

# Comparative efficiency and capacity analysis of Waqf Agricultural Enterprises (19th century Ottoman and the 21st century Turkey: Aegean Example)\*

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## Abstract

*In the study, the foundation olive groves as the foundation agricultural enterprises in the 19th century Ottoman Empire Aegean Region and the 21st century Ayovalık Waqf Olive Groves Management Directorate are examined in terms of productivity and capacity. When the Aegean Region waqf agricultural enterprises were examined in the 19th century, generally waqf olive groves were found. In addition, today's Ayovalık agricultural waqf enterprise is examined. When doing research, Ottoman Archive documents and Ayovalık Waqf Olive Groves reports are used. In the waqf olive groves; When we make a comparison on the basis of villages, today's productivity has increased three times at most in some villages, sometimes the same, sometimes less, compared to the 19th century. Although today's socio-economic conditions and technology are in a better state, there has not been a serious difference in productivity. In the Ottoman Empire, foundation agricultural enterprises were operated by the method of tax-farming. Since today's waqf agricultural enterprises are operated in a similar way to the tax farming method, we can say that olive groves are operated by modern tax-farming method*

**Keywords:** waqf, agricultural enterprises, iltizam, productivity

**Jel codes:** N00, N01

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

In this article, the waqf structure of the Ottoman Empire and the Republic of Turkey, agribusiness, capacity and effectiveness have been examined and compared. First, the agriculture in the 19th century Ottoman was discussed, and the structure of agriculture and agricultural enterprises in the Ottoman Empire was analyzed. Finally, analysis was made with the documents of the Ottoman Archives of the State Archives and the reports of the Ayvalık Waqf Olive Groves Business Directorate today. The document about the 19th century the Ottoman Empire and the Republic of Turkey in the 21st century was examined to determine productivity difference. No such comparison has been conducted in waqf agricultural enterprises before.

Firstly; Agriculture and Development is explained. After, Agricultural Enterprises, Management and Capacity of Waqf Agricultural Enterprises in Ottoman Empire and Today and Productivity Analysis of Waqf Agricultural Enterprises in the Ottoman Empire and Today are explained. It is the first study that compares the present and Ottoman Waqf Agricultural Enterprises. In this terms, it is aimed to fill the gap in the literature.

## 2. AGRICULTURE AND DEVELOPMENT

Economic and agricultural development are closely related. While a developed agricultural sector supports economic development, a backward agricultural sector prevents development. While agricultural technology in the 18th and 19th centuries progressed in Western Europe, production and economic development increased in parallel. Despite these developments, the product surplus was limited due to the insufficient technology used in production, the trade and industry sectors could not be integrated properly, and the countries with agricultural sectors could not achieve sufficient economic development. There are two important factors in agriculture: the balance of population and economic resources, and the current state of transport technology. While the population increased in the Ottoman Empire, labor and capital were scarce, transportation technology was insufficient (Güran, 2013: 69-70).

Productivity growth in agricultural development depends on two types of technological change. First; it is to obtain more product per unit of land by developing techniques that save soil. The second is; with the development of labor-saving agricultural methods, higher productivity per unit of labor is achieved. In the Ottoman Empire, the land factor was relatively abundant, but the population decreased after the 17th century due to economic and political reasons. In the middle of the 19th century, the population density became seriously low. In the second half of the 19th

century, the population increased in some places due to the settlement policy and migration. As a result of low population density, cultivated land constitutes a limited area of the entire land. This situation indicates that agriculture was made in a very limited area of the Ottoman Empire in the mid-19th century. While the percentage of cultivated lands was 6.7 percent in Anatolia, it was 8.3 percent in Rumelia. In areas with high population density, the cultivated land area was also high. Although land was abundant, labor was scarce.

