

- Project Title** : Control of Chestnut Diseases and Pests in District Beydağ, Province Izmir
- Start Date** : 2012
- Supporting Body** : Department of Izmir Special Provincial Administration
- Leader** : Dr. Mükerrerem ÇELİKER
- Co-researchers** : Cevdet KAPLAN, Dilek POYRAZ, Barbaros ÇETİNEL, Tevfik TURANLI, Ayşe UYSAL, Prof. Dr. Ersin ONOĞUR, Erol KÜÇÜK, Andaç ÇAVDAR, Arzu KESKİNKAYA SÖZER, Mecal Necibe ÖZKAN, Ayşegül ÇAKIR YILDIZ, Asuman MAZMAN, Hacer CAN
- Summary** : Chestnut trees are economically important for fruit and timber production in Turkey and also in world. Chestnut blight (*Cryphonectria parasitica*) is the most important disease in the chestnut groves of Turkey. The only way to control the disease is to introduce quarantine measures and good cultural practices, which cannot be satisfactorily effective in dissemination and control of disease.
- Beside the Chestnut blight, Armillaria root rot (*Armillaria melaë*), Cytospora canker (*Cytospora* spp.) and Ink disease (*Phytophthora* spp.) cause also die-back of the chestnut trees in Aegean Region.
- Results of various studies show that there are several insect pests damaging the chestnut trees, such as *Synanthedon vespiformis* (Lep.: Aegeridae) and *Cossus cossus* L. (Lep.: Cossidae) in wood tissue of root, trunk and branches; *Pammene faciana* L., (Lep.: Tortricidae) on pricklies, *Cydia splendana* (Hbn) (Lep.: Tortricidae) and *Curculio elephas* Gyll. (Col.: Curculionidae) on the fruits caused economically significant yield losses, when populations of these species increase and the natural balance disrupt.
- Chestnut production is an important source of income for the villagers of Beydağ district, province Izmir. The diseases and insect pests, the chestnut blight first, cause serious yield and quality losses. Upon this fact, a proposal was given to General Provincial Council of Izmir in 2011 by Beydağ District to overcome these problems. Thus İzmir General Provincial Council offered us to prepare a project to solve chestnut blight and other diseases and also insect problems in Beydağ district.
- The Project will be carried out in the leadership of Plant Protection Research Station-Bornova. Following studies will be done in the project;
- A questionnaire will be prepared and applicated to determine knowledge level of growers before and after the training.
- Theoretical and practical training will be given to growers on the control of the diseases and insect pests and also chestnut

cultivation techniques.

Demonstrations will be performed working with the chestnut growers on cultural practices in chestnut groves.

A survey will be carried out in the region to determine other diseases and insect pests.

A brochure will be prepared on the identification of diseases and insect pests present in Beydağ district together with their control measures and chestnut cultivation techniques

This study will be conducted in collaboration with Plant Protection Research Station, Aegean Agricultural Research Institute, University of Ege, Faculty of Agriculture, Izmir Provincial Directorate of Agriculture, Department of Izmir Special Provincial Administration, Regional Directorate of Forestry and growers in Beydağ district between the years 2012 - 2013.

The project will help growers to solve the disease and pest problems and to increase healthy chestnut production in Beydağ district.