

WILD HARVESTING  
BUSINESS OF MAPs  
IN TURKEY

Kilis, May, 09, 2013

It is reported that the number of commercially wild collected plants is about 347 in Turkey.

About 20 different plants as average 36126 tones were exported 80388 USD income was gained during 2004-2008 years.

The income from MAPs in 2008 was 101710 USD (Bayram et al., 2010).

Turkey is of big exporters for Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (MAPs) and about 100 different countries buy MAPs from Turkey.

These materials were obtained from wild collection and cultivation. According to statistical data, the most wild collected-exported MAPs from Turkey and their quantities in 2008 were:

bay leaf (6933 tones),  
carob (3559 tones),  
capers (In 2006, 2051 tones),  
Thyme (As 20 % of the total export, *Origanum* sp,  
*Thymus* sp., *Thymbra* sp, *Satureja* sp., 1937 tones),  
sumac (1175 tones),  
rosemary (573 tones),  
licorice (227 tones),  
linden flowers (121 tones),  
mahaleb (102 tones)

Wild collected MAPs have gradually increased by the years in Turkey. Some of wild collected plant species have started to domesticated and cultivated in the fields, recently.

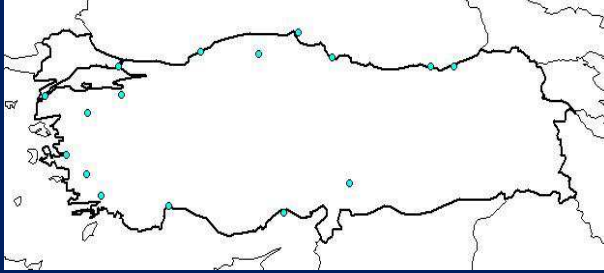
Although all the export material has been obtained from wild plants in recent times, *Oregano (Origanum onites L. and Origanum syriacum L.)* cultivation started in last decades in western part of Turkey.

Nowadays, almost all the exported oregano (80 %) has been cultivated under field conditions according to organic farming rules. Only 20 % of the material has been wild-collected from nature.

Plants	Parts Harvested	Production (t)	Value (1.000 USD)	in the last 10 years the production has	Land Property
<i>Ceratonia siliqua (Carob)</i>	Fruit	3.559	4.326	maintained	forest, public (100)
<i>Capparis spinosa L.</i>	Bud	2.051	3.581	a sharp decline after 2007	forest, land, public (100)
<i>Rhus coriaria (sumac)</i>	Fruit	1.175	1.771	maintained	forest, land, public (100)
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis (Rosemary)</i>	Leaf	573	1.588	maintained	forest, land, public (100)
<i>Glycyrrhiza glabra (Licorice)</i>	Stolon	227	431	decline trend	land, public (50)
<i>Tilia spp. (Linden)</i>	Flower	121	1.392	no- maintained	forest, public (100)
<i>Prunus mahaleb</i>	Kernel	102	897	maintained	forest, land, public (100)
<i>Laurus nobilis (Bay leaf)</i>	Leaf, fruits	6.933	20.007	increased	forest, land, public (100)
<i>Origanum onites L. (Turkish oregano)</i>	Herb	937	4216	maintained	forest, land, public (100)
<i>Thymbra spicata L. (Zahter, Thyme)</i>	Herb (Dried), sprout (fresh)	25	75	decline trend	forest, land, public (100)

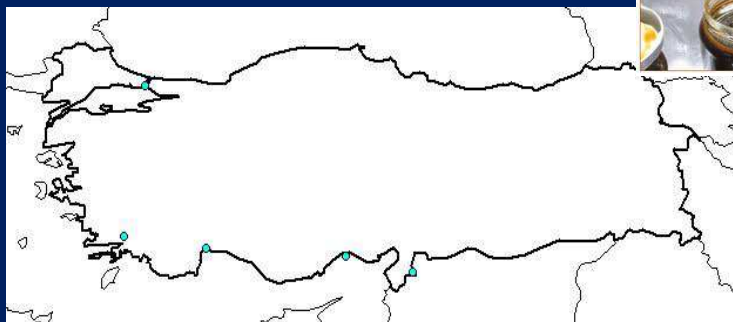
*Laurus nobilis* L. (Bay leaf)

6.933 t, 20.007.000 USD



*Ceratonia siliqua* L. (Carob)