The capital of independent small producer family businesses, which was common in Ottoman agriculture, was also limited. Capital insufficiency is among the important problems. In an economy where land is abundant and labor and capital are scarce, technologies that aim to increase productivity by saving land or labor have not been suitable. The limited capital in the Ottoman Empire prevented the productivity of labor, and the limited productivity of the land and prevented investment in them. Therefore, the use of soil-intensive, primitive technology continued. The high transportation cost was one of the reasons for agriculture to fall behind. Transportation cost in the Ottoman Empire included a significant proportion of the money to be earned from the product (Güran, 2013: 71-77).

### 2.1. Agricultural Enterprises

The size of the agricultural enterprises is important for the agricultural economy. Large enterprises with better capital equipment can comprehend effective farming methods more easily and contribute to agricultural development. In addition, the contribution of large enterprises to the trade and industry sectors is also significant (Güran, 1998: 81).

Lands, which constitute the most important part of production resources in the Ottoman Empire, constituted the first part of the resources that provide regular income to waqf institutions (Yediyıldız, 1984: 6-7).

In the Ottoman agricultural statistics, the agricultural enterprises were divided into three, considering the surface area of the lands left and cultivated, regardless of whether agricultural enterprises were family owned or not.

1. İmâlât-ı Sağîre: Small businesses with an area of less than 10 decares,
2. İmâlât-ı Mütevassıta: Medium-large enterprises with a surface area of 10-50 decares and
3. İmâlât-ı Cesîme : There were large enterprises with an area of more than 50 decares.

Another important factor expressing the qualifications of agricultural enterprises has been capital equipment. These are four: 1-House, warehouse, barn, buildings

such as poultry 2-Animals, 3-Double double riding tools

4-Earth. These capital equipment shows the technological development level of the agricultural enterprise and contribute to the production power. (Güran,1998:81-83) The agricultural sector is the market that operates under conditions closest to perfectly competitive market conditions. Therefore, it comes to mind that agricultural enterprises must create the optimal production facility scale in which they will produce at the lowest cost in the long run. The reasons why agricultural enterprises cannot change the scale of production facilities that can operate at the optimal production facility scale are as follows. Business size; shows the size of the available land and the size of the factors in production. Large businesses also have high income. Costs were lower because of more efficient use of factors in large enterprises. Fixed costs are low and productivity increase is seen in large enterprises (Dinler, 2014: 164).

Agricultural productivity level is important in the development of the economy. Product surplus in agriculture contributes significantly to the development of trade and industry segments. The product surplus in agriculture also determines the yield level, so productivity in agriculture is an important factor of agricultural development. Productivity in agriculture; It can be handled in terms of labor, capital and land. Fertility per land; The average yield obtained in various crop production branches from 1 decares of land is worth. Seed fertility; In the period where modern inputs such as machinery, industrial fertilizers and chemicals are absent in agriculture, the most important agricultural input has been seed. Calculated as the revenue per unit from seed (Güran, 1998: 94-98).

### 3. MANAGEMENT AND CAPACITY OF WAQF AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISES IN OTTOMAN EMPIRE AND TODAY

Waqf agricultural enterprises in the Aegean region generally consist of olive groves. Olive groves are "agricultural enterprises who's with and number of trees vary depending on the location of the founder of the waqf and the wealth of the waqf, where agricultural and industrial activities are carried out together".

In addition to the production in some olive groves, workshops called vices were established to extract olive oil, and water mills were established with millstones and tools for obtaining olive oil (Öztürk, 1995: 130-131).

Before the waqf Ministry was established, waqf olive groves were operated by trustees. After the 1826 regulation, it was started to be administered by the Hümayun Waqf Ministry and the olive oil obtained was exempt from tax. After the declaration of the Tanzimat (1839), the management of the olive groves belonging to the waqfs was started to be carried out by the officials (officials collecting taxes belonging to the state). After a short while, the administration of the waqf olive groves by the officials was abolished in 1842-43 and the deadline was started to be given to the tax farming on the condition that a certain amount of olive oil was given annually (Doğan, 2007:60-61).

