

## Turkey

Baris Uzilday  
Ege University  
[baris.uzilday@ege.edu.tr](mailto:baris.uzilday@ege.edu.tr)



**Please describe any new experimental resources and/or software tools available to Arabidopsis researchers that have been initiated or funded in your country in 2020 or early 2021**

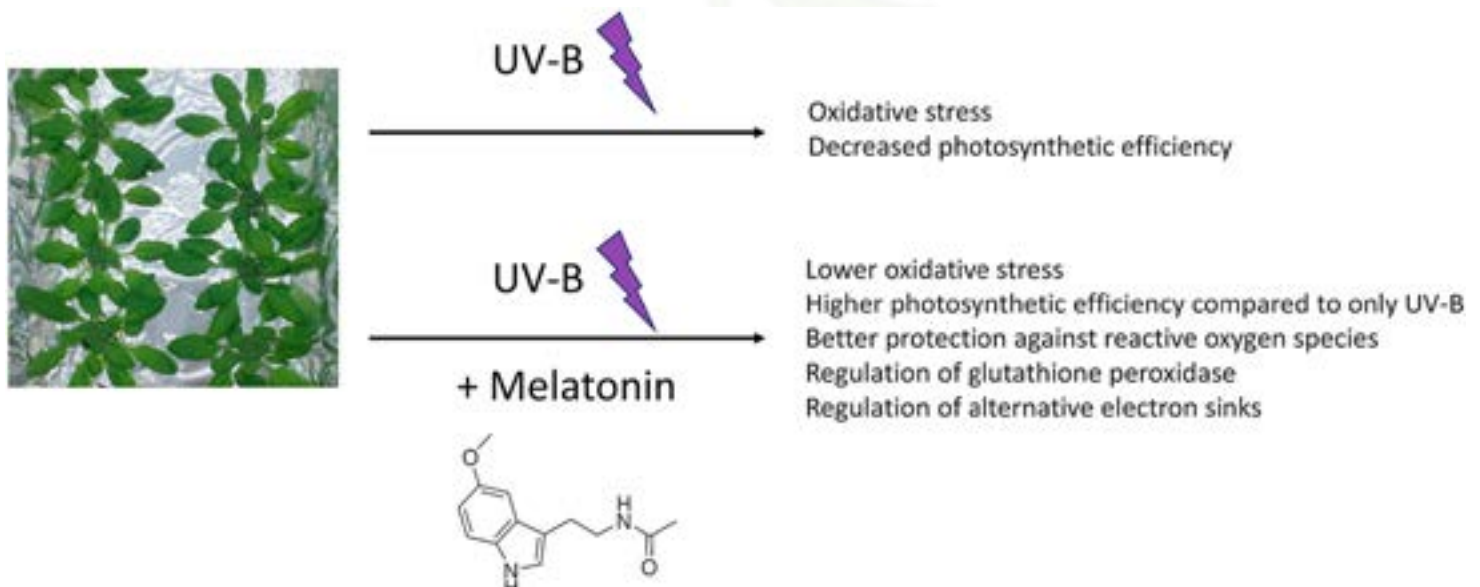
Initiation of a collection for *Arabidopsis thaliana* ecotypes from Turkey.

**Please provide a paragraph describing the general impact of the COVID19 pandemic on the scientific community in your country**

The COVID-19 pandemic has been a challenge for scientists in Turkey due to lock-downs, problems in worldwide logistics and initiation of distance learning. For plant science, and other branches of science that deal with living organisms, it was challenging to grow and maintain biological material, which hindered the progress of research. Restrictions and precautions in the laboratory and personnel space made it impossible to do studies that require a high level of manpower and cooperation. Graduate students had to stall most of their research and extra time has been granted for their studies by the Council of Higher Education of Turkey. Moreover, academic staff had to adapt distance-learning technologies, which required effort diverted from science. The ambiguity of the course of events made it very difficult to make decisions related to teaching and grading of courses. As of May 2021 distance learning is being used for three semesters in a row. There seems to be no decrease in publication output in the short term, however, labs are publishing data that has been obtained before the pandemic and this will probably have a negative impact on publication output post-pandemic due to the gap in efforts for obtaining data.

### Planned events for 2021 and 2022

- 4th National Plant Physiology Symposium (UBFS2021) <https://ubfs2020.aku.edu.tr/> (postponed from 2020 to 2021)
- Fascination of Plants Day 2021-22, Symposias held at Ege University (18 May).



## Selected Publications

Total of 11 publications has been published as of 16.05.2021 that uses *Arabidopsis* as plant material

- Acet, T., & Kadio\_lu, A. (2020). SOS5 gene-abscisic acid crosstalk and their interaction with anti-oxidant system in *Arabidopsis thaliana* under salt stress. *Physiology and Molecular Biology of Plants*, 26(9), 1831-1845

- Haskirli, H., Yilmaz, O., Ozgur, R., Uzilday, B., & Turkan, I. (2021). Melatonin mitigates UV-B stress via regulating oxidative stress response, cellular redox and alternative electron sinks in *Arabidopsis thaliana*. *Phytochemistry*, 182, 112592

- Ozgur, R., Uzilday, B., Bor, M., & Turkan, I. (2020). The involvement of gamma-aminobutyric acid shunt in the endoplasmic reticulum stress response of *Arabidopsis thaliana*. *Journal of Plant Physiology*, 253, 153250.

## Major Funding Sources

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK)  
<https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/en>