






Molecular Characterization and Dose-Response to 2,4-D Herbicide in *Convolvulus arvensis* Populations in Türkiye

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ABSTRACT

Field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis* L.) is an important weed species in agricultural areas in Türkiye and worldwide. The study, conducted in 2018-2019, involved collecting seeds from 16 different provinces in Türkiye (Adana, Ankara, Çanakkale, Denizli, Diyarbakır, Erzurum, Hatay, İzmir, Karaman, Kayseri, Konya, Malatya, Samsun, Şanlıurfa, Tekirdağ and Uşak). These seeds were then germinated under greenhouse conditions (29/19°C day/night), and molecular characterization of the samples was performed. As a result of comparing the samples with a specific reference from NCBI GenBank, it was found that the similarity ratios were close to each other but formed different groups. The study

revealed that samples from Adana, Konya and Samsun belonged to different groups in terms of similarity. Subsequently, the dose-response rates of these samples to 2,4-D, a herbicide licensed against field bindweed, were determined. In the dose-response analysis of the herbicides, ED₅₀ values of 131.93, 115.42 and 141.89 g.a.i/ha were determined for Adana, Konya and Samsun, respectively. The study concluded that the dose-response of field bindweed in Adana, Konya and Samsun provinces, belonging to different molecular groups, to 2,4-D herbicide is close to each other but exhibits different values.

Keywords: Field bindweed, Weed, Molecular characterization, Herbicide

1. Introduction

Weeds in agricultural areas are one of the biggest problems in the world, as they lead to yield and product losses (Jabran et al. 2015). Around 1800 weed species in the world cause a 31.5% decline in agricultural productivity (Kubiak et al. 2022). Weeds in agricultural areas negatively impact crop development by competing for water, light, and nutrients with crops, ultimately reducing the quality and quantity of the product (Günçan & Karaca 2023). On the other hand, weeds also serve as hosts for plant diseases and pests (Mourellos et al. 2014; Üremiş et al. 2020).

Field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis* L.) was first classified by Linnaeus in 1753 (Günçan 1979). Native to Europe and Asia and it thrives in temperate, tropical and Mediterranean climates (Lyons 1998; Gubanov et al. 2004). Originating from the European continent, field bindweed is widespread in temperate regions of Western Asia, North America and Europe. However, it causes more damage in Europe in terms of cultivated area (Holm et al. 1977). In Türkiye, it is widespread throughout the country and is observed in both temperate and arid regions (Coruh & Zengin 2007; Özkil & Üremiş 2020; Kuru & Üremiş 2021). Field bindweed competes with other species in the vicinity for water and nutrients. It climbs on surrounding plants, hindering their development and causing yield losses. The weed reduces the available water at a soil depth of 60 cm, leading to plants withering due to water deficiency. Additionally, it poses challenges in pruning by overgrowing shrubs and small trees (Vogelsgang 1998). Field bindweed serves a breeding ground for insect pests and an alternative host for viruses causing plant diseases (Tamaki et al. 1975). The seeds, leaves and especially the roots of field bindweed contain the glycoside convolvulin. This resinous, water-insoluble compound induces severe hyperemia (blood rush), peristalsis, and diarrhea in the stomach and intestinal tract of animals (Lubenov 1985).

Pesticides, commonly utilized for controlling diseases, pests and weeds in agricultural areas worldwide, play a significant role as pollutants. The continuous and improper use of these substances unnecessarily increases production costs, disrupts the balance of nature, diminishes sustainable agriculture, and negatively impact human health (Pimentel et al. 1992; Pimentel & Greiner 1997; Dogan et al. 2004). As human health is endangered by pollution, there has been an increasing pressure to reduce and ban the use of herbicides in agricultural areas (Matteson 1995). However, chemical control, specifically the use of herbicides

remains the primary method for easy and practical weed control in agricultural areas (Uygur & Şekeroğlu 1993). The application of herbicides such as 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D), dicamba and glyphosate in the chemical control of field bindweed can effectively manage this weed (Vogelgsang 1998). The primary objective of weed control in a given agricultural area is to maintain the weed population below the economic damage threshold rather than eradicating it completely. Even low doses of herbicide applications have been found to have a significant effect on weeds (Steckel et al. 1990). It has been proven that weeds can be controlled with lower those licensed (Salonen 1992; Zhang et al. 2000; Boström & Fogelfors 2002; Busi et al. 2016; Vranjes et al. 2019). Integrated weed control in agricultural areas should be carefully managed. If herbicides are needed in the integrated control method, determining the application dose is an important step (Kudsk & Streibig 2003).

