# Comparison of some anatomical, chemical and fibrous characteristics of Turkish Red Pine (*Pinus brutia* Ten.) sampled from different regions

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Abstract	

Aim of study: In this study, it was aimed to research the anatomical properties, chemical composition of the cell wall and fiber characteristics of Turkish Red Pine (*Pinus brutia* Ten.) wood sampled from five different zone of Kastamonu province in Turkey.

*Area of study:* This study was performed at the laboratories of Department of Forest Industry Engineering and Department of Biology, Kastamonu University.

*Material and Methods:* Turkish Red Pine (*Pinus brutia* Ten.) wood samples obtained from Hanönü, Bozkurt, Araç, İnebolu and Tosya were used as experimental materials. Anatomical properties, chemical structure of wood and fibrous characteristics of wood fibers were determined according to standard methods.

*Main results:* This study indicated that Tosya samples had maximum fibre length with 3.15 mm and maximum lumen width with 27.75  $\mu$ m, whereas maximum fibre width was found in Inebolu samples with 42.27  $\mu$ m and maximum cell wall thickness was seen in samples of Inebolu with 7.90  $\mu$ m. As a consequence of chemical analyses, it was confirmed that holocellulose, alpha-cellulose and lignin ratios, 1% NaOH, ethanol, hot water and cold water solubilities and ash ratio changed within the range of 70.37-72.38, 42.62-47.30, 26.04-27.86, 12.38-13.14, 2.38-3.41, 2.86-3.83, 2.29-3.27 and 0.26-0.40 as percent respectively. In the results of anatomical research, it was seen that Hanönü samples had maximum average ray numbers with 7. Likewise, maximum tracheid widths were found samples in Inebolu and Bozkurt with 1.31  $\mu$ m. Besides, maximum earlywood width was confirmed Bozkurt samples with 0.47 mm, whereas maximum latewood width was confirmed Hanönü samples with 1.31 mm.

*Research highlights:* It is inferred that the same tree species taken from different areas have varied anatomical, chemical and fibre properties measured by means of this study. Because of this, it can be stated that growth location properties and growth media affect the characteristics of same type trees.

Keywords: Turkish Red Pine, Anatomical Properties, Wood Chemical Components, Wood Fibre Characteristics

# Farklı bölgelerden alınan Kızılçam (Pinus brutia Ten.) odunlarının

# bazı anatomik, kimyasal ve lifsel özelliklerinin karşılaştırılması

#### Özet

*Çalışmanın amacı:* Bu çalışmada Kastamonu ilinin beş farklı bölgesinden temin edilen kızılçam (*Pinus brutia* Ten.) odunu örneklerinin anatomik özellikleri, hücre çeperi kimyasal bileşenleri ve lifsel özelliklerinin araştırılması amaçlanmıştır.

*Çalışma alanı:* Bu çalışma, Kastamonu Üniversitesi Orman Endüstri Mühendisliği Bölümü ve Biyoloji Bölümü laboratuvarlarında gerçekleştirilmiştir.

*Materyal ve Yöntem:* Deney materyali olarak Hanönü, Bozkurt, Araç, İnebolu and Tosya bölgelerinden alınan Kızılçam (*Pinus brutia* Ten.) odunu örnekleri kullanılmıştır. Anatomik özellikler, odunun kimyasal yapısı ve lifsel özellikler standart yöntemlere göre tespit edilmiştir.

*Sonuçlar:* Bu çalışma, Tosya örneklerinin 3.15 mm ile en yüksek lif uzunluğuna ve 27.75 μm ile en yüksek lümen genişliğine sahip olduğu, İnebolu örneklerinin ise 42.27 μm ile maksimum lif genişliğine ve 7.90 μm ile maksimum hücre çeperi kalınlığına sahip olduğunu ortaya koymuştur. Kimyasal analizlerin sonucunda, holoselüloz, alfa selüloz ve lignin oranları, %1 NaOH, etanol, sıcak su ve soğuk su çözünürlükleri ile kül oranının yüzde olarak sırasıyla 70.37-72.38, 42.62-47.30, 26.04-27.86, 12.38-13.14, 2.38-3.41, 2.86-3.83, 2.29-3.27 ve 0.26-0.40 arasında değiştiği belirlenmiştir. Anatomik araştırmaların sonuçlarında, Hanönü örneklerinin en yüksek öz ışını sayısına (ort. 7) sahip olduğu görülmüştür. Benzer şekilde maksimum traheid genişliği İnebolu ve Bozkurt örneklerinde 1.31 μm olarak tespit edilmiştir. Ayrıca maksimum ilkbahar odunu genişliği 0.47 mm olarak Bozkurt örneklerinde bulunmuşken, maksimum yaz odunu genişliği 1.31 mm ile Hanönü örneklerinde bulunmuştur.

