

FOLK MEDICINAL PLANTS IN KÜRECİK AREA (AKÇADAĞ/MALATYA-TURKEY)

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Abstract

In this study, 47 flowering plant taxa belonging to 19 families that are used as medicine are documented in Kürecik (Akçadağ/Malatya). These folk medicinal plants are mostly used for treatment of cold, diabetes, inflamed wound, menstrual and abdominal pain. All settlements in Kürecik township (20 villages) were visited during the field works. The plants that collected with folk medicinal plant user were identified and prepared voucher specimens were kept in the Herbarium of Istanbul University Faculty of Pharmacy (ISTE).

Keywords: Medicinal Plants, Folk Medicine, Kürecik, Malatya.

Kürecikte (Akçadağ/Malatya-Türkiye) Geleneksel Olarak Kullanılan Tibbi Bitkiler

Bu çalışmada, Kürecik Bucağında (Akçadağ/Malatya) tıbbi amaçla kullanılan 19 familyaya ait, 47 çiçekli bitki taksonu kaydedilmiştir. Bu çalışmada bitkiler başlıca soğuk algınlığı, şeker hastalığı, adet ağruları, iltihaplı yaralar ve karın ağrısı için kullanılmaktadır. Arazi çalışmaları boyunca bütün yerleşim yerleri (20 köy) ziyaret edilmiştir. Bilgi veren kişilerle birlikte toplanan bitkiler teşhis edilmiş ve hazırlanan herbaryum örnekleri İstanbul Üniversitesi Eczacılık Fakültesi Herbaryumu'nda (ISTE) saklanmaktadır.

Anahtar kelimeler: Tibbi bitkiler, Geleneksel tip, Kürecik, Malatya.

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INTRODUCTION

Malatya is located in the East Anatolia Region of Turkey. Small worn hills and extinct formations are very common in the area. There are wide plateaus and plains created by the lava and ashes from the extinct volcanoes.

The study is centered in the township Kürecik (Figure 1 and 2), Akçadağ, the district of Malatya province. It is composed by highland place up to 3200 m. The surveyed region distributed in 20 villages and it has a population of 5000 inhabitants mostly employed in apricot horticulture, agriculture and stock-rearing.

Civilization in this area is based on B.C. 3000 and Kürecik has very rich flora especially with great percentage of endemic and rare plants, also Irano-Turanian vegetation regions are largely represented. 10 Endemic plants are using as medicinal (* signed in Table 1) (19). Kürecik is near the Tohma Vale (Gürün-Darende) 101. Important Plant Area of Turkey (12).

The floristic composition of Kürecik (Malatya/Akçadağ) is similar to East Anatolia with most Irano-Turanian elements; pulvinate plants (*Acantholimon* sp., *Astragalus* sp.), *Achillea* sp., *Ferula* sp., *Prangos* sp., *Rosa* sp., *Pyrus* sp., *Crataegus* sp., *Quercus cerris* are the most common plants in vegetation.

Although Kürecik has very rich flora and plant culture, people who live in there immigrate to big cities. A literature survey revealed no previous research on this region. Primary aim of this research is to collect ethnomedicinal and ethnobotanical the complex relationships between used plants and cultures information about the still obtaining usages in Kürecik before they are completely lost.

