Oleaster (Elaeagnus angustifolia L.) or Russian olive, which has reddish- or yellowish-brown elliptic fruit and hard skin, belongs to Elaeagnacea family. It is cultivated in Europe, Asia and North America (Öztürk et al., 2018). Total oleaster production of Turkey was reported as 4141 tons (TÜİK, 2019). Its significant amount is produced in the Central Anatolia region while the rest is provided from different regions of Turkey. The oleaster fruits were obtained from Aksaray, Niğde and İzmir cities and their crust and crumb parts were analyzed individually and freshly. In terms of color, the crust and crumb of oleaster fruits from İzmir had the darkest color with L* values of 46.81±4.06 and 78.91 ± 4.97 among all tested fruits from different locations, respectively. Total of phenolic (TP), flavonoid (TF) and tannin (TT) content (C) and as well antioxidant activities (AA) of oleaster fruits were determined for the crust and crumb of oleaster fruits. The highest TPC (22.30±1.75 mg gallic acid equivalent/g DM), TFC (16.24±1.49 mg catechin equivalent/g DM) and AA (14.05±0.55 μmol trolox equivalent/g DM) by DPPH were found in the crust of Aksaray oleaster fruits. In addition, the crumb of Aksaray oleaster fruit had the highest TPC (16.44±1.67 mg gallic acid equivalent/g DM) among the crumbs of oleaster fruits from different locations. Furthermore, there was no significant difference among the texture of crust and crumb of oleaster fruits obtained from different locations. Results showed the growing location of oleaster fruits had a significant influence on the physical and bioactive properties of fruits. Also, this study indicated that oleaster fruits were rich in bioactive compounds; therefore, they could be incorporated into foods to design functional foods.
Materials and Methods

Materials
The oleaster (Elaeagnus angustifolia L.) fruits were collected from the local gardens in İzmir, Aksaray and Niğde in Turkey. Folin & Ciocalteu’s phenol reagent, Folin-Denis’ reagent, gallic acid, sodium bicarbonate, 2,2-Diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl, trolox, catechin, sodium nitrate, aluminum chloride, 2,4,6-Tris (2-pyridyl)-s-triazine, iron chloride and methanol were bought from Merck (Darmstadt, Germany).

Moisture Content Assay
The moisture content of fresh oleaster fruits was determined according to AOAC method. The fresh oleaster fruit (W1) were weighed into cups and hold at 80°C for 24 h in the oven. After reaching constant weight, the cups were measured (W2) and the moisture content (%) was calculated using Eq. (1):

\[
\text{Moisture content (\%) } = \frac{W_1 - W_2}{W_1} \times 100
\]

Color Assay
Color parameters (L* (lightness), a* (redness-greenness) and b* (yellowness-blueeness)) of oleaster fruits were detected by a digital portable color meter (CR-400, Konica Minolta, Japan). Each measurement was repeated five times.

Bioactive Compounds Extraction
The extraction of bioactive compounds from oleaster fruit samples was performed according the method stated by Bennett et al. (2011). The oleaster fruit samples (1 g) were mixed with 80% methanol and then, the mixture was sonicated for 20 min at 25°C (Selecta Ultrasons HD, Barcelona). Afterwards, it was centrifuged at 3500 g for 15 min (Universal 320 R, Hettich, Tuttingen, Germany) and filtered. The extracts were used as fresh for all analyses.

Total Phenolic Content Assay
Folin-Ciocalteu assay was used to determine total phenolic content (TPC) of oleaster fruit samples (Irakli et al., 2018). In this assay, Folin & Ciocalteu reagent (0.5 mL) was added onto the extract (0.5 mL) and then, mixed with Na2CO3 solution (3 mL). The obtained mixture was incubated at dark for 30 min. After the incubation, the absorbance values were read using the spectrophotometer (UV-1800, Schimadzu, Japan). TPC results were indicated as mg gallic acid equivalent/g dry matter of oleaster fruit (mg GAE/g DM). The assay was conducted in triplicate.

Total Flavonoid Content Assay
Total flavonoid content (TFC) of oleaster fruit samples was carried out using the procedure of M’hiri et al. (2015). The extract (0.3 mL) was mixed with 5% NaNO2 (0.3 mL) solution. Then, 10% AlCl3 solution (0.3 mL) was added to the mixture. After the incubation for 10 min, 10% NaOH solution (4 mL) was poured onto the mixture. The absorbance values were read at 510 nm using the spectrophotometer. The analysis was run in triplicate and TFC was given as mg catechin equivalent/g dry matter of oleaster fruit (mg CE/g DM).

Total Tannin Content Assay
Total tannin content (TTC) of oleaster fruit samples was carried out using the method given by Li et al. (2015). The extract (0.2 mL) was mixed with Folin-Dennis’ reagent (1.25 mL), then 10% Na2CO3 solution (2.5 mL) was added and the volume of the mixture was completed to 25 mL with distilled water. This mixture was held at dark for 30 min and the absorbance values were recorded at 700 nm using the spectrophotometer. Results were expressed as mg tannic acid equivalent/g dry matter of oleaster fruit (mg TAE/g DM). This analysis was performed in triplicate.

