark., 2009; Jovanovac & Raguž, 2011) ise (sırasıyla $5,05\pm0,02$, $5,2\pm1,07$ ve $5,16\pm1,09$) yüksek bulunmuştur. K için laktasyon sırası ve buzağılama yılının etkileri önemli bulunurken (P<0,05), SIM ırkı sığırlarda K'nin yüksek olması aşırı kondisyona işaret edeceği için süt ve döl verimi düşüklüğünü, ketozis, yağlı inek sendromu, karaciğer yağlanması gibi sorunları yaratabileceği, aşırı düşük olması halinde ise çeşitli metabolik hatalıklara neden olabileceği için bu çalışmadan elde edilen sonuç kabul edilen sınırlar dahilindedir. İşletme koşullarında her ne kadar süt verimi yükseltilmiş SIM ırkı hayvanlar olsa da çeşitli metabolik hastalıklar endişesiyle K özelliği bakımından dikkatli olunmalı ve hayvanların aşırı kondisyonlu ya da yüksek K skoruna ulaşmalarına izin verilmemelidir.

ÖMB özelliği üzerine laktasyon sırası (P<0,01) ve buzağılama mevsiminin (P<0,05) etkisi önemli iken buzağılama yılının etkisi istatistiki olarak önemsiz bulunmuştur (P>0,05). ÖMB'ye ait bulunan genel ortalama (5,23±0,055), aynı ırk üzerinde yapılan çeşitli araştırma sonuçlarından (Strapáková ve ark., 2021; Erdem ve ark., 2017; Güler ve ark., 2020) yüksek (sırasıyla 4,59±0,03, 4,50±0,07 ve 4,2±0,2), Strapák ve ark. (2011)'nın bulduğu değerden (5,47±1,186) ise düşük bulunmuştur. ÖMB'nin güçlü olması ileriki laktasyonlarda memenin sarkma olasılığını önemli ölçüde azaltmaktadır (Çerçi & Koç, 2006). Bu araştırmada elde edilen genel ortalama, ön meme bağlantısının bir miktar güçlü olduğunu göstermektedir.

ÖMBU'ya ait bulunan genel ortalama (5,47±0,060 cm) Jovanovac & Raguž (2011) ve Güler ve ark. (2020)'nın buldukları değerden (sırasıyla 5,55 ± 1,03 ve 6,0±0,2) düşük, bazı araştırma sonuçlarından (Strapáková ve ark., 2021; Novotný ve ark., 2017; Zavadilová ve ark., 2009; Strapák ve ark., 2011; Erdem ve ark., 2017) ise (sırasıyla 5,03±0,02, 4,53±1,079, 5,1±1,05, 5,28±0,804 ve 5,24±0,05) yüksektir. Ayrıca ÖMBU özelliği üzerine laktasyon sırası P<0.05 düzeyde etkili iken, buzağılama yılı ve buzağılama mevsiminin etkisi önemsizdir (P>0.05). ÖMBU için 4-6 cm arasındaki değer normal kabul edildiğinde bu çalışmada bulunun değerin kabul edilebilir sınırlar içinde olduğu görülmektedir.

Bu çalışmada ÖBK özelliği üzerine laktasyon sırası, buzağılama yılı ve buzağılama mevsiminin etkisi önemsiz (P>0,05) bulunmuş olup, bu özellik için genel ortalama 3,49±0,025 cm olarak hesaplanmıştır. Fleckscore'a göre 4-6 puan arası normal kabul edilirken (2 cm - 3 cm arası) bu çalısmada bulunan ortalama istenilen aralıktan ve aynı ırk üzerine yapılan araştırmalardan (Strapáková ve ark., 2021; Novotný ve ark., 2017; Zavadilová ve ark., 2009; Jovanovac & Raguž, 2011; Strapák ve ark., 2011) biraz (sırasıyla $5,23\pm0,01$, $5,21\pm1,203$, $5,2\pm1,10$, $5,37\pm0,96$ ve 5,16±0,75 puan) yüksek bulunmuştur. Makinalı sağımın kolay olması, sağım başlıklarının kolaylıkla takılabilmesi, robotik sağım sistemine sahip olan işletmelerde de sağımın kolay olabilmesi için bu özellik üzerinde durulmalı, eslestirme ya da yapay tohumlamada sperma secilirken ÖBK'nin iyileştirilmesine uygun tercihte bulunulmalıdır.

ÖBMY'ye ait genel ortalama $(4,01\pm0,043)$, Erdem ve ark. (2017)'nın bulduğu değerden $(3,87\pm0,03)$ yüksek bulunurken, bir çok araştırma (Strapáková ve ark., 2021; Novotný ve ark., 2017; Zavadilová ve ark., 2009; Jovanovac & Raguž, 2011; Strapák ve ark., 2011) sonuçlarından (sırasıyla $4,21\pm0,02$, $5,16\pm1,082$, $4,9\pm0,79$, $4,95\pm0,81$ ve $4,41\pm0,702$) düşük bulunmuştur ve kabul edilen sınırlar dahilindedir. ÖBMY üzerine laktasyon sırası, buzağılama yılı ve buzağılama mevsiminin etkisi önemsizdir (P>0,05).

MÖG'ye ait ortalama 5,44±0,043 olarak hesaplanmış, bu özellik üzerine laktasyon sırası P<0.01 düzeyde, buzağılama yılı ve buzağılama mevsimi de P<0.05 düzeyde etkili bulunmuştur. Bu değer yapılan bazı araştırmalardan (Strapáková ve ark., 2021; Zavadilová ve ark.,2009; Jovanovac & Raguž, 2011) yüksek (sırasıyla 5,27±0,02, 5,3±1,06 ve 4,58 ± 1,31), bazı araştırmalardan (Novotný ve ark., 2017; Strapák ve ark., 2011) ise (sırasıyla 5,58±1,281 ve 5,67±1,090) düşük bulunmuştur. Bu ortalamanın, ön meme loblarının genişliği olarak düşünüldüğünde yüksek süt verimi için kabul edilebilir sınırlar içinde olduğu söylenebilir.

MBG için bu çalışmadan elde edilen ortalama (5,11±0,041) Strapáková ve ark. (2021)'nın belirttiği değerle (5,10±0,02) benzerlik göstermiş, Jovanovac & Raguž (2011) ve Güler ve ark. (2020)'nın bildirdiği sırasıyla 4,60 ± 1,17 ve 4,8±0,8 değerlerinden yüksek, buna karşılık Novotný ve ark. (2017) ve Strapák ve ark. (2011)'nın bildirdiği 5,78 ±1,315 ve 6,14±0,899 değerlerinden düşük bulunmuştur. MÖG'ye etkili olan faktörler bu özellik üzerine de etkili bulunmuştur. Her iki özellik için de laktasyon sırası arttıkça ortalamanın yükseldiği ve hesaplanan ortalamaların kabul edilen sınırlar içinde olduğu görülmektedir.

MTY için bulunan genel ortalama (3,40±0,059), aynı ırka ait çeşitli araştırmalarda elde edilen değerlerden (Strapáková ve ark., 2021; Novotný ve ark., 2017; Zavadilová ve ark., 2009; Strapák ve ark., 2011; Jovanovac & Raguž, 2011; Erdem ve ark., 2017; Güler ve ark., 2020) daha düşük bulunmuştur (sırasıyla 5,64±0,03, 6,08±1,123, 6,4±0,94, 6,44 ± 1,26, 6,67±1,013, 4,47±0,07 ve 5,5±0,1). Bu özellik üzerine laktasyon sırası (P<0,01) ve buzağılama yılının etkisi (P<0,05) önemlidir. MTY'nin düşük olması istenen kapasiteli meme açısından düşük süt verimine neden olabileceğinden olumsuz değerlendirilebilir. MTY değerinin düşük olması işletmede ilerleyen laktasyonlarda mastitis, meme başı dezenformasyonları ve meme başlarının kopma/yaralanma riskini artırabilir.

MMB'ye ait bu çalışmadan elde edilen ortalama (4,66±0,066), Erdem ve ark. (2017)'nın belirttiği değerle (4,63±0,07), bazı araştırma sonuçlarından (Strapáková ve ark., 2021; Jovanovac & Raguž, 2011; Strapák ve ark., 2011; Güler ve ark., 2020) düsük (sırasıyla $5,46\pm0,03,6,53\pm1,39,5,71\pm1,317$ ve $5,9\pm0,1$), Novotný ve ark. (2017) ve Zavadilová ve ark. (2009)'nın bildirdiği değerlerden (sırasıyla 4,47±1,618 ve 3,9±1,58) yüksek bulunmuştur. Bu özellik üzerine laktasyon sırasının P<0.05 düzeyde, buzağılama yılının ise P<0.01 düzeyde önemli olduğuı, buzağılama yılının etkisinin ise önemsiz (P>0,05) olduğu görülmüştür. Süt sığırcılığında MMB'nin, MTY'nin yüksek olması için de güçlü olması istenmektedir. Bu nedenle bu çalışmadan elde edilen sonuç her ne kadar kabul edilebilir sınırlar içinde olsa da (4-6), skorunun da düşük olması göz önünde bulundurulduğunda bu iki özelliğin bir miktar daha iyileştirilmesi üzerinde durulmalıdır.

MBY'ye ait genel ortalama 4,49±0,045 olarak hesaplanmıştır. AMBP için ise bulunan genel ortalama (4,62±0,048) Novotný ve ark. (2017)'nın bildirdiği değerden düşük (4,62±1,316) bulunmakla beraber Strapák ve ark. (2011)'nın belirttiği değerden (3,87±0,965) yüksektir. Bu iki özellik için üzerinde durulan faktörlerin etkisi önemsizdir (P>0,05).

AMBY'ye ait bulunan genel ortlama (4,80±0,057), Strapáková ve ark. (2021) ve Güler ve ark. (2020)'nın bildirdikleri değerlerden (sırasıyla 5,67±0,02 ve 5,1±0,2) düşük bulunmakla beraber kabul edilebilir sınırlar içindedir. Bu özellik üzerine incelenen faktörlerin etkisi önemsizdir (P>0,05).

AMYU'ya ait bu çalışmadan elde edilen ortalama (5,60±0,049), bazı araştırmalardan (Strapáková ve ark., 2021; Güler ve ark., 2020; Erdem ve ark., 2017) yüksek (sırasıyla, $5,33\pm0,03$, $4,6\pm0,2$ ve $4,21\pm0,06$) bulunmakla beraber, bazı araştırma sonuçlarından (Novotný ve ark., 2017; Zavadilová ve ark., 2009; Jovanovac & Raguž, 2011) ise (sırasıyla $6,04\pm1,264,\ 6,4\pm1,03$ ve $6,26\pm1,67$) düşük bulunmuştur. AMYU'ya laktasyon sırası (P<0,01) ve buzağılama yılı (P<0,05) etkisi önemli iken buzağılama mevsiminin etkisi önemsizdir (P>0,05). Süt sığırlarında AMYU puanının yüksek olması istenir ve hayvanlarda kapasiteli bir meme yapısına sahip olduğunun göstergelerinden birisidir (Çerçi & Koç 2006). Bu AMYU değeri arastırmada bulunan isletmedeki hayvanların yüksek kapasiteli memeye sahip olduğunu göstermektedir.

TA'ya ait bulunan ortalama (4,29±0,033) aynı ırk üzerinde yapılan araştırmalardan (Novotný ve ark., 2017;

Zavadilová ve ark., 2009; Strapák ve ark., 2011; Güler ve ark., 2020; Erdem ve ark., 2017) düşük (sırasıyla $4,72\pm1,329, 4,9\pm1,28, 4,81\pm0,949, 4,60\pm0,02 \text{ ve } 5,0\pm0,2)$ bulunmuştur. TTY'ye ait bulunan genel ortalama da (4,31±0,32 cm) aynı ırk üzerinde yapılan bazı araştırma (Strapáková ve ark., 2021; Jovanovac & Raguž, 2011; Strapák ve ark., 2011) sonuçlarından (sırasıyla 4,78±0,02, 5,22±1,14 ve 4,71±1,046) düsük bulunmustur. Her iki özellik üzerine incelenen faktörlerin etkisi önemsizdir (P>0,05). TTY ve TA değerleri kabul edilen sınırlar içinde olmasına karşın TTY üst sınıra, TA ise alt sınıra oldukça yakındır. TA ve TTY'ne ait bu skorlar açısından değerlendirildiğinde hayvanlarda topallık ve ayak hastalıklarına yatkınlıkla ilişkili olduğu ve dolayısıyla süt ve döl verimi üzerine olumsuz etkisi olduğu bilindiğinden bu özellikler üzerinde dikkatli olunması gerekmektedir.

DY'ye ait bulunan genel ortalama (4,94±0,050), Erdem ve ark. (2017)'nın bildirdiği değerden (4,80±0,02) yüksek, bazı araştırmalarda (Strapáková ve ark., 2021; Novotný ve ark., 2017; Zavadilová ve ark., 2009; Jovanovac & Raguž, 2011; Strapák ve ark., 2011) elde edilen değerlerden (sırasıyla 6,03±0,02, 5,78±1,208, 6,3±0,87, 5,95±1,14 ve 6,80±1,142) ise düşük bulunmuştur. Bu özellik üzerine laktasyon sırası ve buzağılama yılı P<0.05 düzeyde etkili olmakla beraber, DY'nin yüksek olması dizlerde şişlik, ödem, hayvanlarda yağlanma ve aşırı kondisyonu göstereceği için bu özellik için hesaplanan ortalama değer kabul edilen sınırlar içindedir.

ABA'ya ait genel ortalama (4,89 \pm 0,041) kabul edilebilir sınırlarda olmakla beraber aynı ırk üzerinde yapılan çalışmalarda Erdem ve ark. (2017)'nın bildirdiği 4,90 \pm 0,03 değeriyle benzerlik gösterirken, Strapák ve ark. (2011) ve Güler ve ark. (2020)'nın sırasıyla 5,02 \pm 0,983 ve 5,0 \pm 0,2 değerlerinden biraz düşük, bazı araştırma sonuçlarından ise (Novotný ve ark., 2017; Strapáková ve ark., 2021; Zavadilová ve ark., 2009; Jovanovac & Raguž, 2011) daha düşük (sırasıyla 5,15 \pm 0,02, 5,69 \pm 1,114, 5,6 \pm 0,93, ve 5,37 \pm 0,97) bulunmuştur. Üzerinde durulan faktörlerin etkisi önemsizdir (P>0,05). Ayak/bacak özelliklerinde bu özellik sığırlarda ideal dış görünüş, harmoni ve hareketlilik açısından en önemli özellik şeklinde düşünülebilir ve işletme karlılığı açısından da büyük öneme sahiptir.

BAç'a ait genel ortalama (5,57±0,035) yapılan bazı araştırmalardan (Novotný ve ark., 2017; Strapáková ve ark., 2021; Zavadilová ve ark.,2009; Jovanovac & Raguž, 2011) yüksek (sırasıyla 5,16±0,02, 4,85±1,176, 4,7±0,91 ve 5,51±1,10) bulunmuştur. BAç üzerine laktasyon sırasının etkisi ise önemlidir (P<0,05). BAç için bu çalışmadan elde edilen skor kabul edilen sınırların üst sınırına yakındır. Bu özelliğin yüksek skora ulaşması sonucunda işletmelerde sürü ömrü ile süt ve döl verim özelliklerinde düşüş, ayıklama oranı ve topallık gibi özelliklerde artış yaşanarak işletmenin karlılığını olumsuz etkileyecektir.

Sonuç

Bu çalışmada dış görünüş özellikleri açısından hesaplanan ortalamalar bir çok araştırmada SIM ırkı için elde edilen sonuçlarla benzerlik göstermiş, BD, MTY, ABA, TTY ve TA özellikleri açısından ise literatürde bildirilen değerlerden belirgin farklılıklar bulunmuştur. SIM ırkı sığırlar ülkemizde süt sığırıcılığında tercih edilen

diğer ırklardan canlı ağırlık bakımından (yaklaşık olarak 50-100 kg) yüksek oldukları için ayak ve bacak yapısı özellikleri işletmelerde dikkat edilecek özellikler açısından daha ön plana çıkmaktadır. İşletmedeki hayvanların durumu değerlendirildiğinde ayak/bacak problemleri yaşanmaktadır. Bu işletmede hayvanların ayak problemleri yasaması va dıs görünüs özellikleri açısından ayak/bacak yapısındaki olumsuzlukların temel nedeni olarak hayvanların beslenmesinde yüksek protein içerikli kesif yemlerle birlikte mısır silajının birlikte kullanılması, ayrıca sağımhane ve padoklar arasındaki servis yolundaki eğimin %20'den fazla olması şeklinde ifade edilebilir. Her ne kadar işletmede tırnak sorunlarını çözme konusunda yıl içinde rutin tırnak bakımı yapılsa da mevcut durumlar göz önünde bulundurulduğunda ayak hastalıklarına karşı dayanıklı hayvanların seçimine özen gösterilmesi yanında sperma tercihine de özen gösterilmesinin fayda sağlayacağı düşünülmektedir. Özellikle sığırların padoklardan çıkıp sağımhaneye giderken yokuş inip çıkması, servis yolu yapısının da dezavantajlı oluşu işletmede ayak problemlerini ve ayak problemlerine bağlı ayıklama oranını arttırmaktadır. Diğer yandan işletmede MTY'ye dikkat edilmesi gerekmektedir. Kapasiteli bir meme için MTY'nin kabul edilir sınırlarda olması açısından eşleştirme programında bu özellik üzerine iyileştirme dikkate alınmalıdır. ABA kabul edilen sınırlar içinde yer almasına rağmen alt sınırda bulunması nedeniyle dikkat edilmesi gereken ayrı bir özelliktir. Vücut harmonisinin bozulmasının yanında hareketlilik açısından düşünüldüğünde hayvanların hareketliliğini kısıtlayarak kuru madde tüketimini de olumsuz etkileyecektir.

Bu çalışmada Bursa ili Karacabey ilçesinde bulunan bir işletmede SIM ırkı sığırlarda dış görünüş özelliklerine ait ortalamalar hesaplanmıştır. Ülkemizde SIM ırkı sığırların dış görünüş özelliklerinin değerlendirilmesi konusunda yeterince çalışma bulunmadığından bu çalışmanın literatüre katkı sağlamasının yanında, son yıllarda üreticilerin tercih ettiği ve üzerinde neredeyse hiç çalışma yapılmamış süt verimi yükseltilmiş Avusturya ve Almanya kökenli SIM sığırların ülkemiz koşullarında dış görünüş özelliklerine yönelik önemli katkı yapacağı düşünülmektedir. İleriki zamanlarda bu genotip üzerine yapılacak çalışmalarda özellikler arasındaki korelasyonların belirlenmesine ve daha geniş veri setleri kullanılarak yapılacak çalışmalara ihtiyaç duyulduğu belirlenmiştir.

Beyanlar

Bu çalışma 7. Uluslararası Anadolu Tarım, Gıda, Çevre ve Biyoloji Kongresi'nde (Kastamonu, TARGİD 2024) sunulmuştur.

Etik Onay Belgesi

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Examination of Open Green Areas in Terms of Human Health and Psychology

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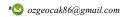
ABSTRACT

Research Article

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Keywords:
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Open green areas undertake functions that improve and healing people's living conditions. This research was conducted to understand the role of open and green areas in urban life and to evaluate the contributions of these areas to the quality of life. The study was conducted with people living in Selçuklu district of Konya province. These people visited urban open green areas in Selçuklu district and spent time in those places. The survey method was used in the study. The survey results reveal that open green areas have significant and positive effects on human health and psychology. The majority of the participants stated that they visited open green areas with sufficient frequency and that these areas met both their physical and mental needs. These findings emphasize the positive effects of open green areas on human health and psychology and support the need to protect and increase these areas.







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Introduction

In modern societies, the first planned urban green spaces were created in the 19th century by Frederick Law Olmsted, an American landscape architect, with the creation of the Boston Park System (Özdemir, 2009).

Landscape architects plan and design open green areas. Landscape, defined as "Landscape" in English, "Paysage" in French, and "Landschaft" in German, has a wide scope that expresses all natural and cultural, living and non-living components on earth (Orgin, 1998). Urban landscape, on the other hand, is a three-dimensional composition formed by natural and cultural elements that provide interaction between buildings and spaces that form the basic character of structured areas (Goulty, 1991; Gemici, 2023).

When designing open green areas, concepts of personal space, visual perception, sound and color emerge. Personal space is a small protective sphere or bubble between an organism and itself and others (Hall, 1966) or it is a portable property centered on the human body and surrounded by invisible boundaries (Sommer, 1969). Arnheim (2015) stated that the more organized a visual pattern is and the more clearly it differs from its environment, the greater the chance of easy recognition. Color identification is an event that takes place with the five senses (Mahnke, 1996; Meerwein et al, 2007). And

although cities seem to appeal to the sense of sight, in urban spaces, sound has an important place in creating the identity of the space (Tonkiss, 2003; Gemici, 2023).

Open green areas are very important elements in increasing the quality of life. Human beings are born in nature and die in nature. During this life process, people and all living things in the world meet all their physical and social needs from the environments they live in. These environments are primarily a home, workplace, school, public buildings, social facilities and the environment that includes all of these and connects them to each other, and a city that includes this environment (Eraslan, 2008). A city is not just about these environments. However, a city with parks, gardens, green areas and water resources is truly lived in. Open green areas not only beautify the environment and make life attractive, but also add aesthetic value to the city. These areas, which meet the active and passive recreational needs of the people, also play an active role in physical and mental health. Open green areas help develop a strong society and contribute to the development of nature awareness (Yıldızcı, 1982).

In addition to his biological structure, humans are living beings with their own cultural, cognitive and psychological structures. Humans have certain innate abilities that are closely related to their genetic structure. Humans can develop their biological, cultural, cognitive and psychological structures and characteristics under the influence of their environment (Ridley, 2000; Lewis, 2005).

As a result of research conducted by those working on environmental psychology, it is an accepted fact that living in touch with nature has positive effects on human psychology (Özgüner, 2004).

All kinds of positive or negative factors in the environment where a person lives will affect the growth, development, health and performance of a person, as well as their anatomical, physiological, psychological, cognitive and social structure. In other words, environmental conditions will have a primary effect on whether a person will live a long life happily, healthily and vigorously in every way (Akın, 2014).

Open green areas have an important function in increasing the quality of urban life by balancing and strengthening the relationship between nature and humans. The characteristics of open green areas in developed country cities are one of the determining elements of quality of life and civilization. For this reason, many developed countries determine the urban planning and design process according to the mental, physical and emotional needs of people that will increase their quality of life (Gül and Küçük, 2001).

Although open green areas in urban areas have many functions, their health function is undoubtedly one of the most important functions. The existence, size and balanced distribution of open green areas are important for sustainable, healthy environments and a healthy society in cities. It has been demonstrated by studies conducted by many different disciplines that open green areas contribute positively to the health of individuals and to the healthy environment of the city (Ökde, 2022).

Some studies have indicated that the quality of open green areas in cities has a positive effect on people's physical activity. Ball et al. (2001) and Duncan and Mummery (2005) stated that urban areas with well-maintained, aesthetic and clean green areas positively affect individuals' physical activity levels. Bowler et al. (2010) stated that urban green areas increase individuals' sense of health and happiness. De Vries et al. (2013) revealed the positive relationship between green areas and individuals' mental and physical health in their research (Ökde, 2022).

This research was conducted to understand the role of open green areas in urban life and to evaluate the contributions of these areas to the quality of life. The primary objectives of the research are to analyze the benefits of open green areas in cities by examining their effects on human life and psychology in terms of health, ecology and social aspects. In addition, it provides suggestions for more effective use of open green areas in urban planning and design processes and thus contributes to cities becoming more sustainable and livable. Proper planning, design and management of open green areas can ensure that future generations live in a healthy and safe environment. Therefore, the results of the research can play an important role in decisions to be taken for the development of cities and the improvement of the quality of life. The importance of the research emphasizes that open green areas in urban areas provide important contributions not only in terms of aesthetics or ecology, but also in terms of human health, psychology, well-being and social context. In particular, the psychological benefits of open green areas become evident by helping individuals get away from stress, reduce mental fatigue, increase emotional well-being and improve general mental health.

Materials and Methods

The main material of the research consists of open green areas located in Selçuklu district of Konya province.

In addition to the research area, the following research materials were also used:

- Literature documents consisting of various books, ebooks, journals, articles, theses, reports and internet sites on the subject, including domestic and foreign studies.
- Resources related to the research areas obtained from Selçuklu District Governorate, Konya Metropolitan Municipality,
- Survey forms applied to people who use open and green areas, which were originally prepared for the research. This research was prepared by conducting a survey with 294 people living in Selçuklu district of Konya province, Turkiye.

The people who participated in the survey were selected among the people who visit and spend time in urban open green spaces in Selçuklu district. A 5-point Likert scale was used in the survey (Güngör, 2022).

The method consists of 5 stages. These stages are: Determining the purpose and scope, conducting a literature review, preparing and implementing the survey questions, obtaining and analyzing the research findings, and developing the conclusion and recommendations.

In the preparation and implementation of the survey questions, firstly, the survey questions were designed in line with the objectives of the research. Care was taken to ensure that the survey questions were understandable and that the participants could give correct answers. The surveys were conducted through face-to-face interviews. In the process of obtaining and analyzing the research findings, 14 survey questions were prepared using Google Forms and responses were collected from the participants.

Determination of Sample Size

The number of people the survey will be applied to is determined by the formula given below. The population size of the Selcuklu district is 695,771. When this information is applied to the formula below, the sample size is 96. In this case, the survey should be applied to at least 96 people. The number of surveys applied to people using the open-green areas of Selçuklu district is 294 (Newbold, 1995).

$$n = \frac{N_p(1-p)}{(N-1)\sigma_{p_x}^2 + p(1-p)}$$

n = Sample volume

N = Number of the population

 σ^2_{px} = The variance of the ratio

p = 0.5 tolerance

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Reliability Analysis	Values	Margin of Error	Variance Change	Population number	p value	Number of Samples
	1.65	0.10	0.0608	695771.0000	0.5000	68
90%	1.65	0.05	0.0304	695771.0000	0.5000	270
	1.65	0.01	0.0061	695771.0000	0.5000	6.700
	1.96	0.10	0.0510	<u>695771.0000</u>	0.5000	<u>96</u>
<u>95%</u>	1.96	0.05	0.0255	695771.0000	0.5000	384
	1.96	0.01	0.0051	695771.0000	0.5000	9.473
99%	2.58	0.10	0.0388	695771.0000	0.5000	166
	2.58	0.05	0.0194	695771.0000	0.5000	665
	2.58	0.01	0.0039	695771.0000	0.5000	16.252

The reliability analysis of the survey scale used in the study is given in the table below. The reliability of the survey scale was determined as 'good' in the literature scale. The items that make up the survey were found to be homogeneous and related to each other. It was also determined that the test was retractable.

Results

Demographic Characteristics of the Participants in the Survey

Of the people who participated in the survey, 183 (62.2%) were female and 111 (37.8%) were male. 133 (45.2%) of the participants were in the 18-25 age group, 29 (9.9%) in the 25-34 age group, 41 (13.9%) in the 35-44 age group, 64 (21.8%) in the 45-54 age group, 22 (7.5%) in the 55-64 age group, and 5 (1.7%) in the 65 and over age group. 178 (60.5%) of the participants were single and 116 (39.5%) were married. Of the participants, 111 (38%) had completed university education, 141 (48%) had completed high school, 26 (9%) had completed secondary school, 11 (4%) had completed primary school and 5 (1%) were only literate.

Results of the Survey Study

Participants in the survey were asked 14 questions about the "effects of open green areas on human health and psychology." Each question asked in the survey is given below and the findings obtained from the surveys are presented.

To the question "I think the frequency of visiting open green areas is sufficient." 54 people said "strongly agree", 106 people said "agree", 58 people said "undecided", 62 people said "disagree", and 14 people said "strongly disagree".

To the question "I think the activities I do in open green areas meet my physical and mental needs." 113 people said "strongly agree", 134 people said "agree", 28 people said "undecided", 13 people said "disagree", and 6 people said "strongly disagree".

In response to the question "I think access to open green areas is an important factor in urban life." 194 people said they strongly agree, 89 people agree, 7 people are undecided, 1 person disagrees, and 3 people strongly disagree.

In response to the question "I think open green areas are an important factor in people coming together and

socializing." 168 people said they strongly agree, 105 people agree, 13 people are undecided, 6 people disagree and 2 people strongly disagree.

To the question "The aesthetic appearance of open green areas is important to me." 181 people said they strongly agree, 89 people agree, 12 people are undecided, 9 people disagree, and 2 people strongly disagree.

To the question "I think spending time in open green areas reduces my stress level." 187 people said they strongly agree, 88 people agree, 12 people are undecided, 3 people disagree, and 2 people strongly disagree.

In response to the question "I think open green areas have a positive effect on my mental health." 177 people said they strongly agree, 98 people agree, 12 people are undecided, 4 people disagree, and 3 people strongly disagree.

To the question "I think that regular walking in open green areas improves my physical health." 165 people said "strongly agree", 104 people said "agree", 13 people said "undecided", 8 people said "disagree", and 2 people said "strongly disagree".

In response to the question "I think being surrounded by nature in open green areas has a positive effect on my mood." 176 people said "strongly agree", 103 people said "agree", 6 people said "undecided", 4 people said "disagree" and 3 people said "strongly disagree".

To the question "I think exercising in open green areas increases my energy level." 147 people said they strongly agree, 100 people agree, 36 people are undecided, 8 people disagree, and 2 people strongly disagree.

In response to the question "I think open green areas increase my general quality of life." 154 people said they strongly agree, 125 people agree, 7 people are undecided, 5 people disagree and 3 people strongly disagree.

To the question "I think spending time in open green areas improves my sleep quality." 124 people said they strongly agree, 107 people agree, 46 people are undecided, 13 people disagree, and 3 people strongly disagree.

To the question "I think spending time in open green areas reduces my worries." 109 people said they strongly agree, 130 people agree, 35 people are undecided, 13 people disagree, and 6 people strongly disagree.

In response to the question "I think spending time in open green areas relieves my depression symptoms." 118 people said "strongly agree", 139 people said "agree", 23 people said "undecided", 11 people said "disagree", and 3 people said "strongly disagree".

Conclusion

Survey results reveal that open green areas have significant and positive effects on human health and psychology.

When the participants in the study were asked about the frequency of visiting open green areas, a large proportion agreed with this statement, but it was also observed that a certain percentage did not agree or were undecided. The participants in the survey also stated that the activities carried out in these areas largely met the mental and physical needs of individuals. The participants, who emphasized that access to open green areas is important, stated that these areas are also important for people to come together and socialize. The number of people who argue that open green areas should look aesthetically beautiful is quite high. The findings stand out that these areas reduce stress levels and positively affect mental health. The majority of the participants in the study agreed that regular walks in open green areas improve physical health and that being in touch with nature is good for mental health. Again, a large portion of the participants in the study stated that their energy levels increased while exercising in these areas and that there were positive changes in their sleep and quality of life. It is seen that the majority of people think that spending time in open green areas reduces anxiety and relieves depression symptoms.

These findings emphasize the positive effects of open green areas on human health and psychology and support the need to protect and increase these areas. Open green areas have significant contributions to physical and mental health, stress management, social interactions and general quality of life. Therefore, more importance should be given to planning and design studies carried out in urban open green areas. Thus, people can use these areas more frequently. Aesthetic and functional requirements should be prioritized when designing these areas. These findings can be supported by different studies by conducting research on this subject on a larger scale.

Recommendations

Based on the survey results, it is possible to make suggestions that include more innovative and different approaches to increase the positive effects of open green areas on human health and psychology.

The integration of art and culture in open green areas can enrich visitors' experiences by adding aesthetic value to the environment. Sculptures, open-air exhibitions, music events and various cultural events can increase the community's interaction with art and culture by taking open green areas beyond being just places for rest and recreation.

The maintenance and safety of open green areas are critical to their sustainability and the safety of their users. Regular maintenance programs should be implemented to keep open green areas clean and safe. Adequate lighting, security cameras and security personnel should be provided to ensure the safety of these areas.

Areas for exercise should be created in open green areas. These areas will have positive effects on both physical and mental health.

It is important to increase the quality of urban life by increasing the variety and functionality of open green areas. Planning and designing different types of open green areas meets the needs of various user groups and provides environmental benefits. Creating multi-purpose areas increases social health and well-being by encouraging social interactions. Sustainable and accessible green space designs make it possible to achieve environmental and human-centered goals.

Open green areas should be designed to appeal to different age and interest groups. They should offer a variety of functions such as sports fields, playgrounds, walking and running paths, picnic areas and recreation areas.

Open green areas should be aesthetically appealing and include natural features, including water features, flower gardens, natural vegetation, and shaded seating areas.

These recommendations aim to maximize the positive effects of open green areas on human health and psychology and to increase the general well-being of society. The protection and development of open green areas will contribute to making cities more livable.

Declarations

Ethical Approval Certificate

The experimental procedures of this study were approved by the Faculty of Architecture and Design Scientific Ethics Committee of Selcuk University. (Approval date and number: 30.10.2024/No: 04).

Author Contribution Statement

All contributions belong to Ruhugul Ozge Gemici.

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Examination of Environmental Awareness of Students Studying in Landscape Architecture Departments

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ABSTRACT

Research Article

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Keywords: Environmental awareness Environmental sensitivity Landscape architecture Landscape planning Landscape design The discipline of landscape architecture plays an important role in many environmental issues such as increasing green areas in urban areas, supporting biodiversity, and managing water resources. This study was conducted to determine the environmental awareness levels of landscape architecture students in Turkey and to understand how educational programs affect this awareness. In the study, first of all, all universities and faculties providing undergraduate landscape architecture education in Turkey were examined, and then landscape architecture departments in different universities and faculties were included in the scope of the research. Surveys were administered to students studying in the landscape architecture departments of the specified faculties to measure their environmental awareness levels. In addition, it was analyzed how the courses taken by landscape architecture students affected their environmental awareness. Thus, effective strategies were developed and suggestions were presented to increase environmental awareness in landscape architecture education.







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Introduction

Environment refers to the biological, physical, social, economic and cultural environment in which living things maintain their relationships and interact with each other throughout their lives (Anonymus, 2024g).

According to Keleş et al. (2015), environment, as a concept, refers to the mutual relations that people establish with each other, the mutual interactions of people throughout these relations, and the relations and interactions of people with animals and plants.

The environment is examined as a living environment and a nonliving environment, but it is also possible to examine the environment as a physical environment and a social environment depending on its quality. The environment in which living things live and can physically perceive its existence and quality is called the "physical environment". The physical environment is also divided into "natural" and "artificial" environments (Tıraş, 2012). According to Kışlalıoğlu (1989), the natural environment is defined as all natural entities that humans have no contribution to their formation, that is, that are not touched by human hands or changed by humans. Humans, soil, water, air, plant and animal communities are parts of the natural environment. All entities such as houses, roads,

cities that have been built by humans using the natural environment since the existence of humanity are also defined as artificial environments (Erol, 2005).

Environmental problems can be defined as the negative consequences that arise from human intervention in nature and the use of nature to meet their unlimited needs (Zengin and Esedov, 2010).

Although the concept of environmental awareness has many different areas of use, the area where it shows itself most intensely today is politics. The aim of environmental awareness, as many scientists emphasize, is environmental knowledge, attitudes towards the environment and behaviors beneficial to the environment (Ertan, 2004).

Environmental awareness is a way of thinking that people need to have in order to both prevent environmental problems and protect the environment. Environmental awareness basically requires being aware of the environment and being able to act in harmony with it (Nazlıoğlu, 1991). Environmental awareness means that the individual gains his/her natural environment as a society, acquires environmental sensitivity, defends his/her rights in solving environmental problems and takes initiatives to show his/her reaction, understands the need to

use the environment without destroying it, and prioritizes saving in all consumption habits (Kızılaslan and Kızılaslan, 2005). Environmental awareness is an important indicator of human attitudes and behaviors towards environmental problems and supports living in a healthy and balanced environment (Çolakoğlu, 2010). Individuals with environmental awareness have adopted concept of conscious consumption environmentally friendly production in order not to harm the environment, to exhibit environmentally beneficial behaviors and to solve environmental problems (Çifci and Şakacı, 2015). This understanding, when put into practice and transformed into behavior, is accepted as an indicator of environmental awareness. The most basic way to solve environmental problems is to provide environmental education to all individuals in society and to gain environmental awareness. A positive change in approaches to the environment increases people's environmental awareness (Safak and Erkal, 1995).

Landscape Architecture Education in Turkey

Landscape architecture education is a discipline that began at Harvard University in the 1900s and has now spread across the world, beyond America, Europe, and Asia. Therefore, the scope of landscape architecture and its importance within other disciplines have changed according to various approaches, events, and changing perspectives (Güzel and Erdem Kaya, 2020).

In the historical process where landscape architecture education is rapidly advancing in the world, the beginning of landscape architecture education in Turkey is accepted as 1968-Ankara University (Uzun and Kesim, 2008). In this period when the ecological approach was newly accepted on a global scale, in our country, it was founded on the basis of plant knowledge and production education in the "Forestry and Agriculture" faculties where agriculture and horticulture were at the forefront. During this period, the fact that landscape architects were educated in the agricultural engineering department and that the approaches of the faculties they were in were different from the universal approach of the period, rather than the design scale of landscape architecture education, it was based on learning natural and cultural systems (Ortaçeşme et al., 2014).

In our country, as of 1994, the discipline of architecture has reached a widespread influence within landscape architecture, and the educational structure within the faculties of architecture, fine arts and engineering has become diverse (Uzun et al., 2019). The inclusion of the Landscape Architecture program in the Faculty of Architecture has brought different dimensions to the design and planning approach in landscape architecture education by associating the discipline with construction, materials, and building as well as natural sciences (Güzel and Erdem Kaya, 2020).

The proliferation of architecture faculties in our country and the inclusion of landscape architecture departments within architecture faculties are realized through the orientation of landscape architecture education towards diverse, global-scale, interdisciplinary educational approaches that can respond to the multifaceted needs of 21st century cities (Atanur et al., 2020).

In the history of landscape architecture education in our country, it has been determined that interdisciplinary approaches could not be developed around the same principles within different faculties and that there were deep disagreements (Kaplan, 2000). However, with the signing of the Bologna Convention in 2001 (Akıncı and Karaçor, 2010) and the establishment of the Council of Landscape Architects Department Heads in 2009, common approaches, decisions and studies in landscape architecture education began to develop (Anonymus, 2024h).

The purpose of this study is to determine the environmental awareness levels of students studying in landscape architecture curriculum and to understand the factors affecting this awareness. Landscape architecture is a discipline that aims to understand and balance the interactions between the natural and artificial environment. In this context, examining the environmental awareness levels of students is of critical importance in terms of producing sensitive solutions to environmental problems in their professional practices.

Materials and Methods

Materials

This research was conducted on 6 faculties that provide landscape architecture education in our country. There are 6 faculties that provide landscape architecture education in Turkey. These faculties are: Faculty of Fine Arts, Faculty of Architecture, Faculty of Architecture and Engineering, Faculty of Architecture and Design, Faculty of Forestry and Faculty of Agriculture. In this context, the universities that will participate in the research were determined as Kırıkkale University Faculty of Fine Arts, Süleyman Demirel University Faculty of Architecture, Hacı Bektaş Veli University Faculty of Architecture and Engineering, Selçuk University Faculty of Architecture and Design, Çankırı Karatekin University Faculty of Forestry and Ankara University Faculty of Agriculture.

Kırıkkale University Faculty of Fine Arts: The Department of Landscape Architecture, affiliated to the Kırıkkale University Faculty of Fine Arts, was established on 08.02.2017 after being deemed appropriate to be opened by the Council of Higher Education (Anonymus, 2024a).

Süleyman Demirel University Faculty of Architecture: The Department of Landscape Architecture, which started its undergraduate education in the Faculty of Forestry in the 2007-2008 academic year, was transferred to the Faculty of Architecture with its students on 19.06.2014 by the Council of Higher Education (Anonymus, 2024b).

Hacı Bektaş Veli University Faculty of Architecture and Engineering: The Faculty of Engineering and Architecture was established by the Ministry of National Education on 25.12.2009. The Department of Landscape Architecture was established in the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture on 14.04.2010 (Anonymus, 2024c).

Selçuk University Faculty of Architecture and Design: The department started its undergraduate education in the Faculty of Agriculture in 2011. It has been providing education in the Faculty of Architecture and Design since 2020 (Anonymus, 2024d).

Çankırı Karatekin University Faculty of Forestry: The Faculty of Forestry was established on 24.08.1994 by the decision of the Council of Ministers as a part of Ankara

University and started its activities in the 1996-1997 academic year. On 29.05.2007, with the establishment of Çankırı Karatekin University, the faculty name and affiliation were changed and it was connected to Çankırı Karatekin University (Anonymus, 2024e).

Ankara University Faculty of Agriculture: Landscape Architecture education in Turkey began as the "Ornamental Plants Branch" within the Higher Institute of Agriculture, which was established in 1933. With the establishment of Ankara University in 1946, the Faculty of Agriculture within this institution continued its activities under the name of "Garden Architecture and Afforestation Department". As a result of the increasing interest in the environment and landscape, the Department of Landscape Architecture was established in 1968 as one of the 10 departments of the Faculty of Agriculture (Anonymus, 2024f).

Methods

This research was conducted with landscape architecture students studying at 6 different universities and faculties in Turkey. 303 people participated in the survey. The surveys were conducted via Google Forms. The survey included 25 questions and used a 5-point Likert scale (Güngör, 2022).

Firstly, the universe and sample size were determined and according to this situation, it was revealed how many students should be surveyed at least. According to Anonymus (2024), if a 95% confidence level is desired in a universe size of 500 people, the sample size should be at least 222 people. The total number of landscape architecture students studying in these faculties within the scope of the research is 682. Therefore, the universe size was calculated as 682 and the sample size as 303.

The data obtained in the study were analysed using SPSS 25.0 for Windows (Statistical Package for Social Sciences) software.

The reliability of the questionnaire scales prepared according to the predetermined scale type was measured by Cronbach's Alpha reliability coefficient. In the study, Cronbach's Alpha reliability values higher than 0.80 in both scales indicate that the questionnaire has an acceptable, good level of reliability (Baker, 1991; Cronbach, 1951).

The suitability of continuous variables for normal distribution was evaluated using the Shapiro-Wilk test. As a result of the test, it was determined that the data came from the normal distribution family.

Independent t-test was used for the comparison of numerical data between two independent groups and Oneway ANOVA test was used for more than two independent groups.

The relationship between continuous variables was tested by Pearson correlation analysis. As a result of the analysis, the degree, magnitude and direction of the relationships between the variables were evaluated with Pearson correlation coefficient (r).

While interpreting the results of the analyses, the error was kept at the level of 0.05 and thus the decisions were made at 95% confidence level.

Results

The questionnaire consists of three parts. In the 1st part, demographic questions, in the 2nd part, questions were asked to measure the level of environmental sensitivity of students, and in the 3rd part, questions were asked to measure the contribution of landscape architecture education given to students in faculties to environmental sensitivity.

Demographic Characteristics of the Participants in the Survey

The survey was applied to students studying in 6 different education programs via Google Forms. A total of 303 landscape architecture students participated in the survey. 69 students from Ankara University, 51 students from Çankırı Karatekin University, 41 students from Hacı Bektaş Veli University, 39 students from Kırıkkale University, 52 students from Selçuk University, and 51 students from Süleyman Demirel University participated in the survey.

Of the students who participated in the survey, 175 (57.8%) were female and 128 (42.2%) were male. 99 (327%) of the participants were in the 18-20 age group, 161 (53.1%) were in the 21-23 age group and 43 (14.2%) were in the 24 and over age group. Of the participants, 67 (22.1%) were 1st grade, 83 (27.4%) were 2nd grade, 98 (32.3%) were 3rd grade and 55 (18.2%) were 4th grade students.

Results of the Survey Study

The reliability values of the 2nd and 3rd part survey scales used in the study are as explained below:

Cronbach's Alpha value for the 2nd part scale was determined as 0.839. The reliability of the scale was determined as 'good' in the literature scale. The items of the 2nd part questionnaire were found to be homogeneous and related to each other (F=43.796, p<0.0001). It was also found that the test was retractable (F=1.139, p=0.151). For the 2nd part questionnaire, Hotelling's T-Squared Test was performed to determine whether the test design was appropriate in terms of reliability analysis applications and according to the test results, it was found that the model was appropriate (F=26.026, p<0.0001).

For the 3rd part scale, Cronbach's Alpha value was found to be 0.815. The reliability of the scale was determined as 'good' in the literature scale. It was determined that the items of the scale in question were homogeneous and related to each other and that the test was summable (F=36.017, p<0.0001; F=2.458, p=0.117). In terms of the 3rd part scale's Reliability Analysis applications, it was also determined by Hotelling's T-Squared Test that the test design had an appropriate structure (F=37.761, p<0.0001).

In line with the results obtained, it was seen that the scales and their sub-factors fulfil the reliability conditions accepted in the literature and that their internal consistency is acceptable independently. The following table summarises the findings of the Reliability Analysis described above (Table 1).

Table 1. Reliability Analysis Findings of Part 2 and 3 Questionnaire Scales

Part 2 and 3 Survey Scales Reliability Analysis Findings								
Scales	Aver	Standard	Cronbach	Relationship	Test Collectability			
	age	Deviation	Alpha	Alpha Between Items				
Part 2 Questionnaire		F=43.796; $p<0.0001$ * $F=1.139$; $p=0.151$						
Hotelling T ²			F=26.026	; p<0.0001*				
Part 3 Questionnaire	0,815 F=36,017; p<0.0001* F=2.458; p=0.117							
Hotelling T ²	F=37.761; p<0.0001*							

^{*;} It represents the findings obtained at 95% confidence level.

Table 2. Correlation Analysis

	Average	Std. Dev.	Part 2 Questionnaire	Part 3 Questionnaire
Part 2 Questionnaire	55.554	7.591	1	
Part 3 Questionnaire	44.963	5.811	0.452^{*}	1

Table 3. Students' Environmental Awareness Scale - Gender Comparison

Students' Ser	nsitivity to the Environment	Sample Volume (n)	Average	Std. Dev.	t-value	p- value
Gender	Female	175	55.605	6.962	0.127	0.891
	Male	128	55.484	8.401	0.137	0.891

Comparison was made with Independet Sample T-test. *α=0.05

Table 4. Students' Environmental Awareness Scale - Age and Class Comparison

Stude	nts' Sensitivity to the Environment	Sample Volume (n)	Average a	Std. Dev.	F- value	p value	Group differences
	between 18 and 20	99	54.191	7.869			a
Age	between 21 and 23	161	55.341	7.317	7.767	0.001^{*}	ab
	24 years and older	43	59.488	6.737			bc
	1. Class	67	55.432	8.251			ab
C1	2. Class	83	55.686	7.380	3.141	<0.026*	ab
Class	3. Class	98	54.143	7.266	5.141	\0.020	bc
	4. Class	55	58.018	7.184			a

Multiple comparisons were made with Oneway ANOVA test and pairwise comparisons were made with Tukey test. In group comparisons; there are statistically significant differences between groups with different letters. $*\alpha$ =0.05

In the 2nd part of the questionnaire, questions were asked to measure the level of students' sensitivity towards the environment, and in the 3rd part, questions were asked to measure the contribution of landscape architecture education given to students in faculties to environmental sensitivity. Correlation analysis was performed to determine whether there is a significant relationship between students' sensitivity towards the environment and the contribution of landscape architecture education given to students in faculties to environmental awareness.

In the table, information about the correlation relationships (correlation coefficient) and the mean \pm standard deviation values of the scales for the 2nd and 3rd part survey scales applied to the students participating in the research are reported. The correlation relationship investigated and the summarised mean values were carried out over the scores of the 2nd and 3rd part survey subdimensions, and these scores were created based on the data obtained from the applied questionnaires. * represents the findings obtained at 95% confidence level.

Table 2 summarises the results of the correlation analysis of the 2nd and 3rd part survey scales. According to the table, the results are as follows:

There is a positive correlation with a coefficient of 0.452 between students' sensitivity towards the environment and landscape architecture education given to students in faculties. A one-unit increase in the score of the landscape architecture education scale given to the students

in faculties provides an increase of 0.452 units in the students' environmental sensitivity level score (r=0.452 and p<0.001).

The findings related to the gender comparison of the environmental sensitivity scale of the students are explained in Table 3. The results obtained are as follows:

While the environmental awareness scores of female students were determined as 55.605 ± 6.962 , the average value of male students was determined as 55.484 ± 8.401 . The environmental sensitivity of female students was slightly higher than that of male students. However, this situation did not create a statistically significant difference between the groups.

The environmental awareness scores of female and male students were statistically similar (p=0.891>0.05).

The findings related to the differences between the environmental awareness scale scores of the students and their age and faculty classes are given in Table 4. The results are as mentioned below:

While the environmental awareness scores of the students aged 18-20 were determined as 54.191 ± 7.869 , those of the students aged 21-23 were determined as 55.341 ± 7.317 . The average environmental awareness score of students aged 24 years and older was 59.488 ± 6.737 . In the results obtained, it was determined that the environmental sensitivity of the students showed statistically significant differences according to their age (p=0.001<0.05).

The differences observed according to age groups are due to the fact that the environmental awareness scores of students aged 18-20 are statistically significantly lower than those of students aged 24 and older. It was determined that the environmental awareness scores of the students aged between 21-23 years were similar to those of the students aged 18-20 years and 24 years and older.

The environmental awareness scores of the 1st grade students were 55.432 ± 8.251 , 2nd grade students were 55.686 ± 7.380 , 3rd grade students were 54.143 ± 7.266 . The 4th grade students' environmental awareness score was observed as 58.018 ± 7.184 on average. In the results obtained, it was determined that the environmental sensitivity of the students showed statistically significant differences according to the classes they were in (p=0.026<0.05).

The differences observed according to the grades of the students are due to the fact that the environmental awareness scores of the 4th grade students are statistically significantly higher than the 3rd grade students. It was determined that the environmental awareness scores of the other class students were similar.

Conclusion

The results of the survey show that most of the students studying in the department of landscape architecture are sensitive to the environment. It was also concluded that the landscape architecture education given in faculties contributes to the environmental awareness of students.

The majority of the students participating in the research stated that they were sensitive to the environment and that they grew up in an environmentally sensitive family. Although the majority of students have sufficient knowledge on issues such as global warming and climate change, there are also students who do not have sufficient knowledge. Students who prefer to buy products with recycling signs on the packaging and students who throw the wastes into the appropriate recycling bins so that they can be recycled constitute the majority. Students who have previously participated in activities, programmes, congresses or petitions related to environmental protection, nature conservation, etc. constitute approximately half of the students surveyed. The students stated that they aim to protect the environment while carrying out landscape planning and landscape design studies and that they do not want to interfere with the natural landscape while implementing these planning/design projects. In addition, students also stated that they received adequate education on environmental problems, environmental ecology, environmental awareness and consciousness in their faculties. The students stated that they would be able to carry out environmentally sensitive design and planning studies with the education they received after graduation.

The environmental awareness of the students varied depending on the demographic characteristics such as gender, age and grade level. It was determined by statistical analyses that female students and 4th year students had higher levels of environmental awareness. In addition, although landscape architecture departments are located in different faculties, the environmental awareness of landscape architecture department students studying at different universities is statistically similar because their education curricula are similar.

When the results of the research are analysed, it is concluded that most of the landscape architecture students are sensitive about environmental issues. Considering the students who do not have high environmental sensitivity and awareness, the following suggestions have been developed.

Recommendations

In line with the findings of this study, the following suggestions were made to increase the environmental awareness of landscape architecture students. Landscape architecture curriculums should be revised to place greater emphasis on environmental issues. These revisions should include adding new courses that include environmental awareness and sustainability concepts, and updating existing courses with environmentally focused content.

Educational programs should be designed to help students understand environmental issues more deeply and provide practical experiences. In this context, the integration of various practical applications such as field studies and projects is important.

Seminars, congresses and events related to the environment should be organized in order to increase the environmental awareness of students.

In order to encourage students to learn and apply environmental awareness and sustainability issues in depth, they should be supported with environmental awareness-focused projects. Environmental awareness-focused projects can contribute to students developing a sensitive and solution-oriented approach to environmental problems by providing them with the opportunity to apply their theoretical knowledge in practice.

Landscape architecture education programs should encourage interdisciplinary approaches to understanding and solving the complexities of environmental problems. This encouragement can enable students from different disciplines to come together to address environmental problems and bring together diverse perspectives to produce more comprehensive solutions.

The developed suggestions can increase the environmental awareness of landscape architecture students and enable them to approach environmental problems in a more sensitive and conscious manner. Thus, they can develop their career studies after graduation in line with the principles of environmental sustainability.

Declarations

Ethical Approval Certificate

The experimental procedures of this study were approved by the Faculty of Architecture and Design Scientific Ethics Committee of Selcuk University. (Approval date and number: 19.03.2024/No: 02).

Author Contribution Statement

All contributions belong to Ruhugul Ozge Gemici.

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Effect of Honeydew Secreted by *Aphis gossypii* Glover (Hemiptera: Aphididae) on Fungal Growth

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ABSTRACT

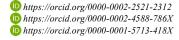
Research Article

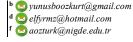
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Honeydew is a sugar-rich, sticky substance secreted by many plant-feeding insect species from the order of Hemiptera and Lepidoptera. Aphids (Hemiptera: Aphididae), on the other hand, feed on nitrogen-poor, carbohydrate-rich phloem sap and excrete excess carbohydrate as honeydew from their anus. The aphids, constituting the main material of the study were sampled from the Catalpa bungei C. A. Mey (Bignoniaceae) tree located in the central campus of Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University and then preparation procedures were carried out for species identification under laboratory conditions. According to the identification key organized according to the host plant, the samples were identified as Aphis gossypii Glover. The honeydew of A. gossypii Glover, known as the cotton aphid, was collected from the host plant and the effects of two different concentrations of the honeydew (10 and 20 g/L) on fungal growth were determined using both solid and liquid media. Different Trichoderma strains and Beauveria bassiana were used to examine fungal growth. Fungal growth in the prepared nutrient media was determined as the amount of biomass (gram). The honeydew content (phenolic substance, sugar and amino acid amounts) was determined and supported by FT-IR analyses. The growth of fungal species in the PDA medium, which was preferred as the control medium, and the medium containing honeydew was compared. It has been determined that fungal growth is better in the medium containing honeydew, and therefore honeydew increases fungal growth. With this study, it is predicted that aphid honeydew can support the growth of both fungal agents used in biological control and plant pathogens.







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Introduction

The honeydew is a sweet watery waste product of the aphid's diet of phloem sap, which is rich in sugar but poor in amino acids (Fischer et al., 2005). It is released by insects, mainly aphids, leafhoppers, mealybugs, planthoppers, psyllids, scale insects, treehoppers and whiteflies. Often overlooked, the honeydew plays an important mediator role affecting the dynamics between insects and plants (Dyer et al., 2018; Álvarez Pérez et al., 2023; Zhang et al., 2023; Fernández de Bobadilla et al., 2024). Honeydew constitutes the food source of many insect groups, especially ants. Aphids (Aphididae), which feed on phloem sap, have developed mutualistic relationships with ants thanks to the honeydew they produce (Dixon, 1998; Ali et al., 2024). While ants meet their carbohydrate needs with the honeydew produced by

aphids (Saha et al., 2018), aphids also benefit from this relationship by reducing predation, parasitism and the risk of fungal infection (Völkl et al., 1999). The composition and quantity of honeydew may vary depending on aphid species, host plant species and phloem quality, and biotic and abiotic environmental factors (Fischer et al., 2005; Blanchard et al., 2022). Fischer and Shingleton (2001) demonstrated that while feeding on *Populus tremula* L. (Salicaceae) as compared with *Populus alba* L. (Salicaceae), the honeydew of *Chaitophorus populialbae* (Boyer de Fonscolombe) and *Chaitophorus populeti* (Panzer) contained a higher amount of the trisaccharide melezitose. In insects, gastrointestinal enzymes convert plant-derived sucrose into the sugars found in honeydew, such as melezitose, erlose, raffinose, trehalose, and

trehalulose (Hendrix et al., 1992; Wäckers, 2000). On the other hand, some aphid species release more honeydew than their own body weight on an hourly basis; the process of producing honeydew is intricate and impacted by many variables including insect age, size, species, seasonal and geographical location of the host plant, diurnal shifts, and climate (Ali et al., 2024). The quantity and quality of honeydew, as well as the sugar demand of the ants, are often correlated positively with the intensity of ant-aphid mutualism (Bonser et al., 1998; Fischer et al., 2001).

Even small changes, which may seem insignificant, in the content of the honeydew can affect the feeding behavior of insects in different ways. For instance, aphids that produce melezitose-rich honeydew, such as Metopeurum fuscoviride Stroyan and Cinara spp., are known to attract ants, but aphids that produce minimal melezitose, such as Macrosiphoniella tanacetaria (Kaltenbach) and Macrosiphum euphorbiae (Thomas), have little or no impact on ant behaviour (Hendrix et al., 1992; Völkl et al., 1999). In addition, although the sugar and amino acid contents of flower, stem nectars and honeydew are not very different, repellent plant substances play an important role in the feeding preferences of ants (Blüthgen et al., 2004). Moreover, it has been reported that the honeydew of many insects can have positive effects on herbivore population dynamics by increasing the fitness of parasitoids (Evans & England, 1996; Tena et al., 2016). It also has an effect on the initiation and maintenance of seeking behavior of hyperparasitoids of aphids (Buitenhuis et al., 2004). This adds a different dimension to the ecological importance of honeydew.

The honeydew, which is the carbohydrate source of ants, is not only a sugary waste product of aphids, but also has an ecological importance that extends to various living groups in the ecosystem. For example, aphids like Sitobion avenae (Fabricius) and Metopolophium dirhodum (Walker) are individually impacted by the microbial influence on honeydew dynamics. When compared to healthy plants, these aphids significantly reduce the amount of honeydew excreted by plants infected with the Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus-BYDV (Ajayi & Dewar, 1982; Ali et al., 2024; Fiebig et al., 2004). The complex interactions between sap-feeding insects, plants, and microbial communities that shape honeydew dynamics and its ecological implications are further highlighted by this finding. The honeydew, rich in sugar and other components, also serves as a food source for various microorganisms and fungi i.g. pathogenic fungi (Tena et al., 2016). Thus, the microbial communities that develop in

honeydew, in turn, support the larger ecological environment (Owen & Wiegert, 1976; Leroy et al., 2011; van Neerbos et al., 2020). It is known that, the fungi produce volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including aldehydes, alcohols, benzene derivatives, phenols, heterocycles, hydrocarbons, ketones, cyclohexanes, thioesters and thioalcohols (Karslı & Şahin, 2021). The volatile organic compounds (VOCs) can affect plant health, insect behaviour, and even attract natural enemies of the honeydew producers. Exploring honeydew's ecological effects reveals that this seemingly unremarkable material has significant effects on pest management, nutrient cycling, and biodiversity (Álvarez-Pérez et al., 2024).