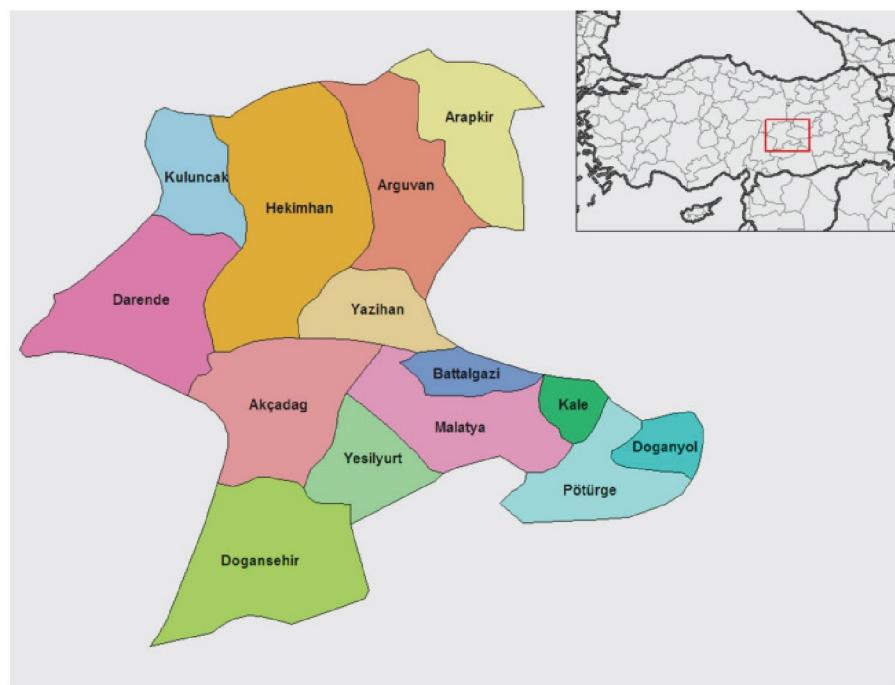


Figure 1. Map of Malatya and Turkey.

EXPERIMENTAL

The field work was carried out in July 2005-April 2007, during 84 days. The information including the various data such as local names, part of the used plants, ailments and preparation methods were obtained by mean of direct interviews (approximately 120 informants in 20 visited villages) with villager who knows practice about the herbal medicine efforts were made to double-check any information by asking the opinion of people in neighboring villages.

During the field studies, the plant specimens were collected together with accompanied informants. The collected fresh materials were numbered and kept as samples for botanical identification. Taxonomical determination of the collected specimen was made using '*Flora of Turkey and the East Aegean Islands*' (2,3,6) and '*Flora Iranica*' (14,15). A voucher specimen of each species was kept in ISTE (The Herbarium of Istanbul University Faculty of Pharmacy).

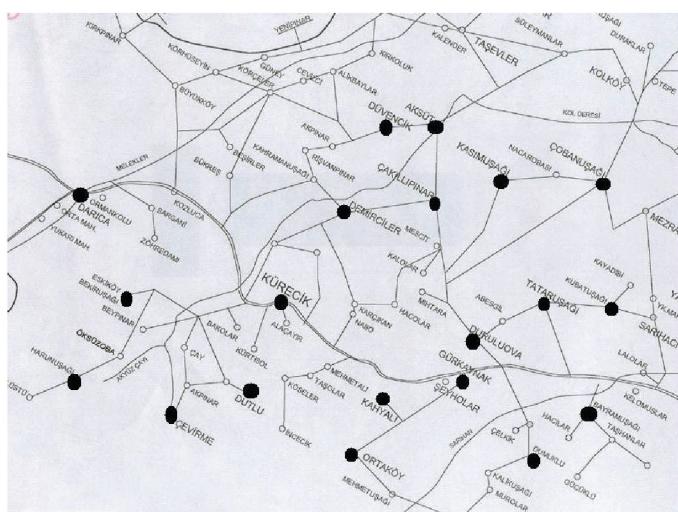


Figure 2. Map of Kürecik; 20 villages are marked with •.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

During the study 130 specimens were collected in the area. According to the results of the identification, 43 wilds and 4 cultivated taxa are used as folk medicine in Kürecik (19,20). The plants are presented in Table 1, followed by family name and herbarium numbers. In the respective columns; the local names, the used parts, the medicinal uses, village numbers (but if it is use extensively, village numbers do not write), and the methods of preparation and administration are given. In the last column, the study was compared with one thesis [Ovacık (4)] and two scientific articles [Pinarbaşı (13), Doğu Anadolu (17)] that the medicinal uses had been reported. 24 taxa are not using in these works and 17 taxa have different uses. According our results, using of 8 taxa (*Alceaee apterocarpa*, *Armeniaca vulgaris*, *Betula litwinowii*, *Juglans regia*, *Imula heterolepis*, *Orthurus heterocarpus*, *Stachys cretica* subsp. *mersinaea*, and *Verbascum asperuloides*) have not recorded in traditional medicine before (10,16). The plants are being used as multiherbal recipies are presented in Table 2, arranged in an alphabetical order according to their botanical names. In the respective columns the used parts, the medicinal uses, the methods of preparation and administration are given.