*Araştırma vurguları:* Bu çalışma ile farklı bölgelerden alınan benzer ağaç türlerinin farklı anatomik, kimyasal ve lifsel özelliklere sahip olduğu sonucuna varılmaktadır. Bundan dolayı yetişme yeri özelliklerinin ve büyüme ortamlarının benzer türdeki ağaçların özelliklerini etkilediği söylenebilir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Kızılçam, Anatomik Özellikler, Odun Kimyasal Bileşenleri, Odun Lif Özellikleri



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## Introduction

Turkish Red Pine forests spreading area reaches nearly 5.6 million ha in Turkey. In general, Turkish Red Pine (*Pinus brutia* Ten.) spreads Turkey, Crete, Cyprus, Syria, Israel and Lebanon, but it exists in Iraq and Iran in small quantities (Fady et al., 2011; Praciak, 2013; Tutus et al., 2017). The nature spreading of Turkish Red Pine (*Pinus brutia* Ten.) occurs the zones between 15-45. east longitudes and 32-45. north latitudes of North hemisphere. Because especially it spreads in Mediterranean Region and Anatolia, it adopted as a type of East Mediterranean (Neyisci, 2001).

Turkish Red Pine (*Pinus brutia* Ten.) spreads in Turkey in the largest form. Generally, it exists in Marmara, Aegean and Mediterranean regions notwithstanding that it spreads in Blacksea coasts as small groups (Neyisci, 2001). Until today, four varieties of *Pinus brutia* subsp. *brutia* were found (Papajoannou, 1936; Selik, 1962; Frankis, 1993; Yaltırık and Boydak, 1989, 2000; Schiller, 2000).

Turkish Red Pine grows coastal regions and it reaches 15-20 m length and 60 cm diameter (Ansin and Özkan, 2006). Their stems aren't smooth in general, but it is seen that the stems of trees start to become smooth as altitude rise and their lengths increase. Furthermore, their tops taper and their branches are slim (Yaltırık and Efe, 2000). The branches, which form a broadly conical and dome-shaped crown, flatten and open as the tree ages (Chambel et al., 2013). Juvenile shoots are thick and dark red. The needles are nearly 10-16 cm, but sometimes they reach to 20 cm and they are thick and dark green. The needle anatomy of Turkish Red Pine is different from Aleppo Pine's (Göksin, 2001; Praciak, 2013).

Nowadays, Turkish Red Pine woods are used in sidings, woodworking industry, production of traverses, panel, packing case, mine timber, telegraph pole, furniture, agricultural instruments etc. comprehensively (Bozkurt, 1971; Kayacık, 1980; Ansin and Özkan, 2006; Gürboy, 2007). Turkish Red Pine wood is thought as a significant raw material in pulp and paper production as well as barks of it are utilized in tannin production (Erten and Taşkın, 1985; Gürboy, 2007). In addition to these, Turkish Red Pine is one of the preeminent types in resin production and also it appraises in afforestation of arid lands (Ansin and Özkan, 2006).

Within the context of this study the anatomic, fibrous and chemical properties of wood samples of *Pinus brutia* samples taken from five different zones in Kastamonu, Turkey (Hanönü, Araç, Bozkurt, İnebolu and Tosya) were studied and compared.

## Material and Method Material

In this study, wood samples of Turkish Red Pine (Pinus brutia Ten.) supplied from five different zones in Kastamonu (Hanönü, Arac, Bozkurt, İnebolu and Tosya) were used. The wood samples were obtained 1.30 m above ground level and they were cut as wheels with 10 cm thick. All of the samples were dried in the room temperature. The wood samples were prepared for each experiment and analyse separately. For the analyses, it was utilised from laboratories of Department of Forest Industry Engineering and Department of Biology, Kastamonu University. In Table 1 and Table 2, altitudes and aspects of work areas as well as general informations about work areas (average values) were shown, respectively.