Aegean region waqfs; Its within starboard of Karesi. On the Starboard of Karesi; There are many waqfs and large waqfs. In Edremit and Kemeredremid, the soldiers and administrators of the sultan and household members working in the center and the provinces, or the elite of the local people, had a lot of waqf. To these waqfs; Social and economic and cultural services were carried out by connecting olive groves, vineyards, gardens, lands, as well as mufasas as an inn, bathhouse, shop, house, coffee shop, bakery, soap house, flour and olive oil mill (Armağan, 2017: 30-31).

**Table 1:** Sizes of Waqf Agricultural Enterprises (Edremit- Kemerredremit-1297-1879/1880)

Waqf 's Name	İmalat-ı Sagire (<10 donum)					İmalat-ı Mütevassita (10-50 donum)				İmalat-ı Cesime (>50 donum)				General Total
	Edremit	Kemerredremit	Edremit under 1 donum	Total	%	Edremit	Kemerredremit	Total	%	Edremit	Kemerredremit	Total	%	
Bezmi Alem Valide Sultan	60	18	12	90	52,3	42	28	70	40,7	3	9	12	6,99	172
Mehmet Emin Ağa	24		16	40	85,1		1	1	2,1	6		6	12,8	47
Hacı Hanife Hanım	9	2	8	19	70	7		7	26	1		1	4	27
Hekimzade Sinan Efendi				0				0				0		0
Rabia Hanım				0	0	1		1	100			0	0	1
Aliye Hanım	3			3	100			0	0			0	0	3
Sultan Abdülmecid Han				0	0	3		3	100			0	0	3
Karaozhanzade Hacı Hüseyin Ağa	2	4		6	20	4	5	9	30	8	7	15	50	30
Esirizade Mehmet Ağa					0	2		2	100			0	0	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>55,4</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>32,6</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>285</b>

Source: BAO Evd 24930, BAO Evd 24925

As we can see in the table 1, when we look at the total of waqfs in Edremit and Kemerredremit, 55.4 percent are small agricultural waqf enterprises, 32.6 percent are medium-sized agricultural waqf enterprises, and 12 percent are large agricultural enterprises.

The operation of the olive groves with tax farming continued until 1926. In 1926, an amendment was made in the budget law of Waqf General Directorate. According to this regulation; The waqf olive groves would be managed by agricultural science officers and conservation officers and village guards under the management of a specialist manager who graduated from the high agricultural school, affiliated with the Field Waqf Directorate. The staff will also be assigned for the zoning and grooming of the olive groves. It is said that the olive crop will be on sale for one year, and the rental will be for two to eight years. However, for more than two years, permission of the General Directorate will be required. Tender commissions will consist of three people in total, one member from the local administration committee and one person to be elected by the municipal council under the chairmanship of the waqfs director and officer, if there is no waqfs officer, who can be deputies (Öztürk, 1995: 130-131).

Thus, we can call the current management style of the Ayvalık Agricultural Waqfs Enterprise as modern tax farming. Similar aspects of tax farming; it is usually leased for 3 years, while the local council directors etc. the issues such as being present, making contracts with high sums like an auction while rented, and auditing by the directorate.

Waqf Olive Groves Management Directorate; It started operating in 1940. The purpose of the directorate; The waqf has been the protection, protection, improvement and operation of olive groves. These olive groves are managed through the "Ayvalık Waqf Olive Groves Operation Directorate". (<https://www.vakifzeytinleri.gov.tr/hakimizda>) "Ayvalık Waqf Olive Groves Operation Directorate, which previously continued its activities in Ayvalık; Today, it operates on the 2nd kilometer of the Havran road in Edremit District of Balıkesir Province on an area of 58.180 m<sup>2</sup>, which was built in 1990. While all the olive groves of the waqf, whose management belongs to the General Directorate of Waqfs, and which have been owned by the waqf, have been leased to the business directorate and commercially operated by the business directorate, approximately 80% of them have been rented to third parties by the General Directorate of Waqfs, except for areas open to development. The olive groves that are not rented out are operated by Balıkesir Vakıflar Regional Directorate." (<https://www.sayistay.gov.tr>)