Most of the interviewers stated that they know that using high amount of *Euphorbia macroclada*, *Teucrium polium*, and *Ranunculus pinardii* can be dangerous and must use them carefully.

Arum detruncatum var. *detruncatum* is used for after birth pains as soap but dried for winter or leaves are boiled with filtered cheese and çökelik water.

According to research there were been women who nickname ‘ebe’ and they had gotten birth otherwise had cured especially women’s sterility, miscarriage by different mixtures (Table 2). Women had been standed above on the mixtures decoction.

Verbascum asperuloides, *Berberis crataegina*, and *Rosa canina* are not only used in human but also used in animal treatment.

Thymus sipyleus subsp *rosulans*, *Thymus kotschyani* var. *kotschyani*, *Thymus fallax* are known with same local names (Catır, Catri) and usage, otherwise *Teucrium polium* are known with seven different local names (19,20).

This study will contributed to the studies had been prepared in our department since 1994 (1,5,7,8,9,11,18).

Table 1. Plants used as medicinal purpose in Kürecik

Botanical name, family, voucher number	Local names	Used parts	Uses (Village names given in the bottom)	Preparation, administration, dosage, duration of the treatment	Other traditional uses reported earlier in Turkish ethnobotanical literature (4,13,17)
<i>Achillea biebersteinii</i> Afan. Compositae ISTE 83598	Ğirtkesan	Areal part	Menstrual pains (3, 5, 6, 7, 14, 17, 20), stomachache Menstrual pains, women's sterility	Infusion and decoction, int. Decoction int.	Invigorate the body, for skin (13), wound (4), skin disease in children, jaundice, abscess (17)
<i>Achillea cappadocica</i> Hausskn.& Bornm. *	Ğirtkesan	Areal part	Menstrual pains (3, 5, 6, 7, 14, 17, 18, 20), stomachache	Infusion and decoction, int. Decoction int.	
<i>Achillea setacea</i> Waldst. & Kit. ISTE 83633	Ğirtkesani işpi	Areal part	Menstrual pains, women's sterility	Decoction int.	
<i>Achillea wilhelmsii</i> C. Koch. ISTE 83591	Ğirtkesan	Areal part	Menstrual pains (5,8), birth pains (5, 8, 14), stomachache (3)	Infusion, int.	For stomachache (13)
<i>Alcea apicocarpa</i> (Fenzl) Boiss. *	Huri, Hüri, Hürün, Hurin	Areal part	Menstrual pains (3, 6, 7, 5,14,17,20), stomachache. Menstrual pains, women's sterility	Infusion and decoction, int. Decoction, int.	Against herpes infections in mouth and toothache (13), bronchitis (17)
Malvaceae ISTE 83636, 83730, 83684			Intestinal and stomach ailments (8, 15), Cough (9, 12, 15, 18, 20) Wound healing (6)	Infusion int. Infusion and decoction int. Boiled direct or mixed with raw egg	

Table 1. (continued)

<i>Allium cepa</i> L. Liliaceae	Pivaz	Bulb	Inflamed wound	Ext.	For stomachache (13), bee stings, fractured bones (17)
<i>Armeniaca vulgaris</i> Lam. Rosaceae	Herung, Kayısı	Fruit	Diuretic	Freshly eaten.	
<i>Arun detruncatum</i> C. A. Meyer ex Schott var. <i>detruncatum</i> Araeae ISTE 83727	Nivic	Leaf	Pains after birth (4, 6, 7, 11, 17)	Infusion int. and as soap	For sore throat, common cold, treat rheumatism (13)
<i>Berberis crataegina</i> DC. Berberidaceae ISTE 83721, 83771	Karamuk	Fruit	Diarrhea (7, 16, 17)	Freshly eaten	For wound healing (13)
<i>Betula lirwinovii</i> Doluch. Betulaceae ISTE 83680	Karaağaç	Root	Hemorrhoids (1, 4, 11, 16, 18) Diabetes (8), worms (on animals)	Infusion, int.	
<i>Centaurea virgata</i> Lam. Compositae ISTE 83738	Ardavık	Areal part	Women pains	Decoction, int.	
<i>Cerasus hippochaeoides</i> (Burm.) Burm. * Rosaceae ISTE 83646, 83671, 83704, 83712	Ceraz, Ceraza çे Dağ kirazı	Fruit	Antiallergic (on child) (4), Jaundice (1,4,6,16,17) Diarrhea (1,7,17)	Infusion as shower	