Table 1. Altitudes and aspects of work areas (Average values)

Worls Areas		Across
Work Areas	Altitude (m)	Aspect
Hanönü	450	North
Araç	850	South
Bozkurt	60	West
İnebolu	80	West
Tosya	500	North

			)
Work Areas	<b>Relative humidity (%)</b>	Temperature (°C)	Precipitation (mm)
Hanönü	48.3	11.8	832.5
Araç	57.7	10.6	450.1
Bozkurt	79.2	13.5	1136.2
İnebolu	75.2	13.2	999.5
Tosya	62.4	11.5	353.1

Table 2. General informations about work areas (Average values) (URL-1)

### Method

## **Determination of Fibrous Properties**

In determination of fibrous properties of Turkish Red Pine (Pinus brutia Ten.) it was utilised from maceration method of Mahesh et al. (2015). Wood samples taken from each zone were cut in the shape of matchstick. Chopped wood samples were submerged in 37% formaldehyde solution and was waited during a night. Before the maceration, treated samples were washed with distilled water and filtered to avoid more evaporation of formaldehyde. The concentration of nitric acid used in maceration process was arranged as 50%. Wood samples were put in the beakers with nitric acid and sunk completely. The beakers were put in a water bath at 70°C. Maceration treatment was continued 5-6 hours until the samples completely bleached. The beakers were taken out from water bath and they were cooled under ambient conditions. After that, acid solutions were drained and macerated samples were washed plenty of distilled water.

Safranin was prepared for microscopic observations. Then fibrous were sampled from solution with a dropper and put on the glass slide.

The measurements of fibres were conducted with a light microscope and 100 measurements from each sample were performed for determination of fibre lengths, fibre widths, lumen widths and cell wall thicknesses. The measurements were done in a Digimizer<sup>®</sup> programme (MedCalc Software bvba, Belgium).

## **Determination of Chemical Properties**

Chemical analyses of all wood samples were performed according to TAPPI standards for determination of main wood components. Before the chemical analyses, wood samples were grinded in a Wiley Mill and samples were prepared according to TAPPI T 257 cm-85 standard. All of the analyses were repeated three times to provide consistency. Following experiments were done for the wood samples according to related standards (Hafizoğlu and Deniz, 2011; URL-2).

- Ethanol solubility (TAPPI T 204 om-88)
- Holocellulose determination (Chlorite method of Wise)
- Alpha-cellulose determination: TAPPI T 203 OS-71
- Lignin determination: TAPPI T 222 om-88
- Cold and hot water solubility: TAPPI T 207 om-88
- 1% NaOH solubility: TAPPI T 212 om– 88
- Ash determination: TAPPI T 211 om-85

#### **Determination of Anatomical Properties**

Wood samples gotten from five different regions were cut as 20x20x20 mm as cubic blocks. Then the blocks were boiled in a hot water bath 6 hours/day during 5 days. Sliced samples were taken from three anatomical section (radial, cross and tangential) of the cubes by using a Thermo Shandon Finesse 325 microtome and the slides were prepared according to international standards. The images were analysed with a Leica DM3000 light microscope.

# Results and Discussion

# **Fibrous Analyses**

In this chapter the fibres of all of the wood samples were observed with light microscope and fibre characteristics (fibre length, fibre width, lumen width and cell wall thickness) were determined with a software (Digimizer). The fibre dimensions of samples were given in Table 3.

Zone	Fibre length (mm)	S.D	Fibre width (µm)	S.D	Lumen width (µm)	S.D	Cell wall thickness (µm)	S.D
Hanönü	2.05	0.86	40.57	2.51	26.93	2.71	6.74	1.16
Bozkurt	1.86	1.86	41.03	2.95	26.95	2.49	6.96	1.36
Araç	2.22	2.22	41.97	3.35	26.71	3.39	7.61	1.46
İnebolu	2.21	2.21	42.27	3.85	26.32	3.57	7.90	1.79
Tosya	3.15	3.15	41.90	3.24	27.75	4.27	7.20	1.38

Table 3. The fibre dimensions of wood samples

S.D.: Standard Deviation

According to Table 3, the highest fibre length was determined in samples in Tosya with 3.15 mm, whereas the highest fibre width was determined in samples in İnebolu with 42.27  $\mu$ m. It was seen that the maximum value was obtained for lumen width in samples in Tosya with 27.75  $\mu$ m and the maximum value was obtained for cell wall thickness in samples in İnebolu with 7.90  $\mu$ m.

