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## Farming in the Forests of Black Sea Coastal; Case Study of Black Sea Region in Turkey

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### Abstract

Forest areas provide an ideal location for planting many valued plants as well as animal production. Beside timber production, there are some plants prefer shaded conditions which required management practices. When considering farming in forested lands, some animals and plants are feasible in the available resources of forests. The coastal of Black Sea Region runs from Romania, Bulgaria, Georgia, and Turkey. The sea is very abundant for fish catches and providing important feeding areas for commercially important species. The region is very important for wildlife of animals. For example, raptors, pelicans, storks' waders are some kind of birds in the area. Forests are very important for timber production. Naturally, the region is famous with 79 animal species and six plant species. The Black Sea Region is one of Turkey's geographical regions. The available resources are feasible for high value forest corps beside the sea products and tourism. The aim of this study is to presents some examples of forest farming in the Black Sea Region of Turkey. The objective of the study is to help creating ecological farming through the Black Sea Coast within the collaboration of several countries.

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### 1. Introduction

Forest areas are an important land of agricultural production or farming in Turkey. Nuts, fruits, berries, and gourmet crops, medical plants, ornamentals and cut flowers are some production in forest lands (Chamberlain et al.

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2009; Hart, 1996). The number of forest farming production has seriously increased by the nuts and medical plants in the Black Sea region (Genç, 2001). Ornamentals and cut flowers produce especially in the Mediterranean Region of Turkey. The aim of this study is to present some examples of forest farming in the Black Sea Region as a case study of Black Sea Region in Turkey. The objective of the study is to help creating ecological farming through the Black Sea Coast within the collaboration of several countries.

## 2. Material and Method

The data used in research was obtained by simple random sampling in 2010-2011 production term by questionnaire performed in 178 enterprises of Black Sea Region in Turkey.

## 3. Result and Discussion

Farming in the forest or forest farming can be defined as cultivation of plants in forest land. Nuts, fruits, berries, and gourmet crops, medical plants and other botanicals, and ornamentals, cut flowers and other greenery are forest farming in the sea region. Timber, nuts and fruits like pecans and persimmons, vines, palmettos, and ornamentals can be cultivated for medicinal and culinary herbs, roots, mushrooms and landscaping or florist products like flowers and ferns in the forest lands (Anonymous, 2011).

The forest products in Black Sea Region of Turkey are mainly naturally growing walnuts; hazelnuts, native fruit trees such as apple, plums, cherries, table grape viticulture, wine, mulberries, cranberries, and mushrooms.

Medical plants have been natively growing in the region, and cultivated medical plant produce too in last decade. Cultivation in the forest lands created new markets for medical plants. There is a strong demand for medical plants in Turkey due to the publication of scientific research and reports on alternative medicine and natural products. Wildflowers are also a new market in Turkey where ornaments and cut flowers are mainly produce in Mediterranean Region and for export. Garlands are good source of animal feeding in native oak forests.

Some landowners in the forest have been focus on forest farming with the government financial supports in last decade. Families tend to cultivate some medical plants, vegetable, and fruits with financial supports. Any entrepreneurship on forest farming require business plan in order to get regional development agency grants. The business plan includes the certain growing conditions of plant; require irrigation, special labor, and other factors.

The production potential is idle and producers of forest farming are not organized. The lack of knowledge is obstacle for production even though financial supports. The lack of management is obstacle too where strong markets occur.

## 4. Conclusion

The forest farming has been increased in Black Sea Region in last decade where quantitatively not measured. Ecologic forest farming within Black Sea Coastal countries should be supported European Union.

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