

Subject Assessment of Postgraduate Theses Relating to Olive Leaf Between 2000-2019 Years in Türkiye

Yasin Ozdemir* and Seda Kayahan

Ataturk Horticultural Central Research Institute, Food Technologies Department, Yalova, Türkiye

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***Corresponding author:** Yasin Ozdemir, Ataturk Horticultural Central Research Institute, Food Technologies Department, Yalova, Türkiye

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Abstract

The aim of this study is to investigate postgraduate theses about olive leaf in Turkey between 2000-2019. There were 58 master's degrees, 5 doctorates and 1 expertise in medicine theses (total 64 postgraduate theses). It was determined that olive leaf theses with a single subject entry constitute 86% of the total theses. When the theses are grouped according to the study subjects determined as medicinal uses (27%), uses in formula as raw material (22%), olive leaf analysis (17%), uses in animal feed (14%), extract production (9%), drying technology (8%) and another subject (3%). Despite reports of cosmetic potential of olive leaf, there is no study has been seen on uses of olive leaf in cosmetics in these theses.

Keywords: Olive leaf; Phenolic compounds; Biochemistry; Oleuropein; DNA

Introduction

Olive trees are grown to produce table olives and olive oil and leaves are traditionally used in health treatment [1]. A high number of by-products and residues derived from both olive tree cultivation and the olive processing industry are obtained yearly; most of them have no practical applications [2]. Olive leaves are obtained during olive tree pruning, in which they constitute 25% of the pruning, and secondly in the olive oil production facility, where leaves are separated from the olives by a blower machine [3]. The amount of olive leaves accumulated annually may exceed 1 million tonnes. Harvested olives are accompanied by approximately 6% of leaves and annual world production of olives exceeds 18 million tonnes (average 2006-2013) [4,5]. Olive leaf is considered a source of phenolic compounds and is considered a by-product of significant functional value [6,7]. There are folklore reports and modern scientific results about the therapeutic effects of olive leaf in different cultures. [6-9]. Assessment of the developing the shelf life of food product and antimicrobial activity against foodborne pathogens of olive leaf extract were also reported [10]. Olive leaves gather the interest of the scientific community and the industries worldwide, as their health promoting benefits are constantly being shown by an ever-increasing number of scientific data [11]. The research was aimed to examine the post graduate thesis done in the field of olive leaf between 2000-2019 to contribute literature and present information. It will be beneficial to inspire new studies.

Material and Methods

In this study, theses which have "olive leaf" world in their title were determined between 2000-2019 (February) by using the web site of National Thesis Center of Publication and Documentation Department of Higher Education Council. In this way, 64 theses on olive leaf subject were determined. These were categorized as publication years, type (doctorate, expertise in medicine or master's degree) and selected topic in National Thesis Center. Also, the summaries of the theses have been read and divided into main groups according to their field of study.

Results and Discussion

The distribution of theses according to years was given in Table 1. It was determined that the postgraduate theses conducted between 2000 and 2010 were 0,73 per year and 6,88 in 2011-2018. Therefore, it can be stated that there is a significant increase in the number of theses on olive leaf subject. In addition, it is seen that this increase is not only numerical, but also new production technologies and uses areas have been studied much more in recent years. However, it is considered that future studies are needed to increase the commercial value of olive leaf because olive defined as a strategic product for Turkey and its production will be increased year by year. Mosleh et al. [12] reported literature survey was performed via electronic search on PubMed, Scopus and ScienceDirect. They found 270 articles related to the topic of olive leaf. Between 2000-2019, a total of 64 theses were made on olive leaves. 58 master’s degrees, 5 doctorate and 1 expertise in medicine theses. Proportional distribution of the theses by types is given in Figure 1. In the classification of the theses according to the introduction of the National Thesis Center, it is seen that 15 theses have choice of Food Engineering subject and 23% of the total number of theses. This was followed by biology (12%), biochemistry (9%), chemistry (9%) and chemical engineering (8%). The distribution of theses according to the subjects selected in the National Thesis Center System is given in Table 2. Olive leaves defined as an agricultural waste or by-product obtained during the purning, harvesting and fabrication process of olive fruits, contain considerable active components [6,13]. So that determination of its characteristics and uses potential have vital importance for olive producer countries. The group of theses according to study subjects was given in Table 3. Medical uses were determined as mostly studied area which followed by uses in formula as raw material, olive leaf analysis and uses in animal feed. Thesis in the field of olive leaf medical uses was given in Table 4. In traditional medicine olive leaf brew has been used to cure several diseases including hypertension and hyperglycemia [14,15]. Olive leaf extract is used as a food supplement or as an over-the-counter drug for a variety of benefits including its anti-arrhythmic, anti-atherosclerotic [16], anti-hypertensive, antioxidant, anti-tumor, anti-proliferative, anti-inflammatory [17,18], and anti-fibrotic [17] effects. Olive leaf was reported as a natural source of bioactive Phyto-compounds and their use has been recommended for food preservation [19]. It has been recently shown that olive leaves extract reduces lipid

