

Socio-economic Practices in Turkish Forests: A case for Muğla Regional Forestry Directorate, Turkey

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Aim of the study: With the recent paradigm shift in the Turkish forestry, forestry practices focus more on ecologic and socio-economic functions in addition to the long-going economic (i.e. wood production) functions in forestland. Establishing forest stands with income-generating tree species and honey stands for local beekeeping for the locals stand out two forestry practices with the socio-economic functions in the Muğla Regional Forestry Directorate in Turkey. This paper provide a synopsis of practices for the aforementioned functions including silvicultural practices carried out in these stands and the feedback from the locals regarding these practices.

Material and Methods: The forestry practices carried out in the directorate's jurisdiction area for the aforementioned socio-economic functions were introduced and evaluated in terms of ecological and socio-economic outcomes.

Results: More area are allocated in the directorate's jurisdiction area to socio-economic functions including income generating tree species and stands for beekeeping in the revised forest management plans. There is still considerable size of people living in and around state forestland the rural area in Muğla, and agriculture, animal husbandry and forestry jobs are the main sources of income for these local people. Stone pine, olive, and almond trees are the main tree species of interest for income-generating tree species. Muğla Region also stands out at both national and international levels for pine honey production. Identification of some of the existing stands of Turkish red pine as honey forests with much reduced level of feeling levels makes a great contribution to the region's pine honey production. In addition, these socio-economic practices help improve the life standards of the local and reduce the antropogenic pressure on the region's forest resources.

Acknowledgements: We thank the Muğla Regional Directorate of Forestry for providing information and visual resources.

Keywords: Income generation, pine honey production, socio-economic functions.