As seen in the table 2 where the Directorate operates; Çanakkale Province Küçükkuyu, Balıkesir Province Edremit, Havran, Burhaniye, Gömeç, Ayvalık and Dikili in İzmir. This region includes a 100 km coastline. Çanakkale Ayvalık District, Balıkesir Edremit, Havran. There are 1517 parcels belonging to the Waqf in Burhaniye, Gömeç and Ayvalık Districts, and 164,818 Ayvalık olives for oil varieties on 13,607 decares of land.

**Table 2:** Inventory of Olive Groves Under the Savings and Control of Ayvalık Waqf Olive Groves Operation Management (2012)

	General Inventory			Controlled			Savings		
	Olive Groves Number	Surface Area M2	Tree Number	Olive Groves Number	Surface Area M2	Tree Number	Olive Groves Number	Surface Area M2	Tree Number
Küçükkuyu	187	1.141.506,00	19.503	184	1.135.740,00	19.432	3	5.766,00	71
Altınoluk	137	1.089.229,00	15.013	135	1.082.749,00	14.925	2	6.480,00	88
Zeytinli	392	3.392.513,00	37.773	382	3.294.316,00	36.618	10	98.197,00	1.155
Edremit	495	3.735.265,00	8.607	495	3.735.265,00	38.607	0	0,00	0
Burhaniye	380	2.765.428,00	33.654	379	2.752.932,00	33.568	1	12.496,00	86
Ayvalık	84	2.663.715,00	31.029	83	2.660.054,00	30.996	1	3.661,00	33
Dikili	29	1.542.063,00	12.722	29	1.542.063,00	12.722	0	0,00	0
Toplam	1.704	16.329.719,00	188.301	1687	16.203.119,00	186.868	17	126.600,00	1.433

Source: Ayvalık Vakıf Olive Groves Enterprises Management 2012

In the table 2, it is seen that Edremit has the most olive groves in the regions that are in the general inventory of the Ayvalık Waqf Olive Grove Management Directorate. Edremit respectively; Zeytinli, Burhaniye, Küçükkuyu, Altınoluk, Ayvalık and Dikili followed. However, the number of olive groves owned by the directorate is quite low.

When we look at the number of olive groves at the disposal of the Directorate, the highest number of olive groves was Zeytinli. Küçükkuyu, Altınoluk, Burhaniye and Ayvalık came after Zeytinli. There is no olive grove in Edremit and Dikili for the management.

**Table 3:** Comparison of the Number of Olive Trees and Acres of the Agricultural Waqf Enterprises Between 1880-2017

Waqfs' Name	Village Name	Donum (Ottoman version as Today's measure)	Tree Number	Donum	Tree Number
		1297-(1880-1881)	1297-(1880-1881)	2017	2017
Bezmialem Valide Sultan	Avçılar	302	2272	180	2247
Bezmialem Valide Sultan	Zeytinli	891	4819	453	5242
Bezmialem Valide Sultan	Güre	234	1688	123	1328
Bezmialem Valide Sultan	Kızılkeçili	32	341	37	515
Mehmet Emin Ağa	Zeytinli	315	791	19	172
Sultan Mecid	Avçılar	66	338	60	741

Source: Ayvalık Vakıflar Olive Groves Enterprise Management, Evd 24930

In the table 3, agricultural waqf enterprises in Republic of Turkey in the 21st century and the 19th century Ottoman Empire were compared. The Ottoman donum has also been turned into the present day. While the acre of some agricultural waqf holdings decreased overall, sometimes it increased. Some have declined, while remaining almost the same. Today, in waqf olive groves compared to the Ottoman period; The number of trees per donum has increased on average.