Antioxidant Activity Assay (DPPH Method)
Antioxidant activity (AA) assay of oleaster fruit samples was performed using the method of Aghraz et al. (2018). DPPH of 2 mL (in 100% methanol) was mixed with the extract (0.1 mL) and the mixture was kept at dark for 30 min. The absorbances were read at 517 nm using the spectrophotometer. The assay was carried out in triplicate. AA was calculated as µmol trolox equivalent/g dry matter of oleaster fruit (µmol TE/g DM).

Antioxidant Activity Assay (FRAP Method)
AA of oleaster fruit samples was also determined by FRAP method (Szydłowska-Czerniak et al., 2008). First of all, FRAP reagent consisted of 20 mM FeCl3 (2.5 mL), 10 mM TPTZ solution (2.5 mL) and 0.1 M acetate buffer (25 mL) was prepared. Afterwards, FRAP reagent (2 mL) added onto the extract (0.3 mL) and then it was completed to total volume of 10 mL with distilled water. The absorbance values were obtained at 593 nm using a spectrophotometer. Results were expressed as µmol TE/g DM. The assay was run in triplicate.

Figure 1. Hardness values of oleaster fruits from different locations of Turkey
(Statistical evaluation was not conducted between crust and crumb of same samples)

Table 1. The color values of crust and crumb of oleaster fruits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>L*</th>
<th>a*</th>
<th>b*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crust</td>
<td>46.81±4.06</td>
<td>19.90±1.98</td>
<td>24.27±3.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aksaray</td>
<td>61.54±4.71</td>
<td>13.16±3.68</td>
<td>33.26±3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niğde</td>
<td>58.96±7.91</td>
<td>15.83±4.62</td>
<td>34.52±8.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crumb</td>
<td>78.91±4.97</td>
<td>2.98±1.46</td>
<td>17.92±2.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aksaray</td>
<td>81.85±1.96</td>
<td>1.48±0.78</td>
<td>26.88±2.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niğde</td>
<td>82.59±3.66</td>
<td>1.51±0.73</td>
<td>20.86±1.41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Same superscript in a column indicates no significant differences (P>0.05).
Table 2. Total phenolic, flavonoid, tannin contents and antioxidant activities of different oleaster fruits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>TPC (mg GAE/g DM)</th>
<th>TFC (mg CE/g DM)</th>
<th>TTC (mg TAE/g DM)</th>
<th>AA by DPPH (µmol TE/g DM)</th>
<th>AA by FRAP (µmol TE/g DM)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td>Crust</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>İzmir</td>
<td>15.91±0.87</td>
<td>5.99±0.45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aksaray</td>
<td>22.30±1.75</td>
<td>16.24±1.49</td>
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<td>14.05±0.55</td>
<td>6.65±0.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niğde</td>
<td>13.43±1.20</td>
<td>7.69±1.30</td>
<td>54.32±5.72</td>
<td>8.37±0.26</td>
<td>4.44±0.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Crumb</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>İzmir</td>
<td>12.42±1.94</td>
<td>6.54±2.68</td>
<td>49.58±3.18</td>
<td>5.01±0.17</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aksaray</td>
<td>16.44±1.67</td>
<td>3.10±0.01</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Niğde</td>
<td>10.58±1.12</td>
<td>5.64±0.90</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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Same superscript in a column indicates no significant differences (P>0.05). TPC: Total phenolic content, AA: Antioxidant activity, TFC: Total flavonoid content, TTC: Total tannin content, GAE: Gallic acid equivalent, CE: Catechin equivalent, TE: Trolox equivalent, TAE: Tannic acid equivalent, DM: Dry matter (it should be added after TAE: Tannic acid equivalent), n.d.=not determined

### Texture Profile Analysis

Hardness of the crust and crumb of the oleaster fruits was measured by CT3 Texture Analyzer (Brookfield, Germany). Texture profile analysis was conducted, and conditions were specified as follows; the load cell of 4500 g, 0.067 N of trigger load, 1 mm/s test speed and 60% of the distance were used in the compression mode.

### Statistical Analysis

The physical, bioactive and textural properties of oleaster fruit samples were analyzed by an analysis of variance test (one-way ANOVA). Duncan test was applied to compare the means of each assay using SPSS 18 trial version (SPSS Inc., Chicago, IL).

### Results and Discussion

#### The Color Parameters

The color values ($L^*$, $a^*$ and $b^*$) of crust and crumb of oleaster fruits were shown in Table 1. $L^*$, $a^*$ and $b^*$ values of the crust of oleaster fruits from İzmir were significantly different (P<0.05) from those from those of Aksaray and Niğde. The same trend was also seen for the crumb of oleaster fruits from İzmir. The lowest $L^*$ (46.81 ± 4.06) and $b^*$ (24.27 ± 3.31) and highest $a^*$ (19.80 ± 1.98) were measured for the crust of oleaster fruits from İzmir. In general, higher $L^*$ and lower $a^*$ values were determined for the crumb of oleaster fruits when compared to the ones of crust of oleaster fruits. The increase in $L^*$ values in the crumb could be related to direct sun exposure of crumb of oleaster fruits.

