

**DOMESTICATION AND DETERMINATION OF YIELD AND YIELD COMPONENTS AND ESSENTIAL OIL CONTENT OF WILD MENTHA SPECIES GROWN IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION**

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**ABSTRACT**

To examine the potential yield and the yield components of *Mentha* species and ecotypes occurring wildly in the Mediterranean region, seven *Mentha* species, three *M. spicata* L. ssp. *spicata*, two *M. longifolia* (L.) Hudson ssp. *typhoides* var. *typhoides* and two *Mentha x piperita* L. were collected and evaluated. Later, they were grown and the fresh and dry herbage yields, dry leaf yield, essential oil content and yields of leaf were determined. Most of the wild *Mentha* species had higher essential oil contents than those of pharmacopoeia. The results showed that wild *mentha* species and ecotypes were valuable material for high herbage yield and oil content.