#### 4. PRODUCTIVITY ANALYSIS OF WAQF AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISES IN THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE AND TODAY

2019 Ayvalık waqf Olive Groves Operation Directorate and the Ottoman waqf olive groves are compared in 1880. As a result of the comparison, in the waqf olive groves; When we make a comparison on the basis of villages, today's productivity has increased three times in some villages, sometimes the same, sometimes less, compared to the 19th century.

**Table 4:** Productivity Measurement of Bezmiâlem Valide Sultan and Her Annex, Vakıf Olive Groves, and Today's Waqf Olive Groves under the possession of Ayvalık Waqf Agricultural Enterprises Directorate by Villages (1879 / 1880-2019)

Waqf and Village Names	Olive Tree	Olive Oil Revenue Takings (Desti) <sup>1</sup>	Kıyye	Olive Oil Average Total Kıyye Per Tree	Olive Oil Average Total Per Tree (Kg)	
					1880 yılı	2019 yılı <sup>2</sup>
Center of Edremid					1880 yılı	2019 yılı <sup>2</sup>
Bezmiâlem Valide Sultan	3374	1630	9780	2,9	3,7	
Hace Hanife	334	120	720	2,1	1,4	
Hekimzade Yusuf	855	445	2670	3,1	2,7	
Mehmet Emin Ağa	760	376	2256	2,9	3,7	
<b>Total Center of Edremid</b>	<b>5333</b>	<b>2611</b>	<b>15666</b>	<b>2,9</b>	<b>3,7</b>	<b>3,6</b>
Villages						
Kadıköy-Bezmiâlem-Mehmet Emîn Ağa	1049	411	2466	2,3	3	3
Araplar- Bezmiâlem-Mehmet Emîn Ağa-Esirizade Mehmet Ağa Vakfi	1299	330	1980	1,5	1,9	
Zeytunlu-Bezmiâlem – Mehmet Emin Ağa- Hacı Hanife Hanım-Aliye Hanım	6717	1535	9210	1,4	1,8	2,8
Kızılbecçili-Bezmiâlem	341	40	240	0,7	0,9	2,4
Küre-Bezmiâlem-Mehmet Emşn Ağa- Hacı Hanife Hanım	2973	950	5700	1,9	2,4	3
Tahta-Bezmiâlem –Hacı Hanife Hanım	1469	490	2940	2	2,5	
Kulluklar-Bezmiâlem – Mehmet Emin Ağa	643	255	1530	2,3	2,9	
Avçılar-Bezmiâlem-Sultan Abdülhamid-Aliye Hanım	2823	855	5130	1,8	2,3	3,4
Dereli-Bezmiâlem-Mehmet Emin Ağa- Rabia Hanım	346	14	84	0,2	0,3	
Bilir-Bezmiâlem-Aliye hanım	132	41	246	1,8	2,4	
Sekviran-Bezmiâlem – Mehmet Emin Ağa	2497	960	5760	2,3	2,9	5,6
Frenk-Bezmiâlem-Hacı Hanife Hanım	181	60	360	1,9	2,4	
Çıkrıkçı-Bezmiâlem	155	77	462	2,9	3,7	
Çorak-Bezmiâlem	281	116	696	2,5	3,2	
Temaşalık-Mehmet Emin Ağa	181	42	252	1,4	1,8	5,4
Çorak-ı kebir-Bezmiâlem-Mehmet Emin Ağa- Hacı Hanife hanım	3032	1352	8112	2,7	3,5	
Yenice-Bezmiâlem	151	20	120	0,8	1,02	
Köyler Yekun	24270	7548	45288	1,9	2,4	