In this study, the effect of honeydew content on fungal growth was investigated. It was investigated whether aphid honeydew has an effect on the development and activity of *Bauveria bassiana* and some *Trichoderma* species, which are fungi that can be applied in agricultural fields.

Materials and Methods

Aphid Material and Honeydew Collection

Aphids forming dense colonies and a large amount of honeydew were observed on *Catalpa bungei* C. A. Mey (Bignoniaceae) plants at the Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University Central Campus, on September 28, 2022. It has been determined that the wingless individuals of the aphid population are mostly yellow, some are light green and dark green, and they prefer the lower parts of the plant's leaves.

Firstly, the aphids taken from the host plant were transferred to eppendorf tubes containing 96% alcohol and transferred to the laboratory for identification. Preparations of the samples were made according to the principles specified by Martin (1983). Then, aphids were identified as Aphis gossypii Glover according to the identification key provided by Blackman & Eastop (2024). Aphis gossypii Glover, known as the cotton aphid, is a cosmopolitan species (Holman, 2009; Kök & Özdemir, 2021; Blackman & Eastop, 2024; Görür et al., 2024). It can use a variety of plants as hosts, including cotton, cucurbits, eggplant, pepper, potato, many ornamental plants, and Catalpa spp. (Holman, 2009; Blackman & Eastop, 2024). Later on, nylon material was stretched over the undersides of the leaves of the plant where honeydew, was detected. The honeydew was collected twice a week from these nylon toglass tubes (Figure 1). After collection, samples were capped with parafilm and stored at -20°C until analysis.







Figure 1. Honeydew collection from Catalpa bungei plants

Preparation of Medium

Ten (10) grams of dry honeydew samples collected from the leaves and stems of about four trees, were used for the experimental studies. Two grams of honeydew were dissolved with 10 ml of distilled water and filtered to remove any physical material. The culture medium was prepared by adding 5.0 ml of honeydew solution to 100 ml of distilled water and 1.5 grams of agar medium and sterilized by autoclaving at 121°C for 15 minutes. The pH of the medium was 7.3 ± 0.2 at room temperature before autoclaving. This solid medium containing honeydew is called HDA (Honeydew Agar) medium. Honeydew broth medium was prepared similar to HDA solid medium without agar. Mineral medium (MM) was prepared as a negative control for fungal growth in Petri dishes containing % 0.9 g (w/v) NaCl. In addition to the mineral medium, Potato Dextrose Agar (Merck 110130 Potato Dextrose Agar (PDA), 500 gr) used for the growth of Trichoderma species and Beauveria bassiana was also prepared as a positive control.

Fungus

Eight fungal strains isolated in a previous study (Project no: FMT 2022/15-LUTEP supported by Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University) were used in this study. First, fungal strains were grown on PDA (Potato Dextrose Agar) medium. Then, fungal disks of 6.0 mm diameter were taken from one-week cultures and placed in the center of petri dishes containing HDA medium. All plates were incubated at 27±2°C for 7 days. Test media, negative and positive control medium were prepared as three parallels, and averaged the measurements. Abbreviations for fungal strains used are as follows: Trichoderma koningiopsis (TK), Trichoderma citrinoviride (TC), Trichoderma saturnisporum (TS), Trichoderma harzianum (TH), Trichoderma pleuroticola (TP), Beauveria bassiana (BB), Trichoderma asperellum isolated from banana plant root (TA), Trichoderma longibrachiatum isolated from soil (TL).

Analysis of Sugars and Amino Acids in Aphid Honeydew

Sugar and organic acid analysis were performed using AGILENT 6460 Triple Quadrupole System (ESI+Agilent Jet Stream) and AGILENT 1200 Series HPLC at METU Central Laboratory, Molecular Biology-Biotechnology Research and Development Center, Mass Spectroscopy Laboratory, Ankara, Turkey.

For organic acid analysis; Instrument: Agilent 1260 HPLC system, Column: Metacarb 87H column and Detector: PDA-210nm, Mobile Phase: 0.008N H2SO4, Flow Rate: 0.6mL/min.

For Sugar Analysis; Instrument: Agilent 1260 HPLC system, Column: Hiplex H column and Detector: RID, Mobile Phase: Water Flow Rate: 0.6mL/min.

Amino acid analysis was performed at TUBITAK-

In addition, FT-IR study was (Central Laboratory, Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University) also conducted for phenolic substance content and other contents. In the FT-

IR study; gallic acid (MERCK) was used as a control in the investigation of phenolic substance content.

Results and Discussion

The comparison of the growth of fungal isolates on HDA medium with the growth on mineral medium and PDA medium used as a negative and positive control is shown in Figure 2. As shown in Figure 2, all fungal strains showed very well growth in HDA medium than in the negative control. In order to confirm the growth of fungal strains in HDA medium, liquid media containing different volumes of honeydew were also prepared in three parallels. When their growth on liquid medium was measured; the growth rate of each species varied. In addition, it was shown in Figure 3 that there were differences in mean biomass production of fungal growth in liquid media containing 1.0 % and 0.5 % (w/v) of honeydew.

While TK and BB showed similar growth in both ratios, the growth in TC, TS, TA was better in medium with 0.5% honeydew. It is estimated that the better growth in these strains in the medium containing 0.5% honeydew is related to the phenolic substance content of the honeydew. On the other hand, it was determined that the TH, TP, TL strains had better growth in the medium containing 1.0% honeydew.

In the analysis of the honeydew substance content, butyric acid and formic acid were found, while trehalose, sucrose, maltose and raffinose were detected as sugars. Lactose, a disaccharide, was not detected. It was thought that all these components provided suitable conditions as a carbon source for fungal growth in both liquid and solid media, however, nitrogen content should also be in the components, so the amino acid content was examined. However, it could not be detected in the present solution. The presence of amino acids in the solution is indisputable, but it is thought that it could not be detected due to the very low amount in the solvent. In addition, FT-IR study of the honey was also performed to examine the phenolic content and the total content (Figure 4).

FT-IR analyses showed that the phenolic content of the honeydew was higher than that of the gallic acid standard (Figure 4). It has been determined that some fungal isolates grow better in a medium with 0.5% honeydew content than in a medium with 1.0% honeydew content. It is thought that the reason why fungal growth is lower in 1.0% liquid medium is due to the toxic effect of the phenolic compounds in the honeydew. It has been shown in the literature that high phenolic contents (especially gallic acid, which is common in plants) have a toxic effect on some fungi and yeast species (Dix, 1979; Li et al., 2017). Additionally, the FT-IR spectrum of standard gallic acid shows distinct peaks around 3300 (C-OH peak), 2900 (C-H-H peak), 1600 (C=0 peak), 1400 (C=C peak), 1200, and 1000 cm⁻¹ and many peaks overlap with the honeydew. It is noteworthy that the FT-IR spectrum also overlaps with the extract of Catalpa ovata G. Don (Bignoniaceae) plant (Yang et al., 2020). Similarly, it is reported by Anjos et al. (2015) that various sugars have peaks at 3200, 2900, 1600, 1300, 1200 and 1000 cm⁻¹.

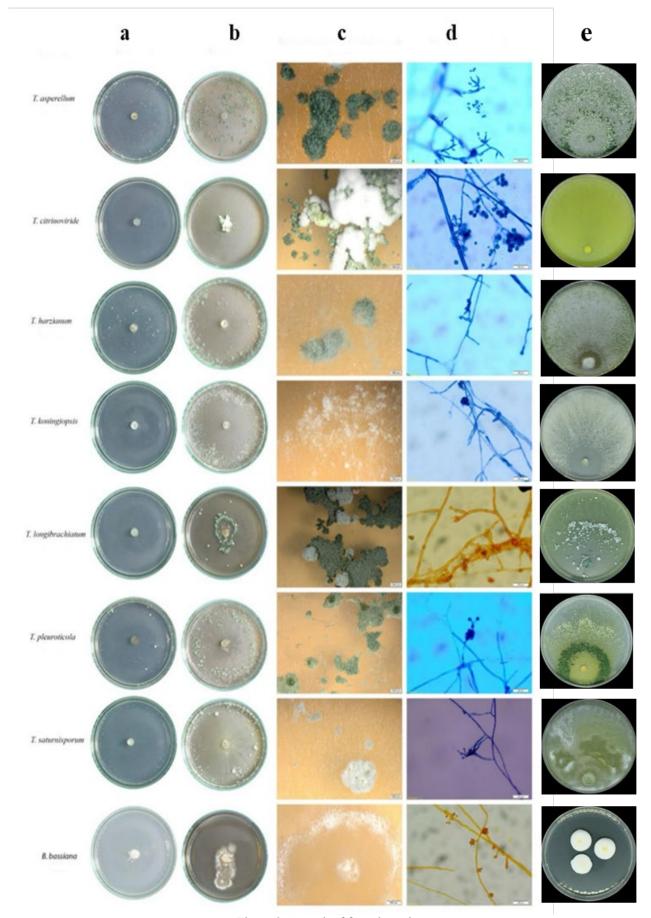


Figure 2. Growth of fungal species
a) fungal growth on MM medium as negative control, b) fungal growth on HDA medium as test media, c) mycelial growth and d) hyphal morphology, e) fungal growth on PDA medium as positive control

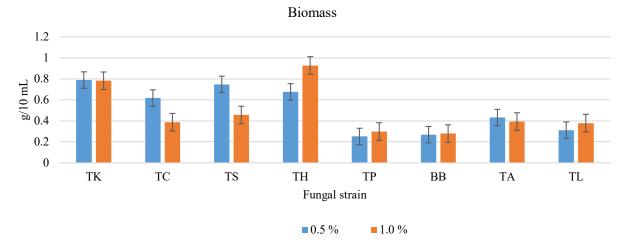


Figure 3. Microbial mean biomass in liquid honeydew media

(From left to right; Trichoderma koningiopsis (TK), Trichoderma citrinoviride (TC), Trichoderma saturnisporum (TS), Trichoderma harzianum (TH), Trichoderma pleuroticola (TP), Beauveria bassiana (BB), Trichoderma asperellum (TA), Trichoderma longibrachiatum (TL)

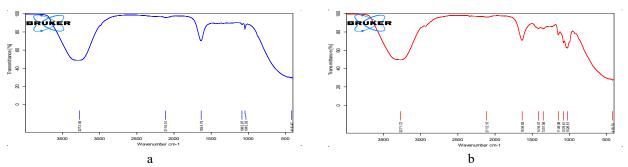


Figure 4. FT-IR analyses (a) Gallic acid, (b) Honeydew

Table 1. Sugar and organic acid content of honeydew (mg/mL)

	Butyric acid	Formic acid	Raffinose	Trehalose+Sucrose+Maltose	Lactose
Honeydew	0.5 ± 0.0	6.1 ± 0.3	62±3	26±3	not detected

Conclusion

The aphid species A. gossypii Glover, which has a high population density on the Catalpa bungei C. A. Mey (Bignoniaceae) plant, produces a large amount of honeydew. It is seen that the content of the honeydew produced depends on the host plant and the sugars in the plant sap can be dominant. In addition, it appears that the content of the honeydew produced by aphids may positively or negatively affect the development of various fungal species. It is thought that the inhibitory effect may be due to the various phenolic substances contained in the honeydew, which was found to be consistent with the literature.

In biological control studies, focus should be placed on the honeydew produced by insects, in addition to nectar and honey (resin), which are carbohydrate sources for each living group in the food chain. In this study, it was determined that *A. gossypii* Glover honeydew had a positive effect on the development and activity of some *Trichoderma* species and *B. bassiana* fungus species, which can be applied in agricultural fields. In light of the research conducted, this study highlights the multifaceted role of honeydew in shaping the complex dynamics of insect-plant-microorganism interactions, highlighting its importance in both pest management and conservation strategies. Moreover, as one of the first studies on whether

it supports agriculturally beneficial or harmful fungal developments, it has shown that honeydew should be focused on.

Declarations

Author Contribution Statement

G.O.E.: Investigation, formal analysis, conceptualization, writing the original draft, supervision, review and editing

Y.B., **G.B.** and **E.Y.C.**: Data collection, investigation and methodology

G.G.: Investigation, writing the original draft, supervision, review and editing

A.Ö.: Data collection, Investigation, writing the original draft, supervision, review and editing

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Acknowledgements

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Review of Research on School Gardening

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ARTICLE INFO ABSTRACT This study aims to determine the development process of studies conducted on school gardening, which are Research Article considered innovative practices, and to discuss them in the context of early childhood education and child development. The study is descriptive and has a scanning model type. A total of 89 academic publications in the form of articles or reports published in English on school gardening, which were scanned with the keyword Received: 07.11.2024 "school gardening" in all indexes in the Web of Science database, were included in the study. The publications Accepted: 07.12.2024 were analyzed and shown with graphics by dividing them into many variables such as the number of publications by year, the distribution of authors, countries and journals in which the articles were published, and the frequency of keywords. As a result of the research; it was determined that although there were occasional decreases in the number of scientific publications, there was a regular increase, the most publications were made in the journal Horttechnology, the highest hindex was written by the author J. E. Cade, Keywords: the most researched institutions were universities in the USA, the most preferred micro topic in the Web of School Gardening Science database was obesity, the most preferred research area was education research, and the most preferred Education sustainable development goals were health and quality of life. In line with the results obtained from the Child Development research; it is recommended that school gardening be reserved for agricultural practices, agricultural practices Early Childhood Education that can be carried out in schools be integrated into the education curriculum at all levels, training on school Document Review gardening be provided to all stakeholders, both internal and external, regarding education, planning and implementation of research and interdisciplinary projects on school gardening, establishing correct collaborations with different countries in the research to be carried out, and organizing academic activities such as congresses and workshops with international collaborations to disseminate school gardening.

Türk Tarım – Gıda Bilim ve Teknoloji Dergisi, 12(s4): 2823-2831, 2024

Okul Bahçelerinde Yapılan Tarım Uygulamaları (School Gardening) ile İlgili Yapılan Çalışmaların İncelenmesi

MAKALE BİLGİSİ

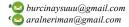
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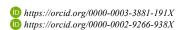
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Anahtar Kelimeler: Okul Bahçeciliği Eğitim Çocuk Gelişimi Erken çocukluk eğitimi Doküman İncelemesi

Bu araştırmada yenilikçi uygulamalar olarak görülen okul bahçelerinde tarım uygulamaları ile ilgili yapılan araştırmaların gelişim sürecinin tespit edilmesi ve erken çocukluk eğitimi ve çocuk gelişimi bağlamında tartışılması amaçlanmaktadır. Araştırma, betimsel nitelikte olup, tarama modeli tipindedir. Araştırmaya Web of Science veri tabanında yer alan tüm indekslerde "school gardening" anahtar kelimesi ile taranan okullarda tarım uygulamaları konusunda İngilizce dilinde yayınlanmış makale veya bildiri şeklindeki toplam 89 akademik yayın dahil edilmiştir. Yayınlar, bilgisayar ortamına aktarılarak yıllara göre yayın sayıları, yazarların, ülkelerin ve makalelerin yayınlandığı dergilerin dağılımı, anahtar kelimelerin sıklığı gibi birçok değişkene göre ayrılarak çözümlenmiş, grafiklerle gösterilmiştir. Araştırma sonucunda; bilimsel yayınların sayısında zaman zaman düşüşler olmasına rağmen düzenli olarak artış eğiliminde olduğu, en çok Horttechnology isimli dergide yayın yapıldığı, en yüksek h indeksinin J. E. Cade isimli yazar olduğu, en çok araştırma yapılan kurumun ABD'de bulunan üniversiteler olduğu, çalışmalarda en fazla tercih edilen Web of Science veri tabanındaki micro konunun obezite, en fazla tercih edilen araştırma alanının eğitim araştırmaları, en fazla tercih edilen sürdürülebilir kalkınma amaçlarının sağlık ve kaliteli yaşam olduğu saptanmıştır. Araştırmadan elde edilen sonuçlar doğrultusunda; okul bahçelerinin belli bölümlerinin tarım uygulamaları için ayrılması, tüm kademelerdeki eğitim müfredatına okullarda yapılabilecek tarım uygulamalarının entegre edilmesi, eğitim ile ilgili iç ve dış olmak üzere tüm paydaşlara okul bahçeciliği ile ilgili eğitimler verilmesi, okul bahçelerinde tarım uygulamaları ile ilgili araştırma ve disiplinler arası projelerin planlanması ve uygulanması, yapılacak araştırmalarda farklı ülkelerle etkili işbirliklerinin yapılması, okullarda tarım uygulamalarının yaygınlaştırılması için kongre, çalıştay gibi akademik faaliyetlerin uluslararası işbirlikleri ile düzenlenmesi önerilmektedir.











Giris

Çocuklar açık havada vakit geçirmekten çok hoşlanmaktadır. Açık hava eğitimini kullanarak, rekreasyonel faaliyetlerin ve doğaya olan farkındalık eksikliğinin zararlı etkisi önemli ölçüde azaltılabilir, yaşam kalitesi arttırabilir ve eğitimin amaçlarına ulaşması sağlanabilir (Osborne, 2023). Erken yıllarda, açık hava deneyimleri, oyun, problem çözme, deney yapma, sorgulama, diyaloglar ve işbirliği için (Bento ve Costa, 2018) ve özellikle eğitimin sürdürülebilir hedeflerine ulaşılmasına fırsat oluşturmaktadır (Kahriman-Pamuk ve ark., 2019). Bu anlamda eğitim, gelecek nesillerin yaşamlarını sürdürmesi için yapılması gerekenleri ele almada önemli bir role sahip olup sürdürülebilirlik noktasında da bireyleri sürdürülebilir uygulamalar hakkında bilgilendirmeyi, farkındalık yaratmayı ve gerekli beceri ve tutumların geliştirilmesi için destek sağlamayı amaçlamaktadır. Eğitimin sürdürülebilir hedeflerine ulaşılması, yetişkinler ve akranlarla destekleyici ve olumlu ilişkiler, uygun ekipman sağlanması ve özellikle doğayla temas yoluyla kolaylaşabilmektedir (Bento ve Costa, 2018; Kahriman-Pamuk ve ark., 2019).

Doğayla temas noktasında, çocukların en sevdiği açık hava aktiviteleri arasında olan koşma, trambolin, bir şeyler inşa etme, ağaçlara tırmanma, doğayı keşfetme ve yağmurda oynama gibi aktif ve doğa temelli aktivitelere katılmak için güvenli yeşil alanlar gerekmektedir (Osborne, 2023). Mevcut sosyal bağlamda, çocuklar Covid19 salgını nedeniyle de 2020 yılının büyük bir kısmında evde karantınada kalmış olup dışarıda, açık havada, temiz havada olma fırsatlarını kaçırmış durumdadır. Birçok aile ve çocuk zaten açık hava aktivitelerine sınırlı düzeyde yer vermek zorunda kalmıştır. Covid19 salgını ailelere, açık havanın ve temiz havanın çocukları için ne kadar değerli olduğunu fark ettirmiş bulunmaktadır (Ozturk ve Ozer, 2022).

Açık hava aktiviteleri çocukları mutlu, sağlıklı, enerjik ve daha az stresli hissettirmesine rağmen, çocukların önemli bir kısmı okul dışı açık hava aktivitelerine katılmak için günde bir saatten daha az zaman ayırmaktadır (Osborne, 2023). Çocukların açık hava deneyiminde birçok faktörle birlikte ebeveyn tutumlarının da önemli etkisi bulunmaktadır (McHugh ve ark., 2023; Ozturk ve Ozer, 2022). Bu durum da okulda yapılacak açık hava aktiviteierinin ve okul hahçelerinin önemini göstermektedir.

Okullar, bahçelerini çocukların gelişimini bütüncül bir şekilde desteklemek için çeşitli şekillerde kullanabilir (Austin, 2022). Okul bahçeleri, özellikle evlerinde bahçesi olmayan çocuklar için uygulamalı deneyim sağlayabilir (Hellinger ve ark., 2022). Bu yöntemlerden birisi de okul bahçelerinde tarım uygulamalarıdır. Bahçede tarım yapmak, doğası gereği ilgi çekicidir ve çocuklarda ilgi uyandıran, gurur duygusunu yaşamayı sağlayan bir etkinliktir (Gardner Burt, 2016). Okullarda bahçe eğitimi, açık hava öğreniminin bir bileşeni olarak bir bahçenin eğitim müfredatına ve haftalık planlama rutinlerine bütüncül olarak sıklıkla, tutarlı ve yoğun bir şekilde entegre edilmesidir (McMillen ve ark., 2019).

Okul bahçelerinde yapılan tarım çalışmalarında, meyve ve sebzeler okulun bahçesinde, çevresinde veya yakınında yetiştirilmekte ve bazen küçük ölçekli de olsa temel bir

gıda kaynağı olmaktadır (Sottile ve ark., 2016). Öğretmenler ve okul yöneticileri temel müfredatın gereklerini yerine getirmekte zorlanabilirken, okul bahçeciliği hem temel müfredatta bulunan öğrenmeyi gerçekleştirmekte hem de çocukların sosyal ve duygusal öğrenme yeterliliklerini kalıcı öğrenme çıktısı ile birlestirme potansiyeline sahip olmaktadır (Lohr ve ark., 2021). Aynı zamanda okullarda tarım uygulamaları hem çevresel sürdürülebilirlik hem de sağlıkla ilgili olumlu sonuçlar doğurmaktadır (Davis ve ark., 2015). Blair (2009) çevresel açıdan; çocukluk döneminde aktif bahçecilik yapmanın, ağaçların yetişkinlikte kişisel değer taşıyıp tasımadığının en önemli belirleyicisi olduğunu vurgulamıştır.

Tarımın kendisi insanlık tarihi kadar eski olmasına rağmen yenilikçi uygulamalar arasında olan okul bahçeciliği (school gardening), çocukların gelişimini doğa yoluyla desteklemeye olan ilginin bir sonucu olarak eğitimde yerini almıştır (Lohr ve ark., 2021). Okul bahçelerinde yapılan tarım uygulamaları, dünya çapında birçok ülkede çevre ve beslenme eğitiminin teşvik edilmesi ile ilgili çalışmaların giderek daha fazla bir parçası haline gelmiştir (Sottile ve ark., 2016).

Ülkemizde çocuklarla yapılan açık hava etkinlikleri ile ilgili disiplinler arası çalışmalar az olduğundan, konu hakkında farklı disiplinlerden daha fazla çalışmaya yer vermek önemlidir. Çünkü çok disiplinli bakış açıları, açık hava aktivitelerini (Ozturk & Ozer, 2022) ve özellikle okul bahçeciliğini anlamaya farklı boyutlar katacaktır. Bu noktada dünya çapında birçok ülkede araştırmaların bir parçası haline gelmeye başlayan okul bahçeciliğine (Sottile ve ark., 2016) ilişkin araştırmaların yönelimi öne çıkmaktadır.

Okul bahçeciliği ile ilgili yapılan araştırmaların dağılımının belirlenmesinin, konu ile ilgili bilgi edinme ile altyapı olusturacağı, gelecekte yapılacak arastırmalara yön vereceği öngörülmektedir. Okul bahçeciliği ile ilgili yayınlanan makalelerin, kapsamlı ve bütüncül bir şekilde ele alınarak konu ile ilgili daha nitelikli çalışmaların yapılmasının yanında yaygınlaşmasını da sağlayacak ve bu sayede literatürde oluşan eksikliği giderebilecektir. Ayrıca gelecekte yapılacak araştırmalara konu oluşturacak, yöntem ve örneklem seçimi noktası ile alanda oluşacak ölçek geliştirme ile ilgili gereksinimlere fikir vererek alanyazına katkısı olacağı da düsünülmektedir. Dünyada okul bahçeciliği ile ilgili çalısmaların tespit edilerek yıllar içinde değişimlerinin nasıl olduğu, çalışmaların kimlerle yapıldığı hangi ülkelerde önem düşünülmektedir. Bu düşünceden hareketle bu araştırmada yenilikçi uygulamalar olarak görülen okul bahçelerinde tarım uygulamaları ile ilgili yapılan araştırmaların gelişim sürecinin tespit edilmesi ve erken çocukluk eğitimi ve çocuk gelişimi bağlamında tartışılması amaçlanmaktadır.

Materyal ve Yöntem

Bu araştırmada yenilikçi uygulamalar olarak görülen okul bahçelerinde tarım uygulamaları ile ilgili yapılan araştırmaların gelişim sürecinin tespit edilmesi ve erken çocukluk eğitimi ve çocuk gelişimi bağlamında tartışılması amaçlanmaktadır. Araştırmada etik kurul izini ve/veya

yasal/özel izin alınması gerekmemektedir. Araştırma, bilimsel yayınların dağılımlarını ortaya koyduğundan betimsel nitelikte olup, tarama modeli tipindedir. Betimsel istatistik, belirli bir gruba ait gözlemlere ilişkin sayısal verilerin özetlenmesi, düzenlenmesi ve sınıflandırılmasıyla ilgilenen istatistik olarak tanımlanmaktadır (Büyüköztürk ve ark., 2014). Araştırmaya Web of Science veri tabanında yer alan tüm indekslerde "school gardening" anahtar kelimesi ile taranan okullarda tarım uygulamaları konusunda İngilizce dilinde yayınlanmış makale veya bildiri şeklindeki toplam 89 akademik yayın dahil edilmiştir. Yayınlar, bilgisayar ortamına aktarılarak yıllara göre yayın sayıları, yazarların, ülkelerin ve makalelerin yayınlandığı dergilerin dağılımı, anahtar kelimelerin sıklığı gibi birçok değişkene göre ayrılarak çözümlenmiş, grafiklerle gösterilmiştir. Grafikler, verileri anlamlı olarak sınıflandırmanın yollarından biri olup kullanılmaktadır (Büyüköztürk ve ark., 2014).

Bulgular

Bu bölümde araştırmadan elde edilen yayınların yıllara göre dağılımı, sayılarına göre yayınlandığı ilk 10 derginin dağılımı, sayılarına ve H indeksine göre çalışmaları yayınlayan ilk 10 araştırmacının dağılımı, çalışmaların yapıldığı yerlere ilişkin yoğunluk haritası, ilk 10 ülkenin ilgili konuda bilimsel yayın üretimine göre zamansal

değişimi, en fazla yayın yapılan kurumların dağılımı, çalışmalarda en fazla tercih edilen Web of Science micro konunun dağılımı, araştırma alanı ve sürdürülebilir kalkınma amaçlarının dağılımına ilişkin bulgulara yer verilmiştir.

Grafik 1 incelendiğinde; okullarda tarım uygulamaları ile ilgili yayınların sayısının zaman zaman düşüşler olmasına rağmen düzenli olarak artış eğiliminde olduğu, makale sayısının 2017 yılında en yüksek sayıya eriştiği, 2024 yılına kadar okullarda tarım uygulamaları ile ilgili yayınlanan makale ve bildirinin toplam sayısının 89 olduğu belirlenmistir.

Grafik 2'ye göre okullarda tarım uygulamaları ile ilgili (toplamda 68 dergide) yayınlanan makalelerin en çok yayınlandığı dergiler incelendiğinde; Horttechnology (11), Bmc Public Health (5), Hortscience (5), Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior (4), International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health (3), Acta Horticulturae (2), Childhood Obesity (2), Health Promotion Practice (2), Journal of Hunger Environmental Nutrition (2), Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (2) şeklinde dağıldığı görülmüştür.

Grafik 3'de sayılarına ve H indeksine göre çalışmaları yayınlayan ilk 10 araştırmacı görülmektedir. Araştırmacıların yayın sayılarının birbirine yakın olmasına rağmen en yüksek h indeksinin J. E. Cade'de olduğu saptanmıştır.

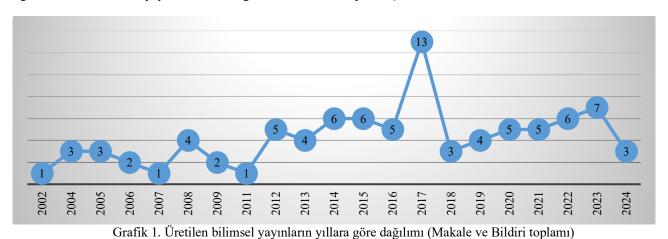
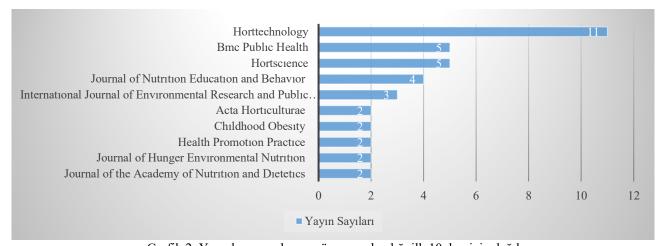
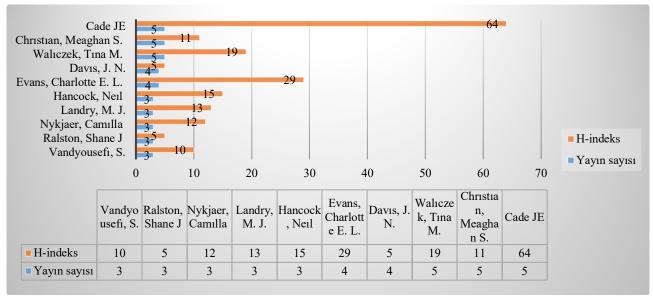


Figure 1. Distribution of published/produced scientific publications by year (Total of Articles and Proceedings)



Grafik 2. Yayınların sayılarına göre yayınlandığı ilk 10 derginin dağılımı Figure 2. Distribution of the top 10 journals in which publications were published according to their numbers



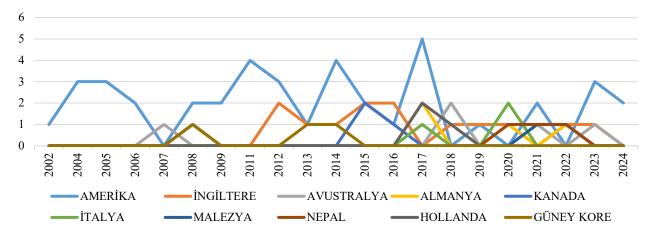
Grafik 3. Sayılarına ve H indeksine göre çalışmaları yayınlayan ilk 10 araştırmacı Figure 3. Top 10 researchers who published their studies according to their numbers and H index



Grafik 4. Çalışmaların yapıldığı yerlere ilişkin yoğunluk haritası Figure 4. *Density map of countries where research is conducted*



Grafik 5. Çalışmaların sayısına göre ilk 10 ülke Grafik 5. Top 10 countries by number of studies

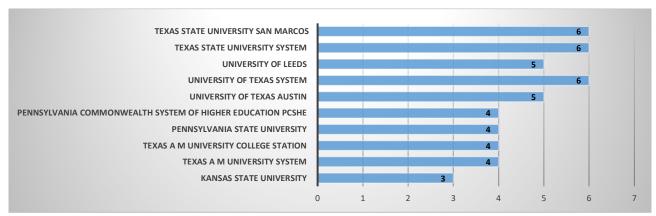


Grafik 6. İlk 10 ülkenin ilgili konuda bilimsel yayın üretimine göre zamansal değişimi Grafik 6. Temporal change of the top 10 countries according to scientific publication production on the relevant subject

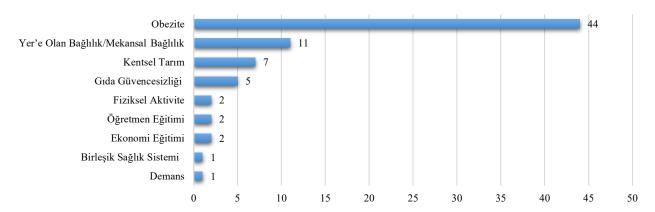
Dünya genelinde çalışmaların yapıldığı yerlere ilişkin yoğunluk haritasına bakıldığında sırasıyla ABD (41), İngiltere (13), Avusturalya (5), Almanya (4), Kanada (3), İtalya (3), Malezya (3), Nepal (3), Hollanda (3), Güney Kore (3), Danimarka (2), Çin Halk Cumhuriyeti (2), Güney Afrika (2), Tayvan (2), Belçika (1), Bhutan (1), Brezilya (1), Yunanistan (1), Endonezya (1), İsrail (1), Meksika (1), Norveç (1), Umman (1), Pakistan (1), Filipinler (1), Slovenya (1), İsviçre (1), Tayland (1), Türkiye (1), Uganda (1)'da konu ile ilgili çalışmalar yapıldığı görülmektedir.

Çalışmaların sayısına göre ilk 10 ülkeye bakıldığında; sırasıyla ABD (41), İngiltere (13), Avusturalya (5), Almanya (4), Kanada (3), İtalya (3), Malezya (3), Nepal (3), Hollanda (3), Güney Kore (3) olduğu görülmektedir.

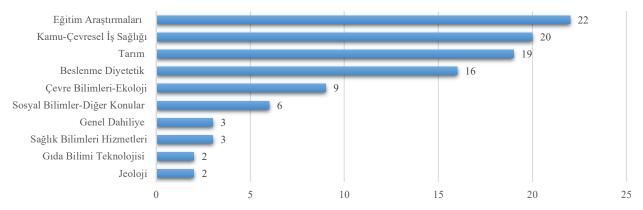
Grafik 6'da konu ile ilgili en çok çalışma yapan ilk 10 ülkenin bilimsel yayın üretimine göre zamansal değişimi görülmektedir. En çok Araştırma yapan ABD'nin 2018 yılı ile birlikte çalışma sayısında bir azalma, diğer ülkeler açısından ise son yıllara doğru bir yoğunlaşma olduğu söylenebilir.



Grafik 7. En fazla yayın yapılan kurumlar (ilk 10 kurum) *Figure 7. Institutions with the most publications (top 10 institutions)*



Grafik 8. Çalışmalarda en fazla tercih edilen Web of Science micro konu (ilk 10) Figure 8. Most preferred Web of Science micro topic in research (top 10)

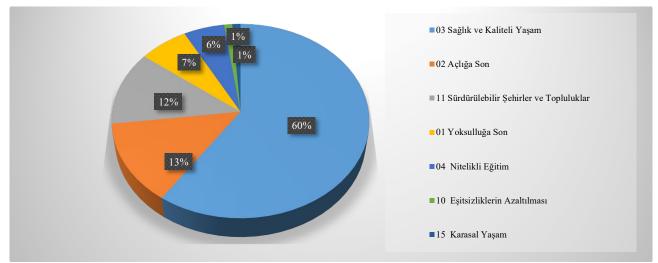


Grafik 9. Çalışmalarda en fazla tercih edilen araştırma alanı (ilk 10) Figure 9. The most preferred research area in research (top 10)

En fazla yayın yapılan ilk 10 kurum incelendiğinde tamamının üniversite olduğu, tamamına yakınının da ABD'de ve özellikle Texas Eyaletinde, birinin ise İngiltere'de yer aldığı görülmektedir.

Grafikte de görüldüğü gibi çalışmalarda en fazla tercih edilen (ilk 10) Web of Science veri tabanındaki micro konunun sırasıyla, obezite (44), yere olan bağlılık/mekansal bağlılık (11), kentsel tarım (7), gıda güvencesizliği (5), fiziksel aktivite (2), öğretmen eğitimi (2), ekonomi eğitimi (2), demans (1), birleşik sağlık sistemi (1) konularında yoğunlaştığı görülmüştür.

Çalışmalarda en fazla tercih edilen ilk 10 araştırma alanına bakıldığında sırasıya eğitim araştırmaları (22), kamu-çevresel iş sağlığı (20), tarım (19), beslenme diyetetik (16), çevre bilimleri-ekoloji (9), sosyal bilimlerdiğer konular (6), genel dahiliye (3), sağlık bilimleri hizmetleri (3), gıda bilimi teknolojisi (2) ve jeoloji (2) olduğu saptanmıştır. Calısmalarda tercih sürdürülebilir kalkınma amaçlarının dağılımı incelendiğinde sırasıyla 03-sağlık ve kaliteli yaşam (%60), 02-açlığa son (%13), 11-sürdürülebilir şehirler ve topluluklar (%12), 01yoksulluğa son (%7), 04-nitelikli eğitim (%6), 10eşitsizliklerin azaltılması (%1), 15-karasal yaşamın (%1) olduğu görülmektedir.



Grafik 10. Çalışmalarda tercih edilen sürdürülebilir kalkınma amaçlarının dağılımı Figure 10. Distribution of preferred sustainable development goals in research

Tartışma

Günümüz toplumunun yaşam tarzı, çocuk gelişimi ve büyüme üzerinde büyük bir etkiye sahiptir. Okulun ve müfredatın kültürel, duygusal ve aynı zamanda rekabetçi gelişimde önemli bir yer tuttuğu günümüzde, serbest zaman veya eğlence, aktiviteler her çocuğun günlük programında ikinci sırada yer almaktadır. Bu bağlamda, açık hava aktivitelerine ayrılan zaman önemli ölçüde azalmakta, bu durum hareketsiz bir yaşam tarzını beraberinde getirmekte, doğal çevre ile bağlantıyı ve bu farkındalığın doğru anlaşılmasını yok edebilmektedir Zihin, beden ve ruh arasındaki bağlantıyı temsil eden bütünsel bir eğitim yöntemi olan açık hava eğitimi, çocukların eğitimindeki bu mevcut açığın çözümü olabilmekte (Isopescu ve ark., 2019) ve çocuklara bu doğal çevreyi düzenli ve anlamlı bir şekilde deneyimleme fırsatlarının sağlanmasının yollarının belirlenmesi gerekmektedir (Ohly ve ark., 2016). Bu yollardan biri okullarda yapılan tarım uygulamalarıdır.

Yenilikçi uygulamalar olarak görülen bahçelerinde tarım uygulamaları ile ilgili yapılan araştırmaların gelişim sürecinin tespit edilmesi ve erken çocukluk eğitimi ve çocuk gelişimi bağlamında tartışılmasının amaçlandığı bu araştırmadan elde edilen bulgular incelendiğinde öncelikle 2024 yılına kadar okullarda tarım uygulamaları ile ilgili yayınlanan makale ve bildirinin toplam sayısının 89 olduğu görülmüştür. Okullarda tarım uygulamaları ile ilgili yayınların sayısının zaman zaman düşüşler olmasına rağmen düzenli olarak artış eğiliminde olduğu, makale sayısının 2017 yılında en yüksek sayıya eriştiği saptanmıştır. Konu ile ilgili en çok çalışma yapan ilk 10 ülkenin bilimsel yayın üretimine göre zamansal değişimine bakıldığında ise en çok araştırma yapan ABD'nin 2018 yılı ile birlikte çalışma sayısında bir azalma, diğer ülkeler açısından ise son yıllara doğru bir yoğunlaşma olduğu söylenebilir. Küresel düzeyde açlıkla mücadelede ve çocukların gelişimi açısından önemli olduğu öne sürülen bu konuya ilişkin yıllar bazında düzenli bir artışın beklendiği ancak çalışmamızdaki bulgular doğrultusunda; yayınların yıllara göre düzensiz ve yavas da olsa arttığı söylenebilir. Yıllara göre sayılardaki bu

düzensizliğin nedenlerinin araştırılması için daha fazla araştırma yapılası gerektiği düşünülmektedir.

Okullarda tarım uygulamaları ile ilgili yayınlanan makalelerin en çok Horttechnology (11) yayınlandığı saptanmıştır. HortTechnology, 1903 yılında kurulan Amerikan Bahçe Bilimi Derneğine (ASHS) bağlı bir dergi bahçe bilimleri alanındaki öğrencilerinin yeteneklerini geliştirme, bahçe bilimleri uygulamaları için iyi uygulamaları önerme gibi konulardan türetilen makaleleri 1991 yılından itibaren yayınlayan bir dergidir. Hortscience da Amerikan Bahçe Bilimi Derneğine (ASHS) bağlı bir dergi olup bahçe bilimleri alanında 1966 yılından itibaren yayın yapan bir dergidir. BMC Public Health ise Springer Nature'a bağlı olup hastalık epidemiyolojisi ve halk sağlığının tüm yönlerinin anlaşılması ile ilgilenen bir dergidir. Dergi, sağlığın sosyal belirleyicileri, sağlık ve hastalığın çevresel, davranışsal ve mesleki ilişkileri ve sağlık politikalarının, uygulamalarının ve müdahalelerinin toplum üzerindeki etkisi üzerine odaklanmıstır (BMC Public Health, 2024). Bu konuda yapılan araştırmaların dergilerdeki yayılımına bakıldığında; yayınlandığı yayınların çoğunluğunun sürdürülebilirlik için çocuk gelişimi, erken çocukluk eğitimi dergilerinden daha çok bahçe bilimleri alanında olduğu görülmüştür. Bunun yanında sağlık, çevre ve beslenme ile ilgili dergilerde de yayınlar olduğu saptanmıştır. Dolayısıyla çocuk gelişimi alanını bir bütün olarak etkileme potansiyelinin daha çok geliştirilmesi gerektiği söylenebilir.

Okullarda tarım uygulamalarını arttırmada etkili araştırmacıları belirleyerek ve sonuçlara dayanarak teorik çerçeveye katkıda bulunulacağı düşünülmektedir. Bu kapsamda sayılarına ve H indeksine göre üretilen bilimsel araştırmaları yayınlayan ilk 10 araştırmacı incelenmiştir. Araştırmacıların yayın sayılarının birbirine yakın olmasına rağmen en yüksek h indeksinin J. E. Cade'de olduğu saptanmıştır. Konu ile ilgili sayılarına ve H indeksine göre en çok bilimsel yayın yapan araştırmacıların saptanmasının, alanda bilimsel iletişimin gelişmesine katkıda bulunacağı düşünülmektedir.

Dünya genelinde çalışmaların ABD (n:41)'de yapıldığı görülmekte, çalışmaların sayısına göre ilk 10 ülkeye bakıldığında ise ABD (n:41) önde olduğu görülmüştür. Okul bahçelerinin sağladığı olumlu sonuçlara rağmen, çalışmaların çoğunun Avustralya, Birleşik Krallık ve Amerika'da yer aldığı için (Holloway ve ark., 2023; Ohly ve ark., 2016) bu müdahalelerden elde edilen genelleştirilebilirliğinin yüksek gelirli ülkelerle sınırlı olabileceği (Holloway ve ark., 2023), bulguların bu yerlerin ötesine ne kadar aktarılabilir olduğu belirsiz görülmektedir (Ohly ve ark., 2016). Çünkü gelişmekte olan ülkelerin çok farklı temel sağlık ve beslenme özellikleri ve ihtiyaçları bulunmaktadır (Ohly ve ark., 2016). Evans ve arkadaşları (2012) özellikle düşük gelirli azınlık nüfusta bulunan ergenler için meyve ve sebze tüketimini hedefleyen bahçe temelli müdahalelerin önemini vurgulamış, bu müdahalelerin onların sağlık durumları üzerinde önemli, anında ve/veya uzun vadeli etkilere sahip olabileceğini ifade etmiştir. Chan ve arkadaşları (2022) da okul bahçeciliği ile ilgili çalışmalarda bulunan katılımcıların çoğunlukla ABD Avrupa popülasyonlarından ve yalnızca küçük bir kısmının Asyalı veya diğer ülkelerden olduğunu bulmuş, bu nedenle elde edilen bulguların genelleştirilebilir ve diğer popülasyonlara aktarılabilir olmayabileceğini öne sürmüştür.

En fazla yayın yapılan ilk 10 kuruma bakıldığında tamamının üniversite olduğu, tamamına yakınının da ABD'de yeraldığı görülmektedir. Gıda ve özellikle tarım alanında lisans eğitimi alacak öğrencilerin sayısını ve kalitesini artırmak için, daha fazla öğrenciyi üniversiteye gelmeden önce tarım alanında kariyer yapmaya teşvik etmek bir strateji olarak görülmektedir. Üniversite öncesi daha erken yıllarda uygulanacak programlar gelecekteki lisans öğrencilerinin sayısını ve hazırlığını etkilemede (National Research Council 2009) daha fazla kişinin tarıma yönelmesini sağlamada önemli bir rol oynayabilir. Bunun yanında bireylerin üniversite tarıma yönelmese bile tarımsal becerilerin bir yasam tarzı haline gelmesi de önemlidir. İki bakıs açısında da yine üniversitelere bir çok görev düşmektedir. Üniversitelerin okullarda tarım uygulamalarının yaygınlaştırılması için konuya daha fazla yer vermeleri gerekmektedir.

Çalışmalarda en fazla tercih edilen ilk 10'daki Web of Science micro konunun obezite olduğu görülmüştür. Okullarda tarım uygulamaları ile ilgili yapılan çalışmaların obezite alanına yoğunlaşmasındaki en büyük etken obezite ile mücadelede farklı yöntemlerin denenmesine olan ihtiyaç olabilir. Okul bahçeciliği bu farklı yöntemlerden biri ve yenilikçi olanı olabilir. Davis ve arkadaşları (2015) okul bahçeciliğinin beslenme üzerine etkisi ile ilgili uygulanan programları incelediği araştırmalarında; bu programların çoğunluğunun sebze tüketiminde ve sebze tercihinde artış sağladığını, meyve ve sebzeleri hazırlama/pişirme konusunda tutumlarda, tatma isteğinde, tanımlama davranışında olumlu gelişme oluşturduğunu saptamıştır. Rochira ve arkadaşları (2020) okul bahçeciliği projelerinin antropometrik ölçümler ve daha genel olarak çocuk sağlığı üzerinde olumlu bir etkisi olduğunu, Holloway ve arkadasları (2023) ise meyve ve sebze tüketimi, diyet lifi ve A ve C vitaminlerinin alımını arttırdığını, vücut kitle indeksinde iyileşme oluşturduğunu ve çocuk refahına katkı sağladığını bulmus, konu hakkında daha fazla çalışmaya ihtiyaç duyulduğu da vurgulamıştır (Rochira ve ark., 2020).

Okul bahçesi tabanlı programlar, çocukların beslenme bilgisini arttırmakta, beslenmeye ve özellikle sebzelere ilişkin olumlu tutum geliştirmelerini sağlamakta olan etkisi; programların türüne, kapsamına, uzunluğuna ve diğer ebeveyn katılımı gibi faktörlere değişebilmektedir. Gelecekteki okul bahçesi tabanlı programlarının, çocuklarda sağlıklı beslenmeyi etkili bir sekilde tesvik etmek ve çocukluk obezitesini önlemek için çocukları, ebeveynleri ve toplumu hedefleyen bütüncül ve multidisipliner bir yaklaşım kullanılarak uygulanması önerilmektedir (Chan ve ark., 2022). Örneğin; sınıf içi derslere entegre edilmesinin yanında okul sonrası bahçe programlarının oluşturulması, çiftçilerin okulları ziyaret etmelerinin sağlanması ya da çiftliklere saha gezileri yapılması gibi farklı yöntemlerin (Evans ve ark., 2012) çocukların yaş ve gelişim özelliklerine göre kullanılması gerekmektedir. Okulda çocuklar arasında meyve ve sebze tüketimini daha da teşvik etmek için, okul bahçesi tabanlı programlara vivecek hizmetinin dahil edilmesi önerilir. Bunun içinde; okul bahçesi tabanlı programlar aracılığı ile yetiştirilen ürünleri kullanarak okulda salata ikramı yapmak veya ürünleri okul kantinindeki yiyecekleri desteklemek için kullanarak okulda meyve ve sebzenin erişilebilirliğini ve bulunabilirliğini artırmak yer alabilir (Chan ve ark., 2022).

Çalışmalarda en fazla tercih edilen araştırma alanının eğitim araştırmaları olduğu görülmüştür. Bu durum, tarım uygulamalarının okullarda yapılmasının vurgulanması nedeniyle olabilir. Bunun yanında diğer disiplinlerin de bu konuyu çalışmaya başlaması olumlu bir durum olarak görülmektedir. Çünkü tarım, farklı durumlar için farklı anlamları ifade edebilmektedir. Bazıları için, üretim tarımıyla, yani çiftçilikle sınırlıdır. Çiftçilik, tarımın hayati ve merkezi bir parçası olmaya devam ederken, 21. yüzyıl tarımını tanımlayan şey çok daha geniş olmakta ve bir dizi farklı ve sosyal bilim disiplinini kapsamaktadır. Bu farklı disiplinleri birlestirmek, doğal kaynakları insanlığa fayda sağlamak için anlamak ve sürdürülebilirliğe önem vermek ve sorumlu bir şekilde kullanmak anlamına gelmektedir (National Research Council, 2009). Bu noktada gelecek araştırmalar için disiplinlerarası çalışmaların yapılmasının özellikle çocuk gelişimi alanı ile bütünleştirilmesinin önemli bir yol haritası oluşturacağı düşünülmektedir. Çocuk gelişimi açısından okul bahçeciliği popüler bir okul temelli müdahale olarak, çocukların sağlığını, sosyal gelişimini ve akademik başarısını iyileştirme potansiyeline sahip olmaktadır (Chan ve ark., 2022).

Dil gelişimi açısından ise çocuklar okulda tarım uygulamaları sırasında soru sorma ve deneyimlerini ifade etme gibi önemli sözlü dil becerilerini göstermekte, bu sayede dil gelişimleri desteklenmektedir (Moffatt, 2016). Bir okul bahçesinde çocuklar tarım uygulamaları sayesinde yalnızca bitki yaşam döngüsünü ve çevreyi daha küresel bir anlamda nasıl destekleyeceklerini öğrenmekle kalmamakta, aynı zamanda yeni yiyecekler ve doğru beslenme hakkında da bilgi edinmekte, okul topluluğuna ait olma duygusunu geliştirmektedir (Tangen & Fielding-Barnsley, 2007). Aynı zamanda yasam becerileri artmakta, hoş duygular üretmekte, ilişkiler geliştirmekte ve bitkilere arkadaş olmakta, yeni bilgi edinmekte, meyve ve sebzelerin aromasını ve lezzetini deneyimlemekte, sağlığı iyileştirmekte ve doğayla bağlantıyı artırmaktadır (Chang ve ark., 2016).

Geleneksel sınıf tabanlı yöntemleri kullanmaya göre fen müfredatlarının bir parçası olarak okul bahçeciliği etkinliklerine katılmak fen bilgisi başarısını da arttırmaktadır (Klemmer, 2002). Bir okul bahçesinin bakımı, çocuklar için için sorumluluk geliştirmede önemli bir rol oynamanın yanında (Hellinger ve ark., 2022), çocukların bahçecilik ve tarıma yönelik tutumları ve bilimsel sürec becerileri üzerinde olumlu bir etkisi olmaktadır (Ambusaidi ve ark., 2018). Okul bahçesi tabanlı programlar yerel çiftçiler veya toplum bahçeleriyle ilişkiler veya ortaklıklar kurmalı veya öğrencilere ve ailelerine yerel olarak yetiştirilen ürünleri teşvik etmeyi, böylece meyve ve sebzeye maruz kalmayı sağlamalı ve bu tür alımı teşvik etme potansiyelini en üst düzeye çıkarmayı da hedeflemelidir (Chan ve ark., 2022). Resmi olmayan tarımsal bilgi tarım ile uğraşan aileler gibi çok sayıda kaynaktan edinilebilir ve ancak edinilen bu bilgiler yanlış bilgiler de olabilir. Resmi eğitim yoluyla çocuklarda tarımsal okuryazarlığı gelistirmek kritik öneme sahiptir. gençler Bu nedenle tarımsal açıdan okuryazar yetiştirmenin yenilikçi yollarını bulunmalıdır (Cosby ve ark., 2022). Aile ve eğitimin diğer paydaşlarının da araştırmalara dahil edilmesi ve farklı disiplinlerle işbirliği yapılmasının okul bahçeciliğinin başarısını arttıracağı söylenebilir.

Sürdürülebilir kalkınma, artan çevre kirliliği, nüfus artışı, yenilenemeyen doğal kaynakların tükenmesi ve sosyal esitsizlikler gibi küresellesmis dünyanın karsı zorluğa karsıya olduğu birçok odaklanmaktadır (Kahriman-Pamuk ve ark., 2019). Sürdürülebilir kalkınma konusu yaşamımızda her zaman yeri olacak bir konu olduğu için (Özerdinç ve ark., 2022) okul bahçeciliği alanında olan verilerden hareket ederek gelecekte karşılaşılabilecek durumlar ve yapılacak araştırmaların yönü hakkında tahminde bulunmayı sağlayacak, gelecekte olabilecek durumlar ve yapılabilecek araştırmalar için önlemler alınabilmesini ve öneriler gelistirilebilmesini sağlayacaktır. Bu kapsamda çalısmalarda tercih edilen Sürdürülebilir kalkınma amaçlarının dağılımı incelenmiş olup en çok 03-Sağlık ve Kaliteli Yasam (%60) olduğu görülmüstür.

Sürdürülebilir kalkınma amaçlarının içinde üçüncü amaç, sağlıklı yaşamı garanti altına almak ve her yaştan herkes için refahı arttırmak ile ilgili olup sürdürülebilir kalkınma amaçlarının birçok çeşidinden etkilenmektedir. Örneğin, açlık, yoksulluk ve sanitasyon eksikliği olan bir dünyada İyi Sağlık ve Refaha ulaşmayı hayal etmek zor olabilmekte, sorumlu tüketim, barış ve adalet ve sürdürülebilir ortamların olmadığı bir dünyada açlıktan, yoksulluktan ve hijyenden uzak bir dünyaya ulaşmayı da hayal etmek zor olabilmektedir (Weeks ve ark., 2023). Bu noktada sürdürülebilir kalkınmanın gerçekleşebilmesi için yaşamı bir bütün olarak düşünmek gerekmektedir. Etrafımızda gerçekleşen çevresel olayların toplumsal etkisi ve ekonomik sonuçları da dikkate alınmalıdır. Bu da ancak eğitim süreçlerine adapte edilmesi ve öğretimin bu yönde şekillenmesi ile mümkündür (Tosun & Gökçe, 2023).

Sağlık ve refahın, insanların sosyal ve ekonomik alanlarda ve üretimde daha iyi gelişmesini sağlayan diğer hedeflerle bağlantısı, okul bahçeciliğinin, çocukların sağlığını geliştirme noktasında, sürdürülebilir kalkınma hedeflerinin gerçekleştirilmesi bakımından önemli bir yere sahip olduğunu göstermektedir. Ohly ve arakdaşları (2016)

da okul bahçelerinin öğrenci sağlığı ve refahı üzerinde nasıl bir etki oluşturacağına ilişkin beklentiler daha ayrıntılı olarak ele alındığında, bahçe programlarının etkisinin artırılabilireceğini vurgulamıştır.

Mary ve arkadaşları (2020) tarımsal eğitim, araştırma ve hizmetler, tarımsal su ve tarım politikasını destekleyen yardım girişlerinin çocuk bodurluğunu azaltmada etkili olduğu bulmuştur. Kahriman-Pamuk ve arkadaşları (2019) ise erken çocukluk eğitiminde sürdürülebilirlik için temel eğitim ilkelerini, değerlerini ve uygulamalarını bütünleştirmenin gelişmekte olan ve gelişmiş ülkeler için önemli olduğun ifade etmiştir. Makale ile çocukların sağlıklı büyümeleri ve gelişimlerinin desteklenmesi için okullarda yapılacak tarım uygulamaları ile ilgili yapılacak desteklere dikkat çekilerek temel oluşturması beklenmektedir.

Öneriler

Yenilikçi uygulamalar olarak görülen okul bahçelerinde tarım uygulamaları ile ilgili yapılan araştırmaların gelişim sürecinin tespit edilmesi ve erken çocukluk eğitimi ve çocuk gelişimi bağlamında tartışılmasının amaçlandığı bu araştırmadan elde edilen sonuçlar doğrultusunda;

- Okul bahçelerinin belli bölümlerinin tarım uygulamaları için ayrılması için çalışmalar yapılması,
- Tüm kademelerdeki müfredata okullarda yapılabilecek tarım uygulamalarının entegre edilmesi,
- Eğitim ile ilgili iç ve dış olmak üzere tüm paydaşlara okul bahçeciliği ile ilgili eğitimler verilmesi,
- Okul bahçelerinde tarım uygulamaları ile ilgili araştırma ve disiplinler arası projelerin planlanması ve uygulanması,
- Yapılacak araştırmalarda farklı ülkelerle doğru işbirliklerinin yapılması,
- Okullarda tarım uygulamalarının yaygınlaştırılması için kongre, çalıştay benzeri akademik faaliyetlerin uluslararası işbirlikleri ile düzenlenmesi önerilebilir.

Beyan

7th International Anatolian Agriculture, Food, Environment and Biology Congress (2024)'de sözlü bildiri olarak sunulmustur.

Yazar Katıkısı

Burçin Aysu: Veri toplama, araştırma, resmi analiz ve orijinal taslağın yazılması, Dergi yayın süreci takibi

Oğulcan Aral: Veri toplama, araştırma, resmi analiz ve orijinal taslağın yazılması

Neriman Aral: Veri toplama, araştırma, resmi analiz ve orijinal taslağın yazılması

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Impact of Foliar-Applied Essential Oils on Growth, Yield and Quality of Potato (Solanum tuberosum L.)

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ABSTRACT

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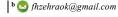
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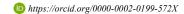
In this study, effects of sage (Salvia officinalis L.), oregano (Origanum onites L.), rosemary (Rosmarinus officinalis L.), dill (Anethum graveolens L.), cumin (Cuminum cyminum L.), fennel (Foeniculum vulgare var. dulce L.) and Turkish pickling herb (Echinophora tenuifolia L. subsp. sibthorpiana (Guss.)) essential oils applied to plant leaves at different doses on potato growth, tuber yield and quality were investigated. Essential oils were applied to the upper parts of the plant by spraying at doses of 300, 600, 900 and 1200 ppm three times at 15-day intervals, starting 15 days after the completion of emergence. The number of tubers and tuber yield per plant, marketable and total tuber yield, chlorophyll content, starch content, reducing and total sugar content parameters were examined. The effects of essential oil applications on tuber yield and quality were found to be statistically significant, and this effect varied according to application doses. Compared to the control, essential oil applications increased the marketable tuber yield by approximately 38% (300 ppm rosemary essential oil) and the total tuber yield by up to 28% (600 ppm rosemary essential oil). However, rosemary and oregano oils caused phytotoxicity and reduced tuber yield when applied in high doses. Except for sage and oregano, other essential oils positively affected chlorophyll synthesis. Essential oil applications reduced the accumulation of reducing sugar, which negatively affects tuber quality, and the lowest reducing sugar contents were detected in tubers to which fennel and oregano essential oils were applied. In the study, it was understood that tuber yield in potatoes could be increased significantly with the applications of 300 and 600 ppm rosemary essential oil and 300 ppm cumin essential oil.