The process of classifying living organisms into specific groups according to their degree of similarity and relatedness is called classification. The classification process helps us determine the relationships between weeds and crops and to obtain information about them. If the individuals of a particular species are similar in terms of their competitive ability and developmental characteristics, they also have similar habitats (Hoffmann & Frodsham 1993). Classifications based on the external appearance of living beings and their relationships with the environment are referred to as artificial or empirical classifications. However, this classification has lost its validity today. The scientific (natural or phylogenetic) classification is based on the physiological, anatomical and ancestral similarities of organisms and the degree to which they are related. The main feature of this classification is the use of molecular techniques (genetic markers), and it has recently taken an important place in the classification of living organisms (Hoffmann & Frodsham 1993). Chloroplast trnL-F and ribosomal ITS gene regions are frequently used to determine phylogenetic relationships in different plant groups (Brouat et al. 2001; Soejima & Nagamasu 2004). In recent years, in addition to morphological traits, molecular traits are increasingly used to identify plant species (Mummenhoff et al. 1997). In molecular characterization, many regions of genomic DNA (gDNA), chloroplast DNA (cpDNA) and mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) are used to classify plants. In phylogenetic analyses, molecular characters are employed when morphological characters are insufficient (Yokoyama et al. 2000). Internal transcribed regions (ITS) on nuclear DNA (nrDNA), intergenic regions (trnL-F) and protein coding (ndhF) regions on cpDNA are used to determine intraspecific diversity (Kellogg 1998). Since more variation can occur in the ITS region, it is possible to distinguish between closely related species and to characterize different populations of the same species by examining this region (White et al. 1990).

In this study, field bindweed seeds collected from different provinces of Türkiye (Malatya, Erzurum, Diyarbakır, Şanlıurfa, Kayseri, Konya, Karaman, Ankara, Samsun, Adana, Hatay, Denizli, İzmir, Uşak, Tekirdağ and Çanakkale) were grown in controlled greenhouse environments, and molecular characterization was performed with the obtained plant samples. After molecular processing, the aim of this study was to determine the phylogenetic similarity rates among the samples and to assess the responses of the samples found in different groups to the 2,4-D herbicide.

2. Material and Methods

2.1. Specimen collection

The seeds of field bindweed were collected between 2016 and 2017 from agricultural land in various provinces of Türkiye. (Malatya, Erzurum, Diyarbakır, Şanlıurfa, Kayseri, Konya, Karaman, Ankara, Samsun, Adana, Hatay, Denizli, İzmir, Uşak, Tekirdağ and Çanakkale). The collected seeds, which were 1-2 years old, were stored at +4 °C until the start of the studies. The studies were conducted in 2018-2019 in greenhouses and laboratories of Malatya Turgut Özal University Faculty of Agriculture, Malatya, Türkiye.

2.2. Genomic DNA isolation

For DNA isolation, field bindweed seeds collected from fields in different provinces were first subjected to a dormancy-breaking study (the seeds were immersed in water at 90 °C for 5 seconds and then removed (Karaman & Tursun 2021). Following this study, the seeds were sown in the greenhouse under conditions of 29 °C±1 14 hours during the day and 19 °C±1 10 hours at night. When the seedlings had reached the 4-6 leaf stage, 100 mg leaf samples were taken from each sample. The Bioline DNA extraction kit was used to isolate the plant DNAs. To obtain high-quality and high-density total DNA, the extraction methods specified by the respective company were used. The samples for the PCR application were stored at -20 °C and taken out of the freezer and used when needed.

2.3. PCR amplification of the ITS region and electrophoresis

The universal ITS4 (5'-TCCTCCGCTTATTGATATGC-3') and ITS5 (5'-GGAAGTAAAAGTCGTAACAAG G - 3') primers were used to amplify the ITS regions on the isolated ribosomal DNA. The components for the PCR reaction, using the enzyme GoTaq G2 Flexi DNA Polymerase (Cat:M780B) from Promega with a total volume of 50 µl for the ITS region, are listed in Table 1.