**Source:** Evd 24930, Ayvalık Vakıflar Olive Groves Enterprise Management

\*Since only desti is written in the document; 1 desti = 100 dirhams per 6kyye. If there were Edremid Deck; 1Dremid Deck = 100 dirhams for 9 shores. See. "In an order addressed to Midilli Minister Mustafa Ağa, one of the chiefs of the porter of the Dergâh-ı Ali; Not even a dirham of the olive oil produced in Lesbos, Yonda Island, Ayvalık, Ayazmend, Edremid and its surroundings was asked to be sold openly or secretly to the designees and miners or to foreign merchants, and the Istanbul prepared olive oils produced were immediately delivered by the Minister to Istanbul merchants. If there was excess oil outside the Istanbul arrangement, it was allowed to be sold to those who wanted it for 8 kuruş, each jug for 6 shores, or according to "current-time". BOA. HH, Number: 32371, 1246 / 1830-31. Faruk Doğan, s.w. p.26

\*\*An average of 200 ml of olive oil comes out of 1 kilogram of olives, here the olive weight is converted into olive oil. See <http://www.olive.info.tr/?p=147> 02.12.2020, and 2019 data is the Average of General Waqf Olive Groves within the Scope of Ayvalık Waqf Agricultural Enterprises Directorate

Productivity affected by social and economic events. Greece was established in 1821 after the Greek nationalism and rebellion that started in the early 19th century. This situation also affected the Greeks living in the Aegean Region. The Greeks who went to Greece with the Greek revolt brought the problem of labor shortage on the agenda. As a result of the Ottoman-Greek war in 1877-1878 and the Balkan wars, the number of immigrants who came to the Ottoman Empire increased. In the Aegean region, immigrants were employed in olive groves instead of Greeks. However, due to the inexperience of the immigrants, the efficiency could not be obtained immediately. We can also say that the reason for this is that the immigrants who replaced the Greeks did not know olive cultivation exactly. (Doğan, 2007: 49-51).

In the 19th century, 300-400 trees were required for the olive farmer to make a living. 3-5 people from olive farmers could extract 20-30 weight of oil. In general, farmers generally owned fewer olive trees and had oil in the range of 3 to 10 scales per year. Half of the olive groves in Edremid and Kemerredremid mukata were the accidents in the surrounding areas. Before olives ripen, for the olives requested by the producer in August; The animal expense used in the transportation of salt and olives to prevent them from rotting has also put the olive farmer in a difficult situation. As a result of this situation, she had to get cash from the merchant in advance.

The farmer, who could not make enough profit from the olive sales, was able to pay off his debt to the merchant only by selling the olive trees. The farmer sold a certain part of the trees to pay tax and he had very few olive trees left. Winters are very severe and the trees dry; The farmers whose livelihood is only olives, olive oil and soap faced enormous costs. Thus, they borrowed more money from the murabahacı; Those who could not pay their debts had the danger of losing their land. Olive farmers in Edremid and Kemerredremid stated that they wanted to sell their goods to the merchants in their production sites, as they are too poor to afford the cost of taking their olive oil to Istanbul. Another problem for the farmers was *selem*\*\*\* implementation. For example; five farmers signed a contract with *Selem* to supply 10,000 deci of olive oil for 100,000 kurus in Ayvacık district. The lenders asked for 40 kurus, not 20 kurus, for each bundle, and they were defendants. As a result of the case, it was decided to pay 20 kurus per piece. Farmers had to take the tithe proceeds to the collection centers. But; If the center is away from one day distance, the transportation fee is paid to the reaya or the transportation was given to someone else. In Ayvalık, Havran, Edremid, Kemerredremid regions, the roads were not smooth,

\*\*\**Selem*: Buy goods on credit with cash look: Osmanlıca-Türkçe Ansiklopedik Lûgat, Ferit Develioğlu, Aydın Kitabevi, Ankara, 2015

only for camels to be transported by camels. A kilo of fat costs 8-12 cents. As a result of the complaints, the Committee of Union and Progress established olive oil collection centers and asked the producer to send their oils to this center. Establishing and operating olive oil mills also wanted large capitals. The olive farmer would take the product to the factory and squeeze the olives and obtain oil, provided that the pomace remains with the manufacturer. (Doğan, 2007: 64-70).