Table 1. (continued)

<i>Chrysophthalmum montanum</i> (DC.) Boiss.	Nezle otu	Areal part	Common Cold (nezle) ve Colds (17)	Infusion, int.	To relieve catarrh (13)
Compositae ISTE 83600					
<i>Crataegus x bornmuelleri</i> Zabel*	Civica zar, Givica zar	Root Root bark Ancillary root	Antihypertensive (14,17) Rheumatism (4) Rheumatism (4)	Infusion, int. Infusion and decoction, int. Infusion, int.	
Rosaceae ISTE 83785					
<i>Crataegus meyeri</i> Pojark.	Roğök, Rıgök	Fruits Root	Antidiarrhoeic (4) Diabetes (4)	Freshly eaten Decoction, int.	To treat cardiac disorders, rheumatism (13)
ISTE 83785					
<i>Crategus orientalis</i> Palas ex Bieb. var. <i>orientalis</i>	Givica sur, Civica sur	Root Root bark Ancillary root	Antihypertensive (14,17) Rheumatism (4) Rheumatism (4)	Infusion, int. Infusion and decoction, int. Infusion, int.	
ISTE 83645					
<i>Eremurus spectabilis</i> (Bieb.) Fedtsch.	Çırışık, Çırış	Leaves	Pains of the eyes	Freshly eaten.	Diabetes, eczema (4)
Liliaceae					
ISTE 83924					
<i>Euphorbia macroclada</i> Boiss.	Çaşıl	Latex	Scorpion and bee bites Wound (6,14)	Ext.	For eczema, fungal infection (13)
Euphorbiaceae ISTE 83607					
<i>Ficus carica</i> L. subsp. <i>rupestris</i>	Hincir	Latex	Wounds (1)	Ext.	For gastric ulcer (13)
(Hausskn.) Browicz					
Moraceae ISTE 83664					

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Table 1. (continued)

<i>Helichrysum plicatum</i> DC. subsp. <i>plicatum</i>	Sarı çiçek, Gül zar	Areal part	Kidney stones (3,8) and kidney and stomach ailments (5, 8)	Infusion and decoction, int.
Compositae			Depreciatory (3,8)	As tea, int.
ISTE 83779, 83718				
<i>Hyoscyamus niger</i> L.	Caye kumacığe (yaygın).	Seeds	To expel warm from eyes and mouth	Itching, against toothaches (17)
			int.	
<i>Hypericum hydium</i> Boiss.	Kulilkazar, Caye sancıyan, Sancı otu	Areal part	Menstrual (3,7,8, 14,15,17) and stomach ailments	Infusion and infusion, int.
Hypericaceae				
ISTE 83692				
<i>Hypericum secundum</i> L.	Karahasın çayı, Kulilkazar, Sancı otu	Areal part	Menstrual, abdominal (3,7,8,14,15,17), 18) and stomach ailments	For hemoroid (13)
ISTE 83691, 83694			Analjezik (15), relaxing (15)	
<i>Imula heterolepis</i> Boiss.	Caye röe	Areal part	Headache (17)	Infusion, int.
Compositae				
ISTE 83603				
<i>Juglans regia</i> L.	Ceviz, Cuz	Fruit barks	women's sterility	Decoction, boiled in water, sitting on vapour.
Juglandaceae				
<i>Malva neglecta</i> Wallr.	Tolik	Herb	women's sterility (3, 5, 6, 8, 11, 14, 15, 17, 19)	Boiled in water, sitting on vapour
Malvaceae				
ISTE 83613, 83731, 83649			Wound, hemorrhoids	Crushes and direct, ext.
			Miscarriage	As wick

Table 1. (continued)