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Introduction

Potato (Solanum tuberosum L.), originating from South America and grown in many region of the world, is one of the most important non-grain food crops globally, with an approximate global production of 376 million tons among all agricultural products (Baruah and Mohanty, 2021). Potato ranks as the third most consumed staple food globally, coming after rice and wheat (Hussain, 2016). According to 2022 data in our country, potato production covered an area of 138.000 hectares with approximately 5.1 million tons produced, and a yield of 3.671 kg/da was achieved (Anonim, 2022). The rapid increase in potato demand and rising production costs over the past 25-30 years have driven all potato growers to enhance yield per unit area and profitability with low input usage. Agricultural producers encounter significant challenges from biotic and abiotic stressors exacerbated by climate change. Factors such as drought, salinity, weeds, pests, and diseases pose serious threats to potato growth and yield (Parajuli et al., 2019). In response, pesticides and nonorganic fertilizers have become vital in mitigating their impacts and boosting yield per unit area (Sharma et al., 2019). However, this not only imposes a burden on farmers but also leads to increased environmental pollution in the long term, including soil degradation and groundwater contamination (Bijay-Singh and Craswell, 2021). Intensive research is being conducted on alternative approaches for long-term and sustainable agricultural production programs (Zulfiqar et al., 2020). A suggested strategy involves utilizing plant extracts, an innovative, ecofriendly, and sustainable method that leverages plant secondary metabolites to improve crop yield and quality (Mbuyisa et al., 2023).

Secondary metabolites are organic compounds produced by plants, particularly under stress conditions, and are integral to their defense mechanisms (Guo et al., 2024). Essential oils, which are complex blends of these secondary metabolites, are distinguished by their lipophilic nature and high volatility (de Sousa et al., 2023). While they act protectively against stress factors in the plants in which they are synthesized, they also exhibit various ecological functions for the external environment, such as serving as attractants, repellents, providing resistance to certain stress conditions, and stimulating certain chemical defense signals (Sharifi-Rad et al., 2017). Thanks to these properties, secondary metabolites act as reducing agents, hydrogen donors, singlet oxygen scavengers, and metal chelators (Anjitha et al., 2021). Secondary metabolites also have free radical scavenging functions, including clearing superoxide, alkoxyl, peroxyl, and nitric oxide radicals, and they exhibit insecticidal, antifungal, antibacterial, and antiviral activities (Parham et al., 2020).

This study aims to evaluate the effects of essential oil applications from sage (Salvia officinalis L.), oregano (Origanum onites L.), rosemary (Rosmarinus officinalis L.), dill (Anethum graveolens L.), cumin (Cuminum cyminum L.), fennel (Foeniculum vulgare var. dulce L.), and Turkish pickling herb (Echinophora tenuifolia L. subsp. sibthorpiana (Guss.)) on tuber yield and quality in potatoes.

Material and Methods

Experimental Site

The field experiment was carried out in Isparta, Türkiye (37° 50′ 47″ N, 30° 32′ 12″ E, 1035 m) on loamiy soil with a pH of 8.2, a total salt content of 0.025%, and a cation exchange capacity of 38%. It is rich in lime (25.5%), low in organic matter (1.58%), poor in available phosphorus (18.2 mg/kg P₂O₅), rich in potassium (188 mg/kg K₂O), and low in total nitrogen content (0.82%). In the research year, the total rainfall during the vegetation period (April–September) was 215 mm, which was higher than the long-term average of 173 mm. The average temperature for April to September was 20.2°C, close to the long-term average of 20.6°C. The relative humidity during the vegetation period, when the studies were conducted, was also similar to the long-term average, at 54.3% compared to 50.5%.

Essential oil Extraction

The herbs of sage (S. officinalis L.), oregano (O. onites L.), rosemary (R. officinalis L.), and Turkish pickling herb (E. tenuifolia L. subsp. sibthorpiana (Guss.)) and the fruits of dill (A. graveolens L.), cumin (C. cyminum L.), and fennel (F. vulgare var. dulce L.) were ground, then the essential oils were obtained by distilling them for 3 hours using a Clevenger-type hydro-distillation apparatus and stored in dark-colored glass storage bottles at +4°C (Marotti and Piccaglia, 1992). The components of the essential oils of the species were determined using a GC/MS (Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry) device (QP-5050 GC/MS, with a quadrupole detector) at the Experimental and Observational Research and Application Center of Suleyman Demirel University (Stein, 1990). The operating conditions of the device were: Capillary column: CP-Wax 52 CB (50 m \times 0.32 mm, 0.25 μ m), Oven temperature program: increasing by 10°C per minute from 60°C to 220°C, and holding at 220°C for 10 minutes, Total run time: 60 minutes, Injector temperature: 240°C, Detector temperature: 250°C, Carrier gas: Helium (20 ml/min).

Table 1. Main components of the essential oils used in the study

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α-phellandrene 50.63	• •	1.97
1		30.41
α-terpinene 11.02	α-phellandrene	50.63
	α-terpinene	11.02

Experimental design

The study was designed according to a factorial arrangement in a Randomized Block Design with 3 replications. Seed potatoes (cv. Agria) were planted in plots of 6.6 m in length with a 70 x 30 cm spacing in the first week of May. Four rows of potatoes were planted in each plot. Plots where no application was made and those treated with Tween-80 (0.1%) were evaluated as controls. No fungicide or insecticide application was made to the tubers before planting. Before planting, 10 kg/da of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium were applied (15-15-15 compose fertilizer), along with top dressing 10 kg/da of pure nitrogen (ammonium nitrate (33% nitrogen)). The water required by the plants was supplied through a drip irrigation system, with irrigation applied for 4 hours

weekly. Immediately after planting (pre-emergence), selective herbicide (Senkor wp 70, 70 g/da dose, with 70% metribuzin) was applied to control weeds, and insecticide with the active ingredient imidacloprid was used for potato beetle control. Different concentrations (300, 600, 900, and 1200 ppm) of each essential oil were prepared using water, and Tween-80 (0.1%) was used as an emulsifier to ensure a homogeneous mixture of the essential oils in water. The essential oils were applied 3 times throughout the vegetation period at 4 different doses, taking into account the timing and frequency of fungicide applications for potatoes. The first applications were made 15 days after full emergence, and subsequent applications were made at 15-day intervals from the first application (El-Moughy, 2009). The essential oils were sprayed separately on each plot using a pulverizator at a standard application rate (40 L/da). Harvesting was done when the skin formation of the tubers was complete. Leaf chlorophyll content was measured 1 week after the final application using a Minolta SPAD-502 chlorophyll meter. Tuber numbers (number/plant) and tuber yield per plant (g/plant) were determined by randomly selecting 20 plants of each plot, and marketable (kg/da) and total tuber yield (kg/da) were determined by harvesting all the plants in the plot. The amount of starch (%), reducing sugar (mg/100 g fw) and total sugar (%) content in a potato was quantified following the Somogyi-Nelson method (Nelson, 1944) with some adjustments.

Statistical Analysis

The data obtained from the measurements and analyses were analyzed using the generalized linear model (GLM) procedure in the SAS (2009) statistical software, following the randomized block design. The analysis was performed using standard analysis of variance (ANOVA), and the differences between the means were determined using the LSD test.

Results

Tuber Number and Tuber Yield Per Plant

The effect of essential oil applications on the number of tubers per plant was statistically significant (Table 2). While Tween-80 and oregano essential oil applications had similar effects to the control, all other treatments showed a significant increase in the number of tubers per plant. The highest average number of tubers per plant was obtained from the Turkish pickling herb oil applications, which resulted in approximately a 20% increase compared to the control. The average number of tubers per plant increased

up to the 600 ppm dose, but significantly decreased above 900 ppm (Table 3). The highest number of tubers per plant (8.70 tubers/plant) was obtained from rosemary essential oil application at the 600 ppm dose, followed by Turkish pickling herb oil (7.57-7.97 tubers/plant) at 300-900 ppm, cumin oil (7.80 tubers/plant) at 900 ppm, and rosemary oil (7.70 tubers/plant) at 300 ppm applications. High doses of rosemary and oregano oil led to a decrease in the number of tubers per plant compared to the control.

The effects of essential oils on tuber numbers varied depending on the application dose. In sage oil applications, there was no significant difference between doses, whereas in dill oil, the number of tubers per plant was higher with applications of 600 ppm and above, in oregano oil, with applications up to 900 ppm, and in fennel oil, with applications of 900 ppm and above (Table 3). Essential oil applications significantly affected the tuber yield (Table 2). The average tuber yield per plant in the control was 955 g/plant, while in the essential oil applications, it varied between 851-1235 g/plant. Oregano essential oil applications caused a decrease in the average tuber yield compared to the control. The effects of the application doses on tuber yield were statistically significant. No significant change occurred with applications up to 900 ppm, but at the 1200 ppm dose, the tuber yield significantly decreased (Table 3). In the study, the highest tuber yield was obtained from rosemary oil applications at 300 and 600 ppm doses (1153 g/plant and 1235 g/plant, respectively), 900 ppm Turkish pickling herb oil (1112 g/plant), and 300 ppm cumin oil (1227 g/plant). These treatments resulted in a 16-29% increase compared to the control. The effects of doses on tuber yield were similar for dill, oregano, and fennel essential oils, while cumin oil at 300 ppm, Turkish pickling herb oil at 900 ppm, rosemary and sage oils at 600 ppm showed higher yields compared to other doses (Table 3).

Marketable and total tuber yield

Essential oil applications significantly affected the marketable tuber yield. With the exception of Tween-80 and oregano essential oil applications, all other treatments increased the marketable tuber yield compared to the control (3366 kg/da). Cumin (3884 kg/da), rosemary (3821 kg/da), and Turkish pickling herb (3783 kg/da) essential oil applications resulted in higher average marketable tuber yields than the other treatments. The effects of the application doses on marketable tuber yield were also significant. The marketable tuber yield increased up to the 600 ppm dose, but significantly decreased at the 1200 ppm dose (Table 4).

Table 2. Analysis of variance table for the parameters studied in the research

Variation Resources	S.D.	Tuber number	Tuber yield	Marketable tuber yield	Total tuber yield	Chlorophyll content	Starch content	Total sugar content	Reducing sugar content
Block	2	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns
Applications (A)	8	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Doses (D)	3	**	**	**	**	ns	ns	**	**
AxD	24	**	**	**	**	*	**	**	**
Error	70								
General	107								
CV (%)		4.07	8.08	3.47	4.20	3.29	4.45	6.49	4.99

ns, non significant, ** significant at 0.01, * significant at 0.05

Table 3. Effects of essential oil applications on the tuber number and tuber yield per plant

Applications	Tuber number per plant (number/plant)						Tuber yield per plant (g/plant)			
Applications	300	600	900	1200	Mean	300	600	900	1200	Mean
Sage	7.07g-1	7.23e-h	6.87g-j	7.13e-h	7.08c	947e-j	1069b-e	986с-1	952 dj	989 cd
Rosemary	7.70b-d	8.70a	7.40c-f	5.83n	7.41b	1153ab	1235a	1036b-g	877 hj	1076 ab
TPH	7.57b-e	7.73b-d	7.97b	7.37c-f	7.66a	1000c-h	1079b-d	1112a-c	951 dj	1036 a-c
Dill	6.671-l	7.30d-g	6.87gh	6.80g-k	6.91cd	934f-j	1036b-g	972d-j	989 cı	983 cd
Oregano	6.80h-k	6.37k-1	6.30lm	5.90mn	6.34e	908h-j	905h-j	851j	866 ıj	883 f
Cumin	7.40c-f	7.43c-f	7.80bc	6.80h-k	7.36b	1227a	1049b-f	1045b-f	1074 be	1099 a
Fennel	6.43j-l	6.50j-l	7.07g-1	7.00g-1	6.75d	998c-h	999c-h	1077b-d	977 dj	1013 b-d
Tween-80		6.2	3ln		6.23e		89	2h-j		892ef
Control	6.40kl						95	5d-j		955de
Mean	6.92b	7.10a	6.99ab	6.61c		1002a	1025a	992a	955 b	
	Lsd int: 0.4	6				Lsdint:130)			

Table 4. Effects of essential oil applications on the marketable and total tuber yield

Amuliantiana		Marketabl	le tuber yiel	d (kg/da)			Total t	uber yield (kg/da)	
Applications	300	600	900	1200	Mean	300	600	900	1200	Mean
Sage	3499k-m	4073b-d	3727f-1	3455k-o	3688cd	3945g-j	4397cd	4020f-1	3910 g-j	4068 cd
Rosemary	4663a	4143bc	3769f-1	3008r	3821ab	4762ab	5035a	4258d-f	3572 k-l	4407 a
TPH	3756f-1	3909d-f	4065b-d	34001-p	3783a-c	4152d-g	4342с-е	4585bc	3948 g-1	4257 b
Dill	3463k-n	3803e-h	3663h-j	37251-f	3664d	3895g-j	4347с-е	4093e-h	4088 e-h	4106 c
Oregano	3294n-q	3340k-q	3215p-q	3161qr	3253e	3820h-k	3735j-l	3585k-1	35101	3663 e
Cumin	4257ab	3855e-g	3627h-k	3798e-h	3884a	4887a	4395dc	4265d-f	4305 de	4463 a
Fennel	35761-k	3825e-h	3985с-е	35901-k	3744b-d	4112e-g	4157d-g	4407cd	4085 e-h	4190 bc
Tween-80		3252	20-q		3252e		374	1811		3748e
Control	3366m-p						393	7gj		3937d
Mean	3647b	3730a	3630b	3417c		4140ab	4233a	4100b	3900 с	<u>-</u>
	Lsdint:204					Lsd _{int} :280				

TPH: Turkish pickling herb

The highest marketable tuber yield in the study was obtained from rosemary (4663 kg/da) and cumin (4257 kg/da) oil applications at the 300 ppm dose, with increases of 38% and 26%, respectively, compared to the control. Sage oil at 600 ppm, Turkish pickling and fennel oils at 600-900 ppm, and dill oil at 600-1200 ppm resulted in higher marketable tuber yields than other doses. The highest marketable tuber yield in rosemary and cumin oil applications was found at 300 ppm, and as the application dose increased, the marketable tuber yield significantly decreased (Table 4).

The average total tuber yield significantly decreased in plants treated with oregano essential oil and Tween-80, while there was no significant change in sage oil treatments. Other essential oil applications significantly increased the total tuber yield compared to the control (Table 4). The average total tuber yield increased up to the 600 ppm dose, but applications at higher doses resulted in a significant decrease in the total tuber yield. The highest total tuber yield in the study was obtained from rosemary (5035 kg/da and 4732 kg/da at 600 and 300 ppm, respectively) and cumin oil (4887 kg/da at 300 ppm), and these applications increased the total tuber yield by approximately 21-28% compared to the control (Table 4). In sage oil applications at 600 ppm, Turkish pickling herb and fennel oil applications at 600-900 ppm, dill oil at 600 ppm and above, and oregano oil at 900 ppm, the total tuber yield was higher than other doses. At the 1200 ppm dose of rosemary and oregano essential oil at doses higher than 900 ppm, the total tuber yield significantly decreased compared to the control (Table 4).

Chlorophyll Content

Essential oil applications affected the chlorophyll content statistically significantly, while the chlorophyll content of plants applied with Tween-80, sage and oregano essential oil was similar to the control, other essential oil applications significantly increased the leaf chlorophyll content compared to the control. The highest chlorophyll contents in the study were obtained from rosemary at 300 and 600 ppm doses, Turkish pickling herb at 600 and 900 ppm doses, dill at 600 ppm doses, cumin at 300-900 ppm doses and 900 ppm fennel essential oil applications. While there was no significant difference between the doses in terms of chlorophyll content in sage, Turkish pickling herb, dill and cumin oil applications, 300 and 600 ppm doses in rosemary oil and 900 and 1200 ppm doses in fennel oil increased the chlorophyll content more than the other doses (Table 5).

Starch Content

Essential oil applications significantly affected tuber starch ratio (Table 2), and starch ratio varied between 11.5-15.4% depending on the applications. While the average starch content of the tubers were similar to the control in Tween-80 and oregano essential oil applications, all other applications caused a significant decrease in starch content. There was no significant difference in starch content between the application doses. The highest starch content were obtained from the control and Tween-80 together with 600 ppm sage, 900 ppm rosemary, 300 ppm dill, 600 and 1200 ppm oregano and 300 and 900 ppm fennel essential oil applications.

Table 5. Effects of essential oil applications on the chlorophyll and starch content

Amulications		Chlorop	hyll content	(SPAD)		Starch content (%)				
Applications	300	600	900	1200	Mean	300	600	900	1200	Mean
Sage	36.7h	38.8fh	38.0eh	37.7fh	37.8c	12.7j	15.0a-c	13.6f-j	13.4g-j	13.7d
Rosemary	41.8ab	42.4a	39.9bf	36.6h	40.0a	14.1d-h	13.8f-1	15.4a	13.9e-1	14.3c
TPH	39.4cg	40.3ae	41.0ac	39.0cg	39.9a	14.2c-g	14.1d-h	13.5f-j	13.1h-j	13.7d
Dill	38.5dh	40.7ad	39.8bf	39.7bf	39.7ab	15.2a-c	14.3b-g	13.1h-j	13.4g-j	14.0cd
Oregano	39.2cg	39.3cg	38.4eh	36.9gh	38.4bc	14.0e-1	14.5a-f	14.0e-1	15.3ab	14.5ac
Cumin	42.0ab	40.7ad	40.3ae	40.1be	40.8a	14.1d-h	13.01-j	13.01-j	13.9e-1	13.5d
Fennel	38.3eh	38.1eh	41.1ac	39.7bf	39.3b	15.0a-d	11.5k	14.5a-f	13.9e-1	13.7d
Tween-80		37	.6gh		37.6cd			14.9ab		
Control		38	.0eh	38.0c			15.2a			
Mean	39.4	40.0	39.8	38.8		14.4	14.0	14.1	14.1	
	Lsdi	nt:2.2			Lsd _{int} :1.03					

TPH: Turkish pickling herb

Table 6. Effects of essential oil applications on the total and reducing sugar content

Applications			Total sugar	content (%)		Reducing sugar content (mg/100 gfw)				
Applications	300	600	900	1200	Mean	300	600	900	1200	Mean
Sage	1.32ab	0.72kj	1.30b	0.88f-h	1.10a	409de	296lm	417 cd	318 k-m	360 e
Rosemary	0.96ef	0.90e-g	0.62lm	0.581-n	0.77d	357f-h	351f-1	327 h-l	326 h-l	340 f
TPH	0.53m-o	0.581-n	0.72kj	0.801-j	0.66e	3201-m	350f-j	435 b-d	364 fg	367 e
Dill	1.10c	1.40a	1.36ab	0.480	1.08ab	379ef	438b-d	490 a	292 nm	400 e
Oregano	0.86g-1	0.56m-o	0.67kl	0.26p	0.59e	339g-k	319j-m	336 g-k	290 nm	321 g
Cumin	1.08cd	0.99de	0.97ef	0.92e-g	0.99bc	452b	442bc	416 cd	366 fg	419 c
Fennel	0.78ıj	0.60lm	0.50no	1.28b	0.79d	291nm	298lm	263 n	376 f	307 g
Tween-80		0.96	5ef		0.96c		442	bc		442b
Control	1.13c				1.13a		489	9a		489a
Mean	0.96a	0.87ab	0.91a	0.81b		386b	380b	402 a	363 с	
·	Lsdint:0.09	4				Lsd _{int} :31.1				

TPH: Turkish pickling herb

The highest starch content was obtained at doses of 300 ppm for dill essential oil, 600 ppm for sage essential oil, and 900 ppm for rosemary essential oil. In contrast, fennel essential oil at 300 and 900 ppm, and thyme essential oil at 600 and 1200 ppm showed higher starch content compared to other doses. (Table 5).

Total and Reducing Sugar Content

The effects of the applications on the total sugar content of the tuber were found to be statistically significant (Table 2). Except for the sage and dill essential oil, all other applications significantly reduced the average total sugar content compared to the control, the lowest average total sugar contents were obtained from toregano (0.59%) and Turkish pickling herb essential oil (0.66%) applications. The average total sugar content was determined to be lower in the applications made at 1200 ppm dose than in the other doses. Total sugar content varied between 0.26% and 1.40% depending on the essential oil applications, the highest total sugar rates were obtained from dill oil made at 600 and 900 ppm doses (1.40% and 1.36%, respectively) and sage oil applications made at 300 ppm dose (1.32%). The oregano essential oil applications made at 1200 ppm dose had the lowest total sugar content value with 0.26% (Table 6).

All applications significantly reduced the reducing sugar content compared to the control (489 mg/100g). The lowest average reducing sugar contents were obtained from fennel (307 g/100g) and cumin essential oil (321 mg/100g) applications in the same statistical group. Application doses significantly affected the reducing sugar content, while the average reducing sugar content was found to be higher in applications made at 900 ppm dose (402

mg/100g), reducing sugar content was significantly reduced in applications made at 1200 ppm dose (363 mg/100g) (Table 5). When all applications were considered, the reducing sugar content varied between 263-490 mg/100g, and the lowest reducing sugar content was determined in 300 and 900 ppm fennel and 1200 ppm oregano essential oil applications. The effects of essential oils on reducing sugar content depending on the doses were found to be statistically significant, with applications at 600 and 1200 ppm in sage, 300 ppm in Turkish pickling herb oil, and 1200 ppm in dill and cumin oils having lower reducing sugar content than other doses (Table 6).

Discussion

The use of essential oils as biostimulants is gaining attention due to the negative impacts of synthetic pesticides on human health and the environment. Plant extracts can boost growth and yield by influencing plant physiological processes positively (Zulfiqar et al., 2020). In agriculture, many compounds are known for their biostimulant effects on plant growth. Essential oils are a well-defined group of biostimulants, naturally derived from aromatic plants, and they exhibit various biological activities in living organisms (Bakkali et al., 2008). Therefore, this study aims to assess the growth and yield-enhancing effects of different essential oils.

Foliar applications of essential oils particularly *R. officinalis, E. tenuifolia* and *C. cyminum*, increased the number of tubers which is closely associated with factors such as number of main stems, stolon formation, and plant's nutritional status. Tuber formation, stolon length, the number of tubers per plant, and tuber size are

characteristics in potatoes with high heritability (Abeytilakarathna, 2022). Additionally, factors such as internal hormone levels, aday-night temperature fluctuations (Hulscher et al., 2013), photoperiod (Bahram et al., 2020), drought, and irrigation regime (Aliche et al., 2020) significantly influence stolon formation and, consequently, tuber number. Gibberellins (GAs) are among the most influential growth regulators on stolon formation, promoting stolon elongation and inhibiting tuber formation by affecting starch hydrolyase activity or starch synthesis enzymes (Abeytilakarathna, 2022). Compounds present in high concentrations in R. officinalis, C. cyminum and E. tenuifolia essential oils such as 1,8cineole, 2-caren-10-al, and α-phellandrene are synthesized via the MEP pathway, similar to GAs (Zebec et al., 2016). It is thus believed that these components may either exhibit hormone-like activity or influence hormone biosynthesis. The ability of essential oil applications to induce physiological changes in plants, such as alterations in phytohormone levels, has also been reported by Souri and Bakhtiarizade (2019).

Except for sage and oregano, essential oils applications from the leaves have increased tuber yield, with this increase being particularly higher in R. officinalis, C. cyminum and E. tenuifolia essential oils. In these applications, the higher number of tubers per plant and increased tuber yield explain the observed increase in total tuber yield. On the other hand, high doses of R. officinalis and O. onites essential oils likely caused phytotoxicity, leading to a reduction in tuber yield. Indeed, chlorophyll content in the leaves was also found to be lower in these applications. The reduction in chlorophyll content and tuber yield from a 1200 ppm rosemary and oregano essential oil spray may be due to decreased cell division or cell enlargement. Ethylene, a hormone involved in stress signaling, can limit plant growth when it accumulates in plant tissues (Marschner, 2011). In this study, the highdose foliar spray of rosemary and oregano essential oils likely acted as a stressor or stress signaling molecule. On the other hand, increased leaf chlorophyll levels resulting from the foliar application of C. cyminum, A. graveolens, and E. tenuifolia essential oils may be linked to boosted gene activity related to photosynthesis, cell metabolism, and stress response. Furthermore, applying Ascophyllum nodosum and moringa leaf extract suppresses cysteine protease activity (Buit et al., 2019), which prevents chlorophyll breakdown and delays plant aging. It has been reported that foliar applications of cumin, clove, and dill essential oils extended the vegetation period in potato plants; morever, cumin and dill essential oil applications significantly increased tuber yield, while clove oil decreased yield (Ok and Şanlı, 2021). Moreover, the increase in tuber yield may have resulted from some components of the essential oils developing defense mechanisms against stress factors, while others exhibited hormone-like activity. Indeed, in addition to their protective roles, such as antioxidant activity, free radical scavenging, and UV light absorption, secondary metabolites are known to establish defense mechanisms against microorganisms in plants (Kennedy and Wightman, 2011). Beyond their medicinal and aromatic uses, essential oils have also been reported to possess antimicrobial and antioxidant properties by many researchers (Ntalli et al., 2010; Lang and Buchbauer, 2012).

Potato tuber yield is significantly reduced under challenging environmental conditions like drought, heat, and high salinity. Essential oils, complex organic compounds produced via plants' secondary metabolic pathways, serve crucial roles as signaling molecules in defending plants against various stresses such as pests, fungi, bacteria, and viruses (Tiku, 2018). Essential oils are believed to enhance potato plants' tolerance to environmental stresses, potentially increasing tuber yield. Under stress, reactive oxygen species (ROS) production rises in plants, and these ROS can damage cells and membranes, accelerating chlorophyll breakdown and aging. Essential oils, known for their antioxidant properties, help reduce ROS levels, potentially promoting growth, maintaining leaf greenness, and supporting developmental processes in potato plants. For example, Rguez et al. (2023) found that treating pathogen-infected tomato plants with Tetraclinis articulata EO boosted the activity of antioxidant enzymes, total polyphenol content, and antioxidant activity. Another possible reason for increased plant growth and tuber yield may be that essential oils improve nutrient uptake from the soil. Studies have shown that phenolic compounds can enhance nutrient absorption (Sánchez-Sánchez et al., 2002). A larger root surface area increases the rhizosphere area, improving uptake of nutrients like nitrogen, potassium, and iron (Marschner, 2011; Rose et al., 2014). In this study, foliar oil application may have promoted the release of protons, organic acids, and natural chelators or altered the redox potential in the lime-rich soil, facilitating nutrient absorption. Similarly, Soiri and Bakhtiarizade (2019) reported that rosemary oil foliar sprays increased nitrogen, iron, and zinc levels in tomato seedling leaves.

On the other hand, potato plants are susceptible to numerous phytopathogenic fungi throughout the growing season, which significantly restricts plant growth and yield. In this study, no synthetic fungicide treatments were applied against phytopathogens, leading to substantial development of fungal pathogens (such as powder mildew, Alternaria, Fusarium, etc.) in the plants. Another reason for the positive effects of essential oil applications on tuber yield and quality in potato plants is believed to be their ability to reduce fungal phytopathogen development. Plant essential oils are a promising source of antifungal compounds. Studies on plant pathogenic fungi have shown that certain essential oils possess antifungal properties that can inhibit fungal growth (Zaidi and Crow, 2005). This effectiveness is likely due to their diverse chemical compositions, the physical structure of their components, and the functional groups they contain, as well as possible synergistic interactions among their constituents (Bajpai et al., 2013). It has been reported that esseantial oils such as Salvia officinalis, Rosmarinus officinalis, Origanum onites, Anethum graveolens, Cuminum cyminum, and Echinophora tenuifolia exhibit antifungal activity against various phytopathogens, and their appropriate doses can be used as fungicides (Yilar et al., 2018; Kaur at al., 2021; Ok and Sanlı 2023; Sanlı and Ok, 2023).

In potatoes, tuber quality is closely related to plant health and nutritional status, and under conditions where the negative effects of biotic and abiotic stress factors are reduced, tuber quality is positively impacted. In the applications of *O. onites, E. tenuifolia, R. officinalis* and *F.*

vugare essential oils, the total sugar content was lower compared to other treatments. Similarly, all essential oil applications, especially those with fennel and oregano oils, resulted in a significant reduction in the reducing sugar content of the tubers. It is believed that this effect stems from certain active compounds in these essential oils that influence sucrose synthesis activity. Glucose produced through photosynthesis is converted into sucrose or reducing sugars through the activity of various enzymes, or it is converted into starch and stored in the tubers. The sucrose produced to be converted into storage material can, when needed, or for respiration, be converted back into reducing sugars. These transformations vary depending on numerous factors during the plant's physiological development. In addition to stress factors like temperature and humidity, the presence of diseases and pests can trigger the plant's defense mechanisms, causing it to generate energy by breaking down stored materials to cope with the negative conditions. The wide and significant variation in the total and reducing sugar content of the tubers depending on the treatments indicates that the applications are effective against stress factors that emerge during different stages of plant development. Foliar applications of essential oils reduced dry matter and starch accumulation. With these applications, promoting plant growth led to better development of the above-ground biomass. In plants with improved growth habitus, tuber yield increased due to higher photosynthetic activity, while dry matter and starch accumulation, indicators of quality, were lower.

Conclusion

Essential oils from medicinal plants are considered potential next-generation biostimulants and pesticides for controlling plant pathogens and pests, as well as for enhancing stress tolerance through various mechanisms, including the activation of plant defenses. In this study, the findings indicate that essential oils from *R. officinalis*, *C. cyminum*, and *E. teniufolia* exhibit significant biostimulant properties and enhancing potato plant growth and tuber yields. Foliar applications of *R. officinalis* at 300 and 600 ppm, and *C. cyminum* at 300 ppm have been shown to be a natural alternative for sustainable potato production. However, in order to reach a more definitive conclusion, detailed studies are needed to reveal the mode of action of essential oils and their biostimulant effects.

Declarations

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Determination of the Current Situation of Konya Ihlamur Park According to the Physical Activity and Social Interaction Actions of Elderly Individuals, which are the Reasons for Park Use

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ABSTRACT

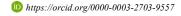
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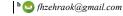
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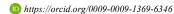
Keywords: Physical Activity Elderly Landscape design Urban parks Ihlamur park

Parks and public open green spaces are open spaces for all segments of the society. These places, which are important recreation areas, enable the elderly to renew themselves, to breathe a little in the open air, to be alone with nature even in the city. These opportunities provided by parks are utilised by elderly users. Today, the population of elderly individuals is increasing day by day due to the slowdown in population growth rate. In this study, it is aimed to determine the park usage purposes of the elderly and important park features that encourage physical activity and social interaction. Within the scope of the research, 96 elderly individuals were interviewed with 96 elderly individuals within the scope of face-to-face survey study by going to the park at random times on weekdays and weekends on a voluntary basis by using the questionnaire form prepared for revealing the user profile of individuals aged 40 and over in Ihlamur Park in Selçuklu District, determining the preference times of the park, determining the duration and times of park use, determining the reasons for park preference and selection, and evaluating park user satisfaction and expectations. The findings show that parks are an important social area for elderly people in the same age group with their seating areas, walking paths, simple fitness equipment, as they create a gathering area for elderly people in the same age group, and therefore, parks require careful planning and implementation in the design, management and use of parks and should contain a large amount of space for socialization. In line with these findings, it will be possible for elderly people to benefit more from parks and have a more enjoyable time with landscape designs that provide socialization opportunities for elderly users. Thus, elderly individuals will be able to develop a sense of belonging for the park.











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Introduction

The concept of open space is one of the important basic elements of urban fabric and is defined as openings or empty spaces outside architectural structures and transport areas (Gül et al. 2020).

Public open green spaces: parks and other recreational areas are considered as basic community resources that provide an environment for leisure time physical activities, benefit social and ecological functions, contribute to psychological well-being and community welfare in terms of various communities, and can improve quality of life and health at the same time (Alp and Ekşi, 2021).

In other words, it is perceived as areas where there is no construction for any purpose on the outdoor space and there is a potential opportunity for any recreational use. For example, water surfaces, squares with no or very limited number of vegetation elements and transport areas are defined as open spaces (Gül et al. 2020).

Urban parks are public service areas that undertake very important and various functions in the reconstruction of the disconnected nature-human relationship that develops due to urbanization within the complex urban organization. At the same time, they are usually centrally located in urban settlements and are visually part of the city. These areas are located in places that people can easily access in daily use and provide opportunities for individual or group activities such as walking, jogging, sitting outdoors, picnicking, playing games, etc. (Aykal et al. 2017).

In the development process of a city, the physical structure of the city emerges as a result of the multidirectional relations and interaction of basic components such as architectural structures, open and green areas and transport. In particular, green areas in the urban area and its periphery are a basic component that

integrates and balances the city as a result of organic connections with all land uses of the city, and are public and privately owned physical spaces covered with plants that provide multifaceted services and contributions to the ecosystem of the city, form the city identity, and include active and passive recreational activities. Urban open and green areas can be divided into three groups as public (city and neighbourhood parks, national gardens, recreational areas, sports and playgrounds, etc.), semi-private (schools, public institutions and organisations gardens, etc.) and private (residential or collective housing gardens, etc.) (Türker and Gül 2022).

Today, due to the increase in the number of elderly populations, the policies developed for the elderly are unfortunately insufficient. Our cities and parks in our cities cannot serve the elderly individuals sufficiently. (Yılmaz et al. 2016).

According to many landscape planners, urban open spaces are defined as areas on which we do not build on one side and on the other side as areas with any potential for recreational use. Although open and green areas vary according to different meanings, types and even functions for some planners, generally open areas include squares, intersections, playgrounds, playgrounds and sports areas, parks, botanical and zoological gardens and entertainment centers (Özdamar, 2006).

According to Özkan (2020), the Latin equivalent of the word 'elderly' is the word 'geron'. The concept called gerontology derived from this word and emerged as 'the branch of science that studies the elderly'. The term was first used by Metchnikoff, a Russian biologist, in 1908. According to the World Health Organization, the term elderly is defined for individuals over the age of 65. However, Gerontology states that the aging process consists of complex processes that cannot be easily said that this person is old. According to Özkan (2020), old age is only a social design, and designs can change according to the situation and needs (Özkan, 2020).

Old age is a natural and compulsory age of life such as childhood and adulthood. It is all of the irreversible structural and functional changes that occur with the progression of time at the level of molecules, cells, tissues, organs and systems of the organism at the level of molecules, cells, tissues, organs and systems of the organism, which occur before death in the life process that begins with the birth of the human being and in which the person passes from independence to dependence, both physically and mentally. The World Health Organization (WHO) defines people aged 65 and over as elderly, and people aged 85 and over as very old. Gerontologists classify old age as young old age between 65-74 years of age, middle old age between 75-84 years of age and advanced old age (old age) over 85 years of age. Old age should be evaluated in terms of biological, psychological and social ageing as well as chronological ageing. While the basic measure of chronological ageing is the calendar age of the person, the basic unit of measurement of biological ageing is the vascular age of the person, i.e. cardiovascular ageing (Koldas, 2017).

According to UNESCO, a person is old if he/she cannot get out of his/her comfort zone, constantly complains even if he/she has to, does not learn new things, is not surprised and thinks he/she knows most things, does not wonder,

does not explore, lives in the past, in his/her memories and constantly repeats the old.

Regarding the accessibility of parks, which constitute an important part of urban green areas, the characteristics and standards that a barrier-free park should have, the problems faced by disabled individuals in the city, the usability of the city by disabled individuals, the consideration of disabled individuals in park arrangements, and the accessibility features in urban green areas should be accurately revealed (Onay et al. 2022).

Hansen (1959) defined accessibility as 'the potential of opportunities for interaction', Dalvi and Martin (1976) defined accessibility as 'the ease of access from a particular location to a land use activity using a particular transport system', Burns (1979) defined accessibility as 'the freedom of individuals to take part in different activities' and Ben Akiva and Lerman (1979) defined accessibility as 'the benefits derived from transport and land use systems'. Accessibility criteria and components should be compatible with four basic perspectives in terms of social and economic evaluation. These can be summarized as theoreticality, applicability, interpretability/ communicability, and usability in social and economic calculations (Cüce and Ortaçeşme, 2020).

Accessible landscapes are areas designed to enable individuals to use their natural abilities under equal conditions, to perform all their activities without assistance, to move comfortably and to enjoy all activities (Özkan, 2020).

The accessibility of open-green areas is considered as the most important factor that enables these areas to be used more frequently and contributes to the welfare of the city people (Cüce and Ortaçeşme, 2020).

Individuals who have been using nature for many different purposes for a healthy life since ancient times have used urban parks, which are almost a copy of nature, for rest and recreation (Gemici 2023a). As a result of the harmony between nature and man, the need for green areas has increased in cities with increasing population density (Gemici 2023b).

Parks and public open green spaces are open spaces for all segments of the society. These places, which are important recreation areas, enable the elderly to renew themselves, to breathe a little in the open air, to be alone with nature even in the city. These opportunities provided by parks are utilized by elderly users. Today, the population of elderly individuals is increasing day by day due to the slowdown in population growth rate. In this study, it is aimed to determine the park usage purposes of the elderly and important park features that encourage physical activity and social interaction.

Within the scope of the research, 96 elderly individuals were interviewed with 96 elderly individuals within the scope of face-to-face survey study by going to the park at random times on weekdays and weekends on a voluntary basis by using the questionnaire form prepared for revealing the user profile of individuals aged 40 and over in Ihlamur Park in Selçuklu District, determining the preference times of the park, determining the duration and times of park use, determining the reasons for park preference and selection, and evaluating park user satisfaction and expectations.

The findings showed that parks are an important social space for elderly people and therefore require careful planning and implementation in the design, management and use of parks. With the landscape designs to be made in line with the findings, it will be possible for elderly individuals to benefit more from the parks and have a more enjoyable time.

Materials and Methods

In order to examine the behaviors and experiences of elderly individuals in Ihlamur Park in Yazır neighbourhood of Selçuklu district of Konya province, documents related to the park taken from Konya Metropolitan Municipality, on-site photography and observations were used as materials, and the method was developed according to Güngör (2019). Both quantitative and qualitative research techniques were used to determine the scope of our research and to analyze the data obtained. Konya city is in the Central Anatolia Region of Turkey. In this context, a questionnaire study was carried out on the time intervals of elderly people using the park, determination of satisfaction criteria, reasons for preferring the park, expectations from the park and types of transportation to the park. Within the scope of the survey, 96 elderly individuals were interviewed. The questions in the questionnaire form were categorized under 5 main headings. These headings are;

- Identification of the user profile
- Determining the preferred times of the park
- Determination of the duration and time of use of the park area
- Determination of park preference and selection reasons
- Evaluation of user satisfaction and expectations in the park area.

Results

When the socio-demographic characteristics of the participants are analyzed, 57.3% of the participants are women and the remaining 42.7% are men. Since the study was carried out on individuals in the elderly group, all of the participants were aged 40 and over.

The results of the questionnaire regarding the age distribution rates of the elderly individuals using the park are given below.

40-50 Age Range (In our study, according to UNESCO's new definition of the elderly, we carried out a decanket study not only with individuals aged 65 years and over, but also with individuals aged 40 years and over)

- Male individuals: The number of male individuals using the park in this age range is 15 (36.6%).
- Female individuals: The number of female individuals using the park in the same age range is 22 (40%).
- 51-60 Age Range:
- Male individuals: The number of male individuals using the park in this age group is 11 (26.8%).
- Female individuals: The number of female individuals aged 51-60 using the park is 20 (36.4%).
- 61 and Over:

- Male individuals: The number of male individuals aged 61 and over using the park is 14 (34.1%).
- Female individuals: The number of female individuals using the park in the same age group was 13 (23.6%).

These data reveal the age and gender distribution of park use in detail. It is observed that the rate of women's park use is higher than that of men in certain age groups, especially among the elderly individuals. However, this ratio changes in favour of men in the group aged 61 and over. This situation shows that there are differences between genders in park usage habits as age increases.

Due to both climatic characteristics and social structure, the hours of use of parks vary during the day. Seasonally, there may be large differences between the number of elderly individuals using the parks in some time periods.

The results of the survey on the frequency of use of the parks by the elderly individuals using the parks are given below.

Individuals who use the park 3-4 times a week:

- Male individuals: The number of male individuals who use the park 3-4 times a week is 14 (50%).
- Female individuals: The number of female individuals who use the park with the same frequency is 14 (50%).
- Individuals who use the park every day:
- Male individuals: The number of male individuals who use the park every day is 10 (40%).
- Female individuals: The number of female individuals who use the park every day is 15 (60%).

These data reveal the frequency of park use of elderly individuals on the basis of gender in detail. Although the ratio of male and female individuals using the park 3-4 times a week is equal (50%), it is observed that the ratio of women (60%) is higher than men (40%) among individuals who use the park every day. This shows that female individuals use the park more regularly and frequently.

The results of the survey regarding the time intervals of the elderly individuals using the park are shown below.

40-50 Age Range:

- Park use in the morning hours: In this age range, 5 (45.5%) of the individuals use the park in the morning.
- Park use during lunch hours: 6 (30%) of the individuals in the same age group use the park at noon.

51-60 Age Range:

- Park use in the morning hours: The number of individuals aged 51-60 using the park in the morning hours is 0 (0%).
- Park use at noon: 9 (45%) of the individuals in this age group use the park at noon.

61 and Over:

- Park use in the morning: 6 (54.5%) of individuals aged 61 and over use the park in the morning.
- Park use at noon: 5 (25%) of the individuals in the same age group use the park at noon.

These data reveal the distribution of park use among different age groups according to different time periods. In particular, individuals between the ages of 40-50 use the park mostly in the morning, while individuals between the ages of 51-60 prefer the park at noon. Individuals aged 61 and over have the highest rate of using the park in the morning hours. This situation shows that park usage habits change according to age groups and park usage is more common in the morning hours.

According to the survey results, the time spent in the park by the elderly individuals using the park was analysed in detail. Of the individuals aged 40-50, 27 (28.6%) spend 1-2 hours, 6 (29.4%) 2-3 hours and 25.0% 3-4 hours. Among individuals aged 51-60, 22 (38.6%) spend 1-2 hours, 6 (35.3%) 2-3 hours and 3 (37.5%) 3-4 hours. Among individuals aged 61 and over, 20 (1.4%) spend 1-2 hours, 0 (0.0%) 2-3 hours and 0 (0.0%) 3-4 hours.

According to these results, it is seen that individuals between the ages of 40-50 generally spend 2-3 hours. A higher rate of 3-4 hours is observed in individuals between the ages of 51-60. Individuals aged 61 and over are generally found to spend 1-2 hours in the park.

These findings reveal that the time spent by elderly individuals in the park may differ according to their age range. Understanding the park usage habits and preferences of the elderly is important for parks to provide better service for the elderly population. In this framework, park administrations can make arrangements to meet the needs of elderly people and enable them to use parks more effectively.

The reasons why elderly people go to parks differ according to individuals and age groups. Elderly individuals primarily go to parks to spend time during the day. These preferences differ in order of importance. Ihlamur Park is generally preferred by elderly people for walking and sports (n: 54 %56.2), spending time with their grandchildren and children (n: 27 %28.1), spending time with family and friends and having picnics (n: 11 %11.4). In addition, other factors also play an important role in the preference of the park. These factors include the location of the park (1), the reliability of the park (2), the functional features of the park and the opportunity to rest (3). This data reveals that the park usage habits of elderly individuals vary depending on both their individual needs and environmental factors. Parks are important areas for both physical activities and social interactions for elderly individuals, and features such as functionality and accessibility are determinant in the preference of these areas. According to the results of the analyses, (25%) of individuals between the ages of 40-60 disagree that the park is safe, while 4 (23.5%) agree with this view. According to the analysis of the studies and survey results on the neighborhoods where the elderly people who use the park reside and the means of transportation to the park, 4 (23.5%) of the elderly people who come to the park by private car reside in Sancak neighborhood and 2 (3%) reside in Yazır neighborhood. Of the elderly individuals who use public transport to reach the park, 1 (5.9%) comes from Sancak Neighborhood and 1 (1.5%) comes from Yazır Neighborhood. On the other hand, 12 (70.6%) of the elderly individuals who reach the park on foot come from Sancak Neighborhood and 64 (95.5%) come from Yazır Neighborhoods. These findings reveal the park access

preferences of elderly individuals living in different neighborhoods and the ease of access to parks in different neighborhoods.

The opinions of the elderly people using the park on the adequacy of planting were analyzed according to the survey results. (0,0%) of the individuals between the ages of 40-60 disagree with the adequacy of planting, while 8 (30,8%) agree with this view. On the other hand, 0(0,0%)of the individuals between the ages of 60-70 both disagreed and agreed with the adequacy of planting. In the light of these data, it is seen that individuals in the 40-60 age group have serious criticisms about the planting of the park and half of this group finds the planting works inadequate. However, there is no negative opinion about the adequacy of planting in the 40-60 age group and 30.8% of them have a positive opinion. In the 60-70 age group, no opinion was reported according to the survey results. These results indicate that the park management should review its planting policies. Especially the dissatisfaction of the 40-60 age group may negatively affect the frequency and satisfaction of users in this age range. Therefore, measures such as diversification of planting activities, aesthetic arrangements and increasing the number of plants can increase user satisfaction. On the other hand, the high satisfaction rate of the 40-60 age group indicates that the current planting policies for this age group are successful. The fact that there is no opinion in the 60-70 age group may indicate that this group is not interested in the issue of planting or that this group is not sufficiently represented in the survey.

The park management should take steps to overcome the dissatisfaction of the 40-60 age group with the inadequacy of the existing planting (there is not enough shading because the trees are still small) and maintain current practices during the replacement of drying plants to maintain the satisfaction of the 40-60 age group with the presence of linden trees. The reasons for the silence of the 60-70 age group should be investigated, and the opinions of this group on the planting works of the park should be taken to increase the overall satisfaction of the general use of the park.

The opinions of the elderly people using the park on the adequacy of the equipment elements in the park were analysed in detail according to the survey results. Regarding the adequacy of the reinforcement elements, 4 (36.4%) of the individuals aged 40-60 do not agree with the adequacy of reinforcement elements, while 3 (17.6%) agree with this view. On the other hand, there is no disagreement rate in the 60-70 age group and there is no opinion on the adequacy of reinforcement elements among the participants in this age group. In the light of these data, the rate of participation among individuals aged 40-60 is 17.6% and some of the participants in this age group think that the reinforcement elements are insufficient. However, there is no negative opinion about the reinforcement elements among the participants aged 60-70.

The issues that the elderly people who use the park are disturbed about the park were analyzed in detail. Among the elderly men using the park, 15 (31.9%) were disturbed by car noises and 23 (50%) were disturbed by misuse of the park. Similarly, 32 (68.1%) of the elderly women were disturbed by car noises and 23 (50%) were disturbed by misuse of the park. These results reveal that the causes of

discomfort encountered by elderly individuals in the park may differ according to gender. A significant portion of both male and female elderly individuals are disturbed by car noises. In addition, misuse of the park is also a source of disturbance for both male and female elderly individuals. These findings point to an important point that park managements should take into consideration in order for parks to better meet the needs of the elderly. In order to keep the noise levels under control in the parks, preventive planting between the highway and the park and taking the necessary measures regarding the design and use of the parks will enable elderly individuals to have a more enjoyable time in the parks.

Conclusion

It is the duty of each individual and the state to make the elderly feel that they are still a part of society and to ensure that they continue their social life instead of isolating them from society as an object that has completed its duty and is a burden to society. One way to offer this social life to elderly individuals is to provide them with the opportunities that will enable them to use public spaces and parks within these spaces comfortably.

When the age and gender distribution of park use is analyzed in the survey results, it is observed that women are generally more active, but this trend changes in the 61 and over age group. It is revealed that park usage habits change according to gender as age increases. This change may reflect the change in the interest and preferences of older individuals in parks with age. The fact that women prefer parks more in younger age groups may be because young women prefer to use parks for social, recreational and sports activities. However, the reversal of this situation in the age group of 61 years and over is probably due to the fact that older men tend to use the parks more frequently and regularly. In this age group, it may be important to understand in more detail what the determinants of men's use of the park are. Perhaps factors such as maintaining physical activity, meeting up with friends or utilizing their time in the park in a more beneficial way.

According to the data on the frequency of use of Ihlamur Park, it is seen that the rate of women using the park 3-4 times a week is equal to that of men, but the rate of women using the park every day is higher. This shows that women use the park more regularly and frequently. While a gender balance is observed among individuals who use the park 3-4 times a week, the higher proportion of women among those who visit the park every day may indicate that women frequently visit the park in their daily routines. This indicates that women regularly prefer the park for both physical and social activities.

In the analyses conducted according to the time intervals of park use, it was found that the preferred time periods differ among different age groups. In particular, it was observed that individuals aged 61 and over had the highest rate of using the park in the morning hours. This indicates that older individuals prefer to spend time in the park in the morning hours and prefer to start their day actively. The decrease in the use of parks at noon is perhaps due to the fact that elderly individuals prefer to rest at home during this time. This indicates that parks should be used more actively in the morning hours for elderly people.

When the distribution of the time spent in the park according to age groups was analysed, it was determined that each age group spent different amounts of time in the park. This reveals that the park usage habits of the elderly may vary according to age ranges. In particular, it is observed that individuals aged 61 and overspend shorter periods of time in the park. This may be related to the physical capacity of the elderly or the way they utilize the facilities in the park. These data show that parks should be made more attractive for the elderly and arrangements should be made to ensure that the elderly use the parks more effectively.

In the examination of the reasons for going to the park, it was seen that elderly individuals primarily prefer parks to spend time during the day. In addition, it was determined that environmental factors were also effective in park selection. This shows that parks are important not only for physical activities but also for social interactions. Parks are thought to be an important platform to strengthen the social ties of the elderly and increase their interaction with society.

Studies on access to parks have revealed the preferences and convenience of older people living in different neighborhoods. This shows that the location and accessibility of parks can affect the use of elderly people. The fact that parks are accessible and easy to reach for elderly individuals indicates that they should be made more attractive for this group.

Declarations

This study was presented at the 7th International Anatolian Agriculture, Food, Environment and Biology Congress, (Kastamonu, TARGID 2024)

Ethical Approval Certificate

The experimental procedures of this study were approved by the Ethics Committee of Selçuk University, Architecture and Design Faculty (Approval date and number: 03/11/2023-09/04).

Author Contribution Statement

Sertaç Güngör: Project administration, supervision, conceptualization, methodology, review, editing, formal analysis and writing the original draft

Zehra Çelik: Data collection and investigation.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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The Effects of Potato Golden Cyst Nematode Pathotype 2/3 On Plant Development in Clones and Varieties

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ABSTRACT

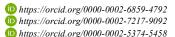
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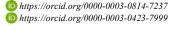
Keywords:
Globodera rostochiensis
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This study investigated the effects of Potato Golden Cyst Nematode (*Globodera rostochiensis*) on plant development and tuber yield in naturally infested fields with and without nematicides. The study was arranged in a randomized block design in the Alay district of Niğde province in 2021. In the study 4 varieties (PAE 13-08-07 clone, Ünlenen, Leventbey, Muratbey) developed by Niğde Potato Research Institute and two controls (Desiree and Bettina) were used. 50% emergence time, 50% flowering time, number of stems per plant, plant height, tuber maturation time, number of large tubers in total tuber and tuber yield per hectare were examined in potato varieties. No difference was detected in 50% emergence time, number of stems per plant and 50% flowering time in potato varieties in the nematicide-applied area and the nematode-infested area. Varieties were affected by nematicide application at varying rates in terms of plant height and tuber maturation time. The most significant increase in tuber size and tuber weight was observed as a result of nematicide application in the field infested with Potato Golden Cyst nematode.











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Introduction

Potato is an industrial plant essential to human nutrition worldwide. After corn, rice, and wheat, potato is the most produced plant (Arvas et al., 2018). Potato is a significant species due to its high nutritional content, suitability for long-term storage, and high productivity (Dumanoğlu & Geren, 2020). They provide high yields per unit area, prevent unbalanced nutrition, and meet the raw material needs in many industrial sectors (Arıoğlu et al., 2006).

Niğde, Afyonkarahisar, and Konya are important provinces in potato production in Turkiye. These provinces constitute almost 35% of the country's output and 32% of the planting areas. The province with the highest production is Niğde, with 679653 tons of production on 17630 hectares of land. The average yield of Niğde is 38.55 t/ha (Tuik, 2022). Globodera rostochiensis and Globodera pallida are the most important pest in many countries

(Tagem, 2017; Subbotin et al., 2020). Important nematode species that cause economic damage in potatoe are Golden Cyst Nematode *Globodera rostochiensis* (Wollenweber) and Pale Cyst Nematode *Globodera pallida* (Taş) Behrens (Turner, 2013). When PCN are not controlled, yield losses of up to 80% occur, causing significant economic losses in the potato industry worldwide (Talavera, 1998; Contina, 2020).

PCN feed on plant roots and disrupt the plant's water and nutrient uptake. Swelling and clustering occur in plant roots. At the beginning of the infection, symptoms of weakening, growth retardation, and wilting begin to appear in the above-ground parts of the plants. Cyst Nematodes, which do not cause significant damage to the upper parts of the plant at the beginning, cause substantial decreases in yield if potato production continues. PCN larvae in the cyst

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maintain their viability for many years (10-30 years) even if there is no host plant to feed on in the soil (Gartner et al., 2021). Their eggs can survive for more than twenty years, so it is difficult to destroy them after they emerge (Gartner et al., 2021). In Turkiye, the PCN was first detected in a potato field in the Dörtdivan district of Bolu (Enneli & Öztürk, 1996). In a study conducted in potato growing areas in the Aegean Region, it was determined that the Globodera rostochiensis was prevalent in 17.47% of potato production areas in Ödemiş district of İzmir province and 61.70% (Ulutaş, 2010). It was determined that the G. rostochiensis was prevalent in 35% of the potato production areas in Bolu province (İmren, 2018). The PCN (G. rostochiensis) has also been encountered in the provinces of Niğde, Nevşehir, İzmir and Afyon in Turkiye, and its pathotype was determined as Ro2/3 (Evlice, 2021).

Control of PCN has traditionally been achieved by integrated pest management strategy inculuding crop rotation, cultivation of resistant cultivars and application of nematicides. However, the lack of cultivars with sufficent resistance to *Globedara*. *pallida* and the limitations associated with long rotations requirement for effective control of those pest support the reliance on chemical control tactices for managing it (Trudgill et al., 2003).

The presence of PCN in potato production areas and above the economic damage limit (Demirbaş Pehlivan, 2019) significantly reduces potato yield. It takes many years for producers to realize that the nematode causes a decrease in tuber yield. The absence of symptoms specific to PCN reduces disease awareness among producers (Price et al., 2021). The effect of increasing global temperatures due to climate change in the last century on loss of productivity caused by plant pests, including soil-dwelling organisms such as PCN, is alarming (Kaczmarek, 2019). From this perspective, provinces where potato cultivation is carried out are at risk in terms of reduced yield. Most of the potato varieties used in the Turkiye are not resistant to PCN, and information on sustainable farming practices is limited. With the increasing costs associated with chemical applications, farmers need to be increasingly efficient in their use of agrochemical resources. In this context, growers need information on correct nematicide application against pathogenic nematodes.

The present study aimed to research the effects of 400 g/l fluopyram nematicide in fields naturally infected with *G. rostochiensis* Ro2/3 race in relation to tuber yield and growth of 6 different potato varieties currently produced in Niğde province.

Materials and Methods

In the study six potato varieties and clone, including PAE 13-08-07, Ünlenen, Leventbey, Muratbey, susceptible control Desiree, and resistant control Bettina were used. The nematode pathotype in the field where the experiment was carried out was determined to be *Globodera rostochiensis* Ro2/3 (Evlice, 2021). The varieties and their characteristics are given in Table 1.

Before the study, a survey was conducted in the town of Alay and soil samples were taken from different locations. Nematode cysts were collected in the samples under a binocular microscope.

Table 1. Characteristics of varieties used in the study

Variety	Maternal × Paternal
Ünlenen	Provento × Soleia
Leventbey	Soleia × Anais
Muratbey	Panda × Anais
PAE 13-08-07	Bettina × Galata
Desiree*	Urgenta × Depesche
Bettina**	Franzi × 795/883

*Susceptible control, **Resistant control (*; **References; ECPD, 2022)

As a result of the evaluation, counts were made in the soil samples taken from the location where the nematode population was dense. Nematode cysts were molecularly and classically identified as Potato Golden Cyst Nematode. The research was conducted in a field naturally infested with nematodes in the Alay district of Niğde province, in accordance with the randomized block design, the experiment was established in 48 plots, including 6 varieties, 4 replicates, and 2 applications. The study consisted of 24 plots naturally infested with Potato Golden Cyst Nematode and 24 plots treated with nematicide. In the experiment, the plot width was determined as 1.4 m, the plot length as 8.1 m, and the plot area as 11.34 square meters. A 3 m gap was left between the plots with and without nematicide spraying. Nematicide application was made twice during the production season, just before planting potatoes and 1 month after planting potatoes. Routine maintenance, irrigation, and fertilization were carried out from planting to harvest. 70% Metribuzin was used for weed control; For potato beetle control, 200g/l Chlorantraniliprole and 25g/l Deltamethrin were used. After planting, according to Technical Instruction for Agricultural Measurement Trials (TTSM, 2001), 50% day of emergence, number of stems per plant, plant height, tuber maturation time, number of large tubers in total tubers, tuber yield per hectare were observed. Potatoes harvested from each plot were counted and weighed separately in 3 different sizes (35-55 mm, smaller than 35 mm, larger than 55 mm). In the study, tubers larger than 55 mm³ were recorded as large tubers. The number of large tubers in total tubers on a plot basis and the % effectiveness degree between varieties were determined with the Abbot formula.

 $E = (NTL/TNT) \times 100.$

E: % effect

NTL: Number of tubers larger than 55 mm³

TNT: total number of tubers

Yield per hectare and percentage yield loss rates were calculated for all applications.

Statistical Analysis

Statistical analysis was carried out according to the randomized block design by applying the MSTAT-C statistical package program to the data obtained from the varieties in the plots with and without nematicide application. Data determined to be significant according to the variance analysis results were subjected to the Duncan multiple comparison test. The percentage of effect degree was calculated depending on the varieties.

Results and Discussion

50% Plant Emergence (day)

The variance analysis results applied to the 50% emergence day values showed that there were significant differences (P \leq 0.05) among the varieties (Muratbey and PAE13-08-07), while the nematicide treatments and interaction between treatments and variety interaction was found to be insignificant. Plant 50% plant emergence (day) of the varieties are given in Table 2.

In the plots where nematicide was applied, the earliest and latest emergence days were determined in Muratbey (18.5) and clone PAE-13-08-07 (22.5) respectively. In the plot where nematicide was not applied, Leventbey emerged at the earliest (19.0), and Bettina emerged at the latest (23.0). Researchers have reported that many factors directly or indirectly affect the emergence times of potato tubers (Yıldırım 2019). These are; soil structure, planting depth, climatic conditions, genetic structure. Physiological age also significantly affects the emergence time of potato tubers. They reported that there may be changes in emergence times due to the fact that potato tubers are of different sizes at the time of planting and do not have the same physiological age (Bülbül, 2018; Arslan, 2002). In potato, shoots emerge in approximately 15-30 days depending on the conditions and root formation begins in this period (Anonymous, 2024). Since the root density of the potato is low during the emergence period, nematicide uptake into the tuber body may not occur. A previous study, conducted by Kimpinski, et al. (2001) stated that a small significant negative nematicide effect on plant emergence 28 days after planting, with an mean emergence of 83.0 and 80.9% in the check and nematicide-treated parcels, respectively. The researchers also noted significant differences in plant emergence and plant vigour among the cultivars. As expected, early maturing varieties emerged rapidly than later maturing varieties. On the other hand, Norshie, et al. (2016) suggested that soil nematicide (fluensulfone) applications can protect potato plants from pallida infection. However, they reported that nematicide application did not have a significant effect on plant growth in one location in their study. Previous studies on this subject reported that soil application with nematicides did not always accompany improvements in potato growth and yield parameters, Evans et al. (2003); Whitehead et al. 1994). Soil ph and plant nutrition were reported to be some of the factors suggested to affect potato responses to nematicide applications. In this study we conducted the effect of namaticide on the emergence period did not create any difference.