Table 1- PCR components, amounts or ratios used in the amplification of ribosomal DNA by the PCR method

PCR Components	For 1 sample (μ l)	For 16 samples (μ l)
5X PCR Buffer	10	160
dNTP (20 mM)	1	16
MgCl ₂ (25 mM)	3	48
Mould DNA	2	32
Primer F (ITS4) (100 mM)	1	16
Primer R (ITS5) (100 mM)	1	16
GoTaq G2 Flexi DNA poly. enzyme	0,4	6,4
Sterile water	31.6	505.6

After adding all PCR parameters to the sterile tubes, a brief cycle was performed to ensure that all liquids were collected at the bottom of the tubes. The prepared PCR mixture was tested in 36 thermal cycles (Table 2).

Table 2- PCR thermal cycles used in the amplification of ribosomal DNA

94 °C/de ...2 min DNA double strand separation	} Total 36 cycles
94 °C/de ...1 min DNA double strand separation	
55 °C/de ...1 min primer binding	
72 °C/de ...2 min DNA synthesis	
72 °C/de ...10 min final elongation	

The PCR applications were conducted using the Prima-96plusTM Thermal Cycler device. The products obtained after the PCR process were prepared for electrophoresis as 1.5% agarose gel. For this, 100 mL of sterile distilled water and 3 μ l of fluorescent dye were added to a suitable container and run at 85 V for 45 minutes. Imaging was performed using the Gel Imaging and Analysis System to visualize the stained DNA.

2.4. DNA sequencing of ITS regions

DNA sequencing of ITS regions, amplified from genomic DNA using universal primers, was carried out by BM Laboratory Systems (Ankara) in a single direction.

2.5. Phylogenetic analyzes and entry of DNA sequences into the GenBank

The phylogenetic analysis of the sequenced DNA samples was completed, and the DNA sequences were registered in the GenBank (NCBI). The access numbers can be found in the Results section. The programs Unipro UGENE, Unipro UGENE, MEGA11 and CLC Main Workbench 20 were used. A different function of each program was used for the sequence analysis and the creation of the phylogenetic tree. The creation of the phylogenetic tree was repeated 100 times using the neighbor-joining algorithm and the Bootstrap method (Felsenstein 1985; Saitou & Nei 1987; Nei & Kumar 2000; Tamura et al. 2021; Ateş 2022)

2.6. Dose-response studies of field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*) samples to 2,4-D herbicide

In the study, the efficacy of the herbicide containing the active ingredient 2,4-D (Hektas Ester'h 480 g/l 2,4-D acid equivalent isooctylester), licensed for the control of field bindweed, was investigated for the samples in different groups resulting from phylogenetic analyses. For this purpose, the experiments were conducted in a fully automated greenhouse under controlled conditions at a temperature of 29 °C \pm 1 14 hours during the day and 19 °C \pm 1 10 hours at night. The area of the glass greenhouse in the study is 25 m², and the humidity inside was maintained at around 60 \pm 10 % depending on the automation system.

2.7. Pot trials

Field bindweed seeds from three provinces (Adana, Konya and Samsun), which were in distinct groups based on molecular characterization, were used for the study. The seeds were immersed in 90 °C hot water for 5 seconds before sowing to break the dormancy of the seeds (Karaman & Tursun 2021). Following dormancy breaking, a prepared 1:1/3 peat:perlite mixture was placed in plastic pots measuring 25 cm height and 15 cm width, and sowing (5 seeds in each pot) was performed. Despite the humid greenhouse environment, irrigation was carried out at regular intervals to maintain moisture balance in the pots. After germination, the seedlings were thinned to one per pot at the stage of two true leaves. Since field bindweed tends to wrap 1 m long, stakes were driven into the pots to serve as controls. The study was conducted with four replications and two repetitions according to a randomized plots experimental design.