In the literature there are many studies about fibrous characteristics of Turkish Red Pine and the other types. Göksel (1981) and Tank et al. (1990) determined fibre lengths as 4.27-4.70 mm and 3.20 mm; fibre widths as 47.85-49.11 µm and 25.05 µm; lumen widths as 28.14-30.34 µm and 15.49 µm; cell wall thicknesses as 8.99-9.77 µm and 4.78 µm of Turkish Red Pine wood samples, respectively. Bektas et al. (1999) found fibre length as 4.42 mm; fibre width as 40.40 um; lumen width as 25.09 µm and cell wall

thickness as 7.03  $\mu$ m of Turkish Red Pine. Gürboy (2007) confirmed fibre length as 2.71-3.02 mm; fibre width as 51.87-54.04  $\mu$ m; lumen width as 34.35-39.59  $\mu$ m and cell wall thickness as 6.43-9.28  $\mu$ m in his study about Turkish Red Pine. Similarly, in a study related to Turkish Red Pine Sariusta (2007) determined fibre length as 4.14 mm; fibre width as 42.5  $\mu$ m; lumen width as 28.35  $\mu$ m and cell wall thickness as 14.15  $\mu$ m.

#### **Chemical Analyses**

Under this title the chemical components of Turkish Red Pine wood samples were determined. Within this framework ethanol solubility value, holocellulose ratio, alphacellulose ratio, lignin ratio, cold and hot water solubility value, 1% NaOH solubility value and ash ratio of wood samples were calculated with TAPPI standards. The results of chemical analyses were given in Table 4.

Table 4. The chemical components of wood samples	Table 4.	The	chemical	components	of	wood	samples
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Analyses (%)	Tosya	Hanönü	İnebolu	Bozkurt	Araç
Ethanol solubility	2.54	2.38	2.44	3.08	3.41
Lignin ratio	26.89	26.47	27.09	27.86	26.04
Holocellulose ratio	71.94	72.38	71.81	70.37	70.44
Alpha-cellulose ratio	47.30	42.62	43.76	47.19	46.38
1% NaOH solubility	12.38	12.47	13.05	13.14	12.53
Cold water solubility	3.27	2.49	2.32	3.11	2.29
Hot water solubility	3.83	3.44	2.93	2.86	3.10
Ash ratio	0.36	0.40	0.28	0.37	0.26

When Table 4 was researched, it was seen that the highest values were determined as 3.41% in Araç for ethanol solubility; 27.86% in Bozkurt for lignin ratio; 72.38% in Hanönü for holocellulose ratio; 47.30% in Tosya for alpha-cellulose ratio; 13.14% in Bozkurt for 1% NaOH solubility; 3.27% in

Tosya for cold water solubility; 3.83% in Tosya for hot water solubility and 0.40% in Hanönü for ash ratio.

In previous studies same results were obtained with Turkish Red Pine wood samples. Tank et al. (1990) confirmed as 65.46% for holocellulose ratio; 27.47% for

lignin ratio; 42.55% for alpha-cellulose ratio; 5.04% for hot water solubility; 11.70% for 1% NaOH solubility; 7.92% for alcoholbenzene solubility; 5.10% for ether solubility; 10.00% for pentosan and 0.47% for ash ratio in their studies. Kirci (1991) found as 70.8% for holocellulose ratio; 27.4% for lignin ratio; 54.1% for cellulose ratio; 5.0% for hot water solubility; 8.5% for 1% NaOH solubility; 5.8% for alcoholbenzene solubility and 0.37% for ash ratio. In another study Hafizoğlu and Usta (2005) determined as 28% lignin ratio in heartwood and as 29% lignin ratio in sapwood; as 52.6% cellulose ratio in heartwood and as 57.9% cellulose ratio in sapwood; as 45.2% alpha-cellulose ratio in heartwood and as 50.2% alpha-cellulose ratio in sapwood. Besides, they found cold and hot water solubility, alcohol-benzene solubility and 1%

NaOH solubility values for heartwood and sapwood as 3.1–2.4%; 6.5–5.1%; 7.6–5.7% and 10.2–9.1% respectively. Baharoglu et al. (2013) confirmed as 71.68% for holocellulose ratio; 52.64% for cellulose ratio; 45.68% for alpha-cellulose ratio; 25.98% for lignin ratio; 5.62% for hot water solubility; 16.05% for 1% NaOH solubility and 5.18% for alcohol-benzene solubility in their study.