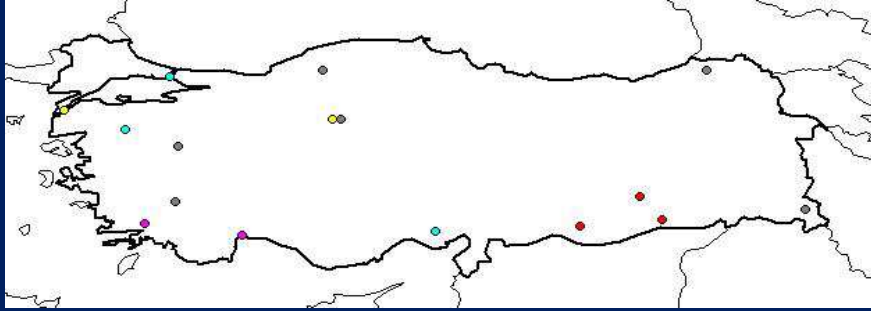
3.559 t, 4.326.000 USD



## *Capparis* spp. (Capers)

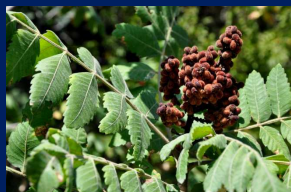
2.051 t, 3.581.000 USD

*Capparis spinosa* variete *spinosa*  
*Capparis spinosa* variete *inermis*  
*Capparis ovata* variete *canescens*  
*Capparis ovata* variete *herbacea*  
*Capparis ovata* variete *palaestina*



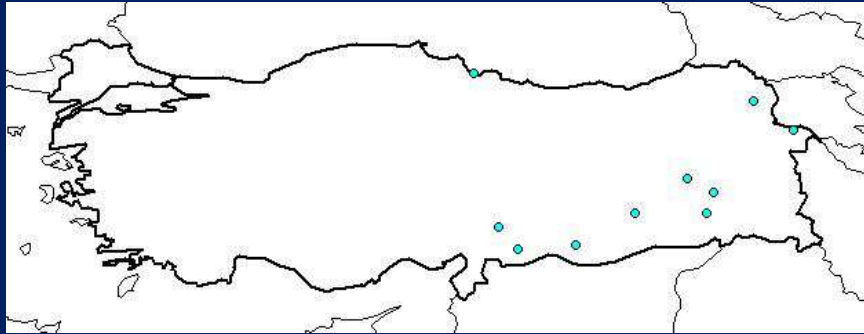
## *Rhus coriaria* L. (Sumac)

1.175 t, 1.771.000 USD



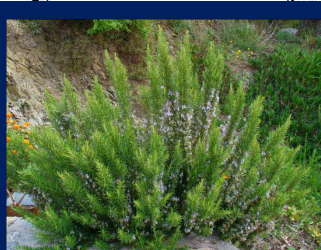
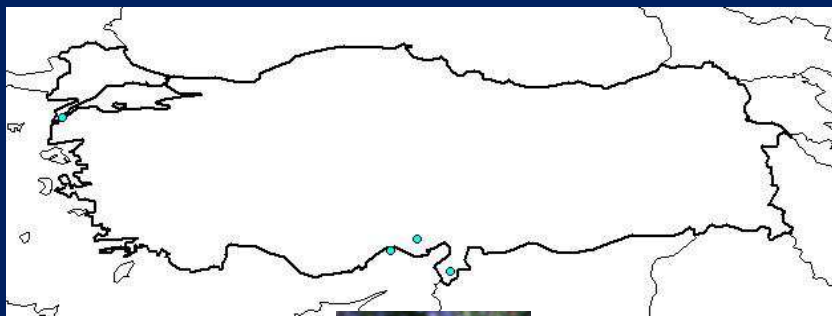
*Glycyrrhiza glabra* (Licorice)

227 t, 431.000 USD



*Rosmarinus officinalis* L. (Rosemary)