Number of Shoots Per Plant

There was a significant difference ($P \le 0.01$) among the varieties regarding number of shoots per plant, while no significant difference was found in the treatment and variety treatment interaction. Number of shoots per plant of the varieties are given in Table 3.

Under nematicide treated conditions, the highest and lowest shoots were found in Bettina (7.87) and Muratbey (4.45), respectively. Untreated conditions, the lowest main stem number was found in the Leventbey (4.32), and the highest value was found in the Bettina (7.47).

Table 2. Plant emergence (day) in potato varieties

Varieties	Nematicide	Nematicide
	Treated	Untreated
Ünlenen	21.5 a-c	20.3 a-d+
Leventbey	19.0 cd	19.0 cd
Muratbey	18.5 d	19.8 b-d
PAE 13-08-07	22.5 ab	20.8 a-d
Desiree	21.3 a-d	19.8 b-d
Bettina	20.8 a-d	23.0 a
Mean	20.6	20.4

+) According to the Duncan test, means indicated with similar lower-case letters in the same column are statistically similar within the error limits of $P \le 0.01$ (50% plant emergence, LSD: 2.492, CV:9,06%, F value variety:3,45; treatment value:0,10)

Table 3. Number of shoots per plant in potato varieties

Varieties	Nematicide	Nematicide
	Treated	Untreated
Ünlenen	6.47 ab	5.97 b-d+
Leventbey	4.53 с-е	4.32e
Muratbey	4.45 de	4.55 с-е
PAE 13-08-07	6.63 ab	6.80 ab
Desiree	6.05 bc	6.83 ab
Bettina	7.87 a	7.47 ab
Mean	6.00	5.99

+) According to the Duncan test, means indicated with similar lower-case letters in the same column are statistically similar within the error limits of $P \le 0.01$ (Number of shoots per plant LSD: 1.439, CV:10.01%, F value variety:36.80; treatment value:0.01)

The number of shoots per plant is affected by the number of buds per tuber, the damage rate of the shoots during planting, growth conditions, physiological age of the tuber, variety, tuber size, and soil conditions during sowing and emergence (Haverkort et al., 1990). Pszczolkowski and Sawicka (2017), reported that the shoot number each plant changed between 3.8 and 7.5, depending on the varieties. Ulutaş 2010, in her study, found that the number of main stems of potato varieties with nematicide application generally increased compared to those without. Significant differences were also found among varieties with nematicide application. In this study, although there were significant differences between varieties in both nematicide and non-nematicide application conditions, no significant difference was found between the applications. A study on this subject conducted by Ulutaş, (2010) stated that no difference in the number of main stems in the potato varieties Agria, Marabel, Marfona and Gronala in the fields infested with Golden Cyst Nematode, under nematicide-treated and nontreated conditions.

Plant Height (cm)

The results of variance analysis showed significant differences ($P \le 0.01$) among cultivar, treatment, and cultivar x treatment interaction regarding plant height. Plant heights of the varieties are given in Table 4.

Table 4. Plant height (cm) and % degree of impact in potato varieties

	2 1	1	
Varieties	Treated	Nematicide Untreated	% effect
Ünlenen	88.3 a +	75.25 bc	16.91
Leventbey	70.8 cd	65.8 de	7.72
Muratbey	65.8 de	64.0 e	7.34
PAE 13-08-07	56.3 fg	53.5 g	5.14
Desiree	79.3 b	61.3 of	29.38
Bettina	65.0 de	63.3 e	2.76
Mean	70.8 A++	63.8 B	11.0

⁺ According to the Duncan test, means indicated with similar lower-case letters in the same column are statistically similar within the error limits of $P \le 0.01$; ++) Means shown with similar uppercase letters in the same row are statistically similar within the error limits of $P \le 0.05$ according to the Duncan test. (Plant height LSD: 5.932,CV:6.10%, F value variety:36.89; treatment value:35.29)

Table 5. Plant maturity time(day) and % effect degree in potato varieties

V			
Varieties	Nematicide Treated	Untreated	% effect
Ünlenen	121 ab	113 d+	7.07
Leventbey	122 ab	115 d	6.08
Muratbey	123 a	116 cd	6.03
PAE13-08-07	115 d	93 e	23.65
Desiree	119 bc	94 e	26.59
Bettina	124 a	119 bc	4.20
Mean	121 A++	108 B	12.04

⁺⁾ According to the Duncan test, means indicated with similar lower-case letters in the same column are statistically similar within the error limits of P \leq 0.01; ++) According to the Duncan test, the means shown with similar uppercase letters in the same row are statistically similar within the error limits of P \leq 0.05. (Plant maturity LSD:3.22, CV:2.05%, F value variety:78.76; treatment value:352.18)

In terms of plant height, under nematicide-applied conditions, the shortest height was found in the PAE 13-08-07 (56.3 cm), Ünlenen (88.3 cm), and the most extended height was found in Ünlenen (88.3 cm) under nematicide applied conditions. The most extended plant height was found in Bettina (65.0 cm). The most affected cultivars were Desiree (29.38%), Ünlenen (16.91%), Leventbey (7.72%), Muratbey (7.34%), PAE 13-08-07 (5.14%) and Bettina (2.76%). The average plant height of all cultivars with and without nematicide applied was determined as 70.8 and 63.8 cm, respectively, and a significant difference was found between the treatments averages. In general, the plant height of potato varieties is shorter in control plots than in plots where nematicide application was made. Plant height is an important variety trait, although it is affected by factors such as day length, temperature, precipitation, soil moisture, planting density and fertilization (Tunçtürk et al., 2004). Trudgill, (1987), conducted on soil infested with PCN under nematicide and non-nematicide application conditions, he reported that the damage caused by PCN reduced the efficiency of the potato root system, leading to chronic deficiency of nutrients and consequently a decrease in top growth rate. Olthof (1989) also stated that nematicides (Methamsodium, Oxamyl, and 1,3-D + aldicarb) applied reduces populations of P. penetrans in the roots and rhizosphere and increased plant vigor and potato yields relative to the control.

Plant Maturity Time (days)

As a result of variance analysis, significant differences $(P \le 0.01)$ were determined among variety, application, and variety application interaction in plant maturity time. The maturity time and the % effect degree of the varieties are shown in Table 5.

Regarding plant maturity time, in treated condition, PAE 13-08-07 clone had the earliest (115) and this genotype was significantly differ from the other varieties. In contrast, the Bettina had the latest (124) plant maturity under nematicide application, Bettina, Muratbey, Leventbey, Ünlenen, and Desire matured later. However, in maturity time, no statistically significant difference was found among these varieties (except PAE 13-08-07). In the area where nematicide was not applied, PAE 13-08-07 matured the earliest (93) similar to Desiree while Bettina matured the latest (119). The average number of days to maturity per plant for all varieties studied under nematicide and non-nematicide applied conditions were 121 and 108 days, respectively, and a significant difference was found between the treatments. Desiree was the most affected with 26.59%, while the least affected was Bettina, with 4.20%. When the effect on plant maturity was examined, PAE 13-08-07 was listed as 23.65%, Ünlenen 7.07%, Leventbey 6.08% and Muratbey 6.03%. Trudgill (1987), stated that potato plants grown in soil heavily infested with PCN contained less N, P and K in their leaf dry matter compared to plants grown in the same soil and treated with nematicides. In general, the damage caused by the invasive PCN juveniles reduced the efficiency of the potato root system, leading to chronic deficiency of one or more nutrients and a consequent reduction in top growth rate and resulting in earlier harvest maturity of the plants. Similar results were found by Kaczmarek et al. (2019) and Ulutaş (2010). Our research findings revealed that nematicide applied to the soil increased the maturity period of potato varieties.

Number Of Large Tubers (number)

According to the variance analysis results, the ratio of large tubers to total tubers showed significant differences among varieties and treatments. The number of large tubers and the % degree of influence are given in Table 6.

Table 6. Large tubers and % degree of influence in potato varieties

Varieties	Nematicide Treated	Untreated	% effect
Ünlenen	51.0 b	42.3bc+	20.7
Leventbey	34.3 cd	30.5 dc	12.3
Muratbey	25.5 de	23.8 de	7.36
PAE13-08-07	27.5 de	25.0 de	10.0
Desiree	25.0 de	19.3 e	29.9
Bettina	63.8 a	62.0 a	2.82
Mean	37.8 A++	33.8B	11.8

⁺⁾ According to the Duncan test, means indicated with similar lower-case letters in the same column are statistically similar within the error limits of $P \le 0.01$.; ++) Means shown with similar uppercase letters in the same row are statistically similar within the error limits of $P \le 0.05$ according to the Duncan test. (Number of large tubers). (CV:16.66%, F value variety:45.34; treatment value:4.39)

Table 7. Tuber yield(kg) and % degree of impact in potato varieties

Varieties	Treated	Nematicide Untreated	% effect
Ünlenen	38.500b	27.630cd+	39.3
Leventbey	34.380bc	28.550cd	21.8
Muratbey	33.400b-d	31.130b-d	7.9
PAE13-08-07	17.850e	15.130e	18.0
Desiree	26.080d	16.280e	60.2
Bettina	59.880a	57.700a	3.8
Mean	35.010A++	29.400B	19.1

⁺⁾ According to the Duncan test, means indicated with similar lower case letters in the same column are statistically similar within the error limits of P \leq 0.01; ++) Means shown with similar upper case letters in the same row are statistically similar within the error limits of P \leq 0.05 according to the Duncan test.(CV:14.84%, F value variety:75.45; treatment value:16.55)

Nematicide application significantly increased the number of large tubers in varieties. The proportion of large tubers in total tubers was highest in Bettina (63.8) and lowest in Desiree (25.0) under nematicide and nonnematicide application conditions. Desiree was most affected by 29.9%, Bettina was least affected by 2.82%. Ünlenen was affected by 20.7%, Leventbey by 12.3%, PAE 13-08-07 by 10.0%, and Muratbey by 7.4%. Study indicated that the nematicide treatment significantly affected the large tuber proportion of the varieties. Reducing or eliminating the adverse effects of nematodes controlled by nematicide application provided better development of the varieties. Accordingly, the proportion of large tubers increased. In a similar study conducted by Ulutaş (2010) in nematode-infested fields, it was determined that the effects of Golden Cyst Nematode on tuber size varied according to the varieties under nematicide-treated and non-treated conditions, and the effects were 24.08%; 3.71%; 1.17% and 0% in Marabel, Marfona, Granola and Agria varieties, respectively.

Tuber Yield (kg/ha)

The variance analysis results applied to the tuber yields values showed that there were significant differences ($P \le 0.05$) among the varieties, and nematicide treatments while the interaction between these two characteristics was statistically insignificant. Tuber yields of varieties and the percentage effects of applications on yield are shown in Table 7.

In the study, the lowest tuber yield in both treatments was determined in the PAE 13-08-07 (17.850 and 1513 kg/ha), while the highest yield was determined in the Bettina (59.880 and 57.700 kg/ha). Significantly higher tuber yields were obtained in varieties grown under nematicide applied than in unapplied conditions. Among the studied varieties, except the resistant control variety Bettina, the highest yield was found in Ünlenen (38.500

kg/ha) in the nematicide-applied area and Muratbey (31.130 kg/ha) in the untreated area. The average tuber yields of all studied varieties were found to be 35.010 and 29.400 kg/ha, respectively, and a significant difference was found between the treatments Table 7. Under nematicidefree conditions, the Desiree suffered the highest yield loss, 60.2%, followed by the Ünlenen, 39.3%. The lowest yield loss was determined in the Bettina with the 3.8%. Except for Desiree, the lowest yield loss among the examined varieties was determined in the Muratbey, with a rate of 7.9%. Significant increases were observed in tuber yields of varieties tested in plots where nematicide was applied. These findings show that the applied nematicide suppressed the nematode population in the plots. As a result, the tuber yield of all varieties examined in the study increased significantly compared to the plots without nematicide application. In areas infected with Globodera species, yield losses reach up to 70%, causing severe financial losses (Sparkes, 2013). Seenivasan (2017) observed 33.0% tuber yield loss due to natural populations of G. rostochiensis and G. pallida in a field study, which was preventable yield loss caused by natural PCN populations on potato. The research findings showed that G. rostochiensis Ro 2/3 race had a significant effect on the tuber yield of the potato varieties. It has been determined that as a result of nematicide application, the negative effects of nematodes controlled with nematicide application on the varieties decreased and tuber yields increased. Norshie et al. 2017. reported that nematicides with different active ingredient retarded root infection and population development of G. pallida in potato varieties, and tuber yield increased significantly in nematicide applications compared to the untreated control. Arntzen & Wouters (1994) observed significant differences in resistance in genotypes in plots with and without nematicides applied in the same field infested with nematodes.

Conclusion and Recommendations

As a result of this study conducted in Niğde province to determine the effects of potato cyst nematode on yield and plant development of potato varieties. In the experimental area, it was determined that Potato Golden Cyst nematode affected tuber yield, large tuber formation, maturation time and plant height at varying rates. It was determined that nematicide application was effective in increasing yield in all varieties. The higher tuber yield increase was detected in Desiree (60.2%), Ünlenen (39.3%) and Leventbey (21.8%), while the lowest increase was determined in Bettina (3.8%) and Muratbey (7.9%) varieties. Golden Cyst Nematode caused the most damage to potato plants in the form of tuber yield loss and an increase in the small tuber ratio. It was concluded that although nematicide application provided significant yield increases especially in varieties susceptible to nematodes, tuber yield losses could be reduced under conditions where nematicides were not applied by using nematode-resistant varieties.

Declarations

This study was presented at the 7th International Anatolian Agriculture, Food, Environment and Biology Congress, (Kastamonu, TARGID 2024)

Author Contribution Statement

Gülten Kaçar Avcı: Data collection, investigation, and writing the original draft

Halil Toktay: Review and editing, supervision,

Mustafa İmren: Data collection, review and editing, supervision.

G.Badel Akyol: Methodology, investigation.

Ramazan Canhilal: Project administration, supervision.

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Conflict of Interest

"The authors declare no conflict of interest."

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The Effects of Nanoemulsion Film Coatings Containing Essential Oils on the Storage Quality of Sugar Beets (*Beta vulgaris* L.)

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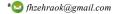
ABSTRACT

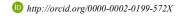
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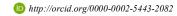
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This study was carried out under controlled conditions to determine the effects of chitosan-based nanoemulsion film coating formulations, formed using different essential oils, on storage quality of sugar beet roots during storage period. In the study, roots of Conviso Smart (KWS) sugar beet variety were coated with nanoemulsion film formulations containing thyme (Thymus vulgaris), clove (Szygium aromaticum), ginger (Zingiber officinale) and tea tree (Melaleuca alternifolia) essential oils doses of 250, 500 and 1000 ppm immediately after harvest. The roots were stored in plastic cases under controlled conditions (+8-10°C, 85-90% relative humidity) for 90 days. Weight loss in beet roots was determined at 30-day intervals from the start of the storage period, and at the end of the storage period, firmness, dry matter ratio, brix value, polar sugar, reducing sugar, alpha amino nitrogen and glycine betaine contents and fungal infection developments in beet roots were also evaluated. The film coating applications significantly affected postharvest weight and quality losses in sugar beet roots. The applications significantly reduced roots weight loss during storage compared to the control. Although the polar sugar ratios were higher in film coated roots compared to the control, alpha-amino nitrogen, glycine betaine, and reducing sugar contents showed significant decreases. White mold and green mold infections on the roots were significantly decreased, especially with high dose film coating applications. The highest dry matter ratio, brix values and firmness were obtained from film coatings containing 1000 ppm cinnamon and thyme essential oils. While polar sugar ratio was higher in root which film coated compared to the control, alpha amino nitrogen, glycine betaine and reducing sugar contents showed significant decreases. White mold and green mold infections developing on root showed significant decreases especially with film coating applications applied at high doses. The study concluded that coating sugar beet roots with nanoemulsion film formulations containing essential oils can significantly reduce, weight and quality losses, as well as fungal disease development, during the storage period.











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Introduction

Sugar beet is one of the most important strategic products, serving as a raw material to many industrial sectors. In Türkiye, approximately 23.5 million tons of sugar beet and 3.2 million tons of sugar were produced on about 305 thousand hectares of land in 2023 (Anonim, 2024). Considering the campaign periods and processing capacities of sugar factories, it is evident that the sugar beets produced each year must be stored for certain periods before processing. Sugar beet storage includes all stages from harvest to processing at the factory, and the difference between the amount of beets received at the factory (excluding discarded waste) and amount of processed is referred to as storage loss. The key factors affecting postharvest storage losses of sugar beets include waiting time at the factory, silo height, climatic conditions, as well as diseases and pests (English, 2020).

Post-harvest quality parameters of root crops are significantly affected by the storage method, duration, and the temperature and humidity of the storage environment. Due to the limited processing capacity of factories, the storage periods of harvested beets are extended. Prolonged storage results in the loss of water, dry matter, and consequently weight, in the root crops. Additionally, environmental factors contribute to the proliferation of fungal and bacterial pathogens in the storage environment, leading to substantial losses in both the quantity and quality of the beets to be processed. In root crops stored for extended periods, the development of fungal pathogens such as Botrytis cinerea, Phoma betae and Penicillium vulpinum is exacerbated by the effects of temperature and humidity. Campbell et al. (2014) reported that fungal and bacterial infections, caused by fluctuations in temperature and humidity under open storage conditions, further contribute to sucrose losses in root crops. During the storage, it is crucial to maintain the sucrose levels of sugar beets and minimize losses caused by microbial infections. Since the use of chemical fungicides during the storage phase of sugar beets, which supply raw materials for the food industry, is not considered feasible from a health perspective, investigating natural methods to reduce fungal infections and prevent weight and quality losses during the storage is an important topic.

Chitosan, derived from the chitin in crustacean shells, is a natural, edible polymer that is non-toxic and environmentally friendly (Iber et al., 2022). It is a linear polysaccharide produced through the deacetylation of chitin. Chitosan is widely recognized as a versatile biopolymer, commonly used as an edible coating for fruits and vegetables due to its excellent film-forming ability, biocompatibility, and robust mechanical strength (Mesa et al., 2021). Additionally, chitosan possesses various healthpromoting functional properties, including antifungal, antibacterial, antitumor, antioxidative, hypocholesterolemic activities (Naveed et al., 2019). Recent studies have focused on enhancing edible polymeric coatings by incorporating natural additives, significantly boosting their protective properties (Zhang et al., 2023). Extensive research has been conducted on chitosan, particularly in combination with other natural components such as additional natural polymers, polyphenolics, nanoemulsions, and essential oils, to improve its functionality. The incorporation of essential oils into edible coatings has notably enhanced their antimicrobial effectiveness. Studies have shown that essential oils prevent the development of fungal infections that cause economic damage to crops and exhibit strong antifungal activity (Macwan et al., 2016; Nazzaro et al., 2017). It has been reported that by treating sugar beet roots with essential oils of dill (Anethum graveolens L.), clove (Szygium aromaticum), and Turkish pickling herb (Echinophora tenuifolia) after harvest and storing them, weight losses during storage can be reduced by approximately 37% compared to the control (Ok et al., 2022). In related studies, it was found that certain essential oils applied to plant leaves can influence enzyme activities, leading to significant effects on photosynthetic activity, vegetative period, maturation, and disease development (Ok, 2020). In another study, essential oils applied to sugar beet leaves affected sucrose synthesis enzyme activities and reduced the incidence and severity of leaf spot infections (Kurşunatan, 2019).

This study aims to determine the effects of chitosanbased nanoemulsion film coatings, created using essential oils of thyme (*Thymus vulgaris*), clove (*Szygium aromaticum*), ginger (*Zingiber officinale* Rosc.), and tea tree (*Melaleuca alternifolia*) applied at the beginning of storage, on the development of fungal infections, as well as weight and quality losses in sugar beet roots.

Materials and Methods

Materials

The study was conducted in 2022 at the experimental fields and cold storage facilities of Isparta University of Applied Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture. In the study, the seed material used was the Conviso Smart variety obtained

from KWS Türk, while the essential oils of *T. vulgaris*, *S. aromaticum*, *Z. officinale* Rosc., and *M. alternifolia* and chitosan were used as application materials.

Methods

Sugar beet production

Beet roots required for the storage study were grown in 2022 at the experimental fields of the Faculty of Agriculture, Isparta University of Applied Sciences. The sowing was done in the first week of April using a pneumatic seeder with row spacing of 10x45 cm. Along with sowing, 40 kg/da of Super Beet fertilizer (N:13-P:18-K:15-S:10) and 18 kg/da of ammonium sulfate (21% N) were applied, and during the first hoeing, 20 kg/da of urea (46% N) was applied, resulting in a total fertilization of 18-7-6 kg/da N-P-K. Irrigation was carried out using a sprinkler system when the soil moisture fell below 50% or when the top 10 cm of soil dried out. After the completion of plant emergence, the plants were thinned to a row spacing of 20 cm during the first hoeing. Betanal maxxPro (47 g/L Desmedipham + 75 g/L Ethofumesate + 27 g/L Lenacil + 60 g/L Phenmedipham, Bayer CropScience AG) herbicide was used when the sugar beets had 2-6 leaves, and two manual weeding sessions were performed during the vegetation period for control of weeds. After the 170day vegetation period (October 20), the sugar beets were harvested using a beet fork, and their tops were cut off. From the harvested beets, those with an average weight of 1250-1500 g, no branching, and free from diseases and pests were selected for the storage study, and the storage process began on the same day.

Extraction of essential oil and GC-FID/GC-MS analysis

In the study, essential oils of *Z. officinale* Rosc. and *M*. alternifolia were purchased, while the essential oils of T. vulgaris and S. aromaticum were obtained through Clevenger-type hydro-distillation. Each plant species was distilled in a boiling flask of the distillation device at 100°C for 3 hours to obtain the essential oils. The components of the purchased and hydro-distilled essential oils were determined using a GC/MS (Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry) system (QP-5050 GC/MS with a quadrupole detector) at the SDU Experimental and Observational Research and Application Center. The GC/MS conditions were as follows: Capillary column: CP-Wax 52 CB (50 m \times 0.32 mm, 0.25 μ m); Oven temperature program: increased by 10°C per minute from 60°C to 220°C, with a 10-minute hold at 220°C; Total run time: 60 minutes; Injector temperature: 240°C; temperature: 250°C; Carrier gas: Helium (20 ml/min). The major components of the essential oils were identified as follows: Z. officinale: 28.94% Sesquithujene, 10.42% Camphene; M. alternifolia: 21.64% α-pinene, 21.09% φterpinene; T. vulgaris: 44.11% Thymol, 23.26% Cymol; S. aromaticum: 82.4% Eugenol, 8.6% Eugenol acetate.

Application of essential oil film formulations

Chitosan-based nanoemulsion film formulations containing essential oils were prepared by mixing the essential oils into a 0.5% chitosan solution. For this purpose, four different essential oils were prepared at concentrations of 250, 500, and 1000 ppm using Tween-80, and then added to a 0.5% chitosan solution. The mixture was stirred for 1 hour at 25,000 rpm to obtain a

homogeneous mixture. Thus, chitosan-based nanoemulsion (oil-in-water (o/w)) film formulations containing essential oils at different concentrations were created. Root stalks that underwent no treatment and beet roots coated only with chitosan were evaluated as controls. In the storage study, 30 beet roots with an average weight of 1250-1500 g were stored in plastic crates in a cold storage (+8-10°C) for 3 months, with 3 replications for each treatment. Prior to the storage period, the chitosanbased nanoemulsion film coating formulations prepared with essential oils were sprayed onto the entire surface of the roots using 100 ml handheld sprayers. Roots with no treatment were stored as the control group. Throughout the storage period, weight loss in the roots was measured at 30day intervals. At the end of the storage period, parameters such as firmness, dry matter content, Brix value, polar sugars, reducing sugars, alpha-amino nitrogen, and glycine betaine content were determined, and fungal infections in the root stalks were monitored.

During the storage period, the beet roots were weighed every 30 days, and weight loss was expressed as a percentage relative to the initial weight (AOAC, 1994). Polar sugar and α -amino nitrogen analyses were performed according to the ICUMSA (International Commission for Uniform Methods of Sugar Analysis) methods. The polar sugar content was determined using a polarimetric method based on cold digestion (Mc Ginnis, 1982), while the αamino nitrogen content was determined using the bluenumber method (Kubadinow & Wieninger, 1972) by spectrophotometric analysis. The Brix value of the root stalks was determined by measuring the refractive index of the juice after cooling the beet extract at 20°C, without any further treatment, and expressing it as % dry matter (Kavas & Leblebici, 2004). Reducing sugar content was determined following the method of Honda et al. (1980) and the results were expressed in mg/100 g fresh weight. The growth of white and green mold on the beet roots were determined by measuring the infection diameter in millimeters on 5 randomly selected infected beet roots.

Statistical Analysis

The data obtained from the study were analyzed using the GLM procedure of the SAS (2009) statistical software package, applying standard variance analysis technique (ANOVA). Differences between means were determined using the LSD test.

Results and Discussion

Weight Loss (%)

The effects of the treatments and storage duration on the weight loss of sugar beet roots were statistically significant (P<0.01). In the study, all essential oil film formulations, except for all doses of *Z. officinale* (8.06-8.46%) film formulations, reduced weight loss in the beets compared to the control (8.91%). The lowest weight loss was observed with the *M. alternifolia* 250 ppm (5.67%) and 500 ppm (5.18%) film formulations. During the storage process, root weight losses increased significantly (Table 1). The high water content and metabolic activity of

sugar beet roots lead to weight and quality losses after harvest. The resulting weight losses vary depending on the variety, injury status, the physiological maturity of the root, disease condition, storage temperature, humidity, and duration (Ada, 2010; Cirit et al., 2019). The optimal storage temperature for beets is between 4-6°C, with relative humidity between 95-98%. High temperatures and low humidity conditions increase weight losses. In this study, some essential oil film coating applications showed a reducing effect on weight loss compared to the control group, which had no treatment. The reduced weight loss observed with the M. alternifolia film formulation is believed to be due to this treatment's ability to reduce infection development in the roots. In related studies, it has been reported that as the storage period increases in open storage, weight loss also increases (Kenter & Hoffmann, 2009). Furthermore, it has been found that weight losses are higher at the beginning of the storage period, with an average daily weight loss of 2.08% for piles stored for 5-7 days in Turkey (Ada, 2010). Can Cetin (2012) reported that coating pomegranate seeds (Punica granatum) with a 1% chitosan solution reduced weight loss. Who's results also showed that chitosan coating increased the shelf life of pomegranate seeds stored at refrigerator temperatures from 15 days to 19 days. Zhang et al. (2012) reported that, in comparison with the control samples, the chitosan-coated samples were able to control the respiration process by forming a barrier on the sample surface, thus preventing the exchange of O2 and CO2 between the coated layers of the sample and the environment, thereby extending the shelf life.

Firmness (N)

The effect of treatments on beet roots firmness was statistically significant (P<0.05). At the end of the storage period, the root firmness was higher in the applications with M. alternifolia oil at 250 and 500 ppm doses (88.3-89.0 N) and T. vulgaris oil film formulations (86.3-88.7 N). In contrast, the firmness of beets treated with Z. officinale oil formulations at all doses (74.7-76.6 N) was similar to the control (73.3 N) (Table 2). Firmness, a response to physical pressure, is related to the turgor of the beet root, and to prevent the loss of firmness during storage, water loss needs to be minimized. However, during the storage period, sugar beets continuously lose moisture, and the loss of moisture increases as a result of temperature fluctuations and the development of infections. Several studies have reported that in tuber crops, firmness decreases with sprouting, disease development, and moisture loss, and become more pronounced when storage temperatures exceed 10-12°C (Nedomová et al., 2016). Chitosan coating can act as a protective barrier, reduce oxygen permeability, and consequently delay respiration and fruit ripening (Yang & Ge 2021; Alpos & Bayogan 2023). The addition of essential oil edible polymers improves the barrier properties, creating a beneficial microclimate on the surface of the processed samples. This reduces moisture loss, respiration rates, and effectively inhibits the increase in ethylene production in the processed samples.

Table 1. Change in weight loss in sugar beets during storage period (%)

Applications	30 day	60 day	90 day	Mean
Z. officinale 250 ppm	4.53	8.33	11.3	8.07 ac
Z. officinale 500 ppm	4.27	8.17	11.7	8.06 ac
Z. officinale 1000 ppm	4.30	8.40	12.7	8.46 ab
S. aromaticum 250 ppm	3.36	7.80	9.43	$6.87^{\rm eg}$
S. aromaticum 500 ppm	3.93	8.17	10.1	7.40 ce
S. aromaticum 1000 ppm	4.13	8.47	10.7	$7.76^{\rm \ bd}$
T. vulgaris 250 ppm	3.37	7.27	9.33	6.66 eg
T. vulgaris 500 ppm	3.13	6.90	9.10	6.38 fh
T. vulgaris 1000 ppm	3.70	7.50	9.93	$7.04 ^{\mathrm{df}}$
M. alternifolia 250 ppm	2.73	6.43	7.83	5.67 hi
M. alternifolia 500 ppm	2.53	5.80	7.20	5.18 1
M. alternifolia 1000 ppm	3.23	6.87	8.23	6.11 gh
Chitosan	3.67	7.60	10.1	7.13 ^{df}
Control	4.93	8.70	13.1	8.91 a
Mean	3.70°	7.60 ^b	10.1 a	
CV (%)	13.0			
Lsd _{int} : 1.50				

Table 2. Firmness (N), dry matter ratio (%) and brix (%) changes in sugar beets during the storage period

A1: 4:	Mean			
Applications	Firmness (N)	Dry matter ratio (%)	Brix (%)	
Z. officinale 250 ppm	76.6 ^{dg}	21.8 a	26.7 ab	
Z. officinale 500 ppm	74.7 ^{fg}	21.9 a	27.8 a	
Z. officinale 1000 ppm	75.3 ^{eg}	21.3 ab	27.8 a	
S. aromaticum 250 ppm	81.3 ^{cd}	20.3 bc	27.4 ab	
S. aromaticum 500 ppm	79.7 ^{ce}	20.3 bc	26.4 ab	
S. aromaticum 1000 ppm	83.3 bc	20.5 ^b	26.9 ab	
T. vulgaris 250 ppm	86.3 ab	18.7 ^d	22.5 de	
T. vulgaris 500 ppm	86.3 ab	18.8 ^d	23.6 ^{cd}	
T. vulgaris 1000 ppm	88.7 a	18.6 ^d	22.6 de	
M. alternifolia 250 ppm	89.0 a	18.6 ^d	22.3 de	
M. alternifolia 500 ppm	88.3 a	19.2 ^{cd}	22.8 de	
M. alternifolia 1000 ppm	83.3 bc	18.9 ^d	21.6 e	
Chitosan	78.3 ^{df}	20.3 bc	24.4 °	
Control	73.3 ^g	22.2 a	26.1 b	
Lsd	4.92	1.11	1.43	
CV (%)	3.60	4.80	3.43	

Dry Matter Content (%)

The changes in beet root dry matter content during storage were found to be statistically significant (P<0.01) based on the treatments. At the end of the storage period, the dry matter content of the beet roots treated with Z. officinale oil film formulations all doses (21.3–21.9%) was similar to the control (22.2%). In contrast, beet roots treated with T. vulgaris oil (18.6-18.8%) and M. alternifolia oil (18.6–19.2%) film formulations exhibited lower dry matter content compared to the control (Table 2). During storage, the loss of moisture from the beet roots led to a relative increase in dry matter content. In sugar beets, the outer layers of the beet root lose water quickly after harvest, with the loss being most significant in the initial days and gradually decreasing thereafter (Ada, 2010). Several studies on this topic have also reported a relative increase in dry matter content during the storage period (Demirel & Akınerdem, 2016). It is believed that the application of ginger essential oil film coatings causes phytotoxicity in the beet roots, leading to increased respiration and consequently greater moisture loss and an increase in dry matter content. Beet roots that were not coated with chitosan are thought to have lost more moisture compared to the chitosan-coated ones, resulting in a proportional increase in dry matter content. Reportedly, the chitosan coating forms a barrier on the sample surface, preventing the exchange of O₂ and CO₂ between the coated layers of the sample, thereby controlling respiration-induced transpiration levels, delaying crop dehydration, and reducing surface shriveling (Zhang et al., 2012).

Brix (%)

The changes in beet root Brix values during storage were found to be statistically significant (P<0.01) based on the treatments. At the end of the storage period, the Brix value of the beets treated with *Z. officinale* oil (26.7–27.8%) and *S. aromaticum* oil (26.4–27.4%) film formulations was higher than the control (26.1%), while Brix values of beets treated with *T. vulgaris* oil 250 ppm and 1000 ppm (22.5-22.7%) and *M. alternifolia* oil (21.6–22.8%) film formulations were lower than the control (Table 2). The Brix value indicates the amount of dissolved solids (mainly sugars) in water, and as the moisture content

of the beet roots decreases, the Brix value increases. During storage, the loss of moisture in the beet roots led to an increase in the Brix values. Similar results were also observed for the dry matter content of the beet roots. Babaee et al. (2013) reported that when the moisture content of beet roots decreased from 72.5% to 70%, the Brix value increased from 19.10% to 24.90%. Hirschmüller and Krocher (1968) also reported that the dry matter and Brix values increased due to moisture loss in beet root. In our study, similar results were observed, with beet roots treated with *Z. officinale* and *S. aromaticum* oil film formulations showing a proportional increase in Brix values. This is likely due to the increased cell permeability, which leads to a rise in dry matter content.

Polar Sugar Content (%)

The changes in the polar sugar content of beet roots during storage were found to be statistically significant (P<0.01) based on the treatments. The polar sugar content in beets treated with all doses of Z. officinale (18.9–19.7%) and S. aromaticum (18.8–19.9%), and T. vulgaris at 250 and 500 ppm (18.6%) increased compared to the control, while the polar sugar content in the beets treated with M. alternifolia oil (17.1–17.7%) at all doses and T. vulgaris at 1000 ppm (18.0%) were similar to control (17.1%) (Table 3). During storage, as the beet roots lost moisture, their dry matter content increased. The sugar content in the beet roots constitutes a significant portion of the dry matter, so as the dry matter content increases, the sugar content also increases proportionally. Therefore, it is expected that treatments that increase the dry matter content will also increase the polar sugar content. Indeed, the treatments that resulted in the highest dry matter content also showed the highest polar sugar content. Ok et al. (2022) reported that the application of 1000 ppm S. aromaticum essential oil at the beginnig of storage in sugar beet beet roots decreased the polar sugar content by 17.1%. Furthermore, it has been noted that the activities of enzymes involved in sucrose synthesis, such as sucrose phosphate synthase and sucrose synthase, generally increase with essential oil film coatings, with these increases

reaching up to 3-4 times. These essential oils may alter the polar sugar content by affecting the activities of sucrose phosphate synthase, sucrose synthase, and invertase enzymes (Kurşunatan, 2019).

a-Amino Nitrogen Content (mg/100g)

Changes in the α -amino nitrogen content of beet roots during storage were found to be statistically significant (P<0.01) based on the treatments applied at the beginning of storage. At the end of the storage period, the lowest αamino nitrogen content was observed in the beet roots treated with M. alternifolia oil 250 ppm (6.70 mg/100g) and 500 ppm (5.67 mg/100g) film formulations. On the other hand, the a-amino nitrogen content of beet roots treated with Z. officinale (9.47-10.6 mg/100g) and S. aromaticum 250 ppm (9.80 mg/100g) and 500 ppm (9.87 mg/100g) film formulations were similar to control (10.6 mg/100g) (Table 3). In sugar beets, the hydrolysis of insoluble nitrogen compounds like proteins into amino acids results in an increase in α-amino nitrogen concentration (Vukov & Hangyál, 1985). In sugar beets, αamino nitrogen interferes with the crystallization of sugar, thereby reducing refined sugar yield. It is believed that the increase in the α-amino nitrogen content of beet roots is related to the proportional increase in dry matter content. Under unsuitable storage conditions, both direct sugar losses due to respiration and indirect losses from the accumulation of non-sugar substances that reduce white sugar yield have been reported (Van der Poel et al., 1998). Another factor affecting α -amino nitrogen content is stress conditions. It has been shown that α-amino nitrogen content increases under mechanical injuries and environmental stress conditions after harvest, with a close, linear relationship between stress and α-amino nitrogen (Sadeghian et al., 2004). The reduction in α -amino nitrogen content in beet roots treated with 250 ppm and 500 ppm M. alternifolia essential oil film coatings might be due to the higher stress tolerance of these tubers, such as resistance to storage diseases. Indeed, it has been reported that some terpenoids increase stress tolerance (Mazid et al., 2011).

Table 3. Changes in polar sugar (%) and α-amino nitrogen content (mg/100g) in sugar beets during the storage period

Amiliantians	Mean		
Applications	Polar sugar (%)	α-amino nitrogen content (mg/100g)	
Z. officinale 250 ppm	19.4 ^{ab}	9.47 ^{ab}	
Z. officinale 500 ppm	18.9 ^{ad}	10.4 ^a	
Z. officinale 1000 ppm	19.7 ^a	10.6 a	
S. aromaticum 250 ppm	19.1 ^{ac}	$9.80^{ m ab}$	
S. aromaticum 500 ppm	18.8 ^{ad}	$9.87~^{ m ab}$	
S. aromaticum 1000 ppm	19.9 a	8.13 ^{cd}	
T. vulgaris 250 ppm	18.6 ^{af}	9.10 bc	
T. vulgaris 500 ppm	18.6 ^{ad}	7.77^{de}	
T. vulgaris 1000 ppm	18.0 bg	7.30^{de}	
M. alternifolia 250 ppm	17.7 ^{cg}	$6.70^{ m ef}$	
M. alternifolia 500 ppm	17.5 ^{dg}	5.67 ^f	
M. alternifolia 1000 ppm	17.1 ^{fg}	7.47 ^{de}	
Chitosan	17.2 ^{eg}	$8.00~^{ m cd}$	
Control	17.1 ^g	10.6 a	
Lsd	1.46	1.24	
CV (%)	4.73	8.59	

Table 4. Changes in reducing sugar ratio (mg/100g) and glycine betaine (mg/g fw) in sugar beets during storage

A1'	Mean			
Applications	Reducing sugar ratio (mg/100g)	Glycine betaine content (mg/g fw)		
Z. officinale 250 ppm	0.35 ^{bd}	4.07 ^b		
Z. officinale 500 ppm	0.46 ab	5.02 a		
Z. officinale 1000 ppm	0.43 ac	4.72 a		
S. aromaticum 250 ppm	0.33 ^{ce}	3.83 bc		
S. aromaticum 500 ppm	0.47 ^a	5.25 a		
S. aromaticum 1000 ppm	0.42 ac	5.04 ^a		
T. vulgaris 250 ppm	0.27 ^{de}	3.22^{de}		
T. vulgaris 500 ppm	0.29 de	3.27 $^{\rm cd}$		
T. vulgaris 1000 ppm	0.26 ^{de}	3.00^{de}		
M. alternifolia 250 ppm	0.24 ^e	2.67 °		
M. alternifolia 500 ppm	0.26 ^{de}	2.66 ^e		
M. alternifolia 1000 ppm	0.25 ^{de}	3.22^{de}		
Chitosan	0.31 de	2.76^{de}		
Control	0.48 a	5.15 a		
Lsd	0,11	0,58		
CV%	18.7	9.0		

Reducing Sugar Content (mg/100g)

Changes in the reducing sugar content of beet roots during storage were found to be statistically significant (P<0.01) based on the treatments applied at the beginning of storage. In the study, the reducing sugar content was lower in the beet roots treated with all doses of M. alternifolia oil (0.24-0.26 mg/100g) and T. vulgaris (0.26-0.29 mg/100g) film formulations, as well as those treated with chitosan (0.31 mg/100g) and S. aromaticum 250 ppm (0.33 mg/100g) film formulations, compared to the control (0.48 mg/100g). However, the reducing sugar content of beet roots treated with Z. officinale 500 and 1000 ppm (0.46-0.43 mg/100g) and S. aromaticum 500 and 1000 ppm (0.47–0.42 mg/100g) film formulations was similar to the control (Table 4). During the storage period, sucrose is hydrolyzed into reducing sugars through the action of invertase, an enzyme involved in respiration, leading to an increase in reducing sugar content (Zrenner et al., 1996). In line with this, the high doses of Z. officinale and S. aromaticum essential oils in our study are thought to have caused phytotoxicity, increasing the respiration rate and consequently contributing to the increase in reducing sugars as sugars were broken down for respiration. Previous studies have also reported that some essential oils, such as dill and clove, at high doses, cause phytotoxicity by increasing respiration rates, leading to the breakdown of sugars and an increase in reducing sugars (Ok et al., 2022).

Glycine Betaine Content (mg/g fw)

Changes in the glycine betaine content of beet roots during storage were found to be statistically significant (P<0.01) based on the treatments applied at the beginning of storage. In the study, the glycine betaine content was lower in beet roots treated with all doses of *M. alternifolia* oil (2.66–3.22 mg/g fw) and *T. vulgaris* oil (3.00–3.27 mg/g fw) film formulations, as well as those treated with chitosan (2.76 mg/g fw), compared to the control (5.15 mg/g fw). However, the glycine betaine content of beet roots treated with *Z. officinale* at 500 and 1000 ppm (5.02–4.72 mg/g fw) and *S. aromaticum* at 500 and 1000 ppm (5.25–5.04 mg/g fw) film formulations was similar to the

control (Table 4). The increase in glycine betaine content in plants treated with essential oils can be attributed to the ability of these oils to influence certain biochemical processes, such as promoting the synthesis of phytoalexins (which are responsible for stress resistance in some plants). Indeed, the increase in glycine betaine synthesis under stress conditions suggests that this compound plays an active role in enhancing stress tolerance. Glycine betaine functions as a methyl donor in some biochemical synthesis pathways, thereby increasing tolerance to stress (Pummer et al., 2000).

White and Green Mold Diameter (cm)

The changes in the rate of green mold formation on the root crops were statistically significant (P<0.01) depending on the treatments applied at the beginning of storage. All film coating treatments reduced the diameter of green mold infection on the root crops compared to the control group (9.0%), with the highest antifungal activity observed in the M. alternifolia oil (3.30-4.03%) film formulations at all doses, as well as T. vulgaris oil at 500 ppm (3.83%) and 1000 ppm (4.00%) applied to the root crops (Table 5).

The changes in the rate of white mold formation on root crops were statistically significant (P<0.01) depending on the treatments applied at the beginning of storage. The diameter of white mold infection on the root crops was reduced by all doses of *M. alternifolia* oil (1.63-2.03%) and *T. vulgaris* oil (2.13-2.30%) film formulations, as well as chitosan (1.87%) treatments, compared to the control (3.07%). However, all doses of *Z. officinale* (3.23-3.40%) film formulations, as well as *S. aromaticum* oil at 1000 ppm (2.73%) and 500 ppm (2.83%), showed similar or higher levels of white mold development compared to the control (Table 5).

Respiration of sugar beets stored in high piles, especially in the middle sections of the piles, leads to an increase in temperature. Combined with environmental factors, this creates a favorable environment for the development of disease pathogens.

Table 5. Changes in white mold diameter (cm) and green mold diameter (cm) in sugar beets during storage period

Amiliantians	Mean		
Applications	Green mold diameter (cm)	White mold diameter (cm)	
Z. officinale 250 ppm	6.60 ^ь	3.23 a	
Z. officinale 500 ppm	6.17 ^b	3.27 a	
Z. officinale 1000 ppm	6.10 ^b	3.40 a	
S. aromaticum 250 ppm	5.07 °	2.73 ad	
S. aromaticum 500 ppm	4.20 ^{de}	2.83 ac	
S. aromaticum 1000 ppm	4.10 ^{de}	2.40^{be}	
T. vulgaris 250 ppm	4.10 ^{de}	2.13 ^{cf}	
T. vulgaris 500 ppm	3.83 ^{ef}	2.30 cf	
T. vulgaris 1000 ppm	$4.00^{ m \ df}$	2.13 ^{cf}	
M. alternifolia 250 ppm	4.03 ^{df}	1.83 ^{ef}	
M. alternifolia 500 ppm	3.30 ^f	1.63 ^f	
M. alternifolia 1000 ppm	4.00 ^{df}	$2.03^{ m df}$	
Chitosan	4.70 ^{cd}	1.87 ^{ef}	
Control	9.0 a	3.07 ^{ab}	
Lsd	0.78	0.70	
CV%	9.44	16.9	

It has been reported that pathogens transmitted from the field cause diseases under unsuitable storage conditions, with the most common diseases observed in storage being gray mold (Botrytis cinerea), black rot (Alternaria radicina), bacterial soft rot (Pectobacterium caratovora), blue-green mold (Penicillium spp.), white rot (Sclerotinia sclerotiorum), and soft rot (Rhizopus oryzae) (Tülek & Dolar, 2011). Chitosan has antimicrobial activity against bacteria, yeast, and fungi. Chitosan is considered a soluble chelating agent and activator because of the positive charge on C-2 of the glucosamine monomer. These characteristics provide good antimicrobial activity. The destruction of protein and intercellular components occurs due to the interaction between the amine groups in the positively charged chitosan molecule and the negatively charged microbial cell membrane (Goy et al. 2016). Secondary metabolites in plants play protective roles, such as antioxidant activity, scavenging free radicals, and absorbing UV rays. In addition to these, they also form part of the plant's defense mechanism against microorganisms (Kennedy & Wightman, 2011). It has been reported by Mazaro et al. (2008) that the application of essential oils and certain plant extracts increases the production of phytoalexins in plants. In fact, the essential oil film formulations of M. alternifolia and T. vulgaris used in this study demonstrated high antifungal activity against gray mold and green mold infections. Similarly, Cheng and Shao (2011) in their work, demonstrated the antifungal activity of M. alternifolia essential oil against Penicillium species. Total inhibition of mycelial growth of both Penicillium species was achieved with 2.75% of this essential oil. In this context, Zhang et al. (2018) reported the antifungal effect of M. alternifolia essential oil by inhibiting the growth of P. italicum and P. digitatum. The results obtained by Yonghua et al. (2017) showed that M. alternifolia essential oil exhibits antifungal activity against P. expansum. Can Cetin (2012) found that microbial spoilage was delayed in pomegranate arils coated with chitosan.

Conclusion

The study found that by coating sugar beet roots with essential oil film formulations after harvest and storing them, weight losses during the storage period could be reduced by approximately 42% compared with the control. Essential oil film coating treatments had a significant impact on the storage quality of the roots, and the contents of α-amino nitrogen and reducing sugars, which negatively affect quality, were significantly reduced by some treatments. High levels of phytotoxicity occurred in roots treated with the *Z. officinale* essential oil film formulation. The M. alternifolia and T. vulgaris essential oil film formulations significantly reduced the development of gray mold and green mold infections in the roots. It was found that treating sugar beet roots before storage, especially with a 500 ppm M. alternifolia essential oil film formulation, could significantly reduce both post-harvest weight and quality losses as well as fungal pathogen development.

Declarations

This study was presented at the 7th International Anatolian Agriculture, Food, Environment and Biology Congress, (Kastamonu, TARGID 2024)

Author Contributions

All authors (F.Z.O. and A.S.) contributed to the writing—original draft, formal analysis, review and editing, data curation, and funding acquisition. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

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Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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Determination of In-Vitro Antifungal Activities of Essential Oils Against Fungal Pathogens

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ABSTRACT

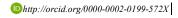
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This study was carried out to determine the in-vitro antifungal activities of essential oils obtained from thyme (Thymus vulgaris L.), Turkish pickling herb (Echinophora tenuifolia subsp. sibthorpiana), clove (Syzygium aromaticum L.), cinnamon (Cinnamomum zeylanicum Blume), eucalyptus (Eucalyptus globulus Labill), dill (Anethum graveolens L.), juniper (Juniperus communis L.), and ginger (Zingiber officinale Rosc.) against Rhizoctonia solani and Fusarium solani infections. Essential oils were added to autoclaved potato dextrose agar (PDA) medium at 0, 500, 1000 and 2000 ppm doses. Mycelium disks of both fungi with a diameter of 5 mm were transferred to the center of petri dishes and incubated at 24±2 °C for 7 days. The biocontrol efficiencies of the essential oils were calculated by measuring the mycelial development diameters. Essential oil applications showed significant antifungal activity against R. solani pathogen and cinnamon, thyme and clove essential oils at 1000 ppm, and dill essential oil at 2000 ppm doses completely inhibited mycelial development. The biocontrol efficiencies of juniper (2.4-12.6%), eucalyptus (2.8-26.6%) and ginger (18.2-37.3%) essential oils against R. solani were found to be low. While clove and thyme essential oils completely inhibited F. solani mycelial development at 2000 ppm dose, the biocontrol efficiencies of ginger (1.6-3.7%), eucalyptus (1.2-7.4%) and dill (2.9-9.8%) essential oils were low. It was concluded that especially clove, thyme, cinnamon and Turkish pickling herb essential oils showed high in-vitro antifungal activity against both phytopathogens and may have the potential to be used as an alternative to synthetic fungicide active substances.







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Introduction

The use of pesticides is considered the most effective method for disease and pest control; however, pesticides have several disadvantages, such as negative effects on the environment and human health, toxicity to non-target organisms, the development of widespread resistance to various fungal species, and high levels of toxic residues in the product. In addition to the negative effects of pesticides, increasing public awareness and growing demand for safer and healthier agricultural products make it necessary to develop alternative pest control and plant protection methods instead of relying on pesticide use. In today's context, where sustainable farming practices are gaining prominence, research on alternative compounds or active ingredients that can be used instead of synthetic chemicals has gained momentum. One of the most emphasized topics in this field is the synthesis of secondary metabolites by certain plants (such as alkaloids, glycosides, and essential oils). The eco-friendly nature of essential oils

and their components, along with their ability to possess a wide range of different mechanisms of action in plants, offers an alternative approach for their use as biostimulants and antifungal agents. The antifungal activities of many essential oils and active compounds against certain fungal pathogens that are problematic for agricultural production have been demonstrated, particularly through in vitro and in vivo studies (Sivrikaya et al., 2021). Secondary metabolites are organic molecules synthesized by plants, particularly under stress conditions, and they play a crucial role in plant defense mechanisms (Mazid et al., 2011). Monoterpenes and sesquiterpenes are known as volatile compounds in plants and constitute a significant portion of essential oils. It is well known that many derivatives of monoterpenes are important tools in plant defense against phytopathogens (Marei & Abdelgaleil, 2018; Zhang et al., 2018). It is known that sesquiterpenes create a defense mechanism in plants against abiotic stress factors by

scavenging reactive oxygen species (ROS) formed under stress conditions, and that they act as phytoalexins in direct defense mechanisms against diseases and pests, either by functioning like phytoalexins or by stimulating phytoalexin synthesis (Phillips & Croteau, 1999). Another group of volatile compounds, phenylpropanoids, generally possess high antioxidant and antimicrobial activities and play an important role in resistance to biotic and abiotic stress factors (Ramaroson et al., 2022). Essential oils, beyond their medicinal and aromatic uses, offer a "natural" alternative approach in agricultural fields for defense against stress factors because of their antimicrobial, antiviral, antifungal, nematicidal, insecticidal, and antioxidant activities (Dorman & Deans, 2000; Cavanagh, 2007; Ntalli et al., 2010; Lang & Buchbauer, 2012).

In this study, the antifungal activities of *E. tenuifolia* subsp. *sibthorpiana*, *A. graveolens* L., *C. zeylanicum* Blume, *S. aromaticum* L., *Z. officinale* Rosc., *T. vulgaris* L., *E. globulus* Labill, and *J. communis* L. essential oils against stem rot (*R. solani*) and dry rot (*F. solani*) were determined under in vitro conditions, the potential of these essential oils to be used as an alternative to pesticides has been investigated.

Materials and Methods

Origin of Essential Oil

The essential oils of *C. zeylanicum* Blume, *S. aromaticum* L., *Z. officinale* Rosc., *T. Vulgaris* L., *E. globulus* Labill and *J. communis* L. used in this study were purchased. The essential oils of these species were selected based on the consideration that they meet the characteristics specified in their standards (GC-MS analysis results). For *E. tenuifolia* subsp. *sibthorpiana* and *A. graveolens* L., the essential oils were obtained by subjecting the plant parts containing active compounds to hydrodistillation for 3 hours using a Clevenger-type distillation apparatus (European Pharmacopoeia, 1980).

GC-FID/GC-MS Analysis

Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry (GC-MS) analysis of the essential oils (50 µL of the oil was solubilized in 5 mL of n-hexane and injected into the split mode 1/100) were performed on Shimadzu 2010 Plus GC-MS equipped with a Quadrapole (QP-5050) detector. The analysis was employed under the following conditions: capillary column, CP-Wax 52 CB (50 m x 0.32 mm, film thickness 0.25 μm); injector and detector heats, 240 ° C; stove heat program, from 60 $^{\circ}$ C (10 min. hold) to 90 $^{\circ}$ C rising at 4 $^{\circ}$ C/min., and increasing to 240 ° C (11.5 min. hold) rising at 15 ° C/min.; flow speed, 1 psi; detector: 70 eV; ionization type, EI; carrier gas, helium (20 ml/min.); sample injected 1 µl. Identification of constituents was carried out with the help of retention times of standard substances by composition of mass spectra with the data given in the Wiley, Nist, Tutor library (Rostad & Pereira, 1986; Adams, 2007). The quantitative analysis was conducted using Gas Chromatography/Flame Ionization Detector (GC-FID), Shimadzu Model Thermo Ultra Trace, operating at the same conditions of GC-MS.

Plant pathogens (*R. solani*, *F. solani*) were obtained from stock cultures at Department of Plant Protection, of Isparta University Applied Sciences. Fungi cultures were developed at 20 mL potato dextrose agar (PDA) on petri dish (90 mm) and kept at $22 \pm 2^{\circ}$ C for 7 days and these fungi were used for the experiment.

Fungi Cultures

In vitro antifungal activity and fungal growth inhibition of the EOs

Antifungal activity was determined using the agar plate method (Nwosu & Okafor, 1995). PDA (95 mL, w/v) was autoclaved and maintained at 40° C. The effect of essential oils (EOs) at concentrations of 500, 1000, 1500, and 2000 ppm were investigated on growth of the pathogens. The PDA medium treated with essential oils was prepared by adding the appropriate amount of essential oils to the melted medium, followed by the addition of Tween 80 (0.01%) to disperse the essential oils in the medium.

Table 1. Essential oils used in the study and major components

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Used Part	Major Components	Rate %
				Thymol	44.11
Lamiaceae	T. vulgaris	Thyme	Herba	Cymol	23.26
Laimaceae	1. vaigaris	Tilyine	Herba	Linalool	6.20
				δ-3-Carene	54.93
Apiaceae	E. tenuifolia	Turkish pickling herb	Herba	Methyleugenol	21.61
Apraceae	L. tenuijona	Turkish picking hero	Ticioa	Cymol	9.16
Myrtaceae	S. aromaticum	Clove	Bud	Eugenol	90.02
	5. aromaneum	Clove	Duu	trans-Caryophyllene	3.38
Lauraceae	C. zeylanicum	Cinnamon	Bark	Cinnamaldehyde	86.34
Lauraceae	C. Zeyianicum	Cililation	Dark	δ-3-Carene	2.79
Myrtaceae	E. globulus	Eucalyptus	Leaf	Eucalyptol	68.19
Wigitaccac	E. gioduius	Lucaryptus	Leai	α - Pinene	17.70
Aningana	A. graveolens	Dill	Fruit	d-Carvone	57.87
Apiaceae	A. graveoiens	Dili	TTUIL	Limonene	33.22
				α - Pinene	88.47
Cupressaceae	J. communis	Juniper	Fruit	β- Myrcene	2.06
				Sesquithujene	28.94
7 in aibaraaaa	7 officinals	Cincor	Rhizome	Camphene	10.42
Zingiberaceae	Z. officinale	Ginger	Kilizoille	β- Sesquiphellandrene	10.37

Table 2. Results of analysis of variance for the inhibit growth of R. solani and F. solani pathogen by essential oils

Sources of variation	Degrees of freedom	R. solani	F. solani
Application	7	850**	1246**
Dose	2	478**	1326**
Application * Dose	14	34.5**	138**
Error	48		
Total	71		
CV(%)		6.52	7.81

Table 3. Growth inhibition (%) of R. solani infection by essential oils applied at different doses

	Growth inhibition (%)			Mean
Application	Concentrations (ppm)			
	500 ppm	1000 ppm	2000 ppm	
J. communis	2.4 j	3.3 j	12.6 i	6.1 F
S. aromaticum	55.9 d	100.0 a	100.0 a	85.3 B
A. graveolens	21.7 gh	58.2 d	100.0 a	60.0 C
E. tenuifolia	37.4 e	69.4 c	82.0 b	63.0 C
E. globulus	2.8 j	18.2 hi	26.6 fg	15.8 E
C. zeylanicum	83.2 b	100.0 a	100.0 a	94.4 A
T. vulgaris	82.6 b	100.0 a	100.0 a	94.2 A
Z. officinale	18.2 hi	28.0 f	37.3 e	27.8 D
Mean	38.0 C	59.6 B	69.8 A	

The mycelium discs (10 mm in diameter) from 7-day-old fungal cultures were transferred to 60 mm petri dishes. Following incubation at 28°C for 72 hours, fungal growth was recorded daily (Onaran & Yılar, 2012). The positive control plates (without essential oil) were inoculated following the same procedure. The growth inhibition percentage was calculated using the formula described by Abd-El-Khair & El-Gamal Nadia (2011), as outlined below:

Growth inhibition (%) = $(C-T)/C \times 100$

C= the diameter of mycelial growth in control plates T= the diameter of mycelial growth in treated plate

Experimental Design and Data Analysis

The data obtained from the research were subjected to analysis of variance (ANOVA) using a completely randomized design. The significance test for comparing the differences among the means was performed using the Least Significant Difference (LSD) test (p < 0.05) with SAS (2009) statistical software.

Results and Discussion

Antifungal Activity

The differences between essential oil applications, doses and their interaction effects on growth inhibition of fungal pathogens were found to be statistically significant (P<0.01) (Table 2).

The application of essential oils significantly affected the inhibition rate of *R. solani* infection. The highest inhibition rates were obtained from *C. zeylanicum* essential oil (94.4%) and *T. vulgaris* essential oil (94.2%), followed by *S. aromaticum* essential oil (85.3%). The lowest activity against *R. solani* was observed with *J. communis* essential oil (6.1%). As the essential oils doses increased, the inhibition rate of the infection also significantly increased. At a dose of 500 ppm, the average inhibition rate was 38.0%, while at 2000 ppm, it increased to 69.8%. The

inhibition rates of the applications varied depending on the dosages, with *C. zeylanicum*, *T. vulgaris*, and c *S. aromaticum* essential oils achieving 100% inhibition at a dose of 1000 ppm, while for other essential oils, the inhibition rate was higher at a dose of 2000 ppm (Table 3).