2.8. Effect of 2,4 D herbicide on *convolvulus arvensis* samples

Different doses of the herbicide containing the active ingredient 2,4 D-amine were applied post-emergence to field bindweed samples in Adana, Konya and Samsun provinces, which were categorized into different groups based on molecular studies, during the 2-6 leaf stage. The calibration of the electronic spray booth for herbicide application was set at 300 L of water per ha, 304 kPa pressure and 5 km/h. Various doses of herbicide 2,4-D were used in the trial: 0 g.a.i /ha (unsprayed control), N/4 (180 g.a.i /ha), N/2 (360 g.a.i /ha), N (recommended dose – 720 g.a.i /ha), 2N (1440 g.a.i /ha), 4N (2880 g.a.i /ha) and 8N (5760 g.a.i /ha). After the spraying process, the pots were again left under the same conditions. Percentage/symptom values (Table 3) were monitored weekly for 4 weeks after herbicide application (Bajwa et al. 2019). Finally, harvesting was conducted at the end of the 4th week (28th day). During harvesting, the aerial parts of the plants were removed. Subsequently, the plant materials were dried in paper bags in an oven set at 105 °C for 24 hours (Yusriah et al. 2012), their weight was determined using a precision scale.

Table 3- Herbicide damage assessment system based on morphological symptoms in the degree of damage in field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis* L.)

Damage rating	Morphological responses
0	Not evident
10	Negligible discoloration, distortion and/or stunting barely seen
20	Slight damage discoloration, distortion and or stunting clearly seen
30	Moderate damage: moderate discoloration, marked distortion and/or stunting. Recovery expected
40	Substantial damage: much discoloration, distortion, and stunting: some damage probably irreversible
50	Majority of plant tissue is damaged, mostly irreversibly: substantial necrosis; discoloration and distortion
60	Nearly all the plant tissue damaged, mostly irreversibly some plants killed (<40%): substantial necrosis and distortion
70	Sever damage, necrosis and wilting
80	Very severe damage, heavy necrosis and wilting
90	Extreme irreversible damage with <10% green tissue visible, most tissue discolored and distorted permanently or desiccated
100	Complete loss of plant

2.9. Statistical analysis

The significance of the differences in the recorded data was determined by analysis of variance (ANOVA) using IBM SPSS STATISTICS 25.0 software with a general linear model (GLM). Initially, the differences between treatments were analyzed with ANOVA and then with the Duncan test for a multiple-range test ($P \leq 0.05$).

Data on visual reduction (%) and dry matter (DM) reduction (%) of the effect of 2,4-D herbicide on field bindweed were subjected to nonlinear regression analysis on herbicide dose using the four-parameter log-logistic model (Knezevic et al. 2007; Ulloa et al. 2011):

$$Y = C + \frac{(D - C)}{\{1 + \exp[B(\log X - \log E)]\}}$$

Where; Y is the response (e.g., percent DM reduction), C is the lower limit, D is the upper limit, B is the slope of the line at the inflection point (also known as the rate of change), and E is the dose that results in a 50% response between the upper and lower limit (also known as the inflection point, ED₅₀).

The ED₅₀ values were used to compare visual (%) and dry matter (DM) reduction of each field bindweed under 2,4-D (Matzenbacher et al. 2015; Chen et al. 2015). The analyzes of the dose-response curves were performed using the software R (R version 2.15.3, R Development Core Team 2013) using the statistical add-on package drc (dose-response curves) (Knezevic et al. 2007; Knezevic & Datta 2015). When determining the effect of 2,4 D on field bindweed, the ED₅₀ (dose controlling 50% of field bindweed) and ED₉₀ (dose controlling 90% of field bindweed) values were also determined.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Identification of samples of field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*) from different provinces by molecular methods

For the phylogenetic studies, field bindweed the samples from different provinces (Malatya, Erzurum, Diyarbakır, Şanlıurfa, Kayseri, Konya, Karaman, Ankara, Samsun, Adana, Hatay, Denizli, İzmir, Uşak, Tekirdağ, and Çanakkale) were grown from seeds, and their relationships were determined by molecular methods. It has been found that morphological characteristics are not sufficient to determine the degree of similarity between plant species, and some sequence analyzes are useful for phylogenetic analyzes (Yokoyama et al. 2000). For example, one of the methods used to determine the relationships among plant species is ITS (Internal Transcribed Spacers) PCR of the nrDNA region (Baldwin et al. 1995). This method has become a commonly used in molecular systematic studies of plants, enabling the identification of plant species by determining species-specific gene regions (Baldwin et al. 1995; Tursun et al. 2021; Saric-Krsmanović et al. 2022). Ribosomal DNA internal transcribed spacers (rDNA ITS), known as one of the most reliable methods in phylogenetic studies, are used for plant systematics and identification due to genomic segments' functionally. The high percentage of conservative genes and their belonging to the ITS sections provide an advantage in their use (Baldwin et al. 1995).