## **Anatomic Analyses**

In this chapter microscopic investigations of Turkish Red Pine wood samples were conducted for determination of anatomic characteristics. In Figure 1 microscopic images of wood samples in radial, tangential and cross sections were shown. In addition, it was indicated the anatomical properties of wood samples in Table 5.

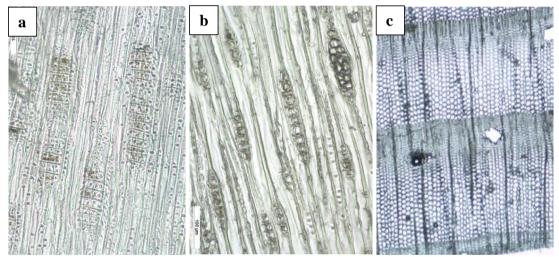


Figure 1. The microscopic images of wood samples in a) radial b) tangential c) cross sections

Zone	Ray numbers (Mean)	Tracheid width (μm)	S.D	Earlywood width (mm)	S.D	Latewood width (mm)	S.D
Araç	4-9 (6.5)	1.29	0.18	0.32	0.10	1.21	0.17
Tosya	3-10 (6.5)	1.30	0.13	0.19	0.22	1.18	0.11
Bozkurt	2-8 (5)	1.31	0.12	0.47	0.07	1.15	0.12
Hanönü	3-11 (7)	1.29	0.20	0.35	0.14	1.31	0.19
İnebolu	5-8 (6.5)	1.31	0.18	0.40	0.09	1.21	0.17

Table 5. The anatomical p	properties of wood samples	•
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S.D.: Standard Deviation

According to Table 5, the highest average ray numbers were obtained samples taken from Hanönü zone with 7. The highest tracheid widths were determined samples in Bozkurt and İnebolu with  $1.31 \mu m$ . In addition, maximum earlywood width was seen samples taken from Bozkurt with 0.47 mm, while maximum latewood width was

seen samples taken from Hanönü with 1.31 mm.

The results in the literature shows similarities with results in this study. For instance, Ay (1993) was found as 37.5 µm in tangential section, as 25.53 µm in radial section tracheid diameters of Turkish Red Pine earlywood and as 273 tracheid number in 1 mm<sup>2</sup> in earlywood, as 482 tracheid number in 1 mm<sup>2</sup> in latewood. Besides in this study, tracheid length was found as 3.23 mm in earlywood and as 3.8 mm in latewood, whereas tracheid width was found as 45.16 um in earlywood and as 40.05 um in latewood. They confirmed cell wall thickness as 4.70 µm and as 7.52 µm in earlywood and latewood, respectively. In another study, Bozkurt et al. (1993) determined as 3.09 mm average tracheid length and as 40 µm average tracheid width in Turkish Red Pine wood samples. They found ray number as 1-26 in tangential section.

## Conclusion

Within the context of this study anatomic, fibrous and chemical characteristics of Turkish Red Pine (Pinus brutia Ten.) wood samples taken from five different zones (Tosya, Hanönü, İnebolu, Bozkurt and Arac) in Kastamonu were investigated. According to obtained results, it was seen that the samples taken from varied zones had varied wood properties. According to results of fibrous analyses, fibre lengths were between 1.86 mm-3.15 mm; fibre widths were 40.57 μm-42.27 μm; lumen widths were 26.32 μm-27.75 µm and cell wall thicknesses were 6.74 µm-7.90 µm. As a result of chemical analyses, it was determined that ethanol solubility, lignin ratio, holocellulose ratio, alpha-cellulose ratio, 1% NaOH solubility, cold water solubility, hot water solubility and ash ratio changed between 2.38%-3.41%; 26.04%-27.86%; 70.37%-72.38%; 42.62%-47.30%; 12.38%-13.14%; 2.29%-3.27%; 2.86%-3.83% and 0.26%-0.40%, respectively. When microscopic analyses were investigated, it was found that ray numbers were within the range of 5-7; tracheid widths were between 1.29 µm-1.31 µm; earlywood widths were between 0.19 mm-0.47 mm and latewood widths were within the range of 1.15 mm-1.31 mm.

As a consequence, it was seen that the characteristics of same kind of wood samples taken from different zones may change with regards to climate, precipitation, soil properties etc. with fibrous, chemical and anatomic analyses. Likewise, all of these characteristics may change in different zones (branch, stem, root etc.) of same tree. By looking at the obtained characteristics, it can be decided end-use place of tree types in the industry.

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