oxidation of baked food [20]. Uses of olive leaf in formula as raw material subject group of theses was given Table 5. The effect of olive leaf extract on food quality and shelf life was seen as the most studied area in thesis. Food additives had higher value than uses of olive leaf than used as raw material for production of activated or nano-active carbon or composite material production. This subject will be studied at higher numbers for future investigation as parallel of consumer demand for natural food ingredient. Several studies have revealed that olive polyphenols exert anti-inflammatory and antioxidant actions [19,21]. Moreover, they play a protective role in cancer as they counteract the DNA damage induced by reactive species [21]. Similar to literature all of the thesis which had subject on olive leaf analysis contain oleuropein, phenol components and/or antioxidant activity character analysis. Olive leaf analysis subject of thesis was given in Table 6. Effect of harvest time (maturation stages), cultivation region and different cultivars were also studied to determine their effect on these constituent or characters of olive leaves. Olive leaf has been reported as agroindustry wastes which have valuable nutritional characteristics and could be included in poultry rations to facilitate reducing feeding costs [22,23]. By-products of olive processing can be supplemented in the diet of broilers and laying hens by up to 10% without detrimental effects on production, whilst improving the biochemical blood profile and enhancing the oxidative status of birds [22].

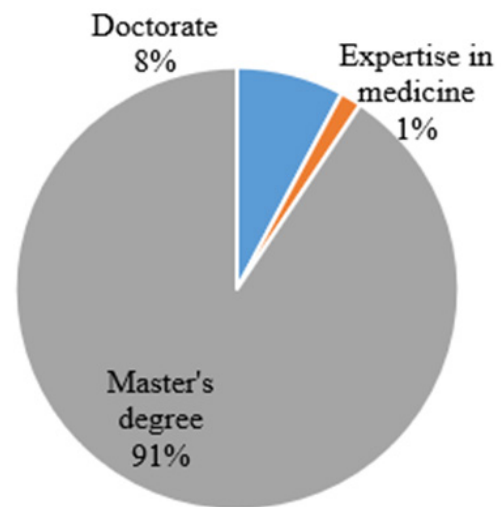


Figure 1: Proportional distribution of theses by types.

Table 1: Distribution of theses by years.

Publication year	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Number of theses	1	10	11	11	2	4	5	7	5	3
Publication year	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
Number of theses	2	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0

Table 2: Selected topics in database of Higher Education Council National Thesis Center.

One Topic Selected Thesis in Database	Number of Theses	Two or More Topics Selected Thesis in Database	Number of Theses
Food Engineering	15	Biochemistry+Biotechnology+Genetics	1
Biology	7	Biochemistry+Pharmacy and Pharmacology	1

Biochemistry	6	Biochemistry+Biology	1
Chemistry	6	Chemistry+Biochemistry	1
Chemical Engineering	5	Food Engineering+Chemical Engineering	1
Agriculture	3	Biotechnology+Fisheries	1
Biotechnology	3	Food Engineering+Agriculture	1
Nutrition and Dietetics	2	Veterinary Medicine+Agriculture	1
Physiology	2	Biochemistry+Food Engineering+	1
Nursing	1	Agriculture	
Medical Biology	1		
Polymer Science and Technology	1		
Sea product	1		
Veterinary Medicine	1		
Radiology and Nuclear Medicine	1		

Table 3: Group of theses according to study field.

Subject Group of Theses	Number of Theses	Ratio in Total (%)
Medicinal uses	17	27
Uses in formula as raw material	14	22
Olive leaf analysis	11	17
Uses in animal feed	9	14
Extract production	6	9
Drying technology	5	8
Other	2	3

Table 4: Thesis in the field of olive leaf medicinal uses.

Medical Uses Subject of Thesis	Number of Theses
Studies on diabetic rats	9
Studies on cancer cells	3
Effect against oxidative stress damage	1
Effect on tyrosine kinase, insulin receptor- 1, glut4 and glut2 protein expression levels in human hepatocellular carcinoma cells	1
Effect against lung damage	1
Effect on circadian rhythm and testosterone	1
Effect on cell death in glioblastoma cells	1

Table 5: Thesis in the field of uses of olive leaf in formula as raw material.

Uses in Formula as Raw Material Subject of Thesis	Number of Theses
Effect on food quality	5
Effect of food shelf life	3
Nanoactive carbon production	1
Polypropylene composite	1
Adsorption on hard protein	1
Laccase enzyme production	1
Removal of Cr (VI) in solutions	1
Activated carbon production	1

Table 6: Thesis in the field of olive leaf analysis.