The ITS has been widely utilized in systematic studies to determine genus and species levels in many plant varieties. The two internal regions ITS-1 and ITS-2 are located between the genes coding for the subunits of 5.8S, 18S and 26S nuclear ribosomal RNA (nrRNA). In this study, genomic DNA was isolated from each field bindweed in the provinces and universal primers ITS4 (5'- TCCTCCGCTTATTGATATGC-3') and ITS5 (5'GGAAGTAAAAGTCGTAACAAG G - 3') were used to amplify the ITS regions. Using these primers, the ITS1, 5.8S and ITS2 regions in the rDNA were amplified by PCR. The consensus sequences were determined by comparing the sequence data obtained with reference sequences. The genome information of the field bindweed species, for which DNA sequencing was performed was analyzed using the CLC Main Workbench 20.0.1 program. After DNA sequencing, a search for the cloned region in GenBank was performed with the BLAST program. The DNA sequences of field bindweed samples from different provinces were registered in the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) GenBank, making them available to researchers worldwide. The GenBank accession numbers and gene lengths (bp) are shown in Table 4.

Table 4- GenBank accession numbers of field bindweed samples

Provinces	GenBank Accession Numbers	Length (bp)
Malatya	MT071458	667
Erzurum	MT071459	678
Diyarbakır	MT071460	684
Şanlıurfa	MT071461	678
Ankara	MT071462	675
Karaman	MT071463	678
Kayseri	MT071464	673
Konya	MT071465	660
Samsun	MT071466	635
Adana	MT071467	677
Hatay	MT071468	677
Denizli	MT071469	678
İzmir	MT071470	669
Uşak	MT071471	656
Tekirdağ	MT071472	678
Çanakkale	MT071473	681

The relationships of field bindweed samples from different provinces of Türkiye both with each other and with other field bindweed individuals worldwide, were revealed through phylogenetic analysis. When comparing specimens from different provinces of Türkiye, it was found that the specimens from Adana and Diyarbakır provinces formed a distinct group due to the genetic differences. While specimens collected from other provinces were grouped together, it was determined that the plant sample collected from Samsun province, despite being in the same group, was genetically more distant from the plant samples collected from other provinces.

When comparing field bindweed samples from different provinces of Türkiye with other plant specimens worldwide, it was observed that the plant specimens in Türkiye were divided into two distinct groups. Specifically, Samsun, Konya, Kayseri, Uşak, Çanakkale, Karaman and Şanlıurfa were identified as forming one group, while Denizli, Ankara, Hatay, Adana, Diyarbakır,

Erzurum, Malatya, İzmir and Tekirdağ provinces constituted another group. Additionally, it was noted that the plant specimens belonging to other field bindweed species worldwide formed a separate group distinct from the plant specimens in Türkiye, indicating a significant degree of relatedness. The phylogenetic tree of the ITS gene region of the biotypes of *Convolvulus arvensis* was constructed by repeating 100 times with the distance-based method (neighbour-joining) and the bootstrap method in the programme CLC Main Workbench 20. As a result of the phylogenetic analyses, all studied *Convolvulus arvensis* biotypes were classified as I. and II. They are divided into two main groups: Group I is divided into subgroups Ia and Ib, and group II into subgroups IIa and IIb. Turkey's biotypes are distributed among subgroups Ia, Ib and IIb, in contrast to other countries (Figure 1). Sunar et al. (2015) utilized random amplified DNA markers (RAPD) in another molecular study on field bindweed. In this experiment, field bindweed samples were collected from five locations in Erzurum province (Aşkale, Erzurum (centre), İspir, Oltu and Tortum). Comparative analysis of populations revealed that the populations of Erzurum and Aşkale as well as the populations of Tortum and Oltu showed similar clustering. The study suggested that the similarity in these populations, forming a common group, could be attributed to geographical reasons. The findings indicated a significant correlation between the proximity of geographical regions and the genetic proximity of the populations within those regions. Several studies have also reported a significant correlation between geographical and genetic distance (Xia et al. 2005; Nianxi et al. 2006; Qian et al. 2008). The phylogenetically distant grouping of field bindweed samples collected from different locations in Türkiye and other field bindweed species worldwide aligns with the outcomes of these studies.