Owing to the significant increase in the importance of fungal diseases, which are difficult to treat, it has become imperative to find new solutions beyond synthetic chemical fungicides. Plant essential oils are promising sources of antifungal compounds. Several studies on plant pathogenic fungi have demonstrated that some essential oils possess antifungal properties that inhibit fungal growth (Zaidi & Crow 2005). Essential oils exhibit antifungal activity in various ways, including the inhibition of biofilm formation in fungal pathogens, disruption of the environmental sensing system, effects on cell development and morphology, inhibition of fungal mycelial growth, disruption of the cell membrane/wall, and inhibition of ergosterol and fumonisin biosynthesis (Nazzaro et al., 2017). Many researchers have reported that various essential oils inhibit some fungal pathogens that cause economic damage in potatoes under in vitro conditions (Prabuseenivasan et al., 2006; Seema & Devaki, 2010; Galvão et al., 2012). Studies have shown that Syzygium aromaticum, Salvia triloba, Thymus vulgaris, Laurus nobilis, Cuminum cyminum L., Juniperus communis L., Eucalyptus sp., Allium sativum, and Echinophora tenuifolia species exhibit antifungal activity against various phytopathogens (Çakar et al., 2021), and their appropriate doses can be used as fungicides (Boyraz & Koçak, 2006; Arıcı et al., 2013; Erdoğan et al., 2014; Sharma et al., 2017; Er, 2018; Şanlı and Ok, 2023). Some researchers have also shown that the essential oils of cinnamon (Cinnamomum verum), thyme (Thymus vulgaris), sage (Salvia fruticosa), peppermint (Mentha piperita), clove (Syzygium aromaticum), and lemongrass (Cymbopogon citratus) exhibit strong antifungal activity against R. solani (Zambonelli et al., 2004; Vaillant et al., 2009; Amini et al., 2012; Khaledi et al., 2014).

Table 4. Inhibit growth	(%) of F	solani infection by	v essential oils a	applied at different doses

	(
Application	(Mean			
	500	1000	2000		
J. communis	7.8 ij	20.6 g	59.3 f	29.2 D	
S. aromaticum	63.6 e	81.7 b	100.0 a	81.8 A	
A. graveolens	2.9 k	7.8 ij	9.8 hi	6.8 F	
E. tenuifolia	18.5 g	56.2 f	72.0 d	48.9 C	
E. globulus	1.2 k	3.7 jk	7.4 ij	4.1 G	
C. zeylanicum	1.2 k	3.7 jk	58.0 f	21.0 E	
T. vulgaris	13.6 h	77.4 c	100.0 a	63.7 B	
Z. officinale	1.6 k	2.9 k	3.7 jk	2.7 G	
Mean	13.8 C	31.8 B	51.3 A		

Essential oil applications significantly affected the growth inhibition of F. solani. The highest average growth inhibition was obtained with S. aromaticum essential oil (81.8%), followed by T. vulgaris oil (63.7%) and E. tenuifolia oil (48.9%). As the concentration of essential oil increased, the growth inhibition also significantly increased. The mean inhibition growth rate, which was 13.8% at 500 ppm, rose to 51.3% at 2000 ppm. The inhibition of pathogen varied depending on the doses of the essential oils. For J. communis, S. aromaticum, E. tenuifolia, and T. vulgaris essential oils, the growth inhibition significantly increased with the application doses. However, for A. graveolens at 1000 and 2000 ppm, E. globulus and C. zevlanicum at 500 and 1000 ppm, and Z. officinale essential oil across the 500, 1000, and 2000 ppm doses, no significant differences were observed (Table 4).

The antimicrobial activities of essential oils are attributed to their ability to contain terpenes/terpenoids, due to their highly lipophilic nature and low molecular weight, disruption of cell membranes, induction of cell death, or inhibition of germination and sporulation of fungal spores (Taweechaisupapong et al., 2012; Nazzaro et al., 2017). The antifungal mechanisms of essential oils and their components are explained by the loss of fungal mitochondrial function, disruption of the cell membrane, alteration and inhibition of cell wall formation, inhibition of efflux pumps, and the production of Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS). In the in-vitro studies, C. zeylanicum, T. vulgaris, and S. aromaticum essential oils applied at 1000 ppm completely inhibited the growth of R. solani, whereas E. tenuifolia essential oil showed 82.0% inhibition at a concentration of 2000 ppm. T. vulgaris and S. aromaticum essential oils completely inhibited F. solani development at a concentration of 2000 ppm, whereas C. zevlanicum and J. communis essential oils exhibited a moderate inhibitory effects. Similarly, Şanlı and Ok (2023) reported that the essential oil of E. tenuifolia was effective in inhibiting or controlling Fusarium oxysporum, Rhizoctonia solani, and Alternaria alternata.

Conclusion

In vitro applications of essential oils against *F. solani* and *R. solani* infections, which are among the major diseases of potato plants, have showned varying degrees of effectiveness. In the current study, 1000 ppm consentration of *S. aromaticum*, *C. zeylanicum*, and *T. vulgaris* essential

oils, and the 2000 ppm dose of Turkish pickling herb essential oil, exhibited the highest antifungal activity against *R. solani*. For *F. solani*, *S. aromaticum* and *T. vulgaris* essential oils at a consantration of 2000 ppm were the most effective, completely inhibiting mycelial growth in both pathogens. It has been suggested that the main components of these oils have disease-reducing effects. In conclusion, it was been determined that to fully understand the mechanisms of action of essential oils, the main components of these oils and the most effective formulations based on these components should be reexamined.

Declarations

This study was presented at the 7th International Anatolian Agriculture, Food, Environment and Biology Congress, (Kastamonu, TARGID 2024)

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Investigation of Important Park Features that Encourage Park Visiting, Physical Activity and Social Interaction Among Teenagers with the Case of Ihlamur Park

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ABSTRACT

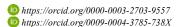
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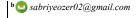
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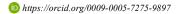
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Today, the rapid increase in urbanization and the concentration of population density in urban centers have increased the need for individuals to be in touch with nature. In this context, urban use areas such as urban parks play an important role in meeting the physical and social needs of teenagers. Parks are not only spaces that encourage physical activity, but also spaces that increase social interaction, strengthen community ties and support physical activities. Ihlamur Park in Konya is an important living space where teenagers show great interest, offering various activities and social opportunities. However, detailed information on the purposes for which teenagers use the park and which features of the park encourage this use has not been fully identified. The aim of this study is to examine the purposes of the use of Ihlamur Park by teenagers and to identify the features of the park that encourage physical activity and social interaction. For the research, 116 teenagers were surveyed face-to-face on the basis of the law on the protection of personal data and voluntary participation of park users by visiting the area on random days on weekdays and weekends. The survey was carried out with the approval of the Ethics Committee of Selçuk University, Faculty of Architecture and Design. By determining the level of use of teenagers, it is the preparation of a resource that park users can reach. The research also provides a comprehensive evaluation to understand the park usage habits and motivations of teenagers, and in this context, it has contributed to the development of recommendations for the design and management of parks. Thus, the importance of park features that allow teenagers to lead a more active life and increase their social interactions is emphasized.











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Introduction

Today, the rapid increase in urbanization and the concentration of population density in urban centers have increased the need for individuals to be in touch with nature. In this context, urban spaces such as urban parks play an important role in meeting the physical and social needs of young people. In addition to being spaces that encourage physical activity, parks are also spaces that increase social interaction, strengthen community ties, and support physical activity. Ihlamur Park in Konya is an important living space that attracts a lot of attention from young people and offers various activities and social opportunities. However, there is a need for detailed information about the purposes for which young people use the park and the features of the park that encourage this use.

One of the most important components of ensuring the sustainability of cities is the urban park areas organized within the city. These areas, which reflect the cultural and natural characteristics of the city and offer active and passive recreation opportunities for every individual living in the city, have effects on the city in terms of protection of natural life, improvement of air quality, regulation of urban heat by creating carbon dioxide storage heat islands, stormwater management, energy saving, employment, value increase, social cohesion physical/psychological health gain. Moreover, urban parks increase the quality of life of the communities in which they are located. However, to benefit from urban parks in terms of social, economic and health gains and to contribute to the quality of life of society, it is necessary to use urban parks effectively (Cetinkaya et al. 2019).

Since the beginning of human history, human beings, who have been using nature for various purposes for a healthy life, have described urban parks, which are a small copy of nature, as areas where they feel safe to rest, have fun and engage in various activities (Gemici 2023b). As a result of the human need for nature, the need for green areas has emerged in crowded cities. Green areas have many positive functions related to healthy life (Gemici 2023a).

There are many studies on the relationship between green areas, which have an important place within the scope of comfort, landscape and equipment within the scope of green areas, and health. It is stated that there are studies showing that green areas have an effect on the reduction of air pollution and respiratory system diseases, increase in allergic complaints with tree pollen, less intake of ultraviolet rays, decrease in heat-related causes of disease, and decrease in crimes. In the health dimension, they summarised the results showing the positive effect on cognition and attention, improvement of mental health, reduction of psychosocial stress, positive relationship with the treatment of non-communicable diseases. There are also research results showing that green areas positively improve physical activity behaviours such as walking and cycling (Özcebe et al. 2022).

In order to protect the physical and mental health of the society in order to make cities capable of offering a healthy lifestyle, it is among the most important duties of planners and designers to create humane and safe spaces with social interaction, encouraging physical movement, with common public spaces such as parks, squares and treelined streets. Urban parks have become strategic areas that contribute to cities in terms of aesthetic, recreational, psychological, environmental, social and economic aspects, improving the quality of urban life, strengthening the image of the city, as public spaces with many purposes of use. By hosting the 'modern' reflections of urban life, these areas have started to attract attention not only as a recreational area but also as a public space where celebrations, demonstrations and sometimes protests are held. (Süleymanoğlu and Atalı 2023).

Urban green spaces meet some of the human needs and affect the health, welfare levels and behaviours of the residents of nearby cities. Among these behaviours are people's physical activity attitudes. Research has shown that urban green spaces are associated with people's physical activity. On the one hand, urban green spaces encourage people's physical activity, and on the other hand, physical activity contributes positively to human health. For this reason, it is important to determine the factors affecting people's use of urban green spaces for physical activity. Studies have found a significant relationship between urban green spaces with certain characteristics and the frequency and duration of people's physical activity. Studies have revealed that urban green areas with certain characteristics such as walking paths, many trees, drinking water and shade, exercise equipment, vehicle and bicycle parking areas, picnic areas, sports areas, lighting and walking paths and water elements are associated with physical activity level (Akpınar 2019).

Informing individuals and increasing the level of environmental awareness or developing environmental awareness play an important role in preventing environmental problems. Environmental awareness is defined as using the environment at a sustainable level without harming it. In different definitions, it is defined as increasing the sensitivity of using the natural environment by protecting it, supporting life in an ecologically balanced environment and changing behaviours against environmental problems. Determining the environmental awareness, attitudes and sensitivity values of individuals in any region will provide a framework for taking measures to protect the environment and nature (Kahveci and Yücel 2023).

According to Çolakkadıoğlu (2021), the amount of open and green areas in cities in Turkey is insufficient and below the required standard. The insufficiency of open and green areas, which should be an important part of urban life, is the most important threat not only for metropolises but also for medium and small-sized cities in Turkey.

The aim of this study is to examine the purposes of the use of Ihlamur Park by young people and to identify the features of the park that encourage physical activity and social interaction. By determining the level of use by young people, it is the preparation of a resource that park users can reach. This study is at a level to meet the expectations and needs of young park users and to support new studies.

The research will also provide a comprehensive evaluation to understand the park usage habits and motivations of young people, and in this context, it will contribute to the development of recommendations for the design and management of parks. Thus, the importance of park features that allow young people to lead a more active life and increase their social interactions will be emphasized.

Materials and Methods

Ihlamur Park, the main research area of the study, is located in the Selçuklu district of Konya province. The park is an important living space that attracts the attention of young people with its large green areas, walking paths, sports fields and seating areas.

The location and environmental relations of the park, general characteristics of the park, social characteristics of the park users such as marital status, gender, age, education level, occupation, purpose of park use, frequency of use, days of use, time spent in the park, conditions of park use such as evaluation of the park in terms of design, satisfaction and dissatisfaction factors such as reinforcing elements, green space and planting, cleaning and maintenance, security, transportation, adequacy of parking were determined. The compliance of the reinforcing elements present in the area with the standards was measured using the Starline Tape Measure 5 Mt 25 Mm 590X and their safety was checked.

According to Yemenici 2019 and Güngör 2019, in order to obtain reliable results from the survey, it should be applied to at least 30 people according to the "central limit theorem". Even if you exceed this number by tens of people, the result you will obtain according to the central limit theorem will be very close (similar). However, in order to increase the reliability of our study, 116 people were surveyed.

To examine the use of the park, according to the Snowball technique, a face-to-face survey was conducted by going to the research area on random days and hours on weekdays and weekends, and a face-to-face survey was conducted with the park users on the basis of the law on the protection of personal data and voluntariness. Approval was obtained from the Ethics Committee of Selçuk University, Faculty of Architecture and Design for the survey.

Discussion

The sample group of the study consisted of young people aged 16-25 living in Konya city centre and using Ihlamur Park. The samples were determined by random sampling method and the collected data were determined by Chi-Square analysis using SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) program. Frequency distributions, cross tabulations and statistical analyses were performed for the survey results. The data obtained from the questionnaire were evaluated using quantitative and qualitative analysis techniques. Quantitative data were analysed as frequencies and percentages and the relationships between demographic characteristics and park use were examined. Qualitative data were analyzed by content analysis method and the relationships between the expectations and needs of young park users and park characteristics were tried to be determined.

In a face-to-face interview (Kaklık 2023), with Mr. Nail KAKLIK Director of Parks and Gardens of Konya Metropolitan Municipality. During the face-to-face interview with Nail KAKLIK, the information about Ihlamur Park located in Konya province, Selçuklu district, Yazır neighborhood is as follows: The park has a total area of 43.000 m². Of this area, 25.170 m² consists of grass areas and 2.530 m² consists of shrub areas. There are 1,220 trees and 32,389 shrubs in the area.

General uses in the project; football field $35\times20=700\text{m}^2$ (artificial turf), basketball court $30\times17=510\text{ m}^2$ (acrylic flooring), bicycle path $718\times2=1436\text{ m}^2$ (hardened concrete floor), walking track $654\times2,4=1570\text{ m}^2$ (cast rubber floor 4cm thick). Skateboard track (asphalt floor), fitness station, gothic tower, playhouse, rope adventure track, climbing logs, pyramid playground, trampoline, bird's nest playground, forest play tower, disabled swing, bird's nest swing, rope swing, spherical playground, rope seesaw, stainless slide, cable car, climbing wall, human figured transition wall, young age group activity area, wooden tunnel. The equipment elements in the park are; Square and Pool (Pool area: 100 m^2 . Depth 0.5metre),

Wooden Square Pergola (4×4 metres) 11 pieces, Wooden S Pergola (35 metres long), Wooden Benches (37 pieces), Wooden Seating Units on the Wall (100 m long), Amphitheatre (80 people). The materials used in the flooring of the park are Bougainite Cube Stone (4.523m²), Bougainite 50 kerbs (5.832 m³).

Evaluation of Survey Results According to Chi-Square Analysis

(PS. Since our analysis results will exceed the number of pages allowed in the article, only one example is given for the chi-square test, and the other hypotheses are written as text)

Hypothesis 1

Hypothesis 1.1: Most park users are female.

Hypothesis 1.2: Most park users are male.

According to the results of the questionnaire (Table 1) for Hypothesis 1, when evaluated in the Chi-Square analysis; it is concluded that most of the female users use the park once a week.

Hypothesis 2:

Hypothesis 2.1: Individuals aged 0-18 years want to spend more time in the park.

Hypothesis 2.2: Individuals between the ages of 18-25 have less desire to go to the park.

When Hypothesis 2 is evaluated in Chi- Square analysis according to the survey results, it is concluded that the users between the ages of 0-18 use the park several times a week. Accordingly, Hypothesis 2.1 (Individuals between the ages of 0-18 want to spend more time in the park) has been proven to be true.

Hypothesis 3:

Hypothesis 3.1: There is no effect of educational status on park-going individuals.

Hypothesis 3.2: Individuals who go to the park consist of people who continue their education.

When Hypothesis 3 is evaluated by Chi- Square analysis according to the survey results, it is concluded that university students use the park several times a month. Accordingly, Hypothesis 3.2 (Individuals who go to the park consist of people who continue their education) is proven to be true.

Hypothesis 4:

Hypothesis 4.1: The majority of individuals using the park are not employed.

Hypothesis 4.2: The majority of individuals using the park are public employees.

Table 1. How often do you use the park? Crosstabulation and Chi-Square Tests

Crosstabulation		How often do you use the park?						Total	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	Total	
		Count	5	6	3	13	16	7	50
	Male	EC	7.8	6.9	4.7	9.5	15.5	5.6	50,0
Your		UP	27.8%	37.5%	27.3%	59.1%	44.4%	53.8%	43,1%
Gender?		Count	13	10	8	9	20	6	66
	Female	EC	10.2	9.1	6.3	12.5	20.5	7.4	66,0
		UP	72.2%	62.5%	72.7%	40.9%	55.6%	46.2%	56,9%
		Count	18	16	11	22	36	13	116
Total		EC	18,0	16.0	11.0	22.0	36.0	13.0	116.0
		UP	100,0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

^{1:} Once a month; 2: Several times a month; 3: Other; 4: Once a week; 5: Several times a week; 6: Every day; EC: Expected Count; UP: % within How often do you use the park?

Table 2. How often do you use the park?

How often do you use the park?	Male	Female
Once a month	5	13
Several times a month	6	10
Other	3	8
Once a week	13	9
Several times a week	16	20
Everyday	7	6

Table 3. Chi-Square Tests for How often do you use the park?

Chi-Square Tests	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	5.984a	5	0.308
Likelihood Ratio	6.092	5	0.297
N of Valid Cases	116		

a. 1 cells (8,3%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 4,74.

When Hypothesis 4 is evaluated by Chi- Square analysis according to the results of the survey, it is concluded that most of the park users who do not work use the park several times a week. Accordingly, Hypothesis 4.1 (The majority of the individuals who use the park do not work) is proven to be true.

Hypothesis 5:

Hypothesis 5.1: The park is used once a month by the users in Yazır neighbourhood.

Hypothesis 5.2: The park is used several times a week by the users in Yazır neighbourhood.

When Hypothesis 5 is evaluated with Chi-Square analysis according to the survey results, it is concluded that the users residing in Yazır neighbourhood use the park several times a week. Accordingly, Hypothesis 5.2 (The park is used several times a week by the users in Yazır neighbourhood) is proven to be true.

Hypothesis 6:

Hypothesis 6.1: The biggest benefit of the park for social interaction is to make new friends.

Hypothesis 6.2: When we look at the social interaction in the park, there is no benefit in making new friends.

When Hypothesis 6 is evaluated by Chi- Square analysis according to the survey results, it is concluded that the park increases the social interaction between users. This proves the accuracy of Hypothesis 6.1 (The biggest benefit of the park to social interaction was to make new friends).

Hypothesis 7:

Hypothesis 7.1: Those who come to the park to spend time outdoors find the play elements in the park sufficient.

Hypothesis 7.2: Those who come to the park to spend time outdoors do not find the play elements in the park sufficient.

When Hypothesis 7 is evaluated by Chi- Square analysis according to the survey results, it is concluded that the amount of play elements in the park is considered sufficient by the users who use the park outdoors. This proves the accuracy of Hypothesis 7.1 (Those who come to the park to spend time outdoors find the seating elements in the park sufficient).

Hypothesis 8:

Hypothesis 8.1: Park users between the ages of 18-25 find the use of new generation fitnees equipment sufficient.

Hypothesis 8.2: Park users between the ages of 18-25 do not find the use of new generation fitnees equipment sufficient.

When Hypothesis 8 is evaluated by Chi- Square analysis according to the survey results; it is concluded that the new generation fitness equipment in the park is sufficient according to the users between the ages of 0-18. This proves the accuracy of Hypothesis 8.1 (Park users between the ages of 18-25 find the use of new generation fitness equipment sufficient).

Conclusion

While most of the park users are women who use the park once a week, the group that uses the park every day is men. It was concluded that most of the users between the ages of 0-18 use the park several times a week and most university students use the park several times a month. It was concluded that most of the users residing in Yazır neighborhood access the park on foot. In the summer months, the park is mostly used by individuals who do not work or are students. Users use the park with their families and to spend time outdoors. The park is most intensively used between 13.00-15.00 hours. The opinion of the users who use the park is that visiting the park increases social interaction. Park users found the park lighting sufficient. It was concluded that the danger of stray animals in the park poses an average security problem. It is concluded that shading vegetation in the park is sufficient. It is concluded that the amount of play elements in the park is sufficient by the users who use the park outdoors. According to the users who use the park, the width of the pedestrian paths is sufficient. Users between the ages of 0-18 stated that the new generation fitness equipment in the park is sufficient, and they usually come to the park with their families. It is concluded that users who come to the park with their families mostly use pedestrian access. It was determined that the amount of grass area of the park was sufficient, and the park was generally found to be beautiful. It is understood that users between the ages of 0-18 use the park to spend time outdoors and prefer lunch hours. The survey results show that female park users can benefit from the park sufficiently and park their vehicles more easily around the park.

Ihlamur Park is preferred by teenagers with its green areas and sports facilities. The fact that the urban furniture, especially the lighting, is sufficient has enabled women users to use the park safely even at night. Located in the center of many public housing estates, the park is very easy to reach on foot and public transport is also available.

Declarations

Ethical Approval Certificate

The experimental procedures of this study were approved by the Ethics Committee of Selçuk University, Architecture and Design Faculty (Approval date and number: 03/11/2023-09/05).

Author Contribution Statement

Please indicate how each author contributed to this work and at what stage. For example:

Sertaç Güngör: Project administration, supervision, conceptualization, methodology, review, editing and writing the original draft

Sabriye Özer and Murat Seyhan: Data collection, investigation and formal analysis,

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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Examining the Adequacy of the Niğde Parks

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
Research Article	As the most important open and green areas of the city, parks, as part of the urban green space system, make cities attractive and liveable, alleviate the monotony of the environment, give cities an image, and allow building masses to gain a soft appearance. Urban parks, which ensure the sustainability of
Received: 15.11.2024 Accepted: 30.11.2024	cities and create quality and comfortable living spaces for urban people, affect the users they address in line with their landscape design features. Both positive and negative aspects of compliance with design criteria concern not only the urban park but also its users and the city as a whole. Spaces without any recreational activities, without comfort, without a green texture do not add anything positive to the city and do not create physical, social and cultural interaction for the people of the
Keywords: Landscape Design Urban Design Sustainable Design Urban Parks Niğde	environment in which they are located, and will cause stagnation and restlessness on the psychology of the city people. In this study, it was planned to first observe, detect and analyse the current status of 5 urban parks located in the Central District of Niğde Province. The aim of the study is to determine the compliance of some parks providing services at the urban scale within the borders of Niğde Province with the landscape design criteria. In this context, it is planned to determine the suitability of the parks in terms of landscape design according to the determined landscape design criteria and to make evaluations to analyse the current status of the parks. As a result of the evaluation, solution proposals will be presented in accordance with the landscape design criteria for the problem of the current situation.

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Niğde Kent Parklarının Yeterliliklerinin İrdelenmesi

MAKALE BİLGİSİ	ÖZ
Araştırma Makalesi	Kentin en önemli açık ve yeşil alanı olan parklar, kentsel yeşil alan sisteminin bir parçası olmalarına bağlı olarak yaşanılan kentleri çekici ve yaşanır hale getirir, çevrenin monotonluğunu hafifletir, kentlere imaj kazandırır, yapı kitlelerinin yumuşak bir görünüm kazanmasına olanak sağlarlar.
Geliş : 15.11.2024 Kabul : 30.11.2024	Kentlerin sürdürülebilirliğini sağlayan, kent insanı için kaliteli ve konforlu yaşam alanı oluşturan kent parkları, sahip olduğu peyzaj tasarım özellikleri doğrultusunda hitap ettiği kullanıcıları etkilemektedir. Tasarım kriterlerine uygunluğun hem olumlu hem olumsuz yönleri yalnız kent parkını değil kullanıcısı ve kentin tümünü ilgilendirmektedir. İçerisinde hiçbir rekreasyonel aktivitesi
Anahtar Kelimeler: Peyzaj Tasarımı Kentsel Tasarım Sürdürülebilir Tasarım Kent Parkları Niğde	bulunmayan, konforsuz, yeşil bir dokusu olmayan mekânlar kente olumlu anlamda bir şey katmadığı gibi bulunduğu çevrenin insanı için de fiziksel, sosyal ve kültürel anlamda bir etkileşim yaratmadığı için kent insanı psikolojisi üzerinde durağanlık ve huzursuzluğa neden olacaktır. Bu çalışmada Niğde ili Merkez ilçesinde bulunan 5 kent parkının yerinde gözlem, tespit ve mevcut durumlarının analiz edilmesi planlanmıştır. Çalışmanın amacı, Niğde İli sınırları içerisinde kent ölçeğinde hizmet sağlayan bazı parkların peyzaj tasarım kriterlerine uygunluğunun tespit edilmesidir. Bu bağlamda belirlenen peyzaj tasarım kriterlerine göre parkların peyzaj tasarımı açısından uygunlukları tespit edilip, parkların mevcut durumlarının analiz edilmesine yönelik değerlendirmeler yapılması planlanmaktadır. Değerlendirme sonucunda mevcut durumun sorununa yönelik peyzaj tasarım kriterlerine uygun olacak şekilde çözüm önerileri sunulacaktır.



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Giris

Kent parkı, yapılaşmış ve yoğun kent dokusu içinde doğayla iç içe olmaya olanak sağlayan, farklı aktiviteleri içerisinde barındıran, kent insanı için bitki örtüsüne özgürce ve istediği zaman temas etme fırsatı sunan, farklı insan gruplarını bir araya getirerek etkileşim alanı oluşturan mekânlardır. Kent parkları en önemli kentsel elemanlardır. Kent parkları kent insanı için fiziksel, kültürel ve sosyal aktivitelere katılma olanağı vermektedir. Kent parklarının peyzaj tasarım kriterlerine uygun olması öncelikle parkın sonra tüm kentin sürdürülebilirliğini ve yaşam kalitesini arttıracaktır. Peyzaj tasarım kriterlerine göre parkın büyüklüğü ve buna bağlı olarak alan kullanımı kent nüfusuna ve hitap ettiği topluluğa göre şekillenmektedir (Doğan ve Güngör, 2022).

Kentsel parklar ve yeşil alanlar, kentsel çevredeki yaşam kalitesini iyileştirerek çeşitli fiziksel, sosyal, çevresel ve sağlık yararları sağlarlar. Kentsel çevrenin önemli bir bileşeni olarak, kent parkları çok çeşitli rekreasyonel aktiviteler (Page ve ark., 1994; Woolley, 2003) sunar ve kullanıcılar için sessiz dinlenme fırsatları (Sop Shin ve ark., 2005) sağlar. Kent parkları, çeşitli kültürel gruplardan gelen ziyaretçilerin ihtiyaçlarına cevap vermeli (Francis, 2003; Wong ve Domroes, 2005), farklı kullanıcı grupları düşünülerek parklar tasarlanmalı ve yönetilmelidir (Thompson, 2002; Chiesura, Rishbeth, 2004). Kentsel parklar üzerine yapılan arastırmalar (Cosaner, 2009; Bektas, 2010; Akten ve Özkartal, 2016; Xu ve ark., 2017; Ayhan ve Atabeyoğlu, 2019; Jaszczak ve ark., 2021; Aybey, 2024; Feng ve ark., 2024) genellikle parkların algılanan faydalarına ve kullanıcı memnuniyetine veya çevresel etkilere ilişkin algılara odaklanmıştır.

Doğal çevreyle temas, sağlıkla ilgili faydalar (Frumkin, 2001; Gobster ve Westphal, 2004; Orsega-Smith ve ark., 2004; Bedimo-Rung ve ark., 2005; Maller ve ark., 2005; Pretty ve ark., 2005) ve aktif rekreasyon biçimleri için fırsatlar sunar. Peyzajların değerlendirilmesi üzerine yapılan çalışmalar, çeşitli kültürlerden insanların doğal ortamları yapılı ortamlara tercih ettiğini ve doğal değerlendirilmesindeki benzerliklerin manzaraların kültürler daha küçük gruplar arasındaki veya farklılıklardan çok daha ağır bastığını tutarlı bir şekilde göstermiştir. Ancak, kültürel geçmişler insanların estetik algılarını ve tercihlerini (Todorova ve ark., 2004), kullanımları ve deneyimleri etkiler.

Tutumlar (algılar, tercihler) ve deneyimler ayrı konular olsa da, aralarında bir ilişki olabilir. Bu nedenle bu konulara kültürel perspektiften bakmak faydalı olacaktır (Özgüner, 2011). Parklar insan yaşamına faydalar sağlarlar. Estetik, kültürel, sağlık, eğlence ve ekonomik olmak üzere birçok faydaları nedeniyle insanların yaşamları için temel unsurlar olarak kabul edilen bahçeler, önemli bir role sahiptir ve parkların veya yeşil alanların kurulmasının temel amacı insanın konforu ve zevkinin yanı sıra diğer estetik faydalar sağlamaktır. Estetik değerlerinin yanında, kent parklarının işlevsel olması da düşünülmesi gereken bir konudur. Parkın erişilebilir olması, döşeme, gölgeleme, oyun alanları, su öğesi, aydınlatma, güvenlik unsurları başta olmak üzere parkların peyzaj tasarım kriterleri açısından uygun olması gerekmektedir.

Bu çalışmada; Niğde İli Merkez İlçesinde bulunan 5 kent parkı incelenmiştir. Çalışmanın amacı, Niğde ili Merkez ilçesinde belirlenen 5 farklı kent parkının yerinde gözlem yolu ile mevcut durumun incelenerek, fotoğraflanarak ve analiz edilerek değerlendirilmesi sonucunda da ortaya çıkan durumun olumlu ve olumsuz yönlerinin irdelenerek, kent parklarında peyzaj tasarım kriterleri açısından problem ve eksiklikler için çözüm önerisi geliştirilmesi planlanmaktadır.

Materyal ve Yöntem

Çalışmanın ana materyalini Niğde İli Merkez İlçesinde bulunan 5 park oluşturmaktadır. Niğde İlinde bulunan Kızıl Elma Parkı, Ahmet Ceylan Parkı, Mevlâna Celaleddin-i Rumi Parkı, Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı ve Eyüp Sultan Parkı çalışma kapsamı yerinde gözlem yolu ile mevcut durumun incelenerek, fotoğraflanarak ve edilerek analiz değerlendirilmesi şeklinde hazırlanacaktır. Parkların seçilme nedeni, Niğde İli Merkez İlçesinde bulunan en büyük ve en yoğun kullanıma sahip parklar olmasıdır. Niğde Belediyesi Park ve Bahçeler Müdürlüğü'nden parklara ait veriler (büyüklük, konum bilgisi vb.) elde edilmiştir. Parklara ait verilerin elde edilmesinin ardından büyüklük, kullanım ve sahip olduğu peyzaj tasarım öğeleri dikkate alınarak çalışma kapsamında incelenecek parklara karar verilmistir. Daha sonra parkların değerlendirilmeleri amacıyla peyzaj tasarım kriterleri belirlenmistir.

Peyzaj tasarım kriterleri (Alan kullanımı ve büyüklüğü, ulaşılabilirlik, her yaş grubundan insana uygunluk, zemin döşeme elemanları, otopark, oturma birimleri, aydınlatma elemanları, çöp kutuları, bilgi panoları, plastik objeler ve heykeller, çocuk oyun elemanları, bitkilendirme, su ögesi, güvenlik ve gece kullanımı, özel gereksinimli insanların kullanımı, yıl boyu kullanabilirlik ve iklime uygunluk, kent estetiğine katkı ve çevre ile uyum) olarak belirlenmiştir. Bu çalışmaların ardından saha çalışması planlanmıştır. Burada mevcut durumlar fotoğraflanmış ve yerinde gözlemler yapılmıştır. Sonraki aşamada seçilen parkların bu kriterlere hangi ölçüde uyumlu olduğu incelenmiştir. Son aşamada ise kriterlere uygunluk bakımından eksik kalan noktalar için çözüm önerileri geliştirilmiştir.

Bulgular ve Tartışma

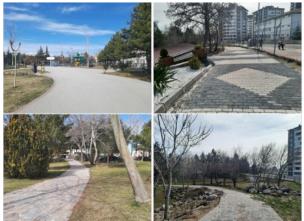
Kızılelma Parkı

Niğde ili Merkez İlçesi, Aşağı Kayabaşı mahallesinde yer alan Kızılelma Parkı kentin en büyük parklarından biridir. 35.550 m²'lik alana sahip olan park Niğde'de bulunanların rekreasyonel faaliyetlerini geçirdiği bir konuma sahiptir. Büyük bir alanda kurulu olan parkın içerisinde kafe, spor salonu, millet kıraathanesi, gençlik merkezi, çocuk oyun alanları, kondisyon alanları, spor sahaları gibi rekreasyon alanları bulunmaktadır (Şekil 1). Yeşil alanla birlikte tasarlanmış park, sosyal aktivite açısından oldukça zengindir. Alanlar arasından geçişler uyumlu olacak şekilde planlama yapılmıştır. Park kullanıcılarına bir ya da birden fazla aktiviteyi bir arada yapına fırsatı sağlamaktadır. Bir faaliyet için parkta bulunan kullanıcı diğer faaliyetlere uğramadan amacına ulaşabilmektedir; bu da parkı işlevsel bir hale getirmektedir.





Şekil 1. Kızılelma Parkı alan kullanımları Figure 1. Kızılelma Park land uses



Şekil 2. Kızılelma Park içi ulaşım ağları Figure 2: Kızılelma Park transportation networks







Şekil 3. Kızılelma Parkı çeşitli aktivite alanları Figure 3. Kızılelma Park various activity areas

Ulaşılabilirlik

Parkın etrafının yollarla çevrili olması, toplu taşımanın parkın hemen yanında olması, parka ulaşımın rahatlıkla sağlamaktadır. Bisiklet, yaya vb. olmak üzere diğer yöntemlerle de parka ulaşım oldukça kolaydır. Park içerisinde bir ana yol bulunmakta, diğer yollar bu yolla bağlantılıdır (Şekil 2). Aynı zamanda otomobil kullanarak parka ulaşım sağlayan kullanıcılar için de park otoparkı bulunmaktadır.

Her yaş grubundan insana uygunluk

Kızılelma parkı birçok sosyal aktiviteyi barındırmaktadır. Bu aktiviteler tüm yaş grubunda bulunan insanlara hizmet verecek şekilde planlanmıştır. Park, çocuk oyun parkları, gezinti, spor sahaları, gençlik merkezi, millet kıraathanesi gibi olanaklar sağlamaktadır (Şekil 3). Park, tüm kullanıcıların kullanması için yeterli olduğu görülmektedir.

Zemin Döşeme Elemanları

Parkta kilitli taş parke, beton kalıplar ve kauçuk gibi birçok farklı döseme malzemesi örnekleri kullanılmıstır (Sekil 4).

Otonark

Park alanı içerisinde 2 adet otopark yer almaktadır. Otopark içerisinde zemin kaplaması olarak asfalt kullanılmış ve araçların park yerleri çizgilerle ayrılmıştır. Bir araç için 245 cm × 300 cm'lik bir alan ayrılmıştır. Otoparklarda herhangi bir yönlendirici levha bulunmamaktadır.

Oturma Birimleri

Kızılelma Parkı oturma birimleri ahşap malzemeden yapılmıştır. Park içerisinde masalar, oturma birimleri ve kameriyeler bulunmaktadır (Şekil 5). Oturma birimleri kullanım alanlarına göre büyüklük ve şekilsel olarak değişiklik göstermektedir.

Aydınlatma Elemanları

Güvenliğin sağlanması, yer-yön bulunması amacıyla yapılan aydınlatmanın kullanım gruplarına göre planlandığı görülmüştür. Parkta tekli ve çoklu aydınlatmalar tercih edilmiştir (Şekil 6). Bazı aydınlatmaların bakımsız olduğu belirlenmiştir.

Cöp Kutuları

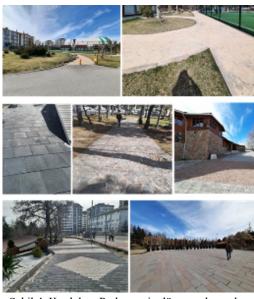
Kızılelma parkı giriş ve çıkış noktalarında büyük, iç kısımlarda küçük boyutlu olarak konumlandırılmış çöp kutularının yanı sıra ana girişte 1 adet mobil atık getirme merkezi bulunmaktadır. Kullanılan bölgelere göre çöp kutuları renk açısından farklılık göstermektedir. (Şekil 7). Çöp kutularının birkaçında bakım yönünden bazı eksiklikleri bulunmaktadır. Mobil atık getirme merkezi olması da parkı diğer kent parklarından ayıran özelliğidir.

Bilgi Panoları

Parkta genelinde metal ve plastik malzemeden üretilmiş yapılması yasak eylemleri bildiren donatı elemanları kulanılmıştır. Parkın girişinde parkla ilgili herhangi bilgilendirme ve kullanımlara ait herhangi bir yönlendirme bulunmamaktadır (Şekil 8).

Plastik Obje ve Heykeller

Parkın içerisinde Türk devletleri beylerinin büstlerinin olduğu bir alan bulunmaktadır. Bu alanda heykeller Türk bayrakları ile süslenmiş ve desteklenmiştir. Parkın vurgu noktası olan bu alanda 21 adet büst yer almaktadır. Park içerisinde aynı zamanda tarihi birçok sütun, heykel, kabartma resimler bulunmaktadır (Şekil 9). Parka değer katan heykeller, tarihi dokusu olan sütun ve kabartma resimlerin korunması konusunda herhangi bir önlem olmadığı için, parkta bulunan objelerde kullanıcıların oluşturduğu zararlar meydana gelmiştir.



Şekil 4. Kızılelma Parkı zemin döşeme elemanları Figure 4. Kızılelma Park floor covering elements



Şekil 5. Kızılelma Parkı oturma birimleri Figure 5. Kızılelma Park seating units





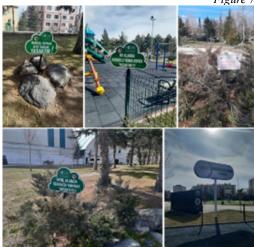
Şekil 6. Kızılelma Parkı aydınlatma elemanları Figure 6. Kızılelma Park lighting elements







Şekil 7. Kızılelma Parkı çöp kutuları Figure 7. Kızılelma Park trash cans



Şekil 8. Kızılelma Parkı bilgi panoları Figure 8. Kızılelma Park information boards



Şekil 9. Kızılelma Parkı heykel ve objeler Figure 9. Kızılelma Park sculptures and objects



Şekil 10. Kızılelma Parkı çocuk oyun alanı Figure 10. Kızılelma Park children's playground



Şekil 11. Kızılelma Parkı bitkilendirme Figure 11. Kızılelma Park planting



Şekil 12. Kızılelma Parkı su öğesi Figure 12. Kızılelma Park water element



Şekil 13. Kızılelma Parkı gece kullanımı Figure 13. Kızılelma Park night use



Şekil 14. Ahmet Ceylan Parkı alan kullanımları Figure 14. Ahmet Ceylan Park land use





Şekil 16. Ahmet Ceylan Parkı aktivite alanları Figure 16. Ahmet Ceylan Park activity areas



Şekil 15. Ahmet Ceylan Parkı içi ulaşım ağları Figure 15. Ahmet Ceylan Park transportation networks

Cocuk Oyun Elemanları

Park çocuklara yönelik aktiviteler açısından oldukça zengindir. Burada plastik oyun grubu yanı sıra ahşap macera oyun alanı yer almaktadır (Şekil 10). Aynı zamanda çocuk oyun alanının sınırlayıcı eleman yardımıyla diğer alanlardan ayrılması güvenlik açısından faydalı olmuştur.

Bitkilendirme

Park içerisinde yeşil alan oluşturulması açısından tüm bitki gruplarına yer verilmiştir. Tercih edilen bitki türlere ise bölge iklim koşullarına uygundur. Parkta açık – yeşil alan miktarının fazla olması, kullanıcıların alternatif faaliyetlere yönelmesine izin vermektedir. (Şekil 11). Parkta çoğunlukla ibreli türler tercih edilmiştir. Kullanım alanlarına göre bitkiler fonksiyon ve estetik özellikleri göz önünde bulundurularak konumlandırılmıştır. Bunun yanı sıra belirli noktalarda ağaç kökleri yüzünden sert zeminlerde bozulmalar meydana gelmiştir.

Su ögesi

Kızılelma Parkı içerisinde büyük bir su yüzeyi bulunmaktadır. Yapay bir şelalenin oluşturulduğu alandan akan su parkın ortasında yapay bir gölet oluşturmaktadır (Şekil 12). Parkta bulunan bu su yüzeyi büyüklüğü ve yapımı itibariyle gösterişli olsa da kent iklimi sebebiyle çoğunlukla kullanılamaz durumda kalmaktadır. O yüzden bu büyük alan boş ve kullanılamaz olduğu için bakımsız ve kirli hale gelmektedir.

Güvenlik ve Gece Kullanımı

Bitkisel materyal ile perdeleme yaparak ve bölgelere göre aydınlatma planlayarak parkta güvenlik sağlanmaya çalışılmıştır. Bu durum mekânın tam algılanmasına fırsat sağlamasından dolayı kullanıcılarda güvenli hissi oluşturmaktadır. Bunun yanında parkta çok fazla sayıda aktivite bulunması ve bu aktiviteleri aydınlatılması amacıyla kullanıcılara güvende oldukları hissi kazandırılmaya çalışılmıştır. Aynı zamanda bu alanlar birbirinden sınırlayıcı elemanlarla ayrılarak da güven olusturulmustur.

Park içerisinde, giriş ve çıkışlarında güvenlik amaçlı herhangi bir personel planlanmamıştır. Park içerisinde bulunan donatı elemanlarının bakım onarımlarının zamanında yapılmaması, kullanıcılar açısından risk teşkil etmektedir. Ayrıca ağaçların sert hava durumlarından etkilenerek formunu kaybetmesi ve kök büyümesi sonucu sert zeminlerde oluşmuş tahribatlar da kazalara neden olabilmektedir. Park işlek bir bölgede olması, çevresinin sokaklardan ve kent içi yollardan oluşması nedeniyle gece de kullanım sağlanabilmektedir (Şekil 13). Park genelde aydınlatma kısmen yeterdir. Ancak personel eksikliği, toplu taşımanın tüm gün hizmet sunmaması parkın gece kullanımı açısından eksikliklerindendir.

Özel Gereksinimli İnsanların Kullanımı

Parkta yaya yolları, merdiven ve rampalar, otoparklar ve donatı elemanları, oyun alanları, kondisyon alanı TS 12576 standartlarına uygun yapılmamıştır. Görme engelli kullanıcılar için kent parkına girişlerde ve alan içi yaya yollarında kılavuz çizgileri bulunmamaktadır. Yaya yolları genişliği kullanım alanlarına göre farklılaşmaktadır. Bu durum tekerlekli sandalye kullanıcıları için uygun olmamaktadır. Yine zemin döşeme malzemelerinin farklılığı da özel gereksinimli insanları etkilemektedir. Bazı alanlarda kullanılan blok taşlar ve doğal taşların girintili çıkıntılı yüzeyleri tekerlekli sandalye ve görme

engelli kullanıcılar açısından olumsuzdur. Donatı elemanları, bilgi panoları, otopark gibi birçok yerde özel gereksinimli insanlara yönelik yapılmış veya düşünülmüş bir unsura rastlanmamıştır. Ancak ana girişte bir adet tekerlekli sandalye şarj istasyonu ve özel gereksinimli insanlar için ayrılmış tuvalet kabinleri bulunmaktadır. Parkın özel gereksinimli insanlara uygunluğu şarj alanı ve tuvalet kabini haricinde olan zemin döşemeleri, park içi ulaşım ağları, otopark, donatı elemanları, bitkilendirme gibi birçok kategoride incelenmiş ve uygun bulunmamıştır.

Yıl Boyu Kullanılabilirlik ve İklime Uygunluk

Park kullanıcıları açısından sıcak aylarda gölge sağlayabilecek yeşil öğelerin ve üst örtü elemanlarının eksik kaldığı düşünülmektedir. Fakat parkta yer alan kafe, kıraathane ve üstü kapalı oturma elemanları sayesinde yıl boyu kullanılabilir hale gelmektedir. Parktaki bitkisel materyal ve donatı elemanları iklime uygun seçilmiş olup su yüzeyinin iklime uygun tasarlanmadığı gözlemlenmistir.

Ahmet Ceylan Parkı

Niğde ili Merkez İlçesi, Aşağı Kayabaşı mahallesinde yer alan Ahmet Ceylan Parkı 7.800 m²'lik alana sahiptir. Kent parkı kullanıcıları için çeşitli rekreasyon faaliyetlerini barındıran bir alandır. Parkın içerisinde çocuk oyun alanı, kondisyon alanı, dinlenme alanları gibi rekreasyon alanları bulunmaktadır (Şekil 14). Alanlar arasında geçişler uyumlu olacak şekilde planlama yapılmıştır. Ahmet Ceylan Parkı alan kullanımı ve büyüklüğü, içerisinde bulundurduğu çeşitli aktivite alanları ile kent parkı özelliğini tamamlayan unsurları içerisinde barındırmaktadır.

Ulaşılabilirlik

Parkın etrafının yollarla çevrili olması, toplu taşımanın parkın hemen yanında olması, parka ulaşım rahatlıkla sağlanabilmektedir. Bisiklet, yaya vb. olmak üzere diğer yöntemlerle de parka ulaşım oldukça kolaydır. Park içerisinde bir ana yol bulunmakta, diğer yollar bu yolla bağlantılıdır. (Sekil 15).

Her Yaş Grubundan İnsana Uygunluk

Ahmet Ceylan Parkı tüm yaş gruplarından kullanıcılara vakit geçirebilmeleri için imkânlar sağlar ancak yeterli değildir. Çocuklar için oyun parkı ve gezinme alanları sunarken gençler, orta yaşlılar ve yaşlılar için, kondisyon alanı gibi aktivite olanakları sağlamaktadır (Şekil).

Zemin Döşeme Elemanları

Parkta kilitli taş parke, çim taşı ve kauçuk gibi farklı döşeme malzemesi kullanılmıştır (Şekil 17).

Otopark

Ahmet Ceylan parkı içerisinde otopark için ayrılmış herhangi bir alan bulunmamaktadır.

Oturma Birimleri

Ahmet Ceylan Parkı oturma birimleri ahşap malzemeden yapılmıştır. Park içerisinde masalar, oturma birimleri ve kameriyeler bulunmaktadır. (Şekil 18).

Aydınlatma Elemanları

Parkta güvenliği sağlanması ve tüm zamanlarda kullanım sağlanması için tasarlanan mevcut aydınlatma çoklu şekilde bir nokta üzerindedir. Aydınlatma elemanı kullanım noktasına göre aktivite ve dinlenme alanlarına yakın konumu itibariyle doğru seçilmiş olsa da park içi aydınlatma elemanları yetersiz kalmaktadır.







Şekil 17. Ahmet Ceylan Parkı zemin döşeme elemanları Figure 17. Ahmet Ceylan Park floor covering elements







Şekil 18. Ahmet Ceylan Parkı oturma birimleri Figure 18. Ahmet Ceylan Park seating units











Şekil 19. Ahmet Ahmet Ceylan Parkı çöp kutuları Figure 19. Ahmet Ceylan Park trash cans

Şekil 20. Ahmet Ceylan Parkı çocuk oyun alanı Figure 20. Ahmet Ceylan Park children's playground

















Şekil 21. Ahmet Ceylan Parkı bitkilendirme Figure 21. Ahmet Ceylan Park planting

Şekil 22. Ahmet Ceylan Parkı güvenlik ve gece kullanımı Figure 22. Ahmet Ceylan Park security and night use









Şekil 23. Mevlâna Celaleddin-i Rumi Parkı alan kullanımları Figure 23. Mevlana Celaleddin-i Rumi Park land uses





Şekil 25. Mevlâna Celaleddin-i Rumi Parkı aktivite alanları Figure 25. Mevlana Celaleddin-i Rumi Park activity areas





Şekil 24. Mevlâna Celaleddin-i Rumi Parkı içi ulaşım ağları Figure 24. Mevlana Celaleddin-i Rumi Park transportation networks

Cöp Kutuları

Park içerisinde birkaç noktada çöp kutusu bulunmaktadır. Parkın içerisinde bulunan bütün çöp kutuları aynı ebatlarda ve renklerdedir (Şekil 19). Çöp kutularının birkaçında bakım yönünden bazı eksiklikleri bulunmaktadır. Aynı zamanda çöp kutularının yalnızca oyun grubu ve kondisyon alanının bulunduğu bölgede olması park açısından çöp kutularını yetersiz hale getirmektedir.

Bilgi Panoları

Parkın herhangi bir alanında bilgi panosu bulunmamaktadır.

Plastik Obje ve Heykeller

Parkın herhangi bir alanında plastik obje ve heykel bulunmamaktadır.

Çocuk Oyun Elemanları

Parkta aktivite için ayrılmış iki büyük alandan biri çocuk oyun elemanlarının bulunduğu kısımdır (Şekil 20). Bitkilendirme

Park içerisinde yeşil alan oluşturulması açısından tüm bitki gruplarına yer verilmiştir. Tercih edilen bitki türlere ise bölge iklim koşullarına uygundur. Çoğunlukla ibreli türlerin hâkim olduğu parkta, kullanıcılarının sosyalleşmesine ortam sağlayan geniş çim alanlar bulunmaktadır (Şekil 21). Kullanım alanlarına göre bitkiler fonksiyon ve estetik özellikleri göz önünde bulundurularak konumlandırılmıştır. Bunun yanı sıra belirli noktalarda

meydana gelmiştir. *Su ögesi*

Parkın herhangi bir alanında su ögesi bulunmamaktadır.

ağaç kökleri yüzünden sert zeminlerde bozulmalar

Güvenlik ve Gece Kullanımı

Bitkisel materyal ile perdeleme yaparak ve bölgelere göre aydınlatma planlayarak parkta güvenlik sağlanmaya çalışılmıştır. Ancak aydınlatma sayısı yeterli gelmemektedir.

Park içerisinde, giriş ve çıkışlarında güvenlik amaçlı herhangi bir personel planlanmamıştır. Park içerisinde bulunan donatı elemanlarının bakım onarımlarının zamanında yapılmaması, kullanıcılar açısından risk teşkil etmektedir. Ayrıca ağaçların sert hava durumlarından etkilenerek formunu kaybetmesi ve kök büyümesi sonucu sert zeminlerde oluşmuş tahribatlar da kazalara neden olabilmektedir. Park işlek bir bölgede olması, çevresinin sokaklardan ve kent içi yollardan oluşması, mahallede bulunan yapılara yakın konumu nedeniyle gece de kullanım sağlanabilmektedir (Şekil 22). Park genelde aydınlatma yetersizdir. Ancak personel eksikliği, toplu taşımanın tüm gün hizmet sunmaması parkın gece kullanımı açısından eksikliklerindendir.

Özel Gereksinimli İnsanların Kullanımı

Parkta yaya yolları, donatı elemanları, oyun alanları, kondisyon alanı TS 12576 standartlarına uygun yapılmamıştır. Görme engelli kullanıcılar için kent parkına girişlerde ve alan içi yaya yollarında kılavuz çizgileri bulunmamaktadır. Yaya yolları genişliği kullanım alanlarına göre farklılaşmaktadır. Bu durum tekerlekli sandalye kullanıcıları için uygun olmamaktadır. Yine zemin döşeme malzemelerinin farklılığı da özel gereksinimli insanları etkilemektedir. Bazı alanlarda kullanılan kilit taşı ve çim taşının girintili çıkıntılı yüzeyleri tekerlekli sandalye ve görme engelli kullanıcılar açısından olumsuzdur.

Yıl Boyu Kullanılabilirlik ve İklime Uygunluk

Park kullanıcıları açısından sıcak aylarda gölge sağlayabilecek yeşil öğelerin ve üst örtü elemanlarının eksik kaldığı düşünülmektedir. Parktaki bitkisel materyal ve donatı elemanları iklime uygun seçilmiştir.

Mevlâna Celaleddin-İ Rumi Parkı

Niğde ili Merkez İlçesi, İnönü mahallesinde yer alan Mevlâna Celaleddin-i Rumi Parkı 7.610 m²'lik alana sahiptir. Kent parkı kullanıcıları için çeşitli rekreasyon faaliyetlerini barındıran bir alandır.

Peyzaj tasarım kriterlerine göre Mevlâna Celaleddin-i Rumi Parkı mevcut durumu analiz edildiğinde aşağıdaki durum ortaya çıkmıştır. Parkın içerisinde çocuk oyun alanı, kondisyon alanı, dinlenme alanları gibi rekreasyon alanları bulunmaktadır (Şekil 23). Parkın alan kullanımı faaliyetlerin birbiri ile bağlantılı olacak şekilde planlanmamıştır. Mevlâna Celaleddin-i Rumi Parkı alan kullanımı ve büyüklüğü, içerisinde bulundurduğu çeşitli aktivite alanları ile kent parkı özelliğini tamamlayan unsurları içerisinde barındırmaktadır.

Ulaşılabilirlik

Parkın etrafının yollarla çevrili olması, toplu taşımanın parkın hemen yanında olması, parka ulaşım rahatlıkla sağlanabilmektedir. Bisiklet, yaya vb. olmak üzere diğer yöntemlerle de parka ulaşım oldukça kolaydır. Park içerisinde bir ana yol bulunmakta, diğer yollar bu yolla bağlantılıdır. Aynı zamanda otomobil kullanarak parka ulaşım sağlayan kullanıcılar için de park otoparkı bulunmaktadır (Şekil 24).

Her Yaş Grubundan İnsana Uygunluk

Mevlâna Celaleddin-i Rumi Parkı tüm yaş grubundan kullanıcılara vakit harcayabilmeleri için firsatlar sunar ancak yeterli değildir. Çocuklara oyun parkı ve gezinme alanları sunarken gençler, orta yaşlılar ve yaşlılar için, kondisyon alanı gibi aktivite olanakları sağlamaktadır (Şekil 25).

Zemin Döşeme Elemanları

Parkta kilitli taş parke ve kauçuk gibi farklı döşeme malzemesi kullanılmıştır (Şekil 26).

Otopark

Mevlâna Celaleddin-i Rumi Parkı otomobil ile ulaşım sağlayan kullanıcıları için otopark imkânı bulunmaktadır. Park alanı içerisinde 2 adet otopark yer almaktadır. Otopark içerisinde zemin kaplaması olarak asfalt kullanılmıştır ve araçların park yerleri çizgilerle ayrılmıştır. Otopark içerisinde giriş-çıkışı belirten herhangi bir yönlendirici levha bulunmamaktadır (Şekil 27).

Oturma Birimleri

Mevlâna Celaleddin-i Rumi Parkı oturma birimleri ahşap malzemeden yapılmıştır. Park içerisinde masalar, oturma birimleri ve kameriyeler bulunmaktadır. (Şekil 28).

Aydınlatma Elemanları

Aydınlatma elemanı kullanım noktası göre aktivite ve dinlenme alanlarına yakın konumu itibariyle doğru seçilmiş olsa da park içi aydınlatma elemanları yetersiz kalmaktadır (Şekil 29).

Çöp Kutuları

Park içerisinde birkaç noktada çöp kutusu bulunmaktadır. Parkın içerisinde bulunan bütün çöp kutuları aynı ebatlarda ve benzer renklerdedir (Şekil 30). Çöp kutularının birkaçında bakım yönünden bazı eksiklikleri bulunmaktadır. Aynı zamanda çöp kutularının yalnızca küçük boyutlarda olması park açısından çöp kutularını yetersiz hale getirmektedir.



Şekil 26. Mevlâna Celaleddin-i Rumi Parkı zemin döşeme elemanları

Figure 26. Mevlana Celaleddin-i Rumi Park floor covering elements





Şekil 29. Mevlâna Celaleddin-i Rumi Parkı aydınlatma elemanları Figure 29. Mevlana Celaleddin-i Rumi Park lighting elements



Şekil 30. Mevlâna Celaleddin-i Rumi Parkı çöp kutuları Figure 30. Mevlana Celaleddin-i Rumi Park trash cans



Şekil 31. Mevlâna Celaleddin-i Rumi Parkı heykel Figure 31. Mevlana Celaleddin-i Rumi Park sculpture









Şekil 27. Mevlâna Celaleddin-i Rumi Parkı otopark Figure 27. Mevlana Celaleddin-i Rumi Park parking lot









Şekil 28. Mevlâna Celaleddin-i Rumi Parkı oturma birimleri Figure 28. Mevlana Celaleddin-i Rumi Park seating units



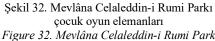












children's playground







kullanımları

Şekil 35. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı alan Şekil 33. Mevlâna Celaleddin-i Rumi Parkı Şekil 34. Mevlâna Celaleddin-i Rumi Parkı bitkilendirme güvenlik ve gece kullanımı

Figure 35. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Park land Figure 33. Mevlana Celaleddin-i Rumi ParkFigure 34. Mevlana Celaleddin-i Rumi Park uses planting security and night use

Bilgi Panoları

Parkın herhangi bir alanında bilgi panosu bulunmamaktadır.

Plastik Obje ve Heykeller

Parkın ana caddeye bakan bölümünde bulunan Atatürk Heykeli parkın vurgu noktasını oluşturmuştur (Şekil 31). Parka değer katan heykelin korunması konusunda herhangi bir önlem olmadığı için, kullanıcıların oluşturduğu zararların meydana gelebileceği düşünülmektedir. Heykelin parka bakan bölümü bitkisel unsur kullanılarak sınırlandırılmıştır ancak yetersiz koruma ve bakımsızlık mevcuttur.

Çocuk Oyun Elemanları

Parkta aktivite için ayrılmış iki büyük alandan biri çocuk oyun elemanlarının bulunduğu kısımdır (Şekil 32). Bitkilendirme

Park içerisinde yeşil alan oluşturulması açısından tüm bitki gruplarına yer verilmiştir. Tercih edilen bitki türlere ise bölge iklim koşullarına uygundur.

Çoğunlukla ibreli türlerin hâkim olduğu parkta, diğer kent parklarına göre daha dar çim alanlar ayrılmıştır (Şekil 33). Kullanım alanlarına göre bitkiler fonksiyon ve estetik özellikleri göz önünde bulundurularak konumlandırılmıştır. Bunun yanı sıra belirli noktalarda ağaç kökleri yüzünden sert zeminlerde bozulmalar meydana gelmiştir. Aynı zamanda bitkiler ve yeşil alanlar için bakımsızlık mevcuttur.