Primitive technology was used in the olive oil production in the Ottoman Empire. Thus, olive oil revenue has dropped significantly. As a result of the primitive technology in the mills, the oil was not tightened well and the revenue was dropped by remaining in its pulp. Due to the heavy production process, olives were salted in the warehouses for a long time and a significant portion of them rotted. Salting has also reduced the quality of the oil. The decrease in quality also caused a price decrease. Thus, the treasury also lost income. Lack of enough facilities was another challenge. For these reasons, the state stated that it should be done to find sufficient clamps and factories in the olive producing areas. September was the beginning of the olive harvest, and March harvest was completed. Olive mills have been closed until the end of March; tax farmers have decided on the opening date. In this case, producers and business owners made complaints.

The tax farmers made irregularities in this process and arbitrarily caused the mills to be closed. Thus, the mill owners also suffered losses. Olive oil factories remained open at certain times of the year just like the mills. Local councils have notified the opening time of the factories. Factories that were opened late were damaged due to reasons such as inability to tax olive oil. In some cases, olive vices were devastated. One of the reasons for this is the decrease in olive yield due to the drying of the trees due to the difficult seasonal conditions. Another factor affecting olive oil production has been wars and security problems. Greece was established in 1821 after the Greek nationalism and rebellion that started in the early 19th century. This situation also affected the Greeks living in the Aegean Region. The Greeks who went to Greece with the Greek revolt brought the problem of labor shortage on the agenda. As a result of the Ottoman-Greek war in 1877-1878 and the Balkan wars, the number of immigrants who came to the Ottoman Empire increased. In the Aegean region, immigrants were employed in olive groves instead of Greeks. However, due to the inexperience of the immigrants, the efficiency could not be obtained immediately. Also; The high number of Greeks in olive growing regions and Greek nationalism, which started to rise in the late 19th century, brought along problems. Factories remained idle because of the Greeks leaving the region. In the memorandum of 24 R. Evvel 1336 / 10.01.1918 written to

the Ministry of Internal Affairs; it was said that olives were fertile in Ayvalık, Edremit and Aydın provinces, but the factories could not be opened due to the lack of unemployment, and in order to solve this problem, the Greeks were asked to be sent back from Balıkesir and its surroundings, where they were sent for security reasons, and only women were allowed to return. Doğan, (2007: 49-184).

Today, advanced technology is used in olive cultivation. Olive oil is extracted in factories by cold pressing technique. The roads are incomparably smooth. Premium is given to support olive producers. The waqf employs state workers in the agricultural enterprise. There is no problem like not being able to find workers. However, different problems are encountered today. Olive tree gives product one year but another year it doesn't give product. Olive amount; It is 170.000-2000.000 tons in var years and around 40.000-60.000 tons in absent years. Thus, there is a 75% reduction in production for years. In order to limit the negative effects of the absence years; It is important to breed olive species, irrigation, spraying, fertilization, modern care and support production. In Turkey, fertilizing and spraying are not enough. 92% of olive groves cannot be irrigated. In order to solve this problem, idle water sources should be used and modern irrigation should be supported. Another problem is the olive oil storage system. The tanks should have nitrogen protected stainless steel tanks. The production and sales of adulterated oil should be strictly controlled and its sale should be prohibited. Consumption of olive oil is lower than other oils, so its consumption is low. Consumption should be encouraged and studies related to this should be increased. (<http://koop.gtb.gov.tr/data/5ad06f17ddee7dd8b423eb2e/2017%20Zeytin-ya%C4%9F%C4%B1%20Raporu.pdf>, 17.04.2020)

As in the past, problems continue in the waqf agricultural enterprises today. When we look at the accounting records of the waqf agricultural enterprises in the Ottoman period, it is seen that sometimes profit and sometimes loss was made. However, the damage situation of the Ayvalık waqf olive groves operation has been continuing for a while. One of the most important reasons for the loss situation is the share transferred from the income to the treasury is 15%. Although it was recommended to reduce this share to 1% because of the audit of the TCA, it was not. The loss situation of the Ayvalık waqf agricultural enterprise continues. The wages of workers who are waqf employees are higher than the market, which increases the cost of the Ayvalık Waqf Agricultural enterprise.