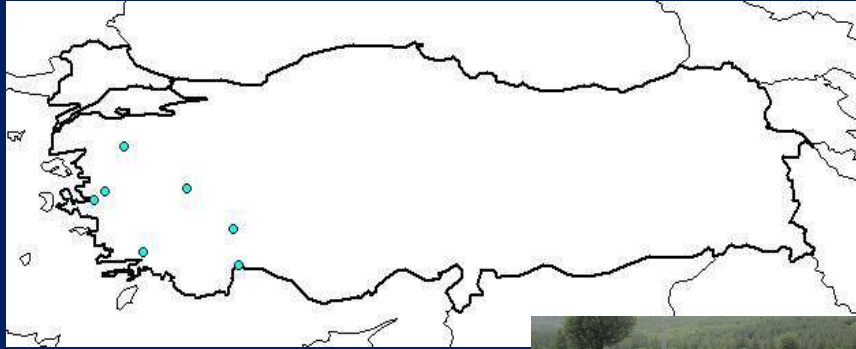
573 t, 1.588.000 USD





*Origanum onites* L. (Turkish Oregano)

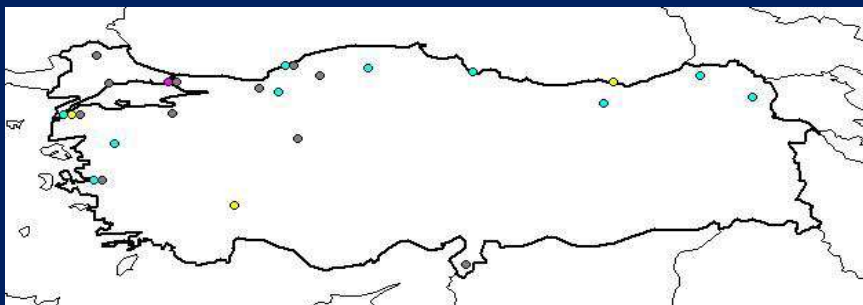
937 t, 4.216.000 USD



*Tilia* spp. (Linden)

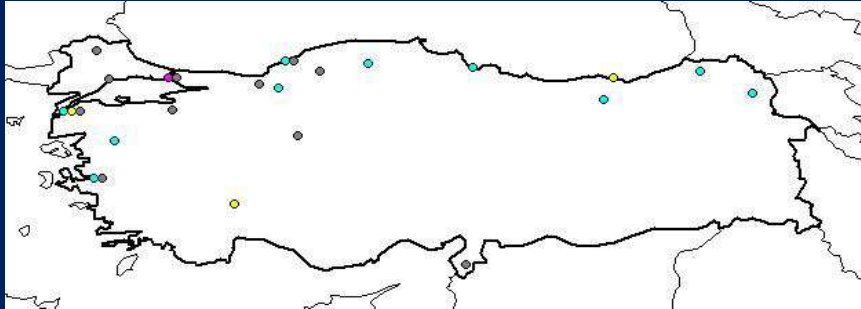
121 t, 1.392.000 USD

*Tilia rubra* **alttūr** *caucasica*  
*Tilia cordata*  
*Tilia platyphyllos*  
*Tilia argentea*



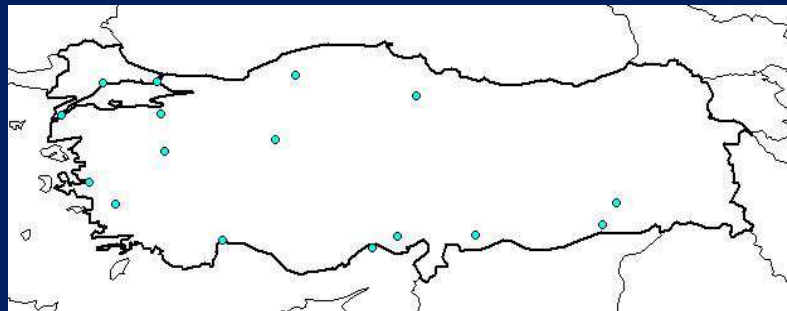
*Prunus mahaleb* (Mahaleb cherry)

102 t, 897.000 USD



*Thymbra spicata* L. (Zahter)

25 t, 75.000 USD







### Strengths

- Plant diversity and richness
- Huge export capacity of MAPs
- Developing industry of MAPs
- Good scientific knowledge for processing of MAPs
- Diversity of MAPs products
- Organic certificated MAPs products

### Opportunities

- Developing MAPs market on the world
- Interest in MAPs cultivation and production
- Huge demand for Turkish MAPs products
- Governmental support for MAPs projects

### Weakness

Dark market  
Raw material export and processed import  
Less knowledge of wild harvesting and postharvest  
Fluctuation in raw material prices  
Insufficient legal regulations

### Threats

Dark market  
Excessive wild harvesting of some plant species  
Loss of ethnobotanic information  
Adulteration of some MAPs products

THANK YOU