Su ögesi

Parkın herhangi bir alanında su ögesi bulunmamaktadır.

Güvenlik ve Gece Kullanımı

Bitkisel materyal ile perdeleme yaparak ve bölgelere göre aydınlatma planlayarak parkta güvenlik sağlanmaya çalışılmıştır. Park içerisinde, giriş ve çıkışlarında güvenlik amaçlı herhangi bir personel planlanmamıştır. Park icerisinde bulunan donatı elemanlarının onarımlarının zamanında yapılmaması, kullanıcılar açısından risk teşkil etmektedir. Ayrıca ağaçların sert hava durumlarından etkilenerek formunu kaybetmesi ve kök büyümesi sonucu sert zeminlerde oluşmuş tahribatlar da kazalara neden olabilmektedir. Park işlek bir bölgede olması, çevresinin sokaklardan ve kent içi yollardan oluşması, mahallede bulunan yapılara yakın konumu nedeniyle gece de kullanım sağlanabilmektedir (Şekil 34). Park genelde aydınlatma yetersizdir. Ancak personel eksikliği, toplu taşımanın tüm gün hizmet sunmaması parkın gece kullanımı açısından eksikliklerindendir.

Özel Gereksinimli İnsanların Kullanımı

Parkta yaya yolları, donatı elemanları, oyun alanları, kondisyon alanı TS 12576 standartlarına uygun yapılmamıştır. Görme engelli kullanıcılar için kent parkına girişlerde ve alan içi yaya yollarında kılavuz çizgileri bulunmamaktadır. Yaya yolları genişliği kullanım alanlarına göre farklılaşmaktadır. Bu durum tekerlekli sandalye kullanıcıları için uygun olmamaktadır. Yine zemin döşeme malzemelerinin farklılığı da özel gereksinimli insanları etkilemektedir.

Parkın tamamında kullanılan kilit taşının girintili çıkıntılı yüzeyleri tekerlekli sandalye ve görme engelli kullanıcılar açısından olumsuzdur.

Yıl Boyu Kullanılabilirlik ve İklime Uygunluk

Park kullanıcıları açısından sıcak aylarda gölge sağlayabilecek yeşil öğelerin ve üst örtü elemanlarının eksik kaldığı düşünülmektedir. Parktaki bitkisel materyal ve donatı elemanları iklime uygun seçilmiştir.

Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı

Niğde ili Merkez İlçesi, Nar mahallesinde yer alan Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı 7.000 m²'lik alana sahiptir. Kent parkı kullanıcıları için çeşitli rekreasyon faaliyetlerini barındıran bir alandır. Parkın içerisinde çocuk oyun alanları, kondisyon alanları, spor sahası gibi rekreasyon alanları bulunmaktadır (Şekil 35). Parkın alan kullanımı faaliyetlerin birbiri ile bağlantılı olacak şekilde planlanmamıştır. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı alan kullanımı ve büyüklüğü, içerisinde bulundurduğu çeşitli aktivite alanları ile kent parkı özelliğini tamamlayan unsurları içerisinde barındırmaktadır.

Ulaşılabilirlik

Parkın etrafının yollarla çevrili olması, toplu taşımanın parkın hemen yanında olması, parka ulaşım rahatlıkla sağlanabilmektedir. Bisiklet, yaya vb. olmak üzere diğer yöntemlerle de parka ulaşım oldukça kolaydır. Park içerisinde bir ana yol bulunmakta, diğer yollar bu yolla bağlantılıdır. Aynı zamanda otomobil kullanarak parka ulaşım sağlayan kullanıcılar için de park otoparkı bulunmaktadır (Şekil 36).

Her yaş grubundan insana uygunluk

Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı tüm yaş grubundan kullanıcılara vakit harcayabilmeleri için firsatlar sunar ancak yeterli değildir. Çocuklar için oyun parkı, futbol sahası ve gezinme alanları sunarken gençler, orta yaşlılar ve yaşlılar için, kondisyon alanı, dinlenme alanı gibi pasif ve aktif aktivite olanakları sağlamaktadır (Sekil 37).

Parkın kentin biraz daha az sirkülasyon olan bölgesinde bulunması ile park genel ihtiyaca uygun olarak tasarlanmıştır. Bu nedenle parkta her yaşa uygun aktif rekreasyon alanları çeşit yönünden yetersiz kalmaktadır.

Zemin Döşeme Elemanları

Parkta kilitli taş parke taşı ve kauçuk gibi farklı döşeme malzemesi kullanılmıştır (Şekil 38).

Otopark

Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı içerisinde otopark için ayrılmış herhangi bir alan bulunmamaktadır.

Oturma Birimleri

Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı oturma birimleri ahşap ve metal malzemeden yapılmıştır. Park içerisinde masalar, oturma birimleri ve kameriyeler bulunmaktadır. (Şekil 39). Oturma birimleri kullanım alanlarına itibariyle genel olarak bir bölgede toplanmıştır. Kameriyeler aynı ebat ve malzemeden oluşmaktadır. Banklar ise yalnızca oyun grubunun olduğu alanda bulunmaktadır.

Aydınlatma Elemanları

Parkta güvenliği sağlanması ve tüm zamanlarda kullanım sağlanması için tasarlanan mevcut aydınlatma çoklu şekilde iki farklı noktada bulunmaktadır (Şekil 40). Aydınlatma elemanı kullanım noktasına göre aktivite ve dinlenme alanlarına yakın konumu itibariyle doğru seçilmiş olsa da park içi aydınlatma elemanları yetersiz kalmaktadır.

Çöp Kutuları

Park içerisinde birkaç noktada çöp kutusu bulunmaktadır. Parkın içerisinde bulunan bütün çöp kutuları aynı ebatlarda ve farklı renklerdedir (Şekil 41). Çöp kutularının birkaçında bakım yönünden bazı eksiklikleri bulunmaktadır. Aynı zamanda çöp kutularının yalnızca küçük boyutlarda olması park açısından çöp kutularını yetersiz hale getirmektedir.







Şekil 36. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı içi ulaşım ağları Figure 36. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Park transportation networks within the park







Şekil 37. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı aktivite alanları Figure 37. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Park activity areas







Şekil 38. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı zemin döşeme elemanları Figure 38. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Park flooring elements









Salvil 20. Sakit Mustafa S.



Şekil 40. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı aydınlatma elemanları Figure 40. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Park lighting elements

Şekil 39. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı oturma birimleri Figure 39. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Park seating units









Şekil 40. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı aydınlatma elemanları Figure 40. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Park lighting elements

Şekil 41. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı çöp kutuları Figure 41. Martyr Mustafa Şahin Park trash cans











Şekil 42. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı çocuk oyun elemanları Figure 42. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Park children's playground elements

Şekil 43. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı bitkilendirme Figure 43. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Park planting







Şekil 44. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı güvenlik ve gece kullanımı Figure 44. Şehit Mustafa Şahin park security and night use





Şekil 45. Eyüp Sultan Parkı alan kullanımları Figure 45. Eyüp Sultan Park land uses

Bilgi Panoları

Parkın herhangi bir alanında bilgi panosu bulunmamaktadır.

Plastik Obje ve Heykeller

Parkın herhangi bir alanında plastik obje ve heykel bulunmamaktadır.

Çocuk Oyun Elemanları

Parkta aktivite için ayrılmış üç büyük alandan biri çocuk oyun elemanlarının bulunduğu kısımdır (Şekil 42). Parkta çocuklar için en çok tercih edilen oyun gruplarına yönelik ekipmanlar bulunmaktadır. Aynı zamanda çocuk oyun alanının sınırlayıcı eleman yardımıyla diğer alanlardan ayrılmamış olması güvenlik açısından risk teşkil etmektedir.

Bitkilendirme

Park içerisinde yeşil alan oluşturulması açısından tüm bitki gruplarına yer verilmiştir. Tercih edilen bitki türlere ise bölge iklim koşullarına uygundur. Çoğunlukla ibreli türlerin hâkim olduğu parkta, diğer kent parklarına göre daha dar çim alanlar ayrılmıştır ve bitki sayısı daha azdır (Şekil 43). Kullanım alanlarına göre bitkiler fonksiyon ve estetik özellikleri göz önünde bulundurularak konumlandırılmıştır. Buna karşılık yeşil alan için ayrılmış alanlarda bitki kullanımı yetersiz kalmaktadır. Aynı zamanda bitkiler ve yeşil alanlar için bakımsızlık mevcuttur.

Su ögesi

Parkın herhangi bir alanında su ögesi bulunmamaktadır.

Güvenlik ve Gece Kullanımı

Bitkisel materyal ile perdeleme yaparak ve bölgelere göre aydınlatma planlayarak parkta güvenlik sağlanmaya çalışılmıştır. Park içerisinde, giriş ve çıkışlarında güvenlik amaçlı herhangi bir personel planlanmamıştır. Park içerisinde bulunan donatı elemanlarının bakım onarımlarının zamanında yapılmaması, kullanıcılar açısından risk teşkil etmektedir. Park işlek bir bölgede olması, çevresinin sokaklardan ve kent içi yollardan oluşması, mahallede bulunan yapılara yakın konumu nedeniyle gece de kullanım sağlanabilmektedir (Şekil 44).

Park genelde aydınlatma yetersizdir. Ancak personel eksikliği, toplu taşımanın tüm gün hizmet sunmaması parkın gece kullanımı açısından eksikliklerindendir.

Özel Gereksinimli İnsanların Kullanımı

Parkta yaya yolları, donatı elemanları, oyun alanları, kondisyon alanı TS 12576 standartlarına uygun yapılmamıştır. Görme engelli kullanıcılar için kent parkına girişlerde ve alan içi yaya yollarında kılavuz çizgileri bulunmamaktadır. Yaya yolları genişliği kullanım alanlarına göre farklılaşmaktadır. Bu durum tekerlekli sandalye kullanıcıları için uygun olmamaktadır. Yine zemin döşeme malzemelerinin farklılığı da özel gereksinimli insanları etkilemektedir. Parkın tamamında kullanılan kilit taşının girintili çıkıntılı yüzeyleri tekerlekli sandalye ve görme engelli kullanıcılar açısından olumsuzdur.

Yıl Boyu Kullanılabilirlik ve İklime Uygunluk

Park kullanıcıları açısından sıcak aylarda gölge sağlayabilecek yeşil öğelerin ve üst örtü elemanlarının eksik kaldığı düşünülmektedir. Parktaki bitkisel materyal ve donatı elemanları iklime uygun seçilmiştir.

Eyüp Sultan Parkı

Niğde ili Merkez İlçesi, Dere mahallesinde yer alan Eyüp Sultan Parkı 6. 777 m² İlk alana sahiptir. Kent parkı kullanıcıları için çeşitli rekreasyon faaliyetlerini barındıran bir alandır. Parkın içerisinde çocuk oyun alanları, kondisyon alanları, spor sahası gibi rekreasyon alanları bulunmaktadır (Şekil 45). Parkın alan kullanımı faaliyetlerin birbiri ile bağlantılı olacak şekilde planlanmamıştır. Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı alan kullanımı ve büyüklüğü, içerisinde bulundurduğu çeşitli aktivite alanları ile kent parkı özelliğini tamamlayan unsurları içerisinde barındırmaktadır.

Ulaşılabilirlik

Parkın etrafının yollarla çevrili olması, toplu taşımanın parkın hemen yanında olması, parka ulaşım rahatlıkla sağlanabilmektedir. Bisiklet, yaya vb. olmak üzere diğer yöntemlerle de parka ulaşım oldukça kolaydır. Park içerisinde bir ana yol bulunmakta, diğer yollar bu yolla bağlantılıdır. Aynı zamanda otomobil kullanarak parka ulaşım sağlayan kullanıcılar için de park otoparkı bulunmaktadır (Şekil 46).

Her yaş grubundan insana uygunluk

Eyüp Sultan Parkı tüm yaş grubundan kullanıcılara vakit harcayabilmeleri için fırsatlar sunar ancak yeterli değildir. Çocuklar için oyun parkı, futbol sahası ve gezinme alanları sunarken gençler, orta yaşlılar ve yaşlılar için, kondisyon alanı, dinlenme alanı gibi pasif ve aktif aktivite olanakları sağlamaktadır (Şekil 47). Parkın kentin biraz daha az sirkülasyon olan bölgesinde bulunması ile park genel ihtiyaca uygun olarak tasarlanmıştır. Bu nedenle parkta her yaşa uygun aktif rekreasyon alanları çeşit yönünden yetersiz kalmaktadır.

Zemin Döşeme Elemanları

Parkta kilitli taş parke taşı ve kauçuk gibi farklı döşeme malzemesi kullanılmıştır (Şekil 48).

Otopark

Eyüp Sultan Parkı içerisinde otopark için ayrılmış herhangi bir alan bulunmamaktadır.

Oturma Birimleri

Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı oturma birimleri ahşap malzemeden yapılmıştır. Park içerisinde banklar ve kameriyeler bulunmaktadır. (Şekil 49). Oturma birimleri kullanım alanlarına itibariyle genel olarak bir bölgede toplanmıştır. Kameriye sayısı park için yetersiz kalmaktadır. Banklar ise yalnızca aktivite alanlarına yakın alanlarda bulunmaktadır.

Aydınlatma Elemanları

Parkta güvenliği sağlanması ve tüm zamanlarda kullanım sağlanması için tasarlanan mevcut aydınlatma çoklu şekilde iki farklı noktada bulunmaktadır. (Şekil 50). Aydınlatma elemanı kullanım noktasına göre aktivite ve dinlenme alanlarına yakın konumu itibariyle doğru seçilmiş olsa da park içi aydınlatma elemanları yetersiz kalmaktadır.

Çöp Kutuları

Park içerisinde birkaç noktada çöp kutusu bulunmaktadır. Parkın içerisinde bulunan bütün çöp kutuları aynı ebatlarda ve benzer renklerdedir (Şekil 51). Çöp kutularının birkaçında bakım yönünden bazı eksiklikleri bulunmaktadır. Aynı zamanda çöp kutularının yalnızca küçük boyutlarda olması park açısından çöp kutularını yetersiz hale getirmektedir.













Şekil 46. Eyüp Sultan Park içi ulaşım ağları Figure 46. Eyüp Sultan Park transportation networks

Şekil 47. Eyüp Sultan Parkı aktivite alanları Figure 47. Eyüp Sultan Park activity areas







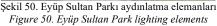
Şekil 48. Eyüp Sultan Parkı zemin döşeme elemanları Figure 48. Eyüp Sultan Park flooring elements





Şekil 49. Eyüp Sultan Parkı oturma birimleri Figure 49. Eyüp Sultan Park seating units











Şekil 52. Eyüp Sultan Parkı çocuk oyun elemanları Figure 52. Eyüp Sultan Parka children's playground elements

Bilgi Panoları

Parkın herhangi bilgi alanında panosu bulunmamaktadır.

Plastik Obje ve Heykeller

Parkın herhangi bir alanında plastik obje ve heykel bulunmamaktadır.

Çocuk Oyun Elemanları

Parkta aktivite için ayrılmış iki büyük alandan biri cocuk oyun elemanlarının bulunduğu kısımdır Cocuk oyun elemanlarının bulunduğu alanda aynı zamanda kondisyon ekipmanları da bulunmaktadır (Şekil 52). Parkta çocuklar için en çok tercih edilen oyun gruplarına yönelik ekipmanlar bulunmaktadır. Buna ek olarak çocukların dikkatini çekmek adına oyun grubu farklı tasarımda kullanılmıştır ve diğer kent parkı örneklerine göre içerisinde birkaç adet farklı oyun ekipmanı bulunmaktadır. Aynı zamanda çocuk oyun alanının sınırlayıcı eleman yardımıyla diğer alanlardan ayrılmamış olması, kondisyon alanı ile birlikte tasarlanmış olması oyun alanının güvenliği açısından risk teşkil etmektedir.

Bitkilendirme

Park içerisinde yeşil alan oluşturulması açısından tüm bitki gruplarına yer verilmiştir. Tercih edilen bitki türlere ise bölge iklim koşullarına uygundur. Çoğunlukla ibreli türlerin hâkim olduğu parkta, aynı zamanda geniş çim alanlar bulunmaktadır (Şekil 53). Kullanım alanlarına göre bitkiler fonksiyon ve estetik özellikleri göz önünde bulundurularak konumlandırılmıştır. Aynı zamanda bitkiler ve yeşil alanlar için bakımsızlık mevcuttur. Bitkisel materyal kullanılarak yapılan NİĞDE yazısı ise parkın odak noktasını oluşturmaktadır. Bu sayede parkı diğer kent parklarından ayıran en önemli özelliği bitkisel tasarım yönünden olmaktadır.

Su ögesi

Parkın herhangi bir alanında ögesi bulunmamaktadır.

Güvenlik ve Gece Kullanımı

Bitkisel materyal ile perdeleme yaparak ve bölgelere göre aydınlatma planlayarak parkta güvenlik sağlanmaya çalışılmıştır. Park içerisinde, giriş ve çıkışlarında güvenlik amaçlı herhangi bir personel planlanmamıştır. Park içerisinde bulunan donatı elemanlarının yapılmaması, kullanıcılar onarımlarının zamanında açısından risk teşkil etmektedir. Park işlek bir bölgede olması, çevresinin sokaklardan ve kent içi yollardan oluşması, mahallede bulunan yapılara yakın konumu nedeniyle gece de kullanım sağlanabilmektedir (Şekil 54). Park genelde aydınlatma yetersizdir. Ancak personel eksikliği, toplu tasımanın tüm gün hizmet sunmaması parkın gece kullanımı açısından eksikliklerindendir.

Özel Gereksinimli İnsanların Kullanımı

Parkta yaya yolları, donatı elemanları, oyun alanları, kondisvon TS 12576 standartlarına alanı uvgun yapılmamıştır. Görme engelli kullanıcılar için kent parkına girişlerde ve alan içi yaya yollarında kılavuz çizgileri bulunmamaktadır. Yaya yolları genişliği kullanım alanlarına göre farklılaşmaktadır. Bu durum tekerlekli sandalye kullanıcıları için uygun olmamaktadır. Yine zemin döşeme malzemelerinin farklılığı da özel gereksinimli insanları etkilemektedir. Parkın tamamında kullanılan kilit taşının girintili çıkıntılı yüzeyleri tekerlekli sandalye ve görme engelli kullanıcılar açısından olumsuzdur.



Şekil 53. Eyüp Sultan Parkı bitkilendirme Figure 53. Eyüp Sultan Park planting



Şekil 54. Eyüp Sultan Parkı güvenlik ve gece kullanımı Figure 54. Eyüp Sultan Park security and night use

Yıl Boyu Kullanılabilirlik ve İklime Uygunluk Park kullanıcıları açısından sıcak aylarda gölge sağlayabilecek yeşil öğelerin ve üst örtü elemanlarının eksik kaldığı düşünülmektedir. Parktaki bitkisel materyal ve donatı elemanları iklime uygun seçilmiştir

Sonuç

Bu calısma kapsamında, Niğde ili, Merkez ilçesinde bulunan bes adet parkın, belirlenen peyzaj tasarım kriterlerine uvgunlukları incelenmistir. Parkların, belirlenen pevzai tasarım kriterlerine uygunluklarını Çizelge 1'de verilmiştir. Peyzaj tasarım kriterlerine göre incelenen parklarda, alan kullanımı ve büyüklüğü açısından parklar birbirine benzese de Kızılelma Parkı alan kullanımı ve büyüklüğü açısından diğer değerlendirilen parklardan ayrılmaktadır. Ahmet Ceylan Parkı, Mevlâna Celaleddin-i Rumi Parkı, Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı ve Eyüp Sultan Parkı alan kullanımı ve büyüklüğü açısından benzerlik gösterdiğinden dolayı parklarda alan kullanımı açısından çok fazla çeşitlilik bulunmamaktadır. Alan kullanım çesitliliği az olması, kullanıcı merakı ve ilgisini azaltarak tercih edilme oranını da düşürmektedir. İncelenen parklarda sadece çocuk oyun elemanları, dinlenme alanları ve kondisyon alanları olduğu belirlenmiştir. Mevcut durumda Ahmet Ceylan Parkı, Mevlâna Celaleddin-i Rumi Parkı, Şehit Mustafa Şahin Parkı ve Eyüp Sultan Parkı'da herhangi bir su ögesine rastlanılmazken Kızılelma Parkı içerisinde bulunan su öğelerinde ise herhangi bir faaliyet yapılmamaktadır. Parklara kazandırılacak farklı faaliyetlerle her yaş grubuna hitap edebilme özelliği, dikkat ve ilgi çekici özelliği parkı daha fazla kullanıcının tercih etmesine katkı sağlayabilir. Zemin oyunları, satranç alanları, kum havuzları, labirent alanları, sergi ve gösteri alanları, müze, sanat atölyeleri, gençlik ve kültür merkezleri, paten ve kaykay pistleri gibi çeşitli faaliyetler kullanıcı tercihini arttırabilir. Bunun yanı sıra kent parklarındaki alan kullanımlarının ve faaliyetlerin özel gereksinimli insanların düşünülerek yapılması kente, kent parkına katkı sağlarken tüm kullanıcılara hitap etmesini sağlayacaktır. İncelenen parklardaki oyun elemanlarının, kondisyon alanlarının, spor sahalarının, zemin döşeme elemanlarının, yaya ve yürüyüş yollarının, otoparkların vb. tüm alanların tasarımının özel gereksinimli insanlara uygun hale getirilmesi park kullanım tercihini arttırabilir. Kent parklarının ulaşılabilir olması da tercih edilme sebepleri arasındadır. İncelenen parklar ulaşılabilirlik açısından; parkların konumu, çevresi ile ilişkileri, toplu taşıma araçlarıyla ulaşımın desteklenmesi ve yaya yürüyüş mesafesinde olmasıyla birlikte kullanıcı tercihini olumlu yönde etkilediği söylenebilir. Ulaşılabilirliğin yanı sıra güvenlik ve gece kullanımı da kullanıcı tercihlerini doğrudan etkilemektedir. Parkaların geneline bakıldığında güvenlik için ekipman ve personele rastlanılmaması, gece kullanımda aydınlatmaların yetersiz olması nedeniyle kullanıcılar için tercih edilme oranını düşürmektedir. Parklarda bulunan güvenlik sorunun çözümü, çeşitli görüntü ve ses sistemleri gibi ekipmanlarla, güvenlik nokta ve kulübeleri ile parkta devamlı bulunacak personelle olabilir. Parkta bulunan aydınlatma sayısının arttırılarak ve kullanım alanlarına uygun çeşitli aydınlatmalar seçilerek gece kullanımına uygun hale getirilebilir.

Donatı elemanlarının birbiri ve çevre ile uyumu, kent iklimine uygun ve yıl boyu kullanılabilir olması, kent estetiğine katkı sağlarken. kullanıcı tercihini etkilemektedir. Donatı elemanlarında tercih edilen yapı malzemelerinin kent iklimine uygun olarak tercih edilmesi, parklarda bulunan dinlenme alanlarında, üst örtü elemanlarının ve bankların sayısının arttırılması, atık ve kutularının sayısının arttırılmasıyla çevrede oluşabilecek kirliliğin önlenmesi, bilgi ve panoların arttırılarak park ve çevresi hakkında kullanıcının bilgisinin arttırılması, plastik obje ve heykellerle parka gelen tüm kullanıcıların ilgi ve dikkatini çekmesi, parkın kullanımındaki devamlılığı arttırabilir. Kent parklarındaki bitkisel tasarım parka estetik ve işlevsellik anlamında katkı sağlamakta, kullanıcı tarafından parka duyulan ilgi ve merakı arttırmaktadır.

Bununla birlikte değerlendirilen beş kent parkı içinde bitkisel tasarımda estetik, fonksiyon ve işlevsellik yönünden eksiklik gözlemlenmiştir. Parklarda bulunan bitkisel materyallerin çeşitli olmaması, gerekli bakımın zamanında ve yeterince yapılmaması parkların kullanım tercihini doğrudan olumsuz etkilemektedir. Parklarda oluşturulacak bitkisel tasarımların kent iklimine uygun, estetik değeri ve işlevselliği yüksek türlerin tercihiyle yapılması parkı monotonluktan uzak tutarak kullanıcı ilgisini çekebilir.

Çizelge 1. Parkların değerlendirme tablosu

Table 1. Evaluation table of parks

									Т	asarin	n Krite	erleri							
Park	Park 1 2 3 —		2 4		1	5		6	7		0		9	10	11	12	- 13	14	15
	1		3	A	В	-) -	С	D	Е	F	- 0	G	Н	10	11	Ιİ	- 13	14	13
1	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+ +	-	-	-
2	+	-	+		-	+	+	-	+	-	-		-	+	+	-	-	-	-
3	+	-	+	+	-	+		-	-		-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
4	+	-	+			+		-	+	-	-		-	+	-	-	-	-	-
_ 5	+	-	+			-		-	+	-	-		-	+	+	-			
1 Kızılelma	ı Park	1					1	Ulaşıl	abilirlik						9 Pla	astik Obje			
2 Ahmet Co	eylan	Park	1				2	Her y	aş grubu	ndan i	nsana	uyguı	nluk		10 Ç	ocuk O.A			
3 Mevlâna	Celal	eddin	ı-i Ru	mi			3	Zemi	n Döşem	e					11B	itkilendirm	e		
4 Şehit Mus	stafa S	Şahin	ı				4	Otopa	ırk						12 S	u Öğesi			
5 Eyüp Sult	tan Pa	ırkı					5	Oturn	na Birim	leri					13 C	üvenlik			
	• •			6	6 Aydınlatma					14 E	ngellilere l	Uygunl	uk						
			7	7 Çöp Kutuları					15 Y	'ıl Boyu Kı	ullanıla	bilirlik							
							8	Bilgi	Pano						İklin	ne Uygunlı	ık		
A	Var					C Var				ΕV	'ar			(3 Var]	[Var	
B Yön	ılendi	rme			Γ	Bakı:	m			F Ba	kım			Н	Bakım	l	İ l	Bakım	
Bakım	ı, Ona	ırım			(Onarın	n			Ona	rım			O	narım		0	narım	

Tasarımda kullanılacak bitkilerin bakımının teknik eleman ve bilgiyle, zamanında ve devamlı olarak yapılması park kalitesini arttırabilir. Parktaki alan kullanımlarına uygun bitki türü seçimi ve hatta bitkisel materyalin de içinde bulunduğu faaliyet alanları park kullanım tercihini arttırabilir. Gölgeleme elemanlarının bitkisel materyallerden tercih edilmesi, kent monotonluğundan sıkılan insani kent parkına olan merakını arttırabilir. Yine sarılıcı ve tırmanıcı bitki türlerinin kent parklarındaki donatı elemanları ile birlikte tasarlanması dikkat ve ilgiyi arttırabilir.

Beyan

Bu çalışma 7. Uluslararası Anadolu Tarım, Gıda, Çevre ve Biyoloji Kongresi'nde (Kastamonu, TARGİD 2024) sunulmustur.

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Investigation of Cow Milk Quality Characteristics and Udder Health in the Districts of Banaz (Uşak) and Altıntaş (Kütahya)

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
Research Article	Milk is an essential part of daily nutrition, and high-quality, safe production is crucial for healthy milk consumption. For a quality and safe production, the health and genotypic characteristics of animals directly affect production. In milk production, health and genotypic characteristics of
Received: 18.11.2024 Accepted: 19.12.2024	animals directly affect production. A quality production is possible under the right animal feeding programme and hygienic conditions. However, in order to implement a correct feeding programme, it is necessary to know how the health status of cows and feeding affect milk content. This study aims to determine udder health and milk composition of animals in the Altıntaş district of Kütahya and the Banaz district of Uşak. Milk samples were collected from 77 cows in 3 villages in Altıntaş and from
Keywords: Milk Technology Milk Quality Dairy Cattle Breeding Mastitis Food Codex	49 cows in 2 villages in Banaz. The milk composition was compared based on fat (%), dry matter (%), density (%), protein (%), lactose (%), salt (%), freezing point (°C), and conductivity (ms/cm), and mastitis prevalence was assessed with the Californian Mastitis Test (CMT). Findings showed that most farms had no cases of mastitis, while cows with signs of mastitis were generally from the same farm. It was determined that among the districts, the cows in Altıntaş had lower fat content (3.51 %), but higher dry matter (9.26 %) and protein content (3.33 %). In Banaz, the lactose levels (4.78 %) in milk were lower, density (28.08 %) was lower, and conductivity (4.95 ms/cm) was higher. Among the villages, the highest milk quality values were found in the cows raised in Çayırbaşı village. It was observed that this was a result of the high level of awareness of the producers, contracted production and attention to hygiene conditions.

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Banaz (Uşak) ve Altıntaş (Kütahya) İlçelerindeki İnek Sütlerinin Kalite Özellikleri ve Meme Sağlığı Yönünden Araştırılması

MAKALE BİLGİSİ	ÖZ
Araştırma Makalesi	Süt insanların günlük beslenmesinde vazgeçilmez bir besin konumundadır, özellikle sağlıklı süt tüketimi için kaliteli ve güvenli üretim vazgeçilmez bir unsurdur. Süt üretiminde hayvanların sağlık ve genotipik özellikleri üretimi doğrudan etkilemektedir. Kaliteli bir üretim doğru hayvan bakım
Geliş : 18.11.2024 Kabul : 19.12.2024	programı ve hijyenik koşullara uyulmasıyla mümkün olabilmektedir. Bu kapsamda çalışmada Kütahya'nın Altıntaş ve Uşak'ın Banaz ilçelerindeki hayvanların meme sağlığının ve süt bileşiminin belirlenmesi amaçlanmıştır. Altıntaş'ta 3 köydeki 77 inekten, Banaz'da 2 köydeki 49 inekten süt örnekleri toplanmıştır. Sütün bileşimi yağ (%), kurumadde (%), yoğunluk (%), protein (%), laktoz
Anahtar Kelimeler: Süt Teknolojisi Süt Kalitesi Süt Sığırı Yetiştiriciliği Mastitis Gıda Kodeksi.	(%), tuz (%), donma noktası (°C), iletkenlik (ms/cm) yönünden karşılaştırılmış ve mastitis prevalansı Californian Mastitis Testi (CMT) ile araştırılmıştır. Elde edilen verilere göre işletmelerin büyük bir çoğunluğunda mastitis varlığına rastlanmazken, mastitis belirtileri görülen ineklerin genellikle aynı işletmede yetiştirilen inekler olduğu belirlenmiştir. İlçeler arasında Altıntaş ilçesindeki ineklerin yağ oranı daha düşük (%3,51), kuru madde oranı (%9,26) ve protein oranının da daha yüksek (%3,33) olduğu belirlenmiştir. Banaz ilçesinde de sütlerde laktoz oranları (%4,78) daha düşük, yoğunluk (% 28,08) daha düşük, iletkenliğinin de daha yüksek (4,95 ms/cm) olduğu tespit edilmiştir. Köyler arasında süt kalitesi yönünden en yüksek değerlere Çayırbaşı köyünde yetiştirilen inekler olduğu belirlenmiştir. Bunda üreticilerin bilinç düzeyinin yüksek olmasının, sözleşmeli üretim yapılmasının ve hijyen koşullarına dikkat edilmesinin sonucunda olduğu düşünülmektedir.



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Giriş

İnsan gıdası olarak tüketilen sütler inek, manda, koyun, keçi gibi ruminant hayvanlardan elde edilen sütlerdir (Mert ve ark., 2016). İnsan yaşamının her evresinde gerekli olan süt, C vitamini ve demir dışında sahip olduğu makro ve mikro besin öğeleri sayesinde beden sağlığı için iyi bir koruyucudur. Süt ve süt ürünlerine özellikle kalsiyum ve fosfor başta olmak üzere bazı önemli mineraller, protein ve riboflavin gibi bazı B grubu vitaminler mevcuttur (Ünal ve Besler, 2008).

Sütün bileşimi hayvan türlerine göre farklılık gösterebilmektedir. Sütün bileşimi ile ilgili en önemli ana parametreler; asitlik, yoğunluk, kuru madde, yağ, toplam protein, kazein, serum proteini, laktoz ve mineral madde içeriğidir (USK, 2020). İnsanlar süt ve süt ürünleri içerisinde inek sütünden elde edilen ürünleri daha çok tüketmeyi tercih etmektedir. Nitekim 2023 yılında üretilen süt ve süt ürünlerinin yaklaşık %90'1 inek sütünden yapılmıştır. İnek sütünün kuru madde içeriği ortalama olarak %12,6 olup, bunun %3,4'ü protein, %3,7'si yağ, %4,7'i laktoz ve %0,7'i mineral maddeden oluştuğu belirtilmiştir (USK, 2024).

İnsan gıdası olarak tüketilen süt içme sütü olarak bilinmektedir. Çiğ süt inek, koyun, keçi veya mandanın sağılmasıyla elde edilen, 40 °C'nin üzerinde ısıtılmamış veya eşdeğer etkiye sahip herhangi işlem görmemiş kolostrum dışındaki meme bezi salgısı olarak adlandırılır (Mert ve ark., 2016; TGK, 2011; TGK 2021). İçme sütünün kalitesini belirleyen en temel unsur çiğ sütün kalitesidir. Çiğ süt, toplam mikrobiyolojik yükünün ve somatik hücre sayısının (SHS) fazla olması nedeniyle doğrudan tüketimi çok riskli bir üründür. Çiğ sütün doğrudan tüketimi Çiğ Sütün Arzı Tebliği'ne göre sadece sağlık sertifikasına sahip, Brusellozis ve Tuberkulozis'ten ari süt üreten hayvancılık işletmeleri tarafından gerçekleştirileceği belirtilmektedir. Çiğ inek sütü için toplam bakteri sayısının her ml'de <100.000'in altında, somatik hücre sayısı (SHS) ise her ml'de <400.000'in altında olması gerekir (TGK 2020). Diğer haller için tüketime sunulacak sütün pastörizasyon, ultra yüksek ısı (UHT) veya sterilizasyon işlemlerinden biriyle ısıl işlem görerek tüketiciye sunulan içme sütü haline getirilmesi gerekir (TGK, 2011).

Süt kalitesini belirleyen başlıca faktörler arasında mevsim, laktasyon evresi, meme sağlığı, üretim düzeyi, kullanılan ekipmanlar ve hayvanın yaşı öne çıkmaktadır (Özek, 2015). Bunlar içerisinde meme sağlığı üretilen sütün kalitesinin değerlendirilmesinde kullanılan bir ölçüt olmakla birlikte, süt fiyatının belirlenmesinde ve üreticiye prim sağlanmasında da etkili bir faktördür (Mundan ve ark., 2015). Özellikle süt kompozisyonu üzerindeki etkileri açısından en fazla incelenen hastalık, meme sağlığını olumsuz etkileyen mastitis olup, bu hastalığın süt yağını genellikle azalttığı ve yağ kompozisyonunu değiştirdiği bildirilmektedir (Özek, 2015). Mastitisin en önemli etkeni mikroorganizmalar olup kimyasal, termal veya mekanik hasara karşı meme bezinin gösterdiği yangısal reaksiyon olarak tanımlanır (Çelik, 2020). Mastitislerin oluşumunda birçok mikroorganizma rol oynasa da hastalığın genellikle Staphylococcus ve Streptococcus gibi gram pozitif bakterilerin sebep olduğu belirtilmektedir (Gürtürk ve ark., 1998). Mastitis türleri, etiyolojik ajanlara ve klinik belirtilere göre sınıflandırılmaktadır. Klinik mastitis, belirgin fiziksel semptomlarla karakterize edilirken,

subklinik mastitis belirti göstermemekle birlikte süt veriminde azalma ve somatik hücre sayısında artış ile tespit edilir (Bradley, 2002).

Sütte bulunan lökositler ve meme epitel hücrelerinin genel adı olan somatik hücreler, meme sağlığının ortaya konmasında ve subklinik mastitislerin tanısında bir kriter olarak kullanılabilmektedir (Kasıkçı ve ark., 2012). Süt somatik hücrelerindeki artış ineğin savunma mekanizmasının ilk tepkisini göstermekte ve sütte yüksek sayıda somatik hücre memenin mikroorganizmalar tarafından enfeksiyona maruz kaldığının bir işareti olarak kabul edilmektedir. Normal bir sütte SHS genellikle ml'de <200.000'in altında olduğu bildirilmektedir. Hatta iyi sürü yönetimi olan işletmelerde SHS, <100.000 adet/ml'in altında olduğu bildirilmektedir. SHS'nın ml'de 250.000-300.000'in üzerinde genellikle sütün anormal olduğunun ve memenin bir enfeksiyona (mastitis) maruz kalarak süt veriminde ve kalitesinde düşmeye sebep olduğunun göstergesi olmaktadır (Aytekin ve Boztepe, 2014).

Sütte SHS'nin tespitinde indirekt yöntem olarak California Mastitis Testi (CMT), Katalaz Testi, White Side Test (WST), Wisconsin Mastitis Test (WMT) gibi yöntemler kullanılmaktadır (Aytekin ve Boztepe, 2014). CMT, sütte mevcut somatik hücre sayısının ve ineğin her meme çeyreğinde subklinik mastitis düzeyini indirekt olarak belirlenmesinde kullanılan hızlı tarama testlerinden birisidir. İndirgen bir kimyasal kullanılarak sütün jellesme durumuna göre puanlanan bir testtir. Jelleşmesi oranı arttıkça mastitisin şiddeti de doğru orantılı olarak artmaktadır. Hastalığın şiddeti görsel kartlar kullanılarak derecelendirilir. Buna göre negatif; şüpheli; CMT (+) olanlarda 300.000-500.000; CMT (++) olanlarda 500.000 -1.000.000; CMT (+++) olanlarda ise 1.000.000'dan daha fazla SHS bulunduğu şeklinde derecelendirme yapılır. Fakat SHS'nın ml'de 250.000-300.000'in üzerinde olması, sütün anormal olduğunun, memenin bir enfeksiyona (mastitis) maruz kaldığının süt veriminde ve kalitesinde düşmeye sebep olduğunun göstergesi olmaktadır (Ayvazoğlu Demir ve ark., 2019).

Süt sığırlarının yaşı da SHS ve süt kalitesini doğrudan etkilemektedir. Aytekin ve Boztepe (2014) tarafından yapılan çalışmada hayvanın laktasyon sayısı arttıkça sütte bulunan somatik hücre sayısında artış olduğu bildirilmiştir (Aytekin ve Boztepe, 2014; Cinar ve ark., 2015). Bir laktasyon dönemi içerisinde ilk kez doğum yapan ineklerde birden fazla doğum yapanlara göre laktasyonun erken döneminde SHS daha yüksek olurken laktasyonun geç döneminde daha az SHS'na sahip olmaktadır (Coulon ve ark., 1996). Yine hayvanların yaşının ilerlemesiyle birçok hastalıkta olduğu gibi subklinik mastitisin de belirgin olarak arttığı belirtilmektedir (Rahman ve ark., 2009). Süt sığırı yetiştiriciliğinde hayvanın yaşı arttıkça süt yağ içeriği nispeten sabit kalırken, protein içeriği giderek düşüş göstermektedir. Sütün protein içeriği, beşinci laktasyonda %10-15 civarında düşüş gösterebilmektedir (Özek, 2015).

Enfeksiyona bağlı olarak SHS'ndaki artış süt proteini, yağ ve laktoz konsantrasyonlarında azalmaya neden olurken, serum proteinleri ve sütteki enzim aktivitelerinde artış görülebilmektedir (Kaya ve ark., 2019). Ayrıca, yüksek SHS'na sahip sütlerde sütün pH'sı yükselir ve toplam mineral içeriği değişiklik gösterebilir. Bu durum,

sütün işlenebilirliğini ve raf ömrünü olumsuz etkilediği bildirilmektedir. Özellikle laktoz seviyesindeki düşüş, laktik asit bakterilerinin metabolizmasını sınırlayarak fermantasyon ürünlerinin kalitesini de olumsuz etkileyebilmektedir (Smith ve Hall, 2020).

Türkiye'de sanayi, turizm, tarım ve hayvancılık yatırımlarının daha hızlı ve verimli gerçekleştirebilmesi için ekonomik havza modeli geliştirilmiş ve şehirler belli ekonomik bölgeler altında gruplandırılmıştır. Bu bölgelerden birisi de içerisinde Uşak, Kütahya, Afyonkarahisar ve Manisa'nın bulunduğu TR33 ekonomik bölgesidir. Bu bölgedeki illerde 2019 yılı verilerine göre Uşak'ta 63.300 süt sığırından (yerli, melez, kültür ırkı) 235.000 ton süt üretimi gerçekleşmiştir. Kütahya'da ise 74.300 süt sığırından 254.000 ton süt üretimi gerçekleşmiştir. Verim bakımından Türkiye ortalaması 3,16 ton/baş iken Uşak'ta 3,91, Kütahya'da ise 3,42 ton/baş'tır (USK, 2020).

Araştırma Uşak'ın Banaz ve Kütahya'nın Altıntaş ilçelerinde yapılmıştır. Banaz, 12.000 süt sığırı ve 45.000 ton süt üretimi ile ilçeler içerisinde 3. sırada; Altıntaş ise 6.000 süt sığırı ve 23.000 ton süt üretimi ile ilçeler arasında 5. sıradadır (USK, 2020). Bu ilçelerin seçilmesinde her iki ilçede de küçük aile işletmelerinin çoğunlukta olması, süt veriminin il ortalamasının altında kalması ve kalite parametreleri açısından herhangi bir çalışma yapılmamış olmasıdır.

Çalışmada Altıntaş ve Banaz'daki süt sığırı yetiştiriciliği yapan küçük aile işletmelerdeki sütün bileşimi ve kalitesinin belirlenmesi, meme sağlığı prevalansı ve meme sağlığının süt kalitesine etkisi, elde edilen veriler ile üreticilerin bilinçlendirilmesi ve yapılacak başka çalışmalar için literatüre yeni bilgiler kazandırılması hedeflenmiştir.

Materyal ve Yöntem

Araştırma Banaz ve Altıntaş ilçelerinde süt sığırı yetiştiriciliği yapan küçük aile işletmelerinde yapılmıştır. Araştırma örneklemini her iki ilçeden rastgele seçilen 5 köydeki 18 küçük aile işletmesi ile 126 süt sığırından oluşturmuştur. Kütahya'nın Altıntaş ilçesi Merkez, Murathanlar ve Çayırbaşı köylerinden 77 inek; Uşak'ın Banaz ilçesi Kızılcasöğüt ve Derbent köylerinden toplam 49 inekten süt numuneleri alınmıştır. İşletmelerde benzer besleme yöntemleri uygulanmıştır. Numuneler 3. ve 4. laktasyonunda ve laktasyonun ortasında olan ineklerden alınmıştır.

Meme Sağlığının Araştırılması

İneklerde subklinik mastitis varlığının araştırılması amacıyla indirekt yöntem olan Californian Mastitis Testi (CMT) kullanılmıştır (Fosgate ve ark., 2013). Meme sağlığının araştırılması amacıyla süt örneği alınan ineklere CMT yapılarak subklinik mastitis prevalansı araştırılmıştır. Bu amaçla her memeden ayrı süt numunesi almaya yarayan özel plastik CMT kabı (Kerbl Test, Almanya) kullanılmıştır. CMT için her memeden süt örnekleri alınmış ve daha sonra süt ile eşit miktarda önceden hazırlanmış olan CMT solüsyonu kabın her bölümüne eklenmiştir. Dairesel hareketler halinde solüsyon ile sütün reaksiyona girmesi sağlanmış ve kapta oluşan jel kıvamına göre CMT sonuçları yorumlanmıştır (Şekil 1).



Şekil 1. Çalışmadaki California Mastitis Testinin Aşamaları Figure 1. Steps of the California Mastitis Test in the Study

Karışım sonucunda sütte rengin pembe-gülkurusu bir renk tonunda olması CMT (-) ve mastitis hastalığının bulunmadığı; karışımın heterojen ve mukusumsu bir hal alması durumunda CMT (+) ve mastitis hastalığının bulunduğu şeklinde yorumlanmıştır (Çizelge 1).

Süt Örneklerinin Alınması ve Analiz Edilmesi

Süt örneklerinin alınması Atel-San marka (Türkiye) 100 ml örnek hacmine sahip steril numune kapları kullanılmıştır. Süt örnekleri, hayvanların sağım öncesi meme temizliği yapılmış ve ön süt boşaltımını takiben her meme lobundan toplamda en az 200 ml süt örneği steril numune kaplarına alınmış ve süt örnekleri analiz edilmek üzere +4°C'de soğuk zincir ile laboratuvara ulaştırılmıştır. Soğuk zincir yolu ile laboratuvara getirilen süt örnekleri Milkotester Master Classic LM2 – P1 (Avrupa) süt analiz cihazı kullanılarak yağ, yağsız kuru madde (YKM), yoğunluk, protein, laktoz, tuz, katılan su, donma noktası, numune sıcaklığı ve iletkenlik ölçümleri yapılmıştır.

Elde Edilen Verilerin Değerlendirilmesi

Elde edilen veriler Jamovi istatistik programı kullanılarak verilere ait tanımlayıcı parametreler belirlenmiş (Agradi ve ark., 2021), önemlilik testleri ile süt kalitesinde anlamlı bir farklılık olup olmadığı araştırılmıştır (Akdağ ve Sümbüloğlu, 2010).

Köylerden alınan sütlerin ortalama yağ, kuru madde, yoğunluk, protein, laktoz, tuz, donma noktası ve iletkenlik değerleri köyler arasındaki değerler Kruskal-Wallis testine göre değerlendirilmiştir.

Çizelge 1. Mastitis Testinin Değerlendirilme Tablosu Örneği

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Table 1.	Example of the	Evaluation	Table f	or the	Mastitis	Test
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Derece	Sonuç	Şekillenen Reaksiyonun Açıklaması	Reaksiyonun anlamı
-	Olumsuz	Test eriyiği ile süt homojen olarak karışır ve rengi hafif gridir.	100.000 – 150.000 akyuvar/ml %25 PMN
Eseri	Şüpheli	Hafif jelöz bir kıvam oluşmakla birlikte, test küreğini çevirme hareketleri sırasında kaybolur	150.000 – 500.000 akyuvar/ml %30 – 40 PMN
1	Şüpheli	Test küreği eğildiğinde kolay akan süt karışımı altında daha yavaş akan ince bir kat izlenir	500.000 – 1.500.000 akyuvar/ml %40 – 60 PMN
2	Olumlu	Test küreği yatay düzlemde çevrildiğinde içinde jelöz bir tabaka oluşur.	1.500.000 – 5.000.000 akyuvar/ml %60 – 70 PMN
3	Akut	Test küreği çevrilirken yapışkan kitlenin ortasında tepecik oluşur ve çevirme hareketleri durduğunda merkezde tepe kalır ya da çabuk yoğun bir jel karışımı şekillenir	Çoğunlukla 5.000.000 akyuvar/ml fazla %70 – 80 PMN
X	Alkali Süt	Karışım koyu mor renktedir	Sütün pH'sı 7 veya daha fazladır. Yangıya bağlı olarak, kuruya çıkarken ve laktasyonun başında görülür.
Y	Asidik Süt	Karışım sarı renktedir.	Sütün pH'sı 5,2 veya daha aşağıdır. Bu ender olup bakterilerin memede laktozu fermente etmesi ile oluşur.

Çizelge 2. Süt örneği alınan ineklerdeki CMT sonuçları

Table 2. CMT Results for Cows with Collected Milk Samples

İlçe	Yer	Irk	Hayvan sayısı	CMT (+)	CMT (-)	%
	Merkez	Simental	27	6	21	22,2
A ltentos	Murathanlar	Simental	16	2	14	12,5
Altıntaş	Çayırbaşı	Simental	34	0	34	0,0
	Toplam		77	8	66	10,4
		Simental	13	1	12	7,7
	Kızılcasöğüt	Holştayn	4	0	4	0,0
		Montofon	2	0	2	0,0
		Toplam	19	1	18	5,3
Banaz		Simental	24	2	22	8,3
	Derbent	Holştayn	5	0	5	0,0
	Derbent	Montofon	1	1	0	100,0
		Toplam	30	3	27	10,0
	Toplam	-	49	4	45	8,2

Bulgular

İneklerin CMT sonuçları Altıntaş için ortalama %10,4, Banaz için ortalama %8,2 olarak bulunmuştur. CMT'ne ait bulgular Çizelge 2'de gösterilmiştir. Köylerin CMT ortalamaları ise sırasıyla Merkez %22,2, Murathanlar %12,5, Derbent, %10, Kızılcasöğüt %5,3 olurken, Çayırbaşındaki örneklerde CMT sonuçlarının tamamı negatif bulunmuştur.

Çalışmada alınan süt örneklerinin kalite değerlerini belirlemek amacıyla yağ, YKM, yoğunluk, protein, laktoz, tuz, donma noktası ve iletkenlik analizleri yapılmıştır. Buna göre Çayırbaşı en düşük yağ oranı (%1,81) ve donma noktası (-0,636 °C); en yüksek YKM (%10), yoğunluk (%35,5), protein (%3,60) oranına sahip lokasyon olarak belirlenmiştir. Altıntaş Merkez ise en düşük YKM (%8,59), yoğunluk (%27,7), protein (%3,10), laktoz (%4,68); en yüksek donma noktası (-0,560°C) ve iletkenlik (4,84 mS/cm) değerine sahip lokasyon olarak belirlenmiştir. Tuz oranları incelendiğinde de Altıntaş'ın Çayırbaşı ve Merkez köyünde önemli ölçüde daha yüksek olduğu tespit edilmiştir. Diğer yerleşim yerlerindeki alınan süt örneklerinde ise tuz oranlarının ise benzer ve aralarında

önemli bir farklılık olmadığı belirlenmiştir. Ölçülen kalite parametrelerinin Kruskal Wallis testine göre lokasyonlar arasında anlamlı farklılıkların önemli olduğunu görülmüştür (Çizelge 3 ve Çizelge 4).

Çalışmada ilçeler arasında elde edilen süt içerikleri değerleri arasında Mann-Whitney U test sonucunda elde edilen verilere göre sütlerde kalite parametrelerinin analizleri açısından önemli farklılıklar olduğu tespit edilmiştir (Çizelge 5 ve Çizelge 6).

Altıntaş ve Banaz ilçelerine ait süt numunelerinin içerikleri incelendiğinde Banaz'daki süt oranlarının yağ, kuru madde ve iletkenlik değerlerinin daha yüksek olduğu; Altıntaş'taki süt içeriklerinin yoğunluk protein, laktoz, tuz değerlerinin daha yüksek olduğu belirlenmiştir (Çizelge 7, Cizelge 8).

Tartışma

Hayvansal gıda sektörü içinde inek sütü, hayati bir öneme sahiptir. Kaliteli süt üretiminde, hem bireysel hem de sürü düzeyinde hayvan sağlığını korumak ve ekonomik verimliliği artırmak için meme dokusunun enfeksiyonlardan korunması işletmeler için öncelikli bir konu haline gelmiştir. Çiğ sütün kalitesi, işleme ve tüketime uygunluğunu belirlemekle kalmaz, aynı zamanda bireysel hayvanların veya sürünün genel sağlık durumunu değerlendirmek açısından da kritik bir rol oynar (Yalçın ve Çakmak, 2022). Ayrıca hayvanların sahip olduğu sağlık durumlarının yanında genotipik özellikleri de verimi doğrudan etkilemektedir. Nitekim süt yağ ve protein

varyasyonunun yaklaşık %55'i genetik yapıdan, %45'i ise diğer faktörlerinden kaynaklanmaktadır. Süt kompozisyonu, genetik yapı, çevresel faktörler, laktasyon safhası, hastalıklar, mevsim, yaş, üretim seviyesi gibi beslenme dışındaki faktörlerce de etkilenmektedir (Özek, 2015). Yapılan çalışmada elde edilen yağ, protein, YKM değerleri Türk Gıda Kodeksi Çiğ Süt ve Isıl İşlem Görmüş İçme Sütleri Tebliğinde belirtilen asgari değerleri karşıladığı belirlenmiştir (TGK 2020).

Çizelge 3. Köylere Göre Alınan Sütlerde Kalite Değerleri (Yağ, Kuru madde Yoğunluk, Protein).

Table 3. Quality Values of Milk Collected by Villages (Fat, Dry Matter, Density, Protein)

Yerleşim	Yağ (%)	Kuru Madde(%)	Yoğunluk (%)	Protein (%)
Merkez	4,97±0,475	8,59±0,156	27,7±0,657	3,10±0,058
Murathanlar	4,83±0,593	$8,72\pm0,131$	$28,3\pm0,704$	$3,12\pm0,056$
Çayırbaşı	$1,81\pm0,174$	$10,0\pm0,051$	$35,5\pm0,223$	$3,60\pm0,025$
Kızılcaören	5,36±0,329	$8,63\pm0,213$	$29,2\pm1,810$	$3,14\pm0,078$
Derbent	$5,11\pm0,448$	$8,86\pm0,100$	$28,6\pm0,590$	$3,21\pm0,038$

Çizelge 4. Köylere Göre Alınan Sütlerde Kalite Değerleri (Laktoz, Tuz, Donma Noktası, İletkenlik).

Table 4. Quality Values of Milk Collected by Villages (Lactose, Salt, Freezing Point, Conductivity)

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Yerleşim	Laktoz (%)	Tuz (%)	DonmaNoktası(°C)	İletkenlik(mS/cm)
Merkez	4,68±0,085	$0,790\pm0,136$	$-0,560\pm0,01$	4,81±0,034
Murathanlar	$4,75\pm0,071$	$0,662\pm0,014$	$-0,566\pm0,010$	$4,88\pm0,033$
Çayırbaşı	$5,47\pm0,028$	$0,764\pm0,009$	$-0,636\pm0,004$	$4,92\pm0,019$
Kızılcaören	$4,71\pm0,117$	$0,653\pm0,018$	$-0,564\pm0,014$	$4,82\pm0,052$
Derbent	4,83±0,055	$0,676\pm0,009$	$-0,579\pm0,007$	$5,04\pm0,018$

Çizelge 5. Sütlerde Kalite Parametrelerinin Analizleri

Table 5. Analysis of Quality Parameters in Milk

Kalite Özellikleri	χ^2	df	P
Yağ (%)	58,8	4	<,001
Kurumadde (%)	69,8	4	< ,001
Yoğunluk (%)	70,5	4	< ,001
Protein (%)	64,4	4	< ,001
Laktoz (%)	70,1	4	< ,001
Tuz (%)	44,7	4	< ,001
Donma Noktası (°C)	60,6	4	< ,001
İletkenlik (mS/cm)	36,4	4	<,001

(p < 0.05)

Çizelge 6. Sütlerde Kalite Parametrelerinin Analizleri Table 6. Analysis of Quality Parameters in Milk

Faktör	Değer	P
Yağ (%)	1018	<,001
Kurumadde (%)	1223	<,001
Yoğunluk	1202	<,001
Protein (%)	1321	0,004
Laktoz (%)	1231	<,001
Tuz (%)	1348	0,003
Donma Noktası (°C)	1250	0,001
İletkenlik (mS/cm)	1251	0,001

(p<0,05)

Çizelge 6. İlçelere göre süt analizi yapılan ilçelerdeki süt kalite değerleri (Yağ, Kuru madde Yoğunluk, Protein). Table 6. Milk Quality Values in Districts Where Milk Analysis Was Conducted (Fat, Dry Matter, Density, Protein)

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Yerleşim	Yağ	Kuru Madde	Yoğunluk	Protein
Altıntaş	3,51±0,279	9,26±0,102	31,4±0,517	3,33±0,0382
Banaz	$5,21\pm0,299$	$8,77\pm0,104$	28.8 ± 0.791	3.18 ± 0.038

Çizelge 7. Süt analizi yapılan ilçelerdeki süt kalite değerleri (Laktoz, Tuz, Donma Noktası, İletkenlik).

Table 7. Milk Quality Values in Districts Where Milk Analysis Was Conducted (Lactose, Salt, Freezing Point, Conductivity)

Yerleşim	Laktoz	Tuz	Donma Noktası	İletkenlik
Altıntaş	5,05±0,057	$0,757\pm0,051$	$-0,596\pm0,006$	$4,87\pm0,017$
Banaz	$4,78\pm0,057$	$0,667\pm0,009$	$-0,573\pm0,007$	$4,95\pm0,028$

İlçeler arasında Altıntaş ilçesindeki ineklerin yağ oranı daha düşük (%3,51), kuru madde oranı (%9,26) ve protein oranının da daha yüksek (%3,33) olduğu belirlenmiştir. Banaz ilçesinde de sütlerde laktoz oranları (%4,78) daha düşük, yoğunluk (%28,08) daha düşük, iletkenliğinin de daha yüksek (4,95 ms/cm) olduğu tespit edilmiştir. Bunu sebebinin de farklı genetik faktörlerden kaynaklandığı ve mastitisten dolayı olduğu düşünülmektedir. Sütün protein oranı ile yağ ve YKM oranları arasındaki bağlantıyı inceleyen farklı çalışmalarda negatif korelasyon olduğu yağ oranının düşerken protein ve YKM oranlarının yükseldiği, protein ve YKM arasında güçlü bir pozitif korelasyon olduğu, protein oranı artarken YKM miktarının da arttığı tespit etmişlerdir (Önal ve Özder, 2007; Özlem, 2019). Yağ, YKM ve protein değerlerinin yapılan benzer çalışmalarda elde edilen verilere yakın ve tebliğde belirtilen asgari değerlerden yüksek olduğu bulunmuştur (Önal ve Özder, 2007; Kesenkaş ve Akbulut, 2010; Tuncer ve ark., 2017).

Calısmada süt numuneleri mastitis yönünden incelenmiş ve elde edilen veriler neticesinde Altıntaş ilçesindeki sütlerdeki mastitis prevalansının Banaz ilçesinden elde edilen sütlerden daha yüksek olduğu görülmüştür. Bu sonuçlar işletmelerde barınakların yetiştiricilik ihtiyaçlarına uygun şekilde tasarlanmaması ve sağım koşullarının yetersiz kaynaklanabileceği şeklinde değerlendirilmektedir. Çiftlik düzeyinde sütlerde mikrobiyal kontaminasyon, mastitis etkenleri ile meme ve meme başlarının dış yüzeylerinden veya sağım ekipmanlarından bulaşan mikroorganizmalar nedeniyle meydana gelmektedir (Olechnowicz ve Jaśkowski 2012). Hayvanların meme sağlığıyla ilgili sorunları ve olası mastitis varlığını işaret ettiğini; ayrıca çiğ süt üretim sürecinde hijyen ve sanitasyon kurallarının yetersiz uygulanmasının bu duruma katkıda bulunabileceğini göstermektedir.