<i>Mentha longifolia</i> (L.) Hudson subsp. <i>typhoides</i> (Briq.) Harley var. <i>typhoides</i>	Pung	Areal part	Carminative, Intestinal ailments (for babies)	With heated ground mixes uses, ext. Infusion, int.	For sore throat, tonsillitis, rash and other skin, hemorrhoids (13), shortness of breath, stomachache (4), sunstroke, stomachache, hemorrhoids, headache, cough, menstrual pain (17)
<i>Labiateae</i> ISTE 83661					
<i>Orthurus heterocarpus</i> (Boiss.) Juz. Rosaceae ISTE 83859	Kulafır, Karanfil	Ground part	Cough (9,12,15,17,20) Colds (9,12,15,17,19)	Infusion, int.	
<i>Papaver dubium</i> L. subsp. <i>laevigatum</i> (M. Bieb.) Kadereit Papaveraceae ISTE 83611, 83713	Lala, Külükasor	Flower	Cough (6,13,17)	Infusion, int	
<i>Papaver macrostomum</i> Boiss. et Huet ex Boiss. ISTE 83610, 83772	Lala, Külükasor	Flower	Cough (6,13,17)	Infusion, int	
<i>Plantago major</i> L. subsp. <i>major</i> Plantaginaceae ISTE 83604, 83635, 83660, 83715	Ca havez, Gazyağı otu	Herb Leaf	Stomach ailments (4,7,11) Wound and inflamed wound, burns	Freshly eaten. Warmed with butter, ext.	For abscess (13,17), toothache (13), erysipelas (17)
<i>Ranunculus pinardii</i> (Stev.) Boiss. Ranunculaceae ISTE 83860	Karaz, Gazyağı otu	Areal part	Rheumatic pains Inflamed wound, Stomachache (4)	Crushed or direkt, ext. Crushed or direkt, ext., Infusion, int.	

Table 1. (continued)

<i>Rosa canina</i> L. Rosaceae ISTE 83783	Şilan Root	Dry fruit Hemorrhoids (7,17) Animal treatment (5,6,12,13,15,17)	Colds (3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 17, 20) Eaten. Decoction, int.	Decoction, int. , treat cardiac disorders (13). cough, bronchitis (17)
<i>Scorzonera tomentosa</i> L. * Compositae ISTE 83663, 83678, 83736	Neraband	Lateks Stomach ailment. Wound (14)	Chewed Ext.	
<i>Sideritis libanotica</i> Labill. subsp. <i>linearis</i> (Bentham) Bornm. *	Dağ çayı, Çaya çé	Areal part Colds (7,14,17)	Infusion and decoction, int.	
Labiatae ISTE 83593, 83644, 83710				
<i>Stachys cretica</i> L. subsp. <i>anatolica</i> Rech. fil. *	Çaya çé, Dağ çayı	Areal part Colds (5,7,8) and stomach ailments (5,7,8)	Infusion and decoction, int.	
Labiatae ISTE 83595				
<i>Stachys cretica</i> L. subsp. <i>mertensiae</i> Rech. fil. *	Çaya çé, Dağ çayı	Areal part Colds (5,7,8) and stomach ailments (5,7,8)	Infusion and decoction, int.	
Labiatae ISTE 83638, 83630				
<i>Teucrium polium</i> L. Labiatae ISTE 83682, 83632, 83643, 83659, 83676, 83745	Bijdo, Caye röç, Caye mabasire, Fatmack otu, Parihavşan, Vijdo Herb	Hemorrhoids (12,15,19), tuberculosis(4), diabetes (3,6,14), sunstroke (on child), birth pains (12,15,19), abdominal ailments	Infusion, int. Mixed, plant powder with honey and butter (hungry, 1 tablespoon), int. Shower, ext. Decoction, int. Infusion, int.	Appetite stimulant for children, stomachache (13), cold (4), diarrhoea, stop bleeding (17)

Table 1. (continued)