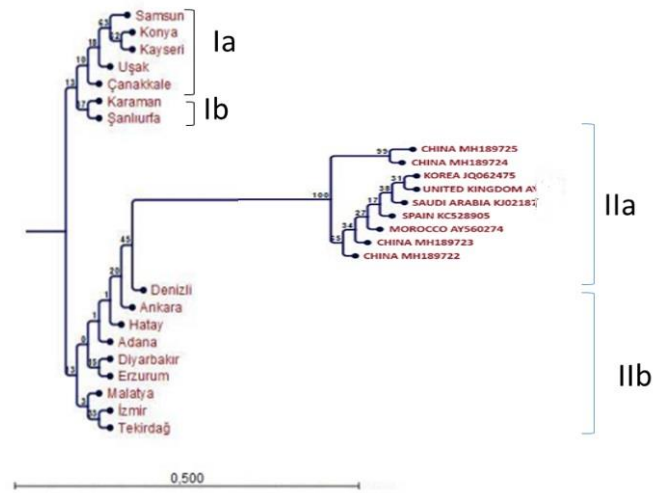


Figure 1- Phylogenetic analysis of field bindweed from different provinces in Türkiye and other field bindweed specimens from around the world

In the study, the CLC Main Workbench 20.0.1 program was used to determine the relationships among field bindweed species in different provinces of Türkiye and other field bindweed species in the world. It was observed that the degree of similarity among field bindweed samples in Türkiye varies among provinces and that their relationships to species globally are distant. Utilizing a specific reference from the NCBI GenBank, the similarities of field bindweed from different provinces were grouped in the study. As a result, it was determined that a total of four main groups were formed, except for the reference KJ021876.1 Saudi Arabia (Figure 2).



Figure 2- Similarities and grouping of field bindweed from different provinces with a specific reference via NCBI GenBank

Molecular diagnostic studies are used by researchers to identify species. Sarić-Krsmanović et al. (2022) entered the sequence results of the ITS1 and ITS2 5.8S ribosomal RNA gene regions of 24 of the 26 populations of *Cuscuta campestris* into NCBI GenBank. When compared with other samples in the database, all samples were found to belong to the species *Cuscuta campestris* Yunck. with a similarity level of 95%. When creating the phylogenetic tree, the genetic diversity between the species is divided into clusters. Keskin et al. (2017) conducted taxonomic identifications of species belonging to the genus *Cuscuta*. ITS primers were used to determine the relationships among the species of the genus *Cuscuta*, and the PCR products obtained were subjected to DNA sequencing. Phylogenetic analyzes were performed using CLC DNA Workbench software and Vector NTI programs. Plant samples with known DNA sequencing were registered in the GenBank of the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI). The species registered in the GenBank included *C. approximata* Babington (GenBank accession no. KU686677), *C. lupuliformis* Krockner (GenBank accession no. KU707914), *C. campestris* Yuncker (GenBank accession no. KU725869), *C. babylonica* Aucherex Choisy (GenBank accession no. KU725870), *C. babylonica* (GenBank accession no. KU761258), as well as *C. approximata* (GenBank accession no. KU725873). The studies emphasized the importance of using the ITS region in species identification and in assessing the similarities of samples belonging to the species.