**Table 5:** In Ayvalık Waqf Olive Groves Belong Enterprise Management Average Olive Products Productivity Per Tree As All Or Nothing Year (2019)

Item No	County/Town	Neighborhood	Average Productivity Per Tree (kg/tree-year) (AVERAGE.)
1	Ayvacic Küçük-kuyu	Adatepe-Arıklı-Gökçetepe-Mıhlı-Nusratlı-Sahil-Yeşilyurt	14
2	Edremit	Narlı-Doyran	12
3	Edremit	Altınoluk	12
4	Edremit	Avcılar-Artaşı	17
5	Edremit	Zeytinli	14
6	Edremit	Kızılkeçili-Akçay	12
7	Edremit	Güre-Çamlıbel-Tahtakuşlar	15
8	Edremit	Kadıköy-Yolören-Ortaoba	15
9	Edremit	Merkez Tüm Mahalleleri	18
10	Havran	Çamdibi (Şekveren)	28
11	Havran	Ebubekir-Temaşalık-Kalabak-Tekke-Hamambaşı-Fazlıca-İnönü-Sarnıç-Camikebir	27
12	Havran	Köylüce-Mescit-Büyükdere-Kocadağ	28
13	Burhaniye	Tüm Mahalleler (Pelitköy Hariç)	20
14	Burhaniye	Pelitköy	18
15	Gömeç	Karaağaç	25
16	Ayvalık	Küçükköy-Kemalpaşa-Kâzımkarabekir-Murateli-Mutluköy-Sakarya-Fethiye	23
17	Gömeç	Keremköy	16

**Source:** Ayvalık Vakıflar Agricultural Enterprise Management, 08.04.2019, Prepared by: Kadir Gülpınar (Agricultural Engineer), Hayretin Ekinci (Agricultural Technician)

In the table 5 above, all the average yields on the basis of the neighborhoods are the yield average of the years when the olives are actually collected in the olive groves by the Operation Directorate.

## 5.CONCLUSION

During the Ottoman Empire period, agricultural waqf enterprises were managed by tax farming system. After the Ministry of Waqfs was established, the state increased its control over waqfs. All income and expenses were monitored from the center. Today, we can say that the management method of agricultural waqf enterprises is modern tax farming. At the same time, follow-up from the center continues today. Similar aspects of tax farming; it is usually leased for 3 years, while the local council directors etc. such as being available, contracting with those who pay high



amounts, such as auctions when hiring, and being inspected by the directorate.

In the waqf olive groves; When we make a comparison on the basis of villages, today's productivity has increased three times at most in some villages, sometimes the same, sometimes less, compared to the 19th century. Although today's socio-economic conditions and technology are in a better state, there has not been a serious difference in productivity.

As in the past, problems continue in the waqf agricultural enterprises today. When we look at the accounting records of the waqf agricultural enterprises in the Ottoman period, it is seen that sometimes profit and sometimes loss was made. However, the damage situation of the Ayvalık waqf olive groves operation has been continuing for a while. One of the most important reasons for the loss situation is the share transferred from the income to the treasury is 15%. Although it was recommended to reduce this share to 1% because of the audit of the TCA, it was not. The loss situation of the Ayvalık waqf agricultural enterprise continues. The wages of workers who are waqf employees are higher than the market, which increases the cost of the Ayvalık Waqf Agricultural enterprise.

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