<i>Thymus fallax</i> Fisch. & Mey. Labiatae ISTE 83634	Catir, Catri	Areal part	Diabetes (6,7,8,14,17), Colds, Abdominal ailments (17)	Infusion, int. Decoction, int.
<i>Thymus kotschyani</i> Boiss. & Hohen var. <i>kotschyani</i> ISTE 83586, 83769	Catir, Catri	Areal part	Diabetes (6,7,8,14,17), Colds, Abdominal ailments (17)	Infusion, int. Decoction, int.
<i>Thymus stipelatus</i> Boiss. subsp <i>rosulans</i> (Borbás) Jalas* ISTE 83875, 83862	Catir, Catri	Areal part	Diabetes (6,7,8,14,17), Colds, Abdominal ailments (17)	Infusion, int. Decoction, int.
<i>Tripleurospermum sevanense</i> (Manden.) Pobed. Compositae ISTE 83587	Papatya	Capitulum	Hair restorer (3,6,17)	Decoction, ext.
<i>Urtica dioica</i> L. Urticaceae ISTE 83621, 83667	Gazk	Areal part	Rheumatism (14,17)	Ext.
<i>Verbascum asperuloides</i> Hub.-Mor. *	Macyank	Leaf Flower	Antiparasitic (on animal injury) (5, 6, 15, 17) Shortness of breath, asthma (6,7,8,17)	Rubed as powder, ext. Infusion, int.
Serophulariacae ISTE 83658				

Table 1. (continued)

<i>Viscum album</i> L. subsp. <i>album</i>	Çöpleme	Herb	Headache (3,5,8,9,12,14,15,17)	Decoction mixed with henna, ext.	For diabetes, hemorrhoid (4)
Loranthaceae ISTE 83728					
<i>Ziziphora clinopodioides</i> Lam. Labiateae ISTE 83735, 83673	Catr, Catri, Anğı	Areal part	Colds (7,9,17)	Infusion, int.	Appetizer (4)

* Endemic plants, int.: internal; ext: external

Village names: 1-Aksüt, 2-Bayramuşağı, 3-Bekiruşağı, 4-Çakıllıpnar, 5-Çevirme, 6-Darıca, 7-Demirciler, 8-Dutlu, 9-Durulova, 10-Dümüklü, 11-Güneşli (Düvencik), 12-Gürkaynak, 13-Hançerli, 14-Harunuşağı, 15-Kahyali, 16-Kasımuşağı, 17-Keppez (Kürecik Center), 18-Kubatusağı, 19-Ortaköy, 20-Tataruşağı.

Table 2. Multiherbal recipes used as folk medicine in Kürecik

Botanical name	Used part	Uses	Preparation, administration, duration of the treatment
<i>Alcea apertocarpa*</i>	Root and areal parts	Hemorrhoid, inflamed wound and wound	Crushed and made an dough with butter and flour, ext.
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	Seeds flour		
<i>Betula litwinowii</i>	Leaves	Women's sterility	Made dough with infusion and carry out to abdomen, ext.
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	Seeds flour		
<i>Malva neglecta</i>	Areal parts and herb	Hemorrhoid, inflamed wound and wound	Made dough with butter and direct plant or plant decoction, ext.
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	Seeds flour		
<i>Ranunculus pinardii</i>	Areal part	Rheumatism, inflamed wound	Made dough with butter and flour, ext.
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	Seeds flour		
<i>Scabiosa argentea</i>	Areal parts	Jaundice (3, 4, 14)	Infusion, int. or decoction (as shower), ext.
<i>Armeniacaca vulgaris</i>	Dried fruits		
<i>Betula litwinowii</i>	Branch with leaves		
<i>Plumbago europaea</i>	Areal parts	Women's sterility	Boiled in water, sitting on vapour
<i>Malva neglecta</i>	Areal parts		
<i>Alcea apertocarpa*</i>	Areal parts		

Village names: 1-Aksüt, 2-Bayramuşağı, 3-Bekiruşağı, 4-Caklılpınar, 5-Cevirme, 6-Darıca, 7-Demirciler, 8-Dutlu, 9-Durnulova, 10-Dümtüklü, 11-Güneşli (Divencik), 12-Gürkaynak, 13-Hançerli, 14-Harunuşağı, 15-Kâhyalı, 16-Kasımucası, 17-Keppez (Kürecik Center), 18-Kubatuşağı, 19-Ortaköy, 20-Tataruşağı.

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