Released Varieties

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Registration of "Yektay" Safflower (*Carthamus tinctorious* L.) Variety

YEKTAY is safflower (*Carthamus tinctorious* L.) variety developed by Transitional Zone Agricultural Research Institute (TZARI) and registered in 2019.

Safflower has a great potential for arid areas and can take place cropping pattern and rotated with wheat, barley and some legumes. It is a broadleaf, highly branched and annual industrial crop having different ways of use in the World. Safflower seed oil consists of nearly 90% unsaturated fatty acids like oleic and linoleic acids. Safflower oil has taken place for human nutrition as a raw material as well as for production of biodiesel in Turkey. Beside of these, safflower petal also uses for medical purposes, coloring food and raw material for cosmetic.

YEKTAY is similar variety to Balci in terms of morphologic characters. YEKTAY is spiny variety and its flower is pure yellow. Its plant height is about 80-100 cm and 1000 seed weight is 40-50 g. Seed oil content of this variety is 35-37%. In dry condition, seed and oil yield are 2000-2500 kg ha^{-1} and 850-1000 kg ha^{-1}, respectively. YEKTAY is superior in terms of oil yield.

Pre-basic and basic seeds of the YEKTAY cultivar have been produced by Transitional Zone Agricultural Research Institute (TZARI).

Figure 1. Head, grain and field appearance of Yektay safflower variety. (Original)

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