Ciğ süt kalitesinin belirlenmesinde fizikokimyasal özellikler, SHS ve mikrobiyolojik analizler önemli ve sıkça tercih edilen parametrelerdir (Düz ve ark. 2021). Sütte yüksek SHS seviyelerinin, laktoz, yağ ve kazein oranlarında azalmalar gibi fizikokimyasal parametrelerde değişikliklere neden olabileceği; bu durumun ise elde edilen süt ve ürününün kalitesinin düşmesine yol açtığı çeşitli çalışmalarda ortaya konmuştur (Kelly ve ark. 2000; Olechnowicz ve Jaśkowski 2012). Ayrıca somatik hücrelerle ilişkili proteinazların, süt proteinlerinin dağılımında farklılıklar oluşturduğu ve birçok süt ürününün kalitesini olumsuz etkileyebildiği; PMN lökosit oranı yüksek olan sütlerde ise lipoliz seviyelerinin arttığı belirtilmektedir (Santos ve ark. 2003; Gargouri ve ark. 2008; Velthuis ve Van Asseldonk 2011). Yapılan araştırmada Banaz ve Altıntaş ilçelerindeki süt sığırı işletmelerinde yağ ve laktoz oranlarındaki farklılıkların; işletmelerdeki farklı mastitis prevalansından kaynaklandığı düşünülmektedir.

Bunlara ilave olarak; süt sığırcılığı işletmelerinde yapı ve yönetim uygulamalarının süt kalite parametreleri üzerinde önemli bir etkisi olduğu da dikkate alınmalıdır (Sarıalioğlu ve Laçin, 2020). Nitekim mastitisin laktoz sentezini azaltabileceği ve mineral dengesini bozması nedeniyle kuru madde içeriğini düşürebileceği böylece süt kalitesini olumsuz etkilediği bildirilmektedir (González-Rodríguez & Cármenes, 1995; Sarıözkan, 2019).

Bununla birlikte Çayırbaşı köyünden alınan süt numunelerinin hiçbirinde mastitis varlığına rastlanmamış; laktoz, YKM ve protein oranlarının diğerlerinden daha yüksek olduğu tespit edilmiştir. Bu köydeki üreticilerin diğerlerinden farklı olarak sözleşmeli üretim yapmaları ve hijyenik üretim kurallarına uymalarının etkili olduğu düşünülmektedir. Nitekim hijyenik olmayan koşullarda yapılan üretimin sütün fiziksel, kimyasal ve mikrobiyolojik kalite parametrelerini doğrudan etkileyen önemli bir etken olduğu, sütte toplam bakteri sayısının ve SHS'ndaki artışa bağlı olarak laktoz ve protein oranlarında azalma sebep olduğu Elmoslemany ve ark. (2009) tarafından bildirilmiştir.

Sonuç

Çalışmamızda Altıntaş'taki 3, Banaz'daki 2 köydeki toplam 126 inekteki mastitis prevalansı ve süt kompozisyonları incelenmiştir. Çayırbaşı köyündeki üreticilerde ise herhangi bir mastitis bulgusuna rastlanılmamış, süt kalitesinde laktoz, YKM, protein, yoğunluk oranlarının daha yüksek, donma noktasının daha düşük olduğu belirlenmiştir.

Bu çalışmadan elde edilen verilere göre;

- Süt sığırcılığı yapılan yerlerdeki bakım koşullarının süt kompozisyonunu doğrudan etkilediği,
- Etkin hijyen koşullarının süt kompoziyonuna katkı sağladığı,
- Elde edilen verilerin tarımsal yayım çalışmalarında kullanılması gerektiğine,
- Yetiştirici eğitimlerinde mastitisin öneminin üzerinde durulması gerektiği düşünülmektedir.

Ülkemizde Uşak ve Kütahya illerinde süt bileşenlerinin belirlenmesiyle ilgili çalışmaların yetersiz olduğu görülmektedir. Bu nedenle farklı işletmelerde farklı parametreleri içeren daha kapsamlı araştırmalara ihtiyaç vardır. Mevcut çalışma ise, bu konuda yapılacak gelecekteki araştırmalara yol gösterici bir kaynak olması beklenmektedir.

Beyan

Bu çalışma 7. Uluslararası Anadolu Tarım, Gıda, Çevre ve Biyoloji Kongresi'nde (Kastamonu, TARGİD 2024) sunulmuştur.

Teşekkür

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Effects of Humic Acid Applications along with Reduced Nitrogen Fertilization on Potato Tuber Yield and Quality

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ABSTRACT

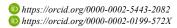
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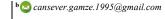
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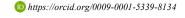
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This research was conducted in 2020 to determine the effects of leonardite-derived humic acids (Humas-15, Liquid Humus and Humico Maximix-K) with different properties, along with reduced nitrogen fertilization, on tuber yield and quality in potatoes (cv. Van Gogh). In the study, chemical fertilizer applications were made as basic fertilization (20 N 10 P 10 K), reduced fertilization I (15 N 10 P 10 K) and reduced fertilization II (10 N 10 P 10 K). Humic acids were applied twice with irrigation water, at the beginning of the flowering period and 15 days later. Humas-15 and Liquid Humus were applied at 1.0 and 2.0 lt/da doses, and Humico Maximix-K was applied at 400 and 800 g/da doses. A total of seven traits (tuber number per plant, tuber yield per plant, marketable tuber yield, total tuber yield, dry matter content, reducing sugar content and total sugar content) were measured. Reducing nitrogen applications with humic acid applications significantly affected all the traits studied. Humic acid applications combined with reduced nitrogen fertilization increased the number of tubers per plant by up to 13%, marketable tuber yield by up to 18% and total tuber yield by up to 16% compared with the control. Total and reducing sugar contents varied between 1.27-1.58% and 159-389 mg/100g fw, respectively depending on the applications. In the study, the highest tuber yield was obtained from 1.0 and 2.0 L/da Humas-15 and 2.0 L/da Liquid Humus applications applied together with reducing nitrogen applications which have close values to the recommended fertilization applications.











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Introduction

Potatoes are among the most widely consumed and nutrient-rich vegetable crops globally. Cultivated in 164 countries, their tubers serve as a daily staple for almost one billion people. Alongside their expanding range of uses, the rising global population is driving a steady increase in potato demand. One of the most crucial methods for boosting agricultural productivity is the addition of essential nutrients to the soil to support plant growth, using both chemical and organic fertilizers. Inorganic fertilizers are generally highly effective and fast-acting due to their quick-release formulations, which provide nutrients to plants. In our country, the significant lack of organic matter in soils greatly increases on artificial fertilizers; plants are often unable to fully benefit from these fertilizers (Özkan, 2007). Additionally, the long-term use of chemical fertilizers in agricultural fields has been associated with negative consequences, including soil salinization, heavy metal accumulation, nutrient imbalance, disruption of microbial activity, and nitrate buildup (Das et al., 2023).

The development of a thriving, profitable, and sustainable production system largely depends on soil health. Soil health can be achieved through multi-year crop rotations and implementation of appropriate agronomic practices, such as effective nutrient management. The use of soil enhancers, including those enriched with humic acids (HA), positively affects the biological balance and overall health of the soil.

HA functions as a biostimulants, organic substance recognized for their role in enhancing plant growth and boosting crop production. Integrating HA into chemical fertilizers presents a promising strategy to improve both crop yields and fertilizer efficiency (Liu et al., 2019). HA act as biostimulants, organic compounds known for promoting plant growth and increasing crop productivity. Incorporating HA into chemical fertilizers offers a promising approach to enhancing both crop yields and the efficiency of fertilizer use (Liu et al., 2019). The application of HA-based fertilizers not only enhances soil physicochemical properties and nutrient uptake by plants

(Bayat et al., 2021) but also promotes crop growth, yield, and quality (Akladious & Mohamed, 2018; Zhou et al., 2019). The use of HA-based fertilizers improves soil physicochemical properties and enhances nutrient uptake by plants (Bayat et al., 2021). Additionally, it fosters crop growth, increases yields, and improves overall crop quality (Akladious & Mohamed, 2018; Zhou et al., 2019).

Humic substances, which are among the most complex and biologically active organic compounds found in soil, play a crucial role in shaping soil properties and influencing microbial structure and activity, thereby ensuring an improved nutrient supply to plants (Canellas & Olivares, 2014). Studies have consistently demonstrated the effects of HA on the growth of various crops, such as potato, sugar beet, and corn (Wilczewski et al., 2018; Marenych et al., 2019). For instance, Şanlı et al. (2013) reported that applying leonardite at rates of 200–600 kg/ha increased total tuber yield by 6–25% of potato.

The application of organic fertilizers, such as HA, which benefit both plant health and soil texture, is of great agronomic importance for enhancing plant yields. In potatoes, reducing excessive and unregulated chemical fertilization in favor of using organic fertilizers like HA is seen as a key approach to protect both environmental and human health on one hand and to ensure the sustainability of agriculture on the other. Current study aims to determine the effects of different HA sources (Humat-15, Liquid Humus, and Humico Maximix-K) on yield and quality of potatoes when used alongside reduced nitrogen fertilization.

Materials and Methods

Experimental Site

The field experiment was conducted in Isparta, Türkiye (37° 50' 47" N, 30° 32' 12" E, 1035 m) during the 2022 crop season. The soil in the experimental area was classified as loam, with a pH of 8.2, a total salt content of 0.025%, and a cation exchange capacity of 38%. It is rich in lime (25.5%), low in organic matter (1.58%), deficient in available phosphorus (18.2 mg/kg P₂O₅), rich in potassium (188 mg/kg K₂O), and low in total nitrogen content (0.82%). During the research year, the total rainfall during the vegetation period (April–September) was 195 mm, exceeding the long-term average of 173 mm. The average temperature during the same period was 20.8°C, closely aligned with the long-term average of 20.6°C. The relative humidity during the vegetation period (54.3%) was also similar to the long-term average (50.5%).

Experimental Design

The study was established in three replications according to randomized complete block in a split plot design, reduced fertilizer applications were applied to the main plots, while humic acid applications were applied to

the subplots. Seed potatoes (cv Van Gogh) were planted in plots of 6.6 m in length with a 30×70 cm spacing in the first week of May. Four rows of potatoes were planted in each plot. In the study, a compose fertilizer (15-15-15) was applied to all plots at a rate of 66 kg/da before planting. During the earthing-up process, Nitro Power fertilizer (33% N) was applied at a rate of 33 kg/da for the standard fertilizer (SF) applications and 16.5 kg/da for the reduced nitrogen fertilization-I (RNF-I). No top-dressing was applied in the reduced nitrogen fertilization-II (RNF-II) treatments. In this way, the amounts of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium per decare for the SF, RNF-I, and RNF-II applications were 20-10-10, 15-10-10, and 10-10-10, respectively.

HA (Humas-15, Liquid Humus and Humico Maximix-K) were applied to plants twice via irrigation water: once at the beginning of the flowering period (stolon initiation) and again at the end of flowering (approximately two weeks after the first application). Humas-15 and Liquid Humus were applied at doses of 1.5 and 3.0 l/da, while Humico Maximix-K was applied at 400 and 800 g/da. Plots without humic acid application were used as controls. Before planting, tubers were treated with a fungicide (Emesto® Silver FS 118, containing 100 g/l Penflufen + 18 g/l Prothioconazole at a dose of 20 ml/100 kg of seed) to protect against seed-borne infections and with an insecticide (Gaucho FS 600, containing 600 ml/L Imidacloprid) to protect against the Colorado potato beetle (Leptinotarsa decemlineata). Water needs of the plants were met through drip irrigation, with watering conducted once a week for 4 hours each time. For weed control, a selective herbicide registered for potatoes (Sencor WP 70, containing 70% Metribuzin) was applied at a rate of 70 g/da immediately after planting (pre-emergence). Harvesting was done when the skin formation of the tubers was complete. Tuber number and yield per plant were determined by randomly selecting 20 plants of each plot, and marketable tuber yield and total tuber yield were determined by harvesting all the plants in the plot. Tuber sample from each sub-plot was collected to measure the tuber dry matter, total soluble sugars (TSS), total sugar and reducing sugar content. Tuber dry matter content was calculated according to International Potato Centre (2006), reducing sugar and total sugar content in a potato was quantified following the Somogyi-Nelson method (Nelson, 1944) with some adjustments.

Statistical Analysis

The data obtained from the measurements and analyses were analyzed using the General Linear Model (GLM) procedure in the SAS (2009) statistical software, following the Randomized Block Design. The analysis was performed using standard analysis of variance (ANOVA), and the differences between the means were determined using the LSD test.

Table 1. Some Properties of Humic Acids Used in the Study

Content	Humas-15	Liquid Humus	Humico Maximix-K
Total Organic Matter (%)	10.0	15.0	45.0
Total Humic and Fulvic Acids (%)	15.0	12.0	80.0
Water-Soluble Potassium Oxide (%)	2.0	2.0	8.0
pH	8-10	11-13	8-12

Table 2. Effects of HA applications on the tuber number, tuber yield per plant, marketable and total tuber yield

TT 4 . 11 1	Reduced Nitrogen Fertilization					-	
HA Applications	RNF-I	RNF-II	Mean	RNF-I	RNF-II	Mean	
	Tuber nu	ımber per plant	(number)	Tub	Tuber yield per plant (g)		
H-15 - 1.5 l/da	8.27 cd	6.83 g	7.55 E	888 de	695 h	790 D	
H-15 - 3.0 l/da	8.57 c	7.13 fg	7.85 DE	915 cd	718 h	816 D	
LH - 1.5 1/da	9.23 b	7.37 eg	8.30 CD	984 bc	751 gh	867 D	
LH - 3.0 l/da	9.80 ab	7.57 ef	8.68 BC	1034 ab	796 fg	915 B	
HM - 400 g/da	9.77 b	7.43 eg	8.60 C	1031 ab	803 fg	917 B	
HM - 800 g/da	10.43 a	7.80 de	9.12 AB	1057 a	829 ef	943 B	
Control	8.33 cd	6.93 fg	7.63 E	892 de	687 h	790 D	
SF	9.43 b	9.33 b	9.38 A	1090 a	1079 a	1085 A	
Mean	9.23 A	7.55 B		986 A	795 B		
	Market	able tuber yield	l (kg/da)	Tota	ıl tuber yield (k	g/da)	
H-15 - 1.5 l/da	3068	2551	2809 D	3657 ce	2875 h	3266 DE	
H-15 - 3.0 l/da	3149	2599	2874 CD	3723 cd	2941 gh	3333 DE	
LH - 1.5 1/da	3376	2800	3088 BC	3958 bc	3110 fh	3534 CD	
LH - 3.0 l/da	3641	2948	3294 B	4200 ab	3277 eg	3738 BC	
HM - 400 g/da	3595	2923	3259 B	4233 ab	3305 eg	3769 BC	
HM - 800 g/da	3709	2975	3342 B	4382 a	3348 df	3865 B	
Control	3028	2605	2816 D	3607 ce	2888 h	3248 E	
SF	3596	3651	3623 A	4423 a	4465 a	4444 A	
Mean	3395 A	2881 B		4023 A	3276 B		

SF: Standard fertilization, H-15: Humas-15, LH: Liquid Humus, HM: Humico Maximix-K, RNF: Reduced nitrogen fertilization

Results

In SF applications, the tuber number per plant, which was 9.43, significantly decreased to 8.33 with RNF-I applications and to 6.93 with RNF-II. In RNF-I applications, the application of HM at a dose of 800 g/da resulted in a higher tuber number compared to SF. Applications of 1.5 l/da and 3.0 l/da LH, as well as 400 g/da HM, resulted in a tuber number similar to SF. In plants treated with RNF-II, only the application of 800 g/da HM showed a tuber number-increasing effect compared to the control (Table 2). The effects of reduced nitrogen fertilizer applications on tuber yield per plant was statistically significant. The tuber yield, which was 1090 g/plant in SF, decreased to 892 g/plant in RNF-I and to 687 g/plant in RNF-II. In RNF-I applications, the addition of 3.0 L/da LH and 400 or 800 g/da HM significantly increased tuber yield per plant compared to the control (892 g/plant) and resulted in yields similar to SF. The same applications also significantly increased tuber yield per plant in RNF-IItreated plants compared to the control (687 g/plant). However, the effects of H-15 and 1.5 I/da LH applications were insignificant (Table 2).

Compared to the recommended SF, the marketable tuber yield decreased by approximately 16% with RNF-I applications and by 28% with RNF-II applications. The LH 3.0 l/da applications and HM applications at both doses, performed alongside RNF-I applications, significantly increased the marketable tuber yield compared to the control and were similar to SF. Similarly, the significantly reduced marketable tuber yield in RNF-II applications showed a substantial increase with the addition of 3.0 l/da LH and HM applications at both doses but was still determined to be lower than SF (Table 2). Compared to SF, total tuber yield decreased by approximately 23% in RNF-I applications and by 54% in RNF-II applications. In RNF-

I applications, the addition of 3.0 l/da LH and 400 and 800 g/da HM compensated for the reduced nitrogen, resulting in tuber yield being equal to SF. However, in RNF-II applications, 3.0 l/da LH and HM applied at both doses increased total tuber yield by 16% compared to the control, but the total tuber yield in these treatments remained 33% lower than SF (Table 2).

Tuber dry matter content increased with the reduction in nitrogen fertilization, rising from 22.3% in SF to 22.4% in RNF-I applications and 23.2% in RNF-II applications. The effects of HA applications on dry matter content were found to be statistically significant, and all HA treatments resulted in a significant increase in dry matter content when compared to SF. The effects of HA applications on tuber TSS values were statistically significant, with all HA treatments led to a substantial increase in tuber TSS content. The highest TSS were observed with high-dose applications of each HA source. Compared to SF, RNF applications increased TSS content, with no significant differences observed between RNF-I and RNF-II. HA applications significantly affected tuber reducing sugar content, with LH applications at a dose of 3.0 l/da yielding the highest reducing sugar content, followed by the 1.5 l/da dose of LH. No significant differences in reducing sugar content were observed between SF and RNF applications. However, LH applications at both 1.5 and 3.0 l/da doses, when combined with RNF applications, led to an increase in reducing sugar content. Tuber total sugar content significantly increased in RNF applications (1.72% and 1.89%, respectively) compared to SF applications (1.58-1.61%). The effects of HA applications had a statistically significant effect on total sugar content, with the highest total sugar contents observed in LH and HM applications at both doses.

Table 2. Effects of humic acid applications on the dry matter content, TSS, reducing and total sugar content

IIA Amaliantiana			Reduced Nitrog	en Fertilization	l	
HA Applications	RNF-I	RNF-II	Mean	RNF-I	RNF-II	Mean
	Dry	Dry matter content (%)			TSS (%)	
H-15 - 1.5 l/da	22.53	22.87	22.70 BC	7.33	7.70	7.52 C
H-15 - 3.0 l/da	22.87	23.41	23.14 AB	7.73	8.27	$8.00~\mathrm{AB}$
LH - 1.5 l/da	22.67	23.20	22.94 AC	7.70	7.79	7.75 B
LH - 3.0 l/da	23.10	23.51	23.31 A	7.97	8.40	8.19 A
HM - 400 g/da	22.36	22.87	22.62 C	7.50	7.73	7.62 B
HM - 800 g/da	22.83	23.07	22.95 AC	7.72	7.95	7.84 AC
Control	22.42	23.18	22.80 AC	7.40	7.80	$7.60~\mathrm{B}$
SF	21.23	21.30	21.27 D	6.37	6.30	6.33 D
Mean	22.50 B	22.92 A		7.47	7.74	
	Reducing s	ugar content (m	ng/100 g fw)	Tota	al sugar content	: (%)
H 15 - 1.5 l/da	157.3 d	176.3 cd	166.7 D	1.74	1.82	1.78 C
H 15 - 3.0 l/da	177.7 cd	196.3 cd	187.0 CD	1.69	1.88	1.78 C
LH - 1.5 l/da	258.0 ab	224.0 bc	241.0 B	1.77	1.92	1.84 AC
LH - 3.0 1/da	307.3 a	248.3 b	277.9 A	1.81	2.10	1.95 A
HM - 400 g/da	181.3 cd	184.0 cd	182.7 CD	1.74	2.05	1.90 AB
HM - 800 g/da	217.0 b	195.3 cd	206.1 C	1.84	1.97	1.90 AB
Control	197.0 cd	157.6 d	177.3 D	1.72	1.89	1.80 BC
SF	191.3 cd	185.0 cd	188.1 CD	1.58	1.61	1.60 D
Mean	210.9	195.9		1.71 B	1.93 A	

SF: Standard fertilization, H-15: Humas-15, LH: Liquid Humus, HM: Humico Maximix-K, RNF: Reduced nitrogen fertilization

Discussion

In the study, reducing total nitrogen fertilization to 15 kg/da prevented declines in tuber number and yield in potatoes with LH and HM applications. However, when no nitrogen was applied, HA treatments had no impact on tuber number or yield per plant. The observed increase in tuber number in response to nitrogen may be linked to enhanced stolon production via gibberellin biosynthesis in potatoes (Alemayehu et al., 2015). Nitrogen, as a key element, plays a vital role in chlorophyll synthesis and vegetative growth processes. Similarly, Jafari-Jood et al. (2013) reported significant increases in tuber number with nitrogen application. The positive effects of HA on potato plants are likely due to its role in promoting cell elongation and division, which enhance the growth under optimal conditions (Mohammad et al., 2014; Menajid et al., 2021). HA plays a crucial role in stimulating plant growth by enhancing mineral nutrition, which positively influences root and leaf development (Zandonadi et al., 2016). Additionally, humic substances improve crop yield and quality by boosting soil enzyme activity (Sellamuthu & Govindaswamy, 2003). These findings align with previous studies (Al-Dogji et al., 2016; Şanlı et al., 2013; Mohsen & Alvan, 2019), which reported significant increase in vegetative growth with the HA applications. However, the effects of HA on tuber number and yield were less pronounced when combined with 10 kg/da of nitrogen compared to 15 kg/da. This suggests that HA mainly enhance plant growth by improving nutrient uptake, but their efficacy is limited when soil nitrogen levels are insufficient. Consistent with these findings, Feleafel et al. (2019) observed no impact of HA on tuber number and yield under conditions of reduced nitrogen fertilization in potatoes.

With the reduction in nitrogen fertilization, both marketable and total tuber yield decreased. Under conditions where total nitrogen applications were 15 kg/da, LH and HM applications mitigated the yield reduction and produced results comparable to 20 kg/da nitrogen applications. Under conditions with a total of 10 kg/da nitrogen fertilization, although these applications were not as effective as standard fertilization, they increased tuber yield by more than 16% compared to the control. The stimulatory effects of nitrogen on tuber yield are likely due to its role in promoting plant growth, which enhances photosynthesis critical for tuber development. Nitrogen application supports increased growth, leading to higher photosynthetic output and improvements in tuber weight, diameter, and number. As a key element in plant biochemical and physiological processes, nitrogen fosters cell proliferation and enlargement, thereby boosting overall vegetative growth (Leghari et al., 2016). HA further enhance plant growth by increasing the absorptive surface area of roots through structured root morphology remodeling (Schmidt et al., 2007). They also interact with root organic acid exudates, affecting root area, primary root length, and lateral root number (Canellas et al., 2008). Beyond root development, HA exhibit enzyme- and hormone-like activities (Piccolo et al., 1992) and can inhibit soil-borne phytopathogenic fungi, aiding in plant disease control (Loffredo et al., 2008). consistently highlights the positive impact of HA on potato growth and tuber yield (Şanlı et al., 2013; Çöl Keskin & Akınerdem, 2021; Kołodziejczyk, 2021).

With the reduction of nitrogen fertilization, tuber dry matter ratio and TSS content increased. Similarly, humic acid applications combined with reduced nitrogen fertilization increased the dry matter and TSS content of tubers compared to SF. N is crucial for potato growth;

however, an excessive supply can delay maturity, potentially reducing dry matter and starch level (Koch et al., 2019). In addition, excess nitrogen fertilization redirects dry matter accumulation to other parts of the plant, leading to excessive stolon and canopy growth. This delays both leaf maturation and tuber differentiation, ultimately shortening the tuber bulking period, and reducing yield and tuber dry matter (Goffart et al., 2008). Furthermore, some researchers reported that the efficiency of agronomic nitrogen use decreases linearly with increasing nitrogen doses (Darwish et al., 2006; Kumar et al., 2007; Fontes et al., 2010). HA sources are characterized by their high potassium content. In addition, the high cation exchange capacity of HA's enhances the availability of many nutrients in the soil through a chelating effect. These nutrients play a vital role in various physiological activities, such as enzyme activation, participation in photosynthesis, and increasing the production of processed carbohydrates, which are stored in the tubers as dry matter. Moreover, the slow decomposition of HA in the soil, combined with its high uptake efficiency and large surface area for metabolic reactions within the plant, enhances photosynthesis rates. This, in turn, stimulates dry matter production in the tubers (Qureshi et al., 2018). Research also highlights the positive effects of HA on potato quality, with HA applications significantly improving tuber dry matter content (Ekin, 2019). Alenazi et al. (2016) demonstrated that the application of humic acid enhances potato tuber quality by increasing starch

While reduced nitrogen fertilization did not significantly affect reducing sugar content, it showed a partial increase in total sugar content. Among HA sources, only LH applications elevated reducing sugar content, but all HA treatments resulted in higher total sugar content compared to SF. Potato tubers contain substantial amounts of sucrose, glucose, and fructose which influence their suitability for processing. High levels of reducing sugars are undesirable for high-temperature processing because they act as precursors for the Maillard reaction, while sucrose serves as the main source of reducing sugars through enzyme-catalyzed hydrolysis (van Eck, 2007). Furthermore, Locascio et al. (1984) reported that an inverse relationship exists between nitrogen fertilization rates and tuber dry matter and starch levels. As nitrogen fertilization increases, tuber dry matter and starch content tend to decrease. This supports the "carbon/nitrogen balance" theory, which suggests that when nitrogen availability limits plant growth, metabolism shifts towards the production of carbon-rich compounds like starch and sugars.

Conclusion

Reducing the use of nitrogen fertilizers and replacing them with soil humic acid applications enhances both tuber yield and nutritional quality in potato plants. Specifically, the combination of reduced nitrogen fertilization (RNF-I: 15N-10P-10K) with 1.5 l/da LH and 400 g/da HM shows promise as a low-input, safe, and environmentally friendly agricultural practice for improving potato productivity and quality.

Declarations

This study was presented at the 7th International Anatolian Agriculture, Food, Environment and Biology Congress, (Kastamonu, TARGID 2024)

Author Contribution Statement

Arif ŞANLI: Project administration, supervision, formal analysis, and writing the original draft

Gamze CANSEVER: Data collection, conceptualization, methodology

Fatma Zehra OK: Data collection, investigation, review and editing

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Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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Phytochemical Analysis and Antibacterial Effects of *Anastatica hierochuntica* Extracts on Foodborne and Clinical Pathogens

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ABSTRACT

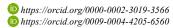
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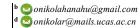
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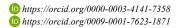
Keywords:
Phytochemical screening
Food pathogens
Clinical isolates
Agar well diffusion
Antibacterial.

This study explores the phytochemical composition and antibacterial properties of aqueous and methanolic extracts of Anastatica hierochuntica against foodborne pathogens and clinical isolates. Phytochemical analysis identified key compounds, including alkaloids (7.15 \pm 0.0365 mg/g), flavonoids (3.16 \pm 0.007 mg/g), and tannins (0.18 \pm 0.0025 mg/g). Food samples yielded Escherichia coli isolates, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Salmonella typhi, and Serratia marcescens. The antibacterial efficacy was assessed using the agar well diffusion method against these pathogens and clinical isolates, including Pseudomonas aeruginosa and Klebsiella pneumoniae. The aqueous extract demonstrated strong antibacterial activity against all food pathogens, with Staphylococcus aureus, Salmonella typhi, and Serratia marcescens exhibiting the largest inhibitory zones (34 mm). Among clinical isolates, only Klebsiella pneumoniae and Pseudomonas aeruginosa showed selective inhibition. Conversely, the methanolic extract was largely ineffective, displaying activity only against Serratia marcescens (average inhibitory zone of 11.7 mm). These results underscore the potential of A. hierochuntica aqueous extracts as a natural antimicrobial agent and suggest further investigation into its bioactive compounds for improving food safety and addressing multidrug-resistant pathogens.











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Introduction

Foodborne illnesses remain a significant global health concern, affecting millions of individuals annually and resulting in substantial economic burdens. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that contaminated food causes around 600 million cases of illness and 420,000 deaths each year (Pires et al., 2024). Among the myriad of pathogens responsible for these diseases, bacteria such as Escherichia coli, Salmonella spp., Listeria monocytogenes, and Staphylococcus aureus particularly notorious for their prevalence and resistance to conventional antibiotics (Wu-Wu et al., 2023). The rise of antibiotic-resistant strains further complicates treatment options, prompting a renewed interest in natural antimicrobial agents derived from plants (Kiran& Venkata Mohan, 2021).

Anastatica hierochuntica, commonly known as the "resurrection plant," has garnered attention for its remarkable survival mechanisms in arid environments and its rich phytochemical composition. Traditionally utilized in various cultures for its medicinal properties, A.

hierochuntica is reported to contain bioactive compounds such as flavonoids, alkaloids, and tannins, which are known for their antimicrobial, antioxidant, and anti-inflammatory activities (Lyubitelev & Studitsky, 2023) The plant's unique ability to revive from desiccation has led researchers to explore its potential in addressing health issues, particularly in the field of food safety (Amenu, 2014), (Kiran& Venkata Mohan, 2021).

Phytochemical profiling plays a crucial role in understanding the bioactive constituents of medicinal plants and their potential therapeutic applications. Methods such as high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) and gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) have been employed to identify and quantify these compounds (Masoko, 2017). Understanding the chemical composition of *A. hierochuntica* could provide insights into its efficacy against foodborne pathogens, particularly in light of the increasing demand for natural preservatives and antimicrobial agents in the food industry (Badr & Quiroz 2024).

This study aims to investigate the phytochemical profile and antibacterial efficacy of both aqueous and methanolic extracts of *A. hierochuntica* against selected foodborne pathogens and clinical isolates. By employing standardized antimicrobial susceptibility testing methods, including disk diffusion and broth microdilution techniques, this research seeks to contribute to the growing body of evidence supporting the use of plant-derived extracts in food preservation and public health. The findings could not only enhance the understanding of *A. hierochuntica's* medicinal properties but also pave the way for its application in developing natural alternatives to synthetic preservatives, addressing both safety and resistance concerns in foodborne illnesses.

Given the urgency of combating foodborne pathogens and the promise of natural products in antimicrobial therapies, this investigation holds significant implications for both the scientific community and public health. It is anticipated that the results will elucidate the relationship between phytochemical composition and antibacterial activity, thereby fostering further exploration of *A. hierochuntica* as a viable candidate for enhancing food safety and health outcomes.

Materials and methods

Plant Collection and Phytochemical Analysis

To investigate the therapeutic properties of *Anastatica hierochuntica* stem, a sample was obtained from Ashifaul Haqi Prophetic Medicinal Store, located in the bustling district of Oja Oba, Ibadan, Oyo State (Latitude 7.37426° longitude 3.89513°). Following acquisition, the samples were taken to the laboratory where strict aseptic protocols were used to prevent contamination. The phytochemical screening was done to determine the bioactive constituents of the plant.

Oualitative and Ouantitative Phytochemical Analysis

Phytochemical analysis for Flavonoids, Alkaloids, Glycosids, Phenolics, Saponins, Tannins were carried out using standard protocol as described by (Bakir et al., 2022)

Isolation and Characterization of Bacteria from Food Samples

In isolating pathogenic bacteria from food samples, a comprehensive microbial analysis was employed using the pour plate technique. This method was applied to isolate bacterial pathogens from a diverse array of food samples, including Rice, Salad, Suya, Zobo, and Kunu. The process began with a serial dilution of each sample, five test tubes containing 9ml each of distilled water was prepared in five places for the isolation of microorganisms from the food samples. The food samples were aseptically crushed and 1 ml of each sample was added to the 9 ml of distilled water, 1 ml from the the 4th dilution from each sample was then plated was then carefully inoculated onto pre-labeled plates. Selective media (Xylose Lysine Deoxycholate and Mannitol Salt Agar) were used to facilitate the growth of the pathogenic bacteria. Following culturing, the plates were incubated in an inverted position at 37°C for 24 hours, this incubation period resulted in the growth of mixed bacterial colonies. To obtain pure cultures, a series of subcultures were done. Each isolated colony was further cultured to ensure the purity of the bacterial strains. These isolates were characterized by their Macroscopically using colony morphology, growth pattern and microscopically with Gram Staining techniques and some standard biochemical characteristics which includes catalase test, citrate test, Indole and Motility test .The pure bacterial cultures were then preserved on sterile nutrient agar slants and stored in a refrigerator for future analysis and study. This methodical approach ensures that the bacterial isolates remain viable and uncontaminated for further research and potential applications.

Collection of Clinical Isolates

Pure clinical isolates of both gram-negative and gram-positive bacteria were obtained from the Medical Microbiology Laboratory at Federal Medical Centre Idi-Aba, Ogun State. These isolates were sourced from patients suffering from wounds, urinary tract, and ear infections. The bacterial isolates collected include *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Escherichia coli*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. These isolates represent a broad spectrum of pathogenic bacteria, which are critical in understanding infection patterns and developing targeted treatment strategies.

Preparation of Aqueous and Methanolic Extracts

To prepare the plant extracts, the plant samples were reduced into smaller units to facilitate efficient drying. They were further subjected to a drying process in a hot air oven set at 50°C for 2 hours to allow for complete dryness of the wet stem according to the method described by (Abd-elmegeed et al., 2023). Following the drying process, the plant materials were pulverized into fine particles using an electric laboratory blender (LB10XS). The method of (Abd-elmegeed et al., 2023) with a little modification was used for the extraction process, three different grams of the pulverized plant material were weighed in triplicate for both extracts. For the aqueous extract, 5g of the pulverized plant material was soaked in 95 ml of distilled water, 10g in 90 ml of distilled water, and lastly 15g in 85 ml distilled water for 24hrs before it was heated up in a water bath 60°C for 5 hours. For the methanolic extract, utilizing methanol as the solvent, plant extracts were pulverized and soaked for 24hours while shaking in a shaker incubator. the mixtures were filtered through a Whatman N₀4 Filter Paper, and then filtrates obtained were then concentrated under reduced pressure (at 68°C) in a rotary evaporator to obtain the crude extract which kept at 4°C until further uses.

Antimicrobial Susceptibility Test

An antimicrobial susceptibility test was conducted employing the Agar well diffusion method to evaluate the effectiveness of the extracts against the isolated bacteria. This testing procedure involved several key steps to ensure accurate and reliable results. Mueller Hinton agar was prepared following the manufacturer's instructions. The molten agar was aseptically poured into pre-labeled plates and allowed to solidify, creating a uniform medium for bacterial growth. Following agar preparation, a sterile swab stick was used to evenly inoculate the surface of the agar plates with the bacterial culture. This ensured a consistent bacterial lawn across the agar surface, essential for evaluating antimicrobial activity. Wells of approximately 3-4 mm in diameter were created on the

agar plates using a sterile cork borer. Using a sterile syringe, 0.5 ml of different concentrations of aqueous and methanolic extracts were dispensed in the wells. Each well contained a distinct concentration of the extract, allowing for a comparative analysis of antimicrobial efficacy. The plates were incubated at 37°C for 24 hours to allow for bacterial growth and the diffusion of antimicrobial agents from the wells. After the incubation period, the presence of clear zones around each well was observed. These clear zones indicated areas where bacterial growth had been inhibited by the antimicrobial agents in the extracts. The diameter of each zone of inhibition was measured in millimeters (mm) using a sterile measuring ruler. This measurement provided quantitative data on the effectiveness of the different extracts in inhibiting bacterial growth.

Statistical Analysis

Data obtained were subjected to statistical analysis using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 20.0. Mean values were compared using Analysis of Variance (ANOVA). Results were presented as Mean±Standard deviation. A post hoc test was done using the Student-Newman-Keuls (SNK) to compare mean values between the treatment groups. A probability value (p-value) less than 0.05 was considered to be statistically significant.

Results

The phytochemical profile of *Anastatica hierochuntica* and their mean occurrence is presented in Table 1 and Figure 1 respectively. The study involved a meticulous screening of the plant to identify its bioactive compounds, which included a diverse array of anti-therapeutics.

Table 2 shows the biochemical characterization of bacteria isolated from herbs including Gram Reaction, Catalase, Citrate, Indole, and Motility.

Antibacterial Activities of Anastatica hierochuntica Extracts on Food Pathogens

Table 3 shows the antibacterial activities of the extract of *A. hierochuntica* against five pathogenic bacteria isolated from food samples: *Escherichia coli*, *Salmonella typhi*, *Serratia marcescens*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, and *Staphylococcus epidermidis*.

The aqueous extract of the plant exhibited broad-spectrum antibacterial effects on *Salmonella typhi*, *Serratia marcescens*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, and *Staphylococcus epidermidis* across all tested concentrations. *Escherichia coli*, however, only showed susceptibility at a concentration of 10g/90ml, with an inhibitory zone of 10mm.

Table 1. Phytochemical Analysis of Anastatica hierochuntica

	Qua	litative	Quantitative
	(a)	(b)	$(Mean \pm SEM)$
Tannin	+	+	0.1835 ± 0.0025
Saponin	++	++	1.3465 ± 0.0175
Flavonoid	+	+	3.1550 ± 0.0070
Alkaloids	++	++	7.1485 ± 0.0365
Phenol	+	+	0.3690 ± 0.0120
Glycoside	+	+	0.1140 ± 0.0020
Phytate	++	++	0.7785 ± 0.0935
Steroid	+	+	0.0905 ± 0.0055
Anthraquinone	++	++	0.9850 ± 0.0030
Anthocyanin	+	+	0.1055 ± 0.0035

⁺ present; ++ highly present

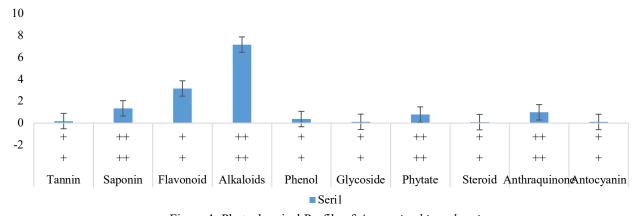


Figure 1. Phytochemical Profile of Anastatica hierochuntica

Table 2. Biochemical characterization of Food Borne Isolate

Organisms	Gram staining	Shape	Catalase	Citrate	Indole	Motility
Escherichia coli	_	Rod	+	_	+	Motile
Staphylococcus aureus	+	Cocci	+	+	_	Non motile
Staphylococcus epidemidis	+	Cocci	+			Non motile
Salmonella typhi	_	Rod	+	+		Motile
Serratia marcescens	_	Rod	+	+	_	Motile

Table 3. Zone of inhibition (mm) of A. hierochuntica against Food pathogens

Extracts	Escherichia coli	Staphylococcus aureus	Staphylococcus epidemidis	Salmonella typhi	Serratia marcescens
A (5g/95ml)	-	24± 0.31	13 ± 0.10	17 ± 0.00	34± 0.41
A(10g/90ml)	10 ± 0.00	15 ± 0.50	20 ± 0.70	15 ± 0.20	32 ± 0.60
A(15g/85ml)	-	34 ± 0.80	24 ± 0.70	34 ± 0.00	17 ± 0.00
M (5g/95ml)	-	=	-	-	10 ± 0.00
M(10g/90ml)	-	=	-	-	15 ± 0.00
M(15g/85ml)	-	-	-	-	10 ± 0.00

No inhibition zone with the use of Methanol at all concentrations for *E.coli, S.aureus*, *S. epidemidis* and *S. typhi*. Significant inhibition changes in aqueous extracts across all organisms concentrations increased was observed. ($p \ge 0.05$); A: Aqueous Extract; M: Methanol Extract

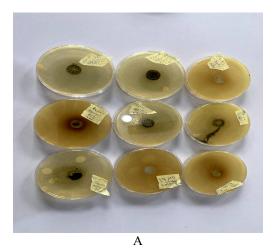




Plate 1. A: Zones of Inhibition of Aqueous extract of *A.hierochuntica* stem on , *S.aureus* , *S. epidemidis* and *S. typhi* B: *Serratia marcescens*

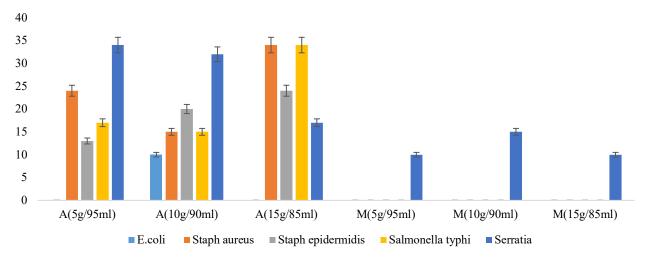


Figure 3. Comparative mean of Aqueous and Methanolic extracts of Anastatica hierochuntica on isolated food pathogens.

The methanolic extract demonstrated limited effectiveness against the tested bacteria, showing notable activity only against *Serratia marcescens*. The methanolic extract produced inhibitory zones of 10mm, 15mm, and 1mm at different concentrations as shown in Figure 3.

Antibacterial activity of Anastatica hierochuntica Extracts on Clinical Isolates

The effects of aqueous extract of *Anastatica hierochuntica* demonstrated selective antibacterial activity with significant effects against *Klebsiella pneumoniae* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, but not on *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Escherichia coli*, as shown in Table 4. Methanolic extract of *Anastatica hierochuntica* did not

exhibit any measurable antibacterial activity against the tested bacterial isolates.

Discussion

Medicinal plants have a long therapeutic history and are currently regarded as a promising source of medicine in the conventional healthcare system (Saleh et al.,2021). The findings of this study provide compelling evidence for the phytochemical richness and antibacterial potential of *Anastatica hierochuntica* extracts, particularly the aqueous variant, against various foodborne pathogens and clinical isolates.

Table 4. Zone of inhibition (mm) of A. hierochuntica on selected clinical isolates.

Extracts	Klebsiella	Staphylococcus	Pseudomonas	Escherichia
Latituets	pneumoniae	aureus	aeruginosa	coli
Aqueous(5g/95ml)	34 ± 0.40	-	10 ± 0.00	-
Aqueous(10g/90ml)	15 ± 0.00	-	22 ± 0.00	-
Aqueous(15g/85ml)	13 ± 0.00	-	15 ± 0.00	-
Methanol(5g/95ml)	-	-	-	-
Methanol(10g/90ml)	-	-	-	-
Methanol(15g/85ml)	-	-	-	-

No inhibition zones was observed for all concentrations with Methanolic extract, Aqueous extract of the stem was only able to inhibit a low concentrations (p \geq 0.05); A: Aqueous Extract; M: Methanol Extract

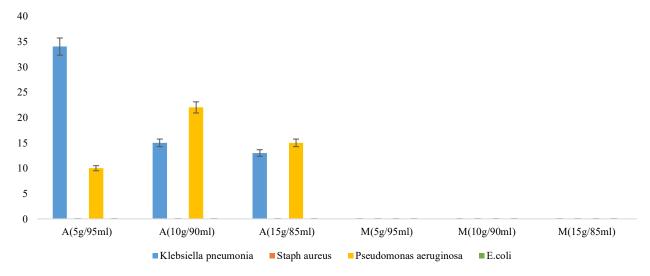


Figure 4. Mean antibacterial susceptibility of Anastatica hierochuntica extracts against selected clinical isolates

The detected phytochemicals, alkaloids, flavonoids, and tannins are known for their diverse biological activities, including antimicrobial properties as reported in the study of (Tavares & Seca, 2018). The quantification of phytochemicals revealed the presence of alkaloids (7.15 \pm $0.0365~mg/g),~flavonoids~(3.16 \pm 0.007~mg/g),~and tannins$ $(0.18 \pm 0.0025 \text{ mg/g})$ in A. hierochuntica extracts. Alkaloids are recognized for their ability to disrupt microbial cell functions and interfere with nucleic acid synthesis (Sathiyaseelan et al., 2020). Flavonoids possess strong antioxidant properties and contribute to the inhibition of bacterial growth by disrupting cell membrane integrity and function (Pareek et al., 2023) Tannins, though present in lower concentrations, are also known for their antimicrobial effects, particularly through protein precipitation and enzyme inhibition (Sathiyaseelan et al., 2020). The synergy of these compounds likely contributes to the robust antibacterial activity observed in the aqueous extracts. The results indicate that the aqueous extract of A. hierochuntica exhibits strong antibacterial activity against a range of foodborne pathogens, with significant inhibitory zones measured, particularly against Staphylococcus aureus, Salmonella typhi, and Serratia marcescens (34 mm). This aligns with the research of (Guo et al., 2017). highlighting the effectiveness of plant extracts against these pathogens, which are common culprits in foodborne illnesses. The broad-spectrum activity against foodborne pathogens suggests that A. hierochuntica could serve as a potential natural preservative in food systems, thereby enhancing food safety while minimizing reliance on synthetic additives. In contrast, the methanolic extract in

this study demonstrated limited antibacterial efficacy, showing activity solely against Serratia marcescens. This disparity could be attributed to the solubility of certain phytochemicals; the polar nature of aqueous solvents may better extract hydrophilic compounds with potent antibacterial properties, while methanolic extraction may favor less effective compounds (Quinto et al., 2019). The findings underscore the importance of solvent choice in phytochemical extraction for maximizing biological activity. The selective inhibition observed against clinical isolates, Klebsiella pneumoniae and Pseudomonas aeruginosa—suggests potential therapeutic applications in clinical settings, particularly as these organisms are increasingly recognized for their multidrug-resistant characteristics (Ihsanullah, 2012). The ability of A. hierochuntica to inhibit these pathogens raises questions about the underlying mechanisms, which could involve disruption of membrane integrity or interference with metabolic pathways due to the identified phytochemicals. Furthermore, the findings from this study highlight the potential of A. hierochuntica as a candidate for natural antimicrobial development, especially in an era marked by rising antibiotic resistance. The increasing prevalence of multidrug-resistant pathogens necessitates innovative solutions, and plant-based antimicrobials could play a crucial role (Bhattacharjee & Islam 2015). Further research into the isolation and characterization of individual bioactive compounds within A. hierochuntica could elucidate specific mechanisms of action and facilitate the development of effective natural antimicrobials.

Future studies should focus on expanding the range of pathogens tested and exploring the potential synergistic effects of the phytochemicals identified in *A. hierochuntica*. Additionally, in vivo studies are warranted to assess the efficacy and safety of these extracts in realworld applications, such as food preservation and therapeutic use.

Conclusion

In conclusion, this study highlights the promising antibacterial properties of aqueous extracts of Anastatica hierochuntica, demonstrating significant effectiveness against a range of foodborne pathogens and clinical isolates. The presence of key phytochemicals, such as alkaloids, flavonoids, and tannins, may contribute to the observed antimicrobial activity, particularly against strains like Staphylococcus aureus and Salmonella typhi. In contrast, the methanolic extracts showed limited efficacy, indicating that the extraction method plays a crucial role in the bioactivity of the compounds. These findings not only advocate for the use of A. hierochuntica as a natural antimicrobial agent but also pave the way for future research into its bioactive components. Such investigations could enhance food safety measures and provide alternative strategies for combating multidrug-resistant pathogens.

Declarations

This study was presented at the 7th International Anatolian Agriculture, Food, Environment and Biology Congress, (Kastamonu, TARGID 2024)

Author contribution statement

Amina Badmos: Project administration, supervision, conceptualization, methodology, review and editing. Onikola Hanahu and Sekina Onigbinde and Onikola Rasaq: Data collection, Investigation, Formal analysis, writing the original draft.

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No funding was received for this research

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest

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Standardisation in Gocmen Cheese Production, Evaluation of Microbiological **Quality and Sensory Properties**

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
Research Article	The aim of this study is to define standard recipes in the production of Gocmen cheese produced in the central districts of Izmir province. The aim of this study was to define standard recipes for the production of Gocmen cheese produced in the central districts of İzmir province. For this purpose,
Received: 08.10.2024 Accepted: 18.11.2024	microbiological and sensory properties of the products were evaluated and it was aimed to define the most suitable standard recipe that appeals to the consumer profile and will be adapted to industrial production. In the research, sensory analysis and microbiological analyses were carried out as well as standard recipe study for 4 different products produced by evaluating the recipes collected from
Keywords: Standard recipe Local cuisine Gocmen cheese Microbiological quality Sensory properties	Balkan immigrant individuals. Taste, odour, consistency and general appreciation characteristics of the products produced as curd, yoghurt, curd-yoghurt and curd-milk were evaluated with hedonic scale (1-9). For the curd, yoghurt, curd-yoghurt and curd-milk samples, the average of general appreciation were 7.63, 4.32, 6.63 and 7.84, respectively. Similarly, the Lactobacillus counts are 8.18; 6.11; 6.41 and 7.34 cfu/g, the Lactococci counts are 7,44; 7,51; 7,35 and 7,36 cfu/g and the yeast counts were 4.41; 5.61; 4.71 and 2.85 cfu/g respectively, <i>E. coli</i> counts of curd, yogurt, curd-yoghurt and curd-milk were determined as 4.06, 0.00, 3.78 and 3.58 cfu/g, respectively. <i>S. aureus</i> counts in traditional products produced with curd, yoghurt, curd-yoghurt and curd-milk were detected 2.06, <10, 3.78 and 2.58 cfu/g, respectively. <i>E. coli</i> was reported as <10 cfu/g in all samples searched. Gocmen cheese, which is important as a fermented milk product among traditional products, is a cultural heritage transported from the Balkan lands to Anatolia. It is important that standard recipe studies focus on local tastes in order to protect the food culture that reflects the societies, to transfer it to future generations, and to revive gastronomy tourism.

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Göçmen Peyniri Üretiminde Reçete Standardizasyonu, Mikrobiyolojik Kalite ve Duyusal Özelliklerin Değerlendirilmesi

MAKALE BİLGİSİ	ÖZ
Araştırma Makalesi	Bu çalışmanın amacı, İzmir ili merkez ilçelerinde üretilen Göçmen peyniri üretiminde standart reçetelerin tanımlanmasıdır. Bu amaçla ürünlerin mikrobiyolojik ve duyusal özellikleri değerlendirilerek tüketici profiline hitap eden ve endüstriyel üretime adapte edilecek en uygun
Geliş : 08.10.2024 Kabul : 18.11.2024	standart reçetenin tanımlanması hedeflenmiştir. Araştırmada Balkan göçmeni bireylerden toplanan tarifler değerlendirilerek üretilen 4 farklı ürün için standart reçete çalışması yanı sıra duyusal analiz ve mikrobiyolojik analizler gerçekleştirilmiştir. Lor, Yoğurt, Lor-yoğurt ve Lor-süt şeklinde üretilen ürünlerde tat, koku, kıvam ve genel beğeni özellikleri hedonik skala (1-9) ile değerlendirilmiş ve
Anahtar Kelimeler: Standart reçete Yerel mutfak Göçmen peyniri Mikrobiyolojik kalite Duyusal özellik	genel beğeni puanı ortalaması sırası ile 7,63; 4,32; 6,63 ve 7,84 olarak tespit edilmiştir. Benzer şekilde Lor, Yoğurt, Lor-yoğurt ve Lor-süt ile üretilen geleneksel ürünlerde Lactobacillus spp.sayısı sırası ile 8,18; 6,11; 6,41 ve 7,34 kob/g; Laktokok sayısı sırası ile 7,44; 7,51; 7,35 ve 7,36 kob/g ve maya-küf sayısı sırası ile 4,41; 5,61; 4,71 ve 2,85 kob/g olarak tespit edilmiştir. Lor, Yoğurt, Lor-yoğurt ve Lorsüt ile üretilen geleneksel ürünlerde Staphylococcus aureus (<i>S. aureus</i>) sayısı sırası ile 2,06; <10; 3,78 ve 2,58 kob/g olarak tespit edilmiştir. Escherichia coli (<i>E.coli</i>) aranan tüm örneklerde <10 kob/g olarak bildirilmiştir. Geleneksel ürünler içerisinde fermente süt ürünü olarak önemli olan göçmen peyniri Balkan topraklarından Anadolu'ya taşınan bir kültürel mirastır. Toplumları yansıtan yemek kültürüne sahip çıkmak, gelecek nesillere aktarılmasını sağlamak, gastronomi turizmini canlandırmak amacı ile standart reçete çalışmalarının yerel lezzetler üzerine yoğunlaşması önem arz etmektedir.









Giriş

Bir ürüne özgü üretim sürecinin tüm detayları ile tanımlanması kaliteli üretimin temel ihtiyaçlarından biridir. Reçeteler mutfak içindeki süreci tanımlayan, aşçıya yapacağı yemek konusunda rehberlik eden ve son üründe kalite standardizasyonunu sağlayan önemli üretim bileşenleridir (MEB, 2012). Standart reçete, bir ürüne ait üretimde kullanılan malzeme miktarını, hazırlık ve pisirme sürecini, kullanılan alet ekipmanları tanıyan çıktı olarak maliyeti, porsiyon bilgisini ve besin değerlerini veren bir tarifedir. Bir ürün nerede üretilirse üretilsin aynı lezzet ve kaliteye sahip olabilmesi için ilk adım standart reçeteye sahip olmalıdır. Ürünlerin coğrafi işaret almalarını da kolaylaştırmakta etkili olan standart reçeteler (Çekal ve Doğan, 2022), özellikle yerel lezzetlerin kayda geçirilmesi noktasında kültürel mirasa da sahip çıkmaktadır. Yöresel ve geleneksel birikimlerin sistemli bir şekilde toplanması, kayıt altına alınması, korunması ve kuşaktan kuşağa yaşatılması gerekmektedir. Bu nedenledir ki yöre halkı, turistler ve işletmeler açısından standart reçetelerin oluşturulması hayati değere sahiptir. Standart reçeteler aynı zamanda tüketici sürekliliğini sağlamak için de yararlı bir araçtır (Liaqat, Khan & Mohammed, 2009).

Her geçen gün artan ürün çeşitliliği ile birlikte endüstriyel üretim ve teknolojik gelişmeler yerel ürünlerin bir sonraki nesile aktarımı daha zor hale getirmektedir. Ek olarak yerel ürünlere özgü standart reçetelerin olmayışı ve tüketicilerin ürüne hızlı erişim talepleri yerel ürünlerin unutulmaya yüz tutmasına zemin hazırlamaktadır. Yerel ürünlerde standart reçeteler oluşturulması sadece maliyet kontrolü ve israfi önlemeye katkı sağlamayacak aynı zamanda FAO'nun sürdürülebilirlik amaçlarına da hizmet edecektir (Anonim, 2024).

Yerel gıda ifadesine ait belirgin bir tanım bulunmamaktadır. Bazı kaynaklarda yerel gıda, sınırlı bir coğrafi alanda üretilen, satılan ve tüketilen gıda anlamına gelmektedir (Pearson ve ark., 2011; Mirosa ve Lawson, 2012; Bianchi ve Mortimer, 2015). Buna ek olarak, geleneksel bir şekilde ve belirli duyusal özelliklere sahip belirli bir yerel alanda üretilen yiyecekler olarak da tanımlanmaktadır (Stolzenbach, Bredie ve Byrne, 2013). Yerel gıdanın üretildiği yer ile ilgili farklı sayısal veriler de literatürde ortaya konmaktadır. Pearson ve ark., (2011) ve Penney ve Prior (2014) çalışmalarında tüketicilere 30 mil'lik (48,28 km) bir uzaklıktan bahsederken, Lang, Stanton ve Qu (2014) ise bu mesafeyi 400 mil (643,74 km) olarak ifade etmektedir.

Yerel ürünler hem ekonomik açıdan hem de turizm açısından büyük öneme sahip iken hangi bölgeye ait ne kadar yerel ürün olduğu bilgisi hala netlik kazanmamıştır. Bunun en temel sebeplerinden biri Türkiye coğrafyasında geçmişten günümüze birçok medeniyetin var olmasıdır. Özetle Türk mutfak kültürü pek çok medeniyetten etkilenmiş, sahip olduğu coğrafi özellikler ile dünya mutfakları arasında yer almıştır. Yerel ürünler aynı zamanda bölge halkı için ekonomik bir unsur olarak görülmektedir. Gastronomi turizmine giderek artan ilgi ile insanlar yeniden seyahat etme motivasyonu kazanmakta ve o kültüre yakınlaşmaktadır (Kim & Eves, 2012).

Göçmen peyniri, Türkiye'de Balkan göçmenleri tarafından üretilerek kahvaltı dahil olmak üzere tüm öğünlerde sevilerek tüketilen önemli bir yerel üründür. Trakya bölgesinde sütlü biber turşusu olarak tanınan ürün de benzer şekilde biber, peynir ve sütün karışımının laktik asit fermantasyonu şeklinde tanımlanmıştır (Coşkun ve Arıcı, 2005).

Bu çalışmada, Göçmen peyniri üretiminde kullanılmak üzere Balkan göçmeni 26 bireyle yapılan görüşmeler neticesinde toplanan reçeteler kendi aralarında 4 gruba ayrılmıştır. Toplanan reçetelere birebir uygun üretimler gerçekleştirilerek ürünlerin reçete standardizasyon çalışması kapsamında duyusal ve mikrobiyolojik özellikleri incelenmiştir. Duyusal analizden elde edilen bulgular ile mikrobiyolojik analiz sonuçları her reçete için ayrı ayrı yorumlanarak, Göçmen peynirinde standardizasyona yaklaşım hedeflenmiştir.

Materyal ve Yöntem

Materyal

Çalışmamızda üretilen Göçmen peynirlerinin üretiminde UHT inek sütü (Pınar Süt, Bornova, İzmir) kullanılmıştır. Üretimde kullanılan süt %3,3 yağ, %3,0 protein, %4,5 karbonhidrat ve 120 mg kalsiyum içermektedir. pH değeri 6,5 olarak ölçülmüştür. Üretimde kullanılan yeşil sivri biberler, yogurt (%5,5 yağ; %5,1 protein ve %7,3 karbonhidrat), tuzsuz lor (%6,5 yağ; %18 protein; %3 karbonhidrat) ve sofra tuzu (Billur Tuz, Rafine İyotlu sofra tuzu) İzmir/Bornova'da yerel marketlerinden temin edilmiştir.

Yöntem

Göçmen peyniri üretime ait reçete standardizasyonu çalışması amacıyla İzmir ili merkez ilçelerinde (Balçova, Bayraklı, Bornova, Buca, Çiğli, Gaziemir, Güzelbahçe, Karabağlar, Karşıyaka, Konak, Narlıdere) ikamet eden Balkan göçmeni 26 birey ile görüşmeler sağlanmıştır. Standart reçete oluşturulmasında Balkan göçmeni bireylerle yapılan görüşmelerde göçmen peyniri üretimine ait reçetelerin toplanması ve gruplandırılması sağlanmıştır. Toplanan reçeteler 4 ayrı gruba ayrılmış ve her reçete çeşidi için ayrı ayrı üretimler gerçekleştirilmiştir. Lor, Yoğurt, Lor-yoğurt ve Lor-süt olmak üzere yapılan üretim denemeleri sonucunda standart reçete oluşturulmuş, her grup son üründe mikrobiyolojik ve duyusal analizler gerçekleştirilmiştir.