Material or Method in Olive Leaf Analysis Subject of Thesis	Analyzed Characters in Thesis
Capillary electrophoresis analysis	Oleuropein
Characteristics of different regions of Hatay	Antioxidant and antimicrobial properties
The effect of seasonal and elevation factors in Edremit region	Antioxidant properties, phenolic and mineral composition
Gemlik, Domat, Adana pellets and Adana local varieties in Adana region	Antioxidant effects
Ayvalık, Memecik, Gemlik, Domat varieties collected in different maturation periods	Major phenolic compounds and their antioxidant capacities
The effect of harvest time was analyzed	Antioxidant activity, phenolic component, and total phenol contents
Ayvalık cultivar, each sample was analyzed wet and dry at 3 different maturity times	Oleuropein
Change during maturation	Antioxidant activity and phenolic compounds
Gamma ray applied to dry olive leaves	Phenolic content and antioxidant capacity
Different cultivars and harvest time	Functional components
Different extraction methods and different storage conditions	Phenolic profile stability

Depending on conditions, approximately 12-30 kilograms of leaf is obtained from each olive tree yearly [24,25]. Uses of olive leaf or its extract in animal feeding and its effects were studied in thesis. Some details of these theses were given in Table 7. In these theses olive leaf or its extract used to determine the effect on feeding animal. Broiler feeding was seen as mostly studied animal. Quail and some type fish feeding also studied in these theses at lesser number. Due to polyphenols and other bioactive compounds olive leaf displaying peculiar biological properties at different levels [26-28]. Wojcikowski et al. [29] reported the highest radical-scavenging activity in olive leaf, black cohosh, rhubarb, licorice and Virginia

skullcap in studied 55 herbs. Secoiridoids constitute a major portion of the olive leaf and Oleuropein is the most abundantly found secoiridoid glycoside in the leaf [30]. A lot of work has been done on isolation, characterization, synthesis, and in silico studies of oleuropein [31-34]. Similar to the literature olive leaf extract production focused on oleuropein, hydroxytyrosol, polyphenols and raw extract production in these theses. Thesis in the field of olive leaf extract production was given in Table 8. Olive leaf, which has the potential to be used in terms of food industry, has a special importance for Turkey considering its position in the world in terms of olive industry [35]. The most basic process applied in olive

leaf processing is drying. Theses in the field of olive leaf drying technology were given in Table 9. In this study other subjects of olive leaf theses were given in Table 10. Gene cloning of the β -glucosidase encoding from olive leaf and microencapsulation of the olive leaf extract by niosomes were seen as unusual subjects for olive leaf studies. The number of these types of studies should be increased. The green technology for olive leaf extract production is of great interest to the anti-aging products. The olive leaf contents of major phenolic compounds may contain activators of the anti-aging gene Sirtuin 1. These activators may be present in the different olive oil leaves [36,37].

Table 7: Thesis in the field of animal feed uses.

Olive Leaf Material	Studied Animal	Analyzed Characters
Olive leaf extract	Oreochromis niloticus fish	Ion and some biochemical parameters in blood tissue
	Salmon	Formation of heterocyclic aromatic amines
	Broilers in temperature stress	Growth performance, lipid profile and some hormone levels
	Broiler quail	Feeding performance, fatty acid composition and lipid oxidation of meat
	Quail	Yield performance and some blood parameters
Olive leaf	Broiler	Feeding performance, serum, and intestinal parameters
	Broiler	Some blood parameters and intestinal microflora
	Hen	Possibilities for functional egg production
Olive leaf extract coated with alginate and chitosan	Broiler	Feeding performance

Table 8: Thesis in the field of extract production.

Aim	Used Methods
Oleuropein extraction	Molecular printed solid-phase extraction system
Olive leaf raw extract, partially purified oleuropein and purified oleuropein	Extraction with methanol
Optimized extraction process	Ultrasound assisted extraction
Hydroxytyrosol extraction	Methanol: Water extraction Biodistribution studies on different cell lines
Purification of polyphenolic compounds	Adsorption properties of olive extract by macroporous adsorption resin and yield of adsorption column
Extract production	Supercritical-CO ₂
Microencapsulation of the extract	Effect of some wall materials and encapsulation techniques
Different extraction methods and different storage conditions	Phenolic profile stability

Table 9: Thesis in the field of drying technology.

Material or Method in Drying Technology Subject of Thesis	Analyzed Characters in Thesis
Different kinds of olive leaves	Phenolic component, antioxidant activity and mineral content
Olive leaf dried by different methods	bioactive components, antioxidant capacity and sensory taste of herbal tea
Different drying methods	Effect on phenolic distribution and antioxidant capacity
The effect of microwave and oven drying on solvent, temperature, and time parameters	Obtaining antioxidant from olive leaves
Tray dryer and heat pump drying system, process variables: Temperature, air speed and time	Modeling, optimization, and exergy analysis of hot air drying

Table 10: Other subject of olive leaf thesis.

Material or Method	Analyzed Characters
Microencapsulation of the extract by niosomes	Antimicrobial activity
Gene cloning of the β -glucosidase encoding	Contig and singlets were created using Phrap and CAP3 programs

Conclusion

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the doctoral and master's theses prepared on the field of olive leaf in Turkey between 2000 and 2019 (February). Contribute to the formation of new research ideas. Olive leaf reported as potential plant waste and it can be formulated into dietary supplements, foods, beverages, cosmetics, medicinal products, and health fortification for feed. But there is no study has seen on cosmetics and beverages in the studied thesis. Medicinal uses, extraction techniques, animal feedings, food additive uses, and analysis methods were determined as mostly studied field of olive leaf in these theses. Green technology for olive leaf extract production and production of possible cosmetic product and their effect such as anti-aging or skin regeneration on consumers maybe new research areas for olive leaf subject.

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