3.2. Effect of 2,4 D herbicide on field bindweed samples

ITS primers were used to identify the samples of field bindweed collected in different provinces for molecular characterization. All collected samples were identified as belonging to the field bindweed species, and the similarities between these samples were grouped using bioinformatics analysis. As a result, a total of four main groups were formed among the field bindweed samples of all provinces except the reference value. Since the samples of Adana, Konya and Samsun belonged to different groups, they were used in herbicide experiments. When the dose responses of Adana, Konya and Samsun samples to the herbicide 2,4-D were evaluated by their dry weight values 28 days after spraying, the ED₅₀ values were 131.93, 115.42 and 141.89 g.a.i/ha, respectively, and the ED₉₀ values were 728.0, 876.4 and 913.0 g.a.i/ha, respectively (Table 5 and Figure 3). In the trial, the herbicide 2,4-D produced similar dose-response results on three different samples of field bindweed (Adana, Konya and Samsun).

Table 5- Dose-response curves for the field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis* L.) grown under glass greenhouse conditions (dry matter) (2,4-D) (g.a.i /ha)

Locations	Regression parameters (\pm SE)			ED ₅₀ (\pm SE)	ED ₉₀ (\pm SE)
	B	C	D		
Adana	-1.29 (0.3)	-0.1 (2.3)	87.73 (2.12)	131.93 (15.3)	728.0 (98.3)
Konya	-1.08 (0.23)	-0.1 (1.9)	87.76 (2.43)	115.42 (14.7)	876.4 (30.5)
Samsun	-1.18 (0.17)	0.03 (2)	91.22 (1.94)	141.89 (13.1)	913.0 (81.2)

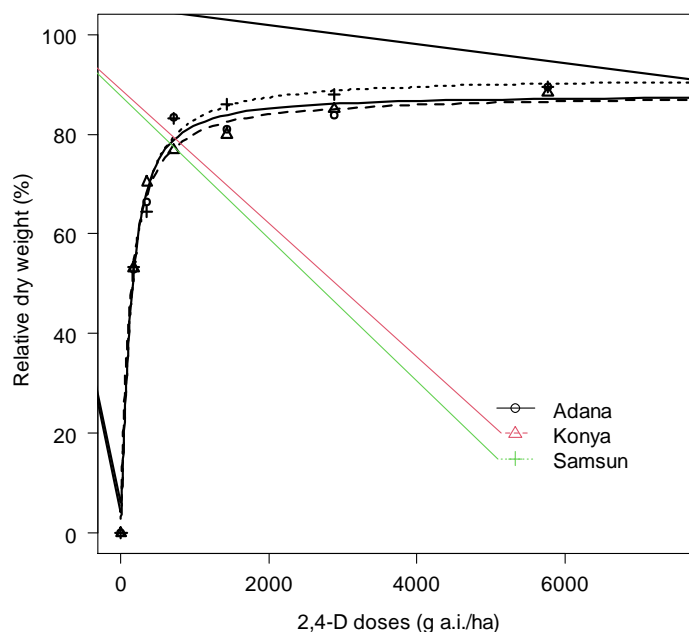


Figure 3- Dose-response curve of field bindweed in Adana, Konya and Samsun locations against herbicide with 2,4-D active ingredient

In addition to the dry matter of field bindweed, percentage symptom values were visually recorded each week, and differences between the samples of field bindweed in the provinces of Adana, Konya and Samsun were determined. When assessing the lethality of the normal dose of 2,4-D on the plants of Adana sample, results of 33%, 55%, 95% and 100% were obtained in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th weeks, respectively. Examining the lethality of the normal dose of 2,4-D on Konya sample plants yielded results of 22%, 70%, 90% and 95% in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th weeks, respectively. For the Samsun sample plants, results of 37%, 74%, 95% and 100% were observed in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th weeks, respectively. Mortality of 70% or more was observed in the Konya and Samsun samples in the 2nd week, while mortality in the Adana sample occurred slightly later and was determined to be 55%. In all three samples, a mortality rate of 90% or more was observed in the 3rd week. Other studies also indicate that the 2,4-D herbicide used in the experiment had a positive effect on the control of field bindweed (Flint & Barrett 1998; Bayat & Zargar 2020).

4. Conclusions

The result of the study indicates that the field bindweed populations originating from different provinces of Türkiye formed close groups in terms of their genetic similarity and also exhibited similar reaction to the herbicide 2,4-D, which was used for weed control. Based on these findings, it was determined that the herbicide 2,4-D had a positive effect on field bindweed as a weed control agent. Importantly, the genetic proximity or distance of field bindweed samples did not alter the efficacy of the herbicide.

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