Göçmen Peyniri Üretimi

Göçmen peyniri üretiminde reçete standardizasyınu amacıyla üretilen ürünlere ait reçeteler 4 ayrı sınıfa ayrılmıştır. Şekil 1'de farklı sınıflara ait reçeteler verilmiştir. Her bir reçete için üretim süreci eş zamanlı gerçekleştirilmiştir. Her bir reçete için 190 gram yeşil biber doğrandıktan sonra bir kap içerisinde diğer ham maddeler ile homojen şekilde karıştırılmış ve ardından 1 lt'lik cam kavanozlarda ağzı sıkıca kapatılarak fermantasyona bırakılmıştır. Reçetelere uygun şekilde gerçekleştirilen üretim sonrasında ürünler fermentasyonun tamamlanması amacıyla 10 gün oda sıcaklığında (15-20°C'de) depolanmıştır.



Şekil 1. Göçmen Peyniri Üretim reçeteleri Figure 1. Gocmen Cheese standart recipes







Şekil 2. Duyusal değerlendirmeye ait görseller Figure 2. Sensory evaluation of Gocmen Cheese

Reçete Standardizasyonu

Standart recetelendirme çalışmasında ABD Tarım, Gıda ve Beslenme Bakanlığı, Ulusal Gıda Hizmeti Yönetim Enstitüsü (NFSMI) ve Türkiye Cumhuriyeti Milli Eğitim Bakanlığı, Yiyecek İçecek Hizmetleri (MEB, 2012)'den modifiye edilmiş olan yöntem kullanılmıştır. NFSMI tarafından reçete standardizasyonu 3 ana aşamada özetlenmiştir. Tarifin doğrulanması, ürün değerlendirmesi ve miktar ayarlanması olarak tanımlanan adımlar reçete standardizasyonunda elzemdir (USDA, 2002). MEB, 2012 tarafından yapılan tanımlamada ise toplanan tariflerin ilk etapta 10 porsiyonluk deneme üretimleri yapılır. Deneme üretimlerinden verim alınırsa aynı kalitede üretilen ürünler mutfak şefleri, gurmeler, beslenme uzmanları ve alan öğretmenleri gibi uzmanlardan oluşan kalite kontrol ekibi tarafından değerlendirmeye alınır. Onaylanan ölçüler 2 katı şeklinde denenir ve standartlaştırılır.

Bu kapsamda çalışmamızda, tanımlanan adımlara eşdeğer standardizasyon adımları oluşturularak NFSMI ve MEB'den modifiye edilen bir yöntem kullanılmıştır. Reçete standardizasyon adımları şu şekilde tanımlanmıştır.

- Ürüne ait reçetelerin toplanması, sınıflandırılması (özellikle yerel ürünlerde bir ürünün üretimi pek çok faktörden etkilenerek şekillenir. Bu durum ürünün üretimine ait bileşen ve proses akışında değişikliklere yol açabilmektedir. Farklı bileşen ve sürece ait reçetelerin sınıflandırılması gerekmektedir)
- 10 porsiyonluk deneme üretimlerinin yapılması
- Alanında uzman kişilerden oluşan panelde ürünlerin kodlama ile panelistlere sunulması ve puanlanması

- (Duyusal analiz eğitimli panelistler ile/En az 10 kişi)
- Duyusal analizde elde edilen çıktılara göre optimum ürüne ait verilerin değerlendirilerek ürüne ait standart reçetenin tanımlanması ve kayıt altına alma.
- Çalışmamızda da, Balkan göçmeni olan bireylerden toplanan reçeteler 4 ayrı gruba ayrılmıştır. 50 g/kişi porsiyon hesabı ile ortalama her üründen 1000 g olacak şekilde 4 ayrı ürün üretilmiştir. Üretilen göçmen peynirleri duyusal analiz puanları ve mikrobiyolojik sayım sonuçları dikkate alınarak değerlendirilmiş ve standart reçete tablosu oluşturulmuştur.

Duyusal Analiz

Göçmen peyniri örneklerinin duyusal açıdan değerlendirilmesinde Hedonik skala kullanılmıştır. Duyusal değerlendirme E.Ü.Z.F. Süt Teknolojisi öğretim elemanları ve İzmir Kavram Meslek Yüksekokulu öğretim elemanları tarafından 20 kişi ile gerçekleştirilmiştir. Göçmen peyniri örnekleri tadım yapacak olan paneliste 3 haneli rakamsal kodlama ile sunulmuş olup örnekler arasında ağız temizliğinin sağlanması amacı ile galeta çubukları ve su ikram edilmiştir (Şekil 2).

Göçmen peyniri örneklerinin değerlendirilmesinde her panelist için örnekler tadım öncesinde +4°C'de depolamadan alınarak oda sıcaklığına çıkarılmıştır.

Panelistlerden kendilerine sunulan göçmne peyniri örneklerini değerlendirme formunda 1-9 arası puanlama ile değerlendirmeleri istenmiştir (Uysal ve ark., 2004).

Çizelge 1. Göçmen peyniri mikrobiyolojik analiz sonuçları (log kob/g)

Table 1. Microbiological counts of Gocmen Cheese (log cfu/g)

	I gotob goillug gnn	Lactococcus/	- Mana Viif	Cannona	E soli
	Lactobacillus spp.	Streptococcus spp.	- Maya-Küf	S. aureus	E. coli
Reçete 1(Lor)	$8,18 \pm 0.03^{a}$	$7,44 \pm 0,24^{\text{ b}}$	$4,41 \pm 0,07^{c}$	$2,06 \pm 0,05^{\circ}$	$< 10 \pm 0.05$
Reçete 2 (Yoğurt)	$6,11 \pm 0.09^{c}$	$7,51 \pm 0,15^{a}$	$5,61 \pm 0.08^{a}$	$< 10 \pm 0.00^{\rm d}$	$< 10 \pm 0.00$
Reçete 3 (Lor_Yoğurt)	$6,41 \pm 0,20^{c}$	$7,35 \pm 0,03^{\text{ c}}$	$4,71 \pm 0,13^{b}$	$3,78 \pm 0,15^{a}$	$< 10 \pm 0.15$
Recete 4 (Lor Süt)	$7,34 \pm 0.04^{b}$	$7,36 \pm 0,02^{\circ}$	$2,85 \pm 0,10^{d}$	$2,58 \pm 0,10^{b}$	$< 10 \pm 0.10$

a, b, c: Aynı sütunda farklı üssel değerler örnekler arasındaki farkı ifade etmekte olup değerler arasındaki fark istatistiksel olarak önemlidir (p<0,05).

Mikrobiyolojik Analizler

Aseptik koşullar altında 10 g göçmen peyniri örneği alınarak filtreli stomacher poşetlerine tartılmış üzerine 90 ml'lik %0,1'lik peptonlu su ile homojen hale getirilmiştir. Hazırlanan seri dilüsyonlardan uygun seyreltmelerde ekim yapılmıştır.

Lactobacillus spp. sayımında MRS Agar (Merck, Germany) kullanılmıştır. Uygun dilüsyonlardan paralel inokülasyonu gerçekleştirilen petri kapları 37°C'de 72 saat anaerobik ortamda inkübasyona bırakılmış ve süre sonunda gelişen koloniler sayılmıştır. MRS Agar petrileri, anaerobik ortamın sağlanması anaerobik jarlar (Oxoid, Hampshire, UK) içerisine yerleştirilen AnaeroGen ajanı (Oxoid, Hampshire, UK) ile sağlanmıştır (De Man, Rogosa & Sharpe, 1960).

Lactococcus spp. sayımında M17 Agar (Merck, Germany) kullanılmış ve 37°C'de 72 saat inkübasyon sonrasında sayım gerçekleştirilmiştir (Terzaghi ve Sandine, 1975).

Maya ve küf sayımı için pH'sı 6,8'e ayarlanmış olan Yeast Extract Chlorampehicol Agar kullanılmıştır. 25°C'de 3 gün mayalar için, 5 gün ise küfler için inkübasyona bırakılmış, inkübasyon sonrasında sayılan koloniler toplam maya-küf kob/g olarak verilmiştir (Gonzales-Fandos ve ark. 2000).

Üretimde gıda ve personel hijyeni kontrolü amacı ile üretilen Göçmen peyniri örneklerinde Egg Yolk Tellürit ilaveli Baird-Parker Agar'a yayma yöntem ile ekim yapılmıştır. Uygun dilüsyonlardan yapılan ekimler sonrası petriler 37±1°C'de 48 saat inkubasyona bırakılmıştır. İnkubasyon sonunda petride yuvarlak, konveks, dar ve çevresinde berrak bir zon bulunan siyah-gri parlak koloniler *S. aureus* olarak tespit edilmiştir (ISO/FDIS, 2021).

E.coli sayımı için selektif besiyeri olan Tryptone Bile X-glucuronide (TBX) Agar (Oxoid, UK)'da yayma yöntem ile ekim yapılarak 44°C'de 20 saat inkübasyona bırakılmıştır. İnkübasyon sununda yeşil renkli koloniler sayılarak *E.coli* olarak değerlendirilmiştir (ISO, 2021).

İstatistiksel Analiz

Üretilen göçmen peyniri örnekleri arasında mikrobiyolojik ve duyusal açıdan farkın tespit edilmesi amacı ile tek yönlü varyans analizi (One-way ANOVA) uygulanmıştır. Bu amaçla SPSS 26.0 versiyonu kullanılmış ve varyans analizi sonucunda önemli olan veriler Duncan çoklu karşılaştırma testine göre P<0,05 düzeyinde değerlendirilmiştir.

Bulgular ve Tartışma

Göçmen peyniri yerel olarak üretilen geleneksel ürünlerimiz arasında yerini alan önemli bir fermente süt ürünüdür. Geleneksel yöntemlerle üretilen göçmen peynirinin fermentasyon sürecinde ortamda hakim olan flora Laktik asit bakterileri (LAB) olmasına rağmen kontaminasyon riski de oldukça fazladır. Yerel ürünlerde üretim ortamında

sanitasyonu sağlamak ve personel hijyeni son üründe mikrobiyolojik kalitenin korunmasını sağlamaktadır (Sönmez, 2019; Erdoğmuş, 2020; Çetin ve Çelik, 2021). Bu amaçla üretilen Göçmen peyniri örneklerinde mikrobiyolojik analizler yapılarak hem ürüne hakim floranın tespit edilmesi hem de üretim ve depolamanın uygun koşullarda yapılıp yapılmadığı incelenmiştir. Elde edilen bulgular ışığında sanitasyon koşullarının uygulandığı üretimlere ait veriler Cizelge 1'de verilmiştir.

Peynir üretiminde ürüne ait mikrofloranın tanınması kalite parametrelerinin tanımlanması açısından gereklidir. Peynir, florası oldukça komplike olmakla birlikte süt ürünleri içerisinde mikrobiyal kontaminasyon sebebi ile bozulmaların yaşandığı en önemli ürün olarak da nitelendirilebilir. Özellikle üretimde kullanılan ham madde kalitesi son ürünün mikrobiyal kalitesini belirleyici unsurların başında gelmektedir. Süt ve süt ürünleri içerisinde önemli yere sahip olan fermente süt ürünlerinin üretiminde LAB önemli role sahiptir. Özellikle peynir üretiminde teknolojik öneme sahip LAB aynı zamanda ürünün kendine özgü duyusal özelliklerin ortaya çıkmasına da katkı sağlamaktadır. Bu kapsamda standart reçete çalışması için üretilen Göçmen peyniri örneklerinde fermantasyon sürecini yürüten LAB sayımına ek olarak maya küf, E.coli ve S.aureus sayımları gerçekleştirilmiştir. Göçmen peynirlerinde yapılan mikrobiyolojik ekim sonuçlarında Lactobacillus spp. 6,11-8,18 log kob/g, Lactococcus/ Streptococcus spp. 7,35-7,51 log kob/g, Maya-küf 2,85-5,61 log kob/g aralığında tespit edilmiştir. Yapılan bir çalışmada ambalajlı ve ambalajsız lor peynirlerinde maya-küf sayısı sırasıyla 4,14 log kob/g, 1,86 log kob/g olarak bildirilmiş ve örnekler arasındaki farkın istatistiksel açıdan önemli olduğu vurgulanmıştır (p<0,001). Çalışmada bildirilen vakum ambalajlı lor peynirlerinde maya-küf sayısının daha fazla olduğu bulgusu dikkat çekici olup, ambalaj hijyeni ve personel hijyeninin önemini vurgular niteliktedir (Sönmez, 2019).

Örneklerde en yüksek *S.aureus* Lor-yoğurt örneğinde 3,78 log kob/g olarak tespit edilmiştir. Bunu Lor-süt ve Lor örnekleri sırası ile 2,58 log kob/g ve 2,06 log kob/g takip ederken yoğurt ile üretilen örnekte *S.aureus* tespit edilmemiştir. Bunun yanı sıra, hijyen indikatörü olan *E. coli* için yapılan ekimlerde tüm örneklerde *E. coli* tespit edilmemiş olması uygun üretim koşulları ve hijyen uygulamalarına özen gösterildiğini işaret etmektedir. Bu sonuç Türk Gıda Kodeksi Mikrobiyolojik Kriterler Yönetmeliği Gıda Güvenilirliği açısından uygun olarak olarak değerlendiriilmiştir.

Coşkun ve Gök (2012) tarafından yapılan çalışmada sütlü biber turşusu olarak tanımlanan fermente ürünlerin ticari olarak üretilmiş ve marketlerde satılan, evde üretilip pazarda satılan ve evde üretilip tüketilenler ile karşılaştırılması yapılmıştır.

Çizelge 2. Göçmen peyniri duyusal analiz sonuçları Table 2. Sensory analysis results of Gocmen cheese

	Tat	Koku	Kıvam	Genel beğeni
Reçete 1 (Lor)	$7,63 \pm 0,18^{a}$	$6,21 \pm 0,42^{a}$	$7,58 \pm 0,20^{\text{ a}}$	$7,63 \pm 0,14^{a}$
Reçete 2 (Yoğurt)	$4,95 \pm 0,19^{a}$	$5,84 \pm 0,52^{a}$	$3,58 \pm 0,27^{a}$	$4,32 \pm 0,22^{a}$
Reçete 3 (Lor_Yoğurt)	$6,89 \pm 0,09$ a	$7,00 \pm 0,31^{a}$	$6,26 \pm 0,24^{a}$	$6,63 \pm 0,25^{\text{ a}}$
Reçete 4 (Lor_Süt)	$7,89 \pm 0,05$ a	$7,53 \pm 0,15$ a	$7,89 \pm 0,09^{\rm a}$	$7,84 \pm 0,37^{a}$

a, b, c: Aynı sütunda farklı üssel değerler örnekler arasındaki farkı ifade etmekte olup değerler arasındaki fark istatistiksel olarak önemlidir (p<0,05).

Ürünlerde LAB, Maya-küf ve Koliform sayısı sırası ile 2×10^7 -1, 2×10^8 ; $3,4\times10^5$ -4, 5×10^7 ve 1×10^2 - 2×10^2 kob/aralığında bildirilmiştir. Fermantasyon sürecini yürüten LAB açısından benzer veriler olsa da maya-küf sayısının çalışmamızda elde edilen verilerden daha yüksek olduğu görülmektedir.

Benzer şekilde üretilen sütlü biber turşusu örneklerinde LAB sayısı 3×10⁷-5,6×10⁸ adet/g aralığında bildirilirken maya-küf sayısı 8×10⁴-3×10⁷ adet/g olarak rapor edilmiştir (Coşkun ve Arıcı, 2005). Aynı çalışmada renk ve görünüm, tat, yapı ve koku açısından duyusal özellikler değerlendirilmiştir. Her bir örnek için 5,0 puan üzerinden yapılan değerlendirmede örneklerin tamamı renk ve görünüm, tat, yapı ve koku açısından 4,0-4,7 puan aralığında değerlendirilmiştir. Çalışma sonuçlarında sütlü biber turşusu olarak tanımladıkları ürünün duyusal açıdan beğenilen bir ürün olduğu ifade edilmiş olup üretiminde beyaz peynir yerine lor peyniri de kullanılabileceği vurgulanmıştır. Nitekim yaptığımız araştırma veri toplama sürecinde İzmir ili merkez ilçelerinde toplanan veriler Göçmen peyniri olarak nitelendirilen fermente ürünün çoğunlukla lor peyniri kullanılarak üretildiğini göstermektedir. Geleneksel olarak üretilip tüketilen ürünlerde üretim yönteminin bölgeden bölgeye farklılıklar gösterdiği görülmektedir. Bu durum yerel ürünlerin üretiminde kültürel etkinin fazla olduğu ve bölgesel farklılıklar olabileceği şeklinde yorumlanmıştır.

Çalışmamız kapsamında yapılan duyusal değerlendirmede tat, koku, kıvam ve genel beğeni parametreleri puanlık hedonik değerlendirilmiştir. Tat, koku, kıvam ve genel beğeni açısından en beğenilen ürün Reçete 4 olarak tanımlanan ve Lor süt ilave edilerek üretilen Göçmen peyniri örneği olmustur. Calısma bulguları daha önce yapoılan literatür verileri ile karşılaştırıldığında Göçmen peyniri üretiminde lor peyniri kullanımının son üründe tüketici tercihinin artmasına katkı sağladığı sonucuna varılmaktadır. Lor süt ilaveli reçetenin beğenisinin sadece Lor ilaveli örnekten nispeten daha fazla olmasının sebebi ise Lor süt ilaveli örnekteki fermantasyon sürecinden kaynaklandığı düşünülmüştür. Lor_süt ilaveli örnekte Lactobacillus spp. ve Lactococcus / Streptococcus spp. sayımı sonucunda elde edilen dengenin son üründe maya-küf sayımını da etkilediği düşünülmekte ve son üründe duyusal beğeniye katkı sağladığı şeklinde yorumlanmaktadır.

Sonuç

Geleneksel yöntemlerle harmanlanıp üretilen yerel ürünler ülkemizin farklı bölgelerinde çeşitli isimlerle tanımlanmaktadır. Bölge halkı tarafından kültürel etkiler ile şekillenen üretim yöntemleri ve hammaddeler son üründe kalite özelliklerinin de değişiklik göstermesine hatta farklı isimler ile anılmasına sebep olmaktadır. İzmir

ili merkez ilçelerinde üretim reçeteleri sınıflandırılıp standardize edilen göçmen peyniri için standart reçetenin tanımlanması gelecek nesillere aktarılacak mirasın korunmasını da sağlayacaktır. Bu kapsamda geleneksel ürünlerin standardize edilmiş reçeteler ışığında coğrafi isaretleme sistemine kazandırılması gerektiği düşünülmektedir. Duyusal değerlendirmede elde edilen veriler ışığında genel tüketici beğenisi lor içeren standart recetelere yönelmiştir. Tüketiciden genel beğeni alan bu endüstriyel üretime ürünlerin entegre çalışmalarının faydalı olacağı düşünülmektedir. Ek olarak son üründe mikrobiyolojik kalite değerlendirildiğinde yerel ürünlerin üretiminde sanitasyon koşullarına dikkat edilmesi gerektiği ifade edilebilir. Üretim sonrası ambalajlama ve personel hijyeni ise tüketiciye ulaşan son üründe kalitenin önemli temsilcileri olarak değerlendirilmektedir.

Beyan

Bu çalışma 7. Uluslararası Anadolu Tarım, Gıda, Çevre ve Biyoloji Kongresi'nde (Kastamonu, TARGİD 2024) sunulmuştur.

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Efforts to Reduce Carbon Footprint of Dokuz Eylül University Tınaztepe Campus in İzmir, Türkiye

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ABSTRACT

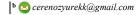
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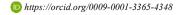
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Keywords: Carbon Foot Print Energy Efficiency Sustainability University Campus Method Current study intends to find out the carbon footprint of Dokuz Eylül University's Tinaztepe Campus and comprehensively assess its environmental impact in the process. The study provides a detailed analysis of carbon emissions resulting from the campus's energy consumption, transportation, water usage, and other sources. Based on these analyses, the total CO₂ emmission of the campus has been determined, taking into account the carbon sequestration capacity of the university's forested area. Calculations performed using the IPCC Tier 1 Model estimate that Tinaztepe Campus's total annual carbon footprint is 2,458.44 tons of CO₂. Additionally, the annual carbon footprint per capita has been calculated as 0.059 tons of carbon footprint. According to the findings, the largest portion of carbon emissions is from natural gas consumption, while the smallest is from water consumption. In light of this data, various strategic recommendations have been developed to reduce the campus's carbon footprint. These recommendations include measures such as increasing energy efficiency, adopting more sustainable transportation methods, and reducing water consumption. The results of this study provide valuable insights for universities to consider when developing sustainability policies.











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Introduction

The increasing global production and consumption, along with the rising global temperatures, are among the most widely discussed environmental issues worldwide. These problems arise from the rapid increase in the greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. They create global environmental threats like resource desertification biodiversity losses. The main gas that creates the greenhouse effect is carbon dioxide (CO₂) gas emitted into the atmosphere as a result of human activities with the use of fossil fuels (oil, coal, natural gas) (Tuckett, 2019). Therefore, research on CO₂ gas analysis has grown in recent years, resulting in the development of the 'Carbon Footprint' concept (Gökçek et al., 2019). Carbon footprint refers to greenhouse gas emissions resulting from activities such as energy production, waste management, transportation and consumption, and it is usually calculated as carbon dioxide equivalent in tons. Therefore, carbon footprint is the carbon dioxide equivalent measure of greenhouse gas emissions caused directly or indirectly by a product or an action during its life cycle (Wiedmann and Minx, 2008). The term carbon footprint is synonymous with "greenhouse gas inventory" (Franchetti and Apul, 2013).

Greenhouse gases (GHG) are gases that absorb and reradiate heat in the atmosphere, thus keeping the atmosphere warmer than it should be. The main greenhouse gases in the atmosphere are water vapor, carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluoric carbon (HFCs), perfluoric carbon (PFCs), sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆), and nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃). While there were six greenhouse gases until 2013, NF₃ was included in the list of greenhouse gases after 2013 in accordance with the opinions of the Kyoto Protocol Committee. The duration of each greenhouse gas in the atmosphere and its effect on global warming are different from each other (Brander and Davis 2012). Among these gases, carbon dioxide (CO₂) is an end product released as a result of the metabolization of carbon-containing nutrients. The atmosphere is homeostatic and contains a small amount of CO₂, approximately 0.03% (Odum and Barrett, 2016). Based on recent measurements (December 2024) from the Mauna Loa Observatory, which reflect values close to the global atmospheric average, the concentration of CO2 in the atmosphere has been determined to be 424.6 ppm (0.042%) (NOAA Global Monitoring Laboratory, 2024). Despite this, it is also a gas that has a great effect on global warming. It is the most common greenhouse gas released by anthropogenic effects. The carbon footprint is divided into two categories: primary and secondary carbon footprints. The primary carbon footprint (direct carbon footprint) is the direct measure of CO₂ emissions resulting from the combustion of fossil fuels used due to consumption of energy and transportation (Pandey et al., 2011). The secondary carbon footprint (indirect carbon footprint) is defined as the measure of CO₂ emissions that occur during the entire life cycle of the products we use, from production to degradation (Aras and Kalaycioglu, 2020).

Higher education institutions serve as role models in reducing greenhouse gas emissions by implementing initiatives like carbon-neutral and green campuses and by educating communities through academic efforts. Dokuz Eylül University operates in 20 different locations across the province of İzmir, consisting of 18 faculties, 10 institutes, 1 conservatory, 8 vocational schools, a Research Hospital, and 1 Oral and Dental Health Application and Research Center, totaling 49 application and research centers. Tinaztepe Campus is the university's main campus, located in the Buca district of İzmir, and is the largest campus with an area of 4.5 million m². Many significant academic units are located on Tınaztepe Campus. Various faculties such as the Faculty of Science, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Fine Arts, Faculty of Literature, Faculty of Maritime, Faculty of Business, Faculty of Engineering, Faculty of Architecture, Faculty of Tourism, and the State Conservatory offer a wide range of educational opportunities. The School of Applied Sciences and the School of Foreign Languages are also located on this campus. Additionally, research-oriented units such as the Institute of Fine Arts, Institute of Social Sciences, Atatürk Principles and History of Reforms Institute, and Institute of Natural Sciences are present on the campus (DEU Strategy Development Department, 2023). The population

of Tinaztepe Campus is 41,836, including 1,463 personnel and 40,373 students, for the educational academic year 2022-2023.

Dokuz Eylül University Tınaztepe Campus stands out with its vast green areas and forested regions, providing a peaceful environment for students and academics. The campus is distinguished by its landscape enriched with various vegetation and trees, offering green spaces where individuals can rest and walk between classes. The approximately 3.5 million m² of forested areas on the campus host a rich biodiversity, with various flora and fauna species (Figure 1). (DEU Sustainability Office¹, 2024).

In Tinaztepe Campus, as in all other campuses, there are buildings designed with extensive glass facades to maximize the use of daylight. Additionally, the widespread use of LED lighting, motion-sensor lighting products that detect movement in large common areas, central heating systems in the campuses, central cooling systems in new buildings, A+ rated electrical appliances, and the fact that all 11,400 computers in the University's IT Department inventory have Energy-Plus certification, are indicators of energy efficiency. Dokuz Eylül University launched its Solar Energy Project in 2021. By 2024, the installation of panels has been completed, and the electricity generated from the solar energy system is designed to meet 83% of the annual energy consumption across all university units. The Tinaztepe phase of the panels, installed across seven campuses, has a total capacity of 4840 kWe and includes installations on rooftops and land. The project was accepted on May 3, 2023, and energy production has begun (Figure 2). (DEU Sustainability Office², 2024). In Türkiye, by the end of 2022, energy-related emissions accounted for the largest share of total greenhouse gas emissions at 71.8% in CO₂ equivalent, followed by agriculture with 12.8%, industrial processes and product use with 12.5%, and the waste sector with 2.9% (TUIK, 2024).





Figure 1. Views of open areas from Tinaztepe Campus





Figure 2. Views from solar energy panels in Tınaztepe Campus

This highlights the significance of electricity, a secondary energy source, in contributing to the carbon footprint. IPCC, GHG Protocol, UNFCCC, ISO 14064 Standard are the guides in determining carbon emission (Gao et al., 2014). Among them, IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) is the United Nations body responsible for making scientific assessments on climate change. IPCC examines climate change science and prepares reports to guide governments and decision makers.

The current study will, for the first time, calculate and evaluate the carbon footprint of Tinaztepe Campus, the largest and central campus of Dokuz Eylül University, using the IPCC Tier 1 Methodology based on real and upto-date data. This study brings to light a significant environmental metric for one of İzmir's most prominent campuses, utilizing the Tier 1 approach to deliver an insightful and methodical analysis of its carbon footprint.

Materials and Methods

This study is confined to the 2023 data collected from all units within Tinaztepe Campus. The primary carbon footprint in this study has been calculated using the IPCC calculation methodology. The IPCC guidelines outline the process for collecting, calculating, assessing, and reporting greenhouse gas inventory data, covering areas such as energy, industrial processes, solvent and product use, agriculture, land use, forestry, and waste management. The IPCC methodology categorizes emission calculation methods into three different levels, referred to as Tiers (IPCC, 2006). In this study, the IPCC Tier 1 approach has been used according to the data of the university campus.

The current study will thoroughly examine the carbon footprint of energy consumption, transportation, and other consumption activities at Dokuz Eylül University's Tinaztepe Campus, starting from the fuel consumption amounts. The amounts of gasoline and diesel are consumed by the University vehicles which are 81 in number. In addition, natural gas, water consumption, and electricity consumption for 2023 have been obtained from the university's official records.

According to the IPCC Tier 1 Method, CO₂ emissions are calculated incrementally. CO₂ emissions for each type of fuel used across the campus are determined separately. The first step in the calculation starts with the energy consumption derived from the fuel consumption and net calorific value (Equation 1). Then, the carbon emission

factors for each fuel type, as outlined in the IPCC guidelines, are applied to determine the carbon amount of the fuel. The overall carbon amount is calculated by applying the carbon emission factor to the energy content of the fuel consumption identified in the previous step (Equation 2). In the third stage, the total combustion carbon emission is calculated by considering the amounts of carbon that do not oxidize during combustion. The oxidation percentages (combustion efficiency) of fuels determined by the IPCC are set at 0.99 for petroleum products and 0.995 for gaseous fuels. These values are multiplied by the carbon content identified in the previous step to calculate how much carbon has been oxidized (Equation 3). Finally, the net carbon value is converted into CO₂ form. The proportion of the molecular weight of CO₂ to that of carbon. Here, the CO2 emission value resulting from the combustion of fuel is determined by multiplying the value found in the previous step by the ratio of the molecular weight of CO2 to the molecular weight of carbon, which is 44/12 (Equation 4) (IPCC, 2006).

$$EI = FC \times FCC \times (1 \text{ Gg} / 10^3 \text{ ton})$$
 (1)

$$CA = CEF \times EI$$
 (2)

$$CE = CA \times CCR \tag{3}$$

$$CO_2$$
 Emission (Gg CO_2) = $CE \times (44/12)$ (4)

EI : Energy Intake (TJ)FC : Fuel Consumption(ton)

FCC: Effective Calorific Content (TJ/Gg)

CA: Carbon Amount (ton C)

CEF: Carbon Emission Factor (ton C/TJ)

CE: Carbon Emission (Gg C) CCR: Carbon Combustion Rate

Table 1 summarizes the net calorific values, emission factors, and combustion rates of fuels according to the IPCC.

According to the latest data from the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources of the Republic of Türkiye, 0.479 tons of CO₂-equivalent greenhouse gas emissions are emitted per unit of electricity consumption (Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, 2024). This value reflects the carbon intensity of electricity generation in Türkiye, primarily influenced by the energy mix, including fossil fuels and renewable energy sources. For emissions calculations related to water consumption, the emission factor of 0.177 kg/m³, as indicated in the DEFFRA guidelines (DEFFRA, 2023), was applied.

Table 1. IPCC values for carbon footprint calculations (IPCC, 2006)

Fuel type	Calorific content (Tj/Gg)	Emmission factor (tC /Tj)	Carbon oxidation rate
Gasoline	44.3	18.9	0.99
Diesel	43.0	20.2	0.99
Natural gas	48.0	15.3	0.995

Table 2. 2023- Monthly use of electricity, natural gas and water in Tınaztepe Campus

Months	Natural gas consumption (m ³)	Electricity consumption (kWh)	Water consumption (m ³)
January	177,620	437,791.02	13,970
February	176,355	364,001	8,270
March	133,572	267,111	10,780
April	65,974	153,598	10,660
May	16,145	126,961.28	10,870
June	5,534	94,906.86	13,760
July	4,555	0.11	12,930
August	3,349	391,47.91	14,490
September	5,609	0.32	13,410
October	6,509	31,395.48	11,700
November	63,043	198,294.21	12,700
December	143,097	299,946.47	12,000
Total	801,362	2,013,154	145,540

Table 3. Annual CO₂ emissions due to the sources

Energy type	Consumption	CO ₂ emmissions (tones CO ₂)	Ratio (%)
Gasoline	141,89 liter	31.91	0.99
Diesel fuel	179,261 liter	474.78	14.77
Natural gas	$801,362 \text{ m}^3$	1,717.69	53.44
Electricity	201,315,6 kWh	964.30	30.00
Water	$145,540 \text{ m}^3$	25.76	0.80
Total		3,214.44	100.00

Results and Discussion

To calculate the university's primary carbon footprint for the year 2023, data on electricity use, gasoline and diesel consuption, natural gas utilization, and water consumption were obtained from the university are presented in Table 2. The primary sources of greenhouse gas effects—natural gas, electricity, and water consumption—have been specified on a monthly basis, and the contributions of these factors to the carbon footprint have been evaluated monthly.

According to the official data obtained from the university, the natural gas consumption for 2023 is 801,362 m³. The density of natural gas was assumed to be 0,8 kg/m³. Additionally, the electricity consumption for the university in 2023 is reported to be 7,480,322 kWh. Due to the implementation of the Solar Energy Project, 5,467,165.36 kWh electricity was generated from solar energy. Therefore, the electricity purchased from external sources, contributing to the carbon footprint, is 2,013,154 kWh, and calculations were performed based on this value. Natural gas, electricity, and water consumption across the university were recorded monthly, while data on motor vehicle fuel consumptions could be found on an annual basis. The annual carbon footprint calculated based on these factors, using the IPCC Tier 1 method, is presented in Table 3. According to this calculation, the total annual CO₂ emissions for DEU's Tinaztepe campus amount to 3,214.44 tons. When examining the sources of this emission, natural gas emerges as the largest contributor at 53.44%, followed by electricity at 30.00%. The reason for natural gas emissions surpassing those from electricity can be attributed to the solar energy system, which became operational in May 2023. When examining the campus's electricity consumption data, 73% of the total electricity consumption was provided from renewable energy, and this reduced the carbon footprint by the same proportion. The third-largest contributor to CO₂ emissions on campus is the diesel fuel used in university vehicles, accounting for 14.77% of the carbon footprint.

The monthly distribution of CO2 emissions generated by natural gas, electricity, and water consumption data, which we obtained from the university administration, is shown in Figure 3. Accordingly, the highest CO₂ emissions were observed in January, February, and December, which are the coldest months in İzmir. Looking at the average temperature data for İzmir, the coldest months are identified as January, February, and December, respectively (Figure 4) (Weatherspark, 2023). Heating at DEU Tinaztepe campuses is provided by central natural gas radiator systems, explaining the high natural gas usage during these months. With the arrival of spring, fuel consumption decreases. Starting from June, İzmir experiences the hot days typical of the Mediterranean climate, and central or individual air conditioning units are used within the campus for cooling purposes. Although this increases electricity consumption, the activation of solar energy systems during the same period has significantly reduced CO₂ emissions (Figure 3).Irregularities in electricity transmissions that occurred until the system began operating consistently after its commissioning in May impacted the data for July and September. These irregularities were regulated after October (Table 3).

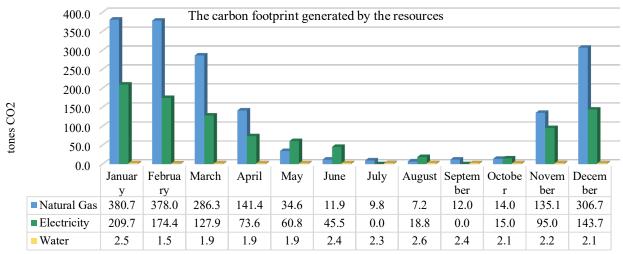
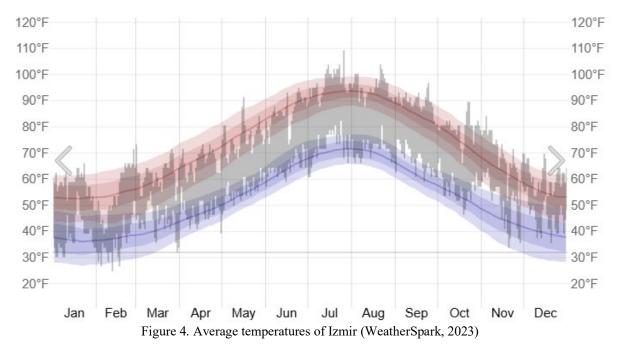


Figure 3. Monthly CO₂ emissions due to the resources



The Tinaztepe Campus of Dokuz Eylül University is located on a total area of 450 hectares, of which 350 hectares are classified as forest land. The carbon absorption capacity of this forest land, acting as carbon sinks, is assumed to be 2.16 tons of CO₂ per hectare (Luyssaert et al., 2008). This indicates that 756 tons of CO₂ emissions are absorbed by the forests on the Tinaztepe campus. In this case, the total CO₂ emissions generated in 2023 were calculated to be 2,458.44 tons.

When evaluating carbon dioxide emissions calculated by universities using different methodologies; in 2019, Erciyes University, with a population of 56,623, reported 25,747 tons of carbon dioxide emissions, equating to 0.45 tons per capita (Erciyes University, 2019). In 2021, Ondokuz Mayıs University, with an 8800-decare campus, recorded a per capita carbon footprint of 1.4 tons annually (Ondokuz Mayız University, 2021). In 2023, Özyeğin University reported a per capita carbon footprint of 0.848 tons (Özyeğin University, 2024)

In 2019, Abdullah Gül University calculated its carbon footprint intensity at 0.86 tons per capita, while Ege University, another major university in İzmir, reported per

capita CO₂ emissions of 0.201 tons annually (Abdullah Gül University, 2024; Ege University 2024)

In 2019, the carbon emission calculation at the University of Oulu in Finland, with a campus population of 16,900 students, identified 19,072 tons of carbon dioxide emissions, corresponding to a per capita carbon footprint of 1.29 tons. This relatively high value is attributed to the inclusion of Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions in the calculation framework (Kiehle et al., 2022). In 2020, the University of Bologna reported 16,467 tCO2e in emissions, which was reduced to 15,753 tCO2e after accounting for offsets and emissions avoided through the internal generation of renewable energy. This corresponds to a per capita CO2 emission of 0.173 tons, yearly (Battistini et al., 2020). In 2022, the per capita carbon footprint at Iğdır University was calculated as 0.28 tons, including 4 categories (Tırınk et al., 2023). Besides, n 2020, carbon dioxide emissions at Binali Yıldırım University in Erzincan, calculated using the IPCC Tier 1 method for comparison. This study amounted to 1,826.54 tons of CO₂ for a campus population of 25,281. This translates to an annual per capita carbon footprint of 0.072 tons (Kurnuç Seyhan and Çerçi, 2022).

Conclusion

In this study, the carbon footprint of Dokuz Eylül University's Tinaztepe Campus for the year 2023 was calculated. Using the IPCC Model Tier 1 approach, the primary carbon footprint of the university, including carbon sinks, was determined to be 2,458.44 tons of CO₂. Considering the population of 41,836 people on the Tinaztepe Campus, the per capita carbon footprint is calculated to be 0.058 tons of C annually. This result highlights a significant carbon footprint advantage for DEU Tinaztepe Campus when compared to the intensity values reported by other universities. The significant differences can be attributed to the use of the more limited Tier 1 methodology in the current study. This approach relies on general emission factors and broader assumptions rather than detailed, site-specific data, which can lead to variations when compared to more comprehensive methodologies such as Tier 2 or Tier 3. Analyzing the sources of carbon emissions, it was found that the largest share, 53.44 %, comes from natural gas consumption, while the smallest share, 0.80%, results from water consumption.

The current study calculates CO₂ emissions at the Tınaztepe Campus of Dokuz Eylül University using the Tier 1 methodology. This method, as outlined by the IPCC, employs generalized emission factors and readily available data, offering a foundational approach to estimating emissions. This situation explains the differences in per capita CO2 emission values when compared with other universities. Comprehensive and reliable data on biodegradable waste generated by the campus was unavailable due to limited resources, making it challenging to accurately calculate emissions from this source. Detailed studies on waste management have already commenced on the university campus and will be fully integrated into emission calculations in future assessments. This inclusion will ensure a more comprehensive evaluation of the university's carbon footprint, encompassing emissions from biodegradable and other waste sources.

Regarding the university's efforts to reduce its carbon footprint, the initiation of the Solar Energy Plant project, a renewable energy source, and the greening efforts aimed at protecting and expanding forest areas are positive indicators. Since the system was not fully operational for the entire year in 2023, only the impact of renewable energy for 6 months was reflected in this value. It is expected that this value will decrease further in the coming years.

Dokuz Eylül University also uses natural daylightoptimizing glass facades, LED lighting, and Energy Star certified devices to promote energy efficiency. These measures result in energy savings of more than 75% of total energy consumption. The university's firm policies in this regard continue.

The university's senior management demonstrates commitment and support by encouraging the reduction of its carbon footprint and promoting sustainable resource use. Educational activities and projects are organized to raise awareness of environmental issues and climate change, and the university competes annually in international rankings to prove its status as a green and sustainable university, showing increasing success.

Declarations

This study was presented at the 7th International Anatolian Agriculture, Food, Environment and Biology Congress, (Kastamonu, TARGID 2024).

Ethical Approval Certificate

The data used in the study was provided to us by the Directorate of Strategy Development at Dokuz Eylül University. (May 2024).

Author Contribution Statement

Elif Duyuşen Kokulu: Data collection, writing the original and final draft, discussion and assessment

Eylül Ceren Özyürek: Investigation, formal analysis

Fund Statement

This work was not funded by any institution.

Conflict of Interest

There is no conflict of interest for this paper.

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The Impact of Polyphenols on Nutrition and Health

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ARTICLE INFO ABSTRACT Polyphenols are plant-sourced compounds that exhibit important dietary features on human health. Review Article They have been defined and used either as a food source or as a raw material in the food industry to enhance functional properties and nutritional quality. They have significant positive bioactivities Received: 17.10.2024 as; antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, anti-carcinogenic, cardiovascular health protection, immune Accepted: 16.12.2024 supporter, and also benefits on digestion and brain functioning. The effects and bioactivity ranges were studied in the literature which has been discussed in the review to emphasize the importance of these natural compounds to provide insight into health and well-being. Keywords: Polyphenol Dietary Polyphenol Antioxidant Anti-Carcinogenic Anti-Inflammatory a🔼 eadal@cu.edu.tr https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1258-806X ^b stugba.aktar@alanya.edu.tr https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8417-868X

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Polyphenols: Definition, History

Polyphenols are defined as plant-sourced metabolites which exhibits antioxidant characteristic (Galanakis, 2018). Even though polyphenol does not emphasize a strict chemical term it refers to a big class of dietary beneficial chemical groups that include flavonoids, phenolic acids, or tannins and their derivatives (Williamson, 2017). Polyphenols are mentioned to be the most abundant antioxidants in the diet which could be as high as 1 gram in a day. This level of intake is related to an important health outcome. Moreover, these plant-sourced chemicals provide prevention of diseases with those related to oxidative stress (Scalbert et al., 2005).

In the literature, the initial addressing of polyphenol chemicals goes back to the 20th century, especially with the terms like "plant polyphenols" and "vegetable tannins". After the mid-1900s paper chromatography was discovered with various analytical methods to measure numerous chemicals polyphenol-related research shifted gears (Cheynier et al., 2015; Quideau et al., 2011). In 1957 "Plant Phenolic Group" was founded Bate-Smith and Tony Swain who later defined plant polyphenols as "water-soluble phenolic compounds having molecular weights between 500 and 3000 (Da) and, besides giving the usual phenolic reactions, they have special properties such as the ability to precipitate alkaloids, gelatin and other proteins from solution" (Bate-Smith, 1962; Cheynier et al., 2015). This was later updated to the term polyphenol as a

descriptor and the molecular mass was altered to be up to 4000 Da (Haslam & Cai, 1994). Later with the efforts of the scientists involved in the field, the polyphenols were defined as plant secondary metabolites which are produced by the shikimate-derived phenylpropanoid and/or the polyketide pathway(s) with at least two phenolic rings and being devoid of any nitrogen-based functional group in the basic structure (Quideau et al., 2011).

Classification of Polyphenols

In light of the mostly accepted definition done by Quideau et. al. (2011), polyphenols are the largest and most broadly distributed group of secondary metabolites (Scalbert & Williamson, 2000). This large classification is mostly the result of the acceptance of the hydroxyl groups on aromatic rings, phenol rings, phenolic acids, or phenolic alcohols in the chemical structure to be categorized as polyphenolic chemicals (Galanakis, aforementioned mechanism of secondary metabolite production leads to the formation of phenylpropanoids and simple phenols by the shikimic acid pathway and polyketide pathway, respectively (Sánchez-Moreno, 2002). Generally, plant polyphenols are produced with the shikimic acid pathway while the combination of the shikimic acid pathway and polyketide pathway leads to the production of flavonoids (Galanakis, 2018).

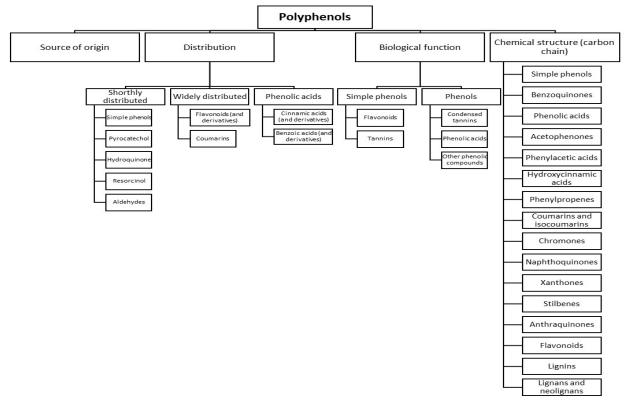


Figure 1. Classes of polyphenols based on various factors (Bravo, 1998; Harborne, 1989; Sánchez-Moreno, 2002)

Therefore, due to the diversity and wide distribution due to the source of origin, distribution, biological function, and chemical structures, polyphenols are categorized. Figure 1 illustrates the main classification methods based on the categorizes. Even though the literature involves several factors to classify those polyphenol groups of chemicals the main classes of polyphenols are flavonoids, phenolic acids, lignans, stilbenes, and others (Galanakis, 2018). Flavonoids refer to a typical chemical structure that involves two benzene rings with phenolic hydroxyl that are connected by three central carbon chains to form the C6-C3-C6 series as a basic chemical skeleton (Chen et al., 2022). The oxidation level of C3 leads to different structures which are named accordingly as; flavonoids, flavonols, isoflavones, anthocyanins, chalcone, nerone, flavane, etc. (Yildiz, 2010). Moreover, flavonoids act as a natural pigment with loads of physiological duties as well as benefits for human and animal health. This important class of polyphenols antioxidant anti-inflammatory, anticancer and antibacterial activity (Chen et al., 2020, 2022; He et al., 2006). Polyphenols exhibit antibacterial activity by disrupting bacterial membranes, inhibiting enzymes, and modulating quorum sensing pathways. For instance, studies have demonstrated that olive oil polyphenols shows strong antibacterial effect against Salmonella Typhimurium and S. aureus (Guo et al., 2020). Another literature source suggests polyphenols to be used not only as a food additive for antibacterial effect but also for food packaging systems due to its natural antibacterial activity (Bae et al., 2022). Phenolic acids are the main plant phenolic compound group that has one carboxylic acid group in the chemical structure (Kumar & Goel, 2019). These compounds have two sub-groups hydroxybenzoic and hydroxycinnamic acid and all provide very high

antioxidant activity (Clifford, 1999; Tsao & Deng, 2004). The former sub-group is derived from cinnamic acid and is found in the form of ferulic, caffeic, p-coumaric, and sinapic acids whereas the latter hydroxybenzoic acid is derived from benzoic acid and found in the form of phydroxybenzoic, protocatechuic, vanillic, and syringic acids (Kumar & Goel, 2019). Lignans on the other hand, are derived from the shikimic acid biosynthetic pathway and they contain a basic scaffold of at least two phenylpropanoid units which are formed monomers of cinnamic acid, cinnamyl alcohol, propenyl benzene, and allyl benzene (Ayres & Loike, 1990; Cui et al., 2020; Teponno et al., 2016). These plant polyphenols exhibit important features as antitumor, antioxidant, antibacterial, immunosuppressive, and anti-asthmatic (Cui et al., 2020). Lastly, stilbenes suppress a smaller portion intake compared to the rest in the mammal diet. Despite the smaller intake, they exhibit important physiological effects such as the anti-carcinogenic effect of resveratrol (Galanakis, 2018).

Food Sources of Polyphenols

A wide variety of fruits and vegetables, such as berries, whole-grain cereals, and cacao, as well as beverages, such as coffee, tea, and wine, have been shown to contain around 800 distinct types of polyphenols. Phenolic compounds are not only widespread in plants that are edible but also in plants that are not edible. These compounds have been shown to have numerous biological impacts, one of which is the ability to act as an antioxidant. The food industry is becoming increasingly interested in the crude extracts of fruits, herbs, vegetables, grains, and other plant materials that are rich in phenolic content (Table 1).

Table 1. Polyphenols in Foods

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Polyphenols	Food Sources	References			
Flavonoids, Catechins	Green, Black Tea, Grapes, Cocoa, Lentils, Berries	(Dias et al., 2021)			
Flavanones	Orange, Grapefruit, Lemon, Tangerine, Olive, Olive Oil	(Yang et al., 2022)			
Flavanols	Green vegetables, Apples, Onions, Berries, Olive oil	(Luo et al., 2022)			
Anthocyanins	Strawberry, Colorful fruits, Black grapes, Wine, Pink olives	(Qi et al., 2022)			
Non-flavonoid polyphenols					
Resveratrol	Grape skin, Red wine, Nuts (almonds, walnuts, etc.)	(Tian & Liu, 2020)			
Curcumin	Turmeric, Mustard	(Jiang et al., 2021)			
Coumarin	Strawberry, Blueberry, Apricot, Cherry, Cinnamon, Licorice root	(Lončar et al., 2020)			
Phenolic Acids					
Ellagic acid	Walnut, Strawberry, Blueberry, Pomegranate, Grape	(Lorenzo et al., 2019)			
Tannic acid	Nettle, Tea, Berry fruits, Olive, Olive oil	(Dai et al., 2022)			
Gallic acid	Tea, Mango, Strawberry, Soy, Olive, Olive oil	(Parveen et al., 2019)			
Caffeic acid	Blueberry, Kiwi, Plum, Cherry, Apple	(Maity et al., 2022)			

This is due to the fact that these extracts retard the oxidative destruction of lipids and, as a result, increase the quality of food as well as its nutritional content (El Gharras, 2009).

Biological Activities and Health Effects of Polyphenols

Nutrition today seeks the attention of many researchers from diverse fields such as epidemiology, biochemistry, health sciences, chemistry, psychology, food engineering, pharmacology, biology, chemistry, etc. As a well-known fact food is essential for energy yet modern-era human societies replaced food to be something more than this. Food is expected to promote energy as well as have a positive impact on health (functional foods) or also promote potentially healthier aging and well-being. Amongst these beneficial expectations, one can advise to include or increase the intake of polyphenols because of their popular effects on health. This benefit is a fact but still, the biochemical interactions, metabolic pathways, enzyme actions, and cellular regulations are being investigated to confirm the potential effect of polyphenols on human health (Williamson, 2017).

The type of polyphenol and free radicals on the other hand is critically important for the health affect. Despite the fact that polyphenols having important advantages in general, free radicals and specific types of it should be specified. For instance, cardiovascular effect of polyphenols is usually associated with flavonols. Clinical studies have shown that cocoa flavanols improve endothelial function and reduce blood pressure in hypertensive patients (Schroeter et al., 2006). These findings support the cardiovascular benefits of polyphenols.

Polyphenols are micronutrients that are essential for facilitating biochemical operations in the body. These plant-based foods may have been used reversibly instead as plant secondary metabolites, phytochemicals, phytonutrients, antioxidants, bioactive chemicals, etc. (Hertog et al., 1995). Polyphenols' bioactivities will be outlined in this article as their properties of; antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, anti-carcinogenic, and cardiovascular health.

Antioxidant Activity

Polyphenols are the secondary metabolites of plants that are secreted to protect the plant against environmental stress such as UV light, climate, pests, and insects. Until the 1990s they were classified as general antioxidants due to their biological activities in plants and potentially in humans with the diet (Serafini et al., 1994). So far the researchers made loads of contributions with the investigations according to food type, health condition, age/gender/status-related alterations in-vivo and in vitro. Polyphenols exhibit free radical scavenging activity primarily through their hydroxyl groups, which donate electrons to neutralize reactive oxygen species (ROS). For example, catechins from green tea have demonstrated high efficacy in scavenging hydroxyl radicals and superoxide anions (Rice-Evans et al., 1997). This mechanism plays a crucial role in preventing oxidative damage to lipids, proteins, and DNA.

Generally, antioxidant activity is related to the phenolic chemical structure with the catechol-like moieties and delocalized unpaired electrons in the structure (Croft, 2016). Dietary polyphenols show reasonable antioxidant activities either in vitro or in vivo. An in-vitro study demonstrated that catechins from green tea scavenge superoxide anions and hydroxyl radicals, protecting lipid membranes from peroxidation (Rice-Evans et al., 1997). The literature presents numerous studies in the antioxidant activities including, scavenging of free radicals, lipid oxidation, hydroperoxide formation process, etc. Not only in the plants to protect them against natural stress sources but also in dietary usage polyphenols' antioxidant character has an impact on plasma, membrane, transcription factors, and enzyme activities. Moreover, other beneficial features anti-inflammatory, such as anti-carcinogenic, neuroprotective, cardiovascular health, and anti-diabetic are somehow related to the antioxidant characteristics either directly or indirectly.

Antioxidant polyphenols are a common food preservation compound in the industry. They are used for three main purposes;

 Food additives, as an antioxidant compound, provide longer shelf life,

- As a packaging material, designed packaging materials with supported antioxidant behavior to provide better protection,
- Processing aid is used to provide an easier process that makes it less susceptible to environmental effects.

Some typical examples of literature studies can be listed as; lipid oxidation blockers in; fish oil (Luther et al., 2007), in fish (Ramanathan & Das, 1992), meat (Chamorro et al., 2015), muscle food (Wu et al., 2022); polyphenol supported packaging (Cheng et al., 2022; Liu et al., 2019; Roman et al., 2016), processing aids (Aguilar et al., 2008; Aliakbarian et al., 2008; Ranalli & De Mattia, 1997).

Anti-inflammatory Activity

Inflammation is a biological response to some agents like pathogens, irritants, or damaged cells which are associated with diseases and certain health issues like rheumatoid arthritis, atherosclerosis, asthma, obesity, diabetes, coronary heart diseases, and aging (de Cássia da Silveira e Sá et al., 2013; Li et al., 2014). Human biology tries to suppress the inflammation to "treat" the disorders to become "healthier" status. Polyphenols show significant activity in terms of inflammation suppression as an anti-inflammatory in vivo and in vitro (Yahfoufi et al., 2018). In a murine model, quercetin reduced inflammation by downregulating TNF- α and IL-1 β expression, showcasing its potential as a natural anti-inflammatory agent (Xu et al., 2019).

Literature provides a good insight into polyphenols' anti-inflammatory effects. Some examples are; olive polyphenols (Bucciantini et al., 2021), fruit polyphenols (Joseph et al., 2016), p-coumaric acid (Pragasam et al., 2013), black seeds (Ghannadi et al., 2005), green tea (Cavet et al., 2011; Lambert et al., 2010; Tipoe et al., 2007).

Anti-inflammatory activity is triggered by the antioxidant capacity. Hence, it will be clear to see these effects at once in the polyphenols (Kulkarni et al., 2008; Zhang & Tsao, 2016). Good evidence for such a synergistic effect is curcumin which has a great advantage for the bioactivity of polyphenols especially as an anti-inflammatory and antioxidant (Arshad et al., 2017; Menon & Sudheer, 2007; Motterlini et al., 2000).

Anti-carcinogenic Activity

Cancer is one of the top death-causing diseases globally and most of the nutritional and epidemiological research focuses on the effect of consumed foods on cancer metabolism. The literature is clear that polyphenols play a significant role in the prevention of cancer which has been proven especially in signaling pathways for carcinogenesis (Keskin, 2023, 2024; Keskin et al., 2023), skin cancer (Sajadimajd et al., 2020), gastric and stomach cancer (Vitelli-Storelli et al., 2020), colorectal cancer (Ding et al., 2020; Yammine et al., 2021), prostate cancer (Li et al., 2013), liver cancer (Li et al., 2023; Loa et al., 2009), and lung cancer (Sadava et al., 2007; Wang et al., 2011).

Some specific polyphenols have been previously listed by Li et al. (2014) as proanthocyanidins, flavonoids, resveratrol, tannins, epigallocatechin-3-gallate, gallic acid, and anthocyanin. These compounds are considered not as a treatment aid only but also a dietary source to prevent cancer as well. Another important finding in the literature is about resveratrol. Resveratrol, a stilbene found in grapes and red wine, has shown potential in reducing oxidative stress and modulating inflammatory pathways in clinical studies. For instance, a trial involving colorectal cancer patients demonstrated reduced oxidative markers and improved anti-inflammatory cytokine profiles with daily supplementation of resveratrol (Patel et al., 2010). Yet, we have to mention that cancer is still one of the diseases that are hard to treat, especially with complex mechanisms of cellular production (e.g. metastases) that are affected by many factors in the body including genetic factors. Polyphenols were found to affect the enzyme biology that could be showing an anti-carcinogenic effect with the carcinogen bounding capability as well as avoiding excessive cell damage during the cancer metabolism. The polyphenols still have to be tested in vivo and in vitro to be used for therapeutic purposes.

Cardiovascular Health

Polyphenols show a great advantage in cardiovascular health thanks to their antioxidant activities. In the literature, this effect was associated with postprandial hyperlipidemia and oxidative stress which could be reduced by polyphenols (Li et al., 2014). Polyphenols were found to have a significant effect on; atherosclerosis, myocardial infarction, and unstable angina which have very high case reporting globally yet significantly lower in the Mediterranean region due to higher intake of polyphenols (Nadtochiy & Redman, 2011). Moreover, antioxidant and anti-inflammatory effects help to protect heart health in the long term.

Polyphenols were also found to reduce blood pressure which directly reduces the risk factor for the heart and helps the enlargement of the blood veins (Marunaka et al., 2017; Medina-Remon et al., 2013). Additionally, polyphenol-rich diets were found to be associated with the lowering of low-density lipoprotein (LDL) which is linked with high blood pressure (Davalos et al., 2006; Hernáez et al., 2015).

Dietary Intake of Polyphenols

The average consumption of polyphenols through diet is about 1 g/day, ranging from 800-900 mg/day in Finland to 800-1100 mg/day in Spain, depending on diet, gender, and other socioeconomic factors. This intake is 100 times more than that of vitamin E and -carotenes and 10 times greater than that of vitamin C. Polyphenols may be the primary bioactive dietary components involved in redox homeostasis due to their stronger anti-oxidant effects than vitamin E (Tresserra-Rimbau et al. 2018; Landete 2013).

Conclusion

As multipurpose plant-derived substances, polyphenols have shown great promise in enhancing human health due to their wide range of bioactivities, which include cardiovascular protection, anti-inflammatory, anti-cancer, and antioxidant properties. These bioactivities demonstrate the potential of polyphenols in functional foods and nutraceutical uses in addition to aiding in the prevention of disease. Even with a wealth of study, more investigation is necessary to fully realize the therapeutic effects of polyphenols due to the intricacy of their metabolism and

interactions inside the human body. This article offers a strong basis for furthering research in this area and emphasizes the vital role that dietary polyphenols play in promoting a healthy lifestyle. Future research should focus on expanding our knowledge of the molecular processes that underlie polyphenols' beneficial impacts on health. Clarifying their metabolism, bioavailability, cooperative relationships with other dietary elements should receive particular attention. Furthermore, polyphenols' stability and effectiveness in food and pharmaceutical applications may be improved by utilizing developments in biotechnology and nanotechnology. The key to optimizing polyphenols' public health impact and making sure that their advantages are available to a wide range of communities globally will be to develop creative ways to integrate them into regular diets.

Declarations

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Author Contribution Statement

Eda Adal: Conceptualization, investigation, visualization, writing-review and editing, supervision, writing original draft

Tuğba Aktar: Conceptualization, investigation, visualization, writing-review and editing, supervision, writing original draft

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Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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