#### The Bioactive Properties

The bioactive properties (TPC, TFC, TTC, and AA) of crust and crumb of oleaster fruit extracts were given in Table 2. In this study, the crust and crumb of oleaster fruit were evaluated separately since there has been an interest to use the crumb part of oleaster fruits in the flour form in the literature. However, the crust of oleaster fruit could be valorized by mixing with the crumb or individually. The crust and crumb of extracts of the oleaster fruit from Aksaray had the highest TPC (22.30 ± 1.75 mg GAE/g DM and 16.44 ± 1.67 mg GAE/g DM, respectively). These results were similar to the findings of Çakmakçı et al. (2015) who reported TPC of the flour and crust lyophilized oleaster extract as 27.78 and 31.11 mg GAE/g, respectively. Hassanzadeh and Hassanpour (2018) found the mean value of TPC of peel and pulp of oleaster grown in Iran as 518.07 and 480.16 mg GAE/100 g fresh weight, respectively. In another study, TPC of extract obtained from oleaster grown in Tunisia was reported as 84.04 ± 0.01 mg GAE/g DM (Hanene et al., 2015). Our findings and results of previous studies clearly demonstrated that the TPC of oleaster fruits may change with the cultivars, genotypes, climate conditions and geographical locations (Hassanzadeh and Hassanpour, 2018). TPC of the extracts obtained from the crust and crumb of oleaster fruit varied between 5.99 ± 0.45 and 16.24 ± 1.49 mg CE/g DM, and 3.10 ± 0.01 and 6.54 ± 2.68 mg CE/g DM, respectively. TFC of crust of Aksaray oleaster fruit was significantly higher than those from İzmir and Niğde oleaster fruits; however, TFC of oleaster crumb from different locations were not significantly different. The highest TFC (16.24 ± 1.49 mg CE/g DM) was observed in the extracts obtained from Aksaray oleaster crust. Faramarz et al. (2015) reported TPC of peel and pulp of Iranian oleaster as 0.64–1.13 mg CE/g and 0.62–1.90 mg CE/g which was lower than our findings. TFC of flour and crust lyophilized oleaster extract was determined as 36.36 and 32.73 mg quercetin equivalents/g, respectively (Çakmakçı et al., 2015). In the study of Hassanzadeh and Hassanpour (2018), TFC of peel and pulp of Iranian oleaster was reported as 121.55 and 148.52 mg CE/100 g fresh weight, respectively. The variations in the TFC of oleaster in various studies could be explained with the differences in the genetic, climatic or environmental conditions.

Interestingly, there was no significant change among the TTC of extracts obtained from the crust and as well crumb of oleaster fruits from different locations. The TTC changed between 54.32 ± 5.72 and 63.67 ± 1.02 mg TAE/g DM, and 23.85 ± 0.01 and 58.28 ± 6.06 mg TAE/g DM for the extract of the crust and crumb of oleaster fruits, respectively. These results were consistent with the findings of Hanene et al. (2015) who reported condensed tannin as 40.08 ± 0.01 mg CE/g DM in the extract of Tunisian oleaster.

AA of extracts from oleaster fruit crust and crumb was determined using DPPH and FRAP method. There was a significant change among the AAs of crust and crumb of oleaster fruits. The AA values detected by DPPH method were in the range of 6.28 ± 1.50 and 14.05 ± 0.55 µmol TE/g DM, and 5.01 ± 0.17 and 11.56 ± 0.32 µmol TE/g DM for the extract of crust and crumb of oleaster fruits, respectively. The highest AA (14.05 ± 0.55 µmol and 11.56 ± 0.32 µmol TE/g DM) of the extract of crust and crumb was seen in Aksaray and Niğde oleaster fruits. This could be expected.

#### Table 2. Total phenolic, flavonoid, tannin contents and antioxidant activities of different oleaster fruits

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due to the high TPC of Aksaray oleaster. Çakmakçı et al. (2015) found the IC₅₀ value by DPPH method as 34.65 and 34.72 µg/mL for the flour and crust lyophilized oleaster extract. Hassanzadeh and Hassanpour (2018) showed the mean AA measured by DPPH for the oleaster peel and pulp as 74.71 and 53.76%, respectively. Another study reported about AA by DPPH method as 86.95 and 91.78%, respectively (Faramarz et al., 2015). On the other hand, in the present study, the AA values based on FRAP assay were not significantly different for the extract of crust from oleaster fruits of different places. The AA values changed between 4.44 ± 0.35 and 6.65 ± 0.55 µmol TE/g DM for the extract of oleaster crust. Previous studies reported AA values measured by FRAP assay as the range of 86–164.67 mg/100 g fresh weight for the oleaster pulp and 0.246 and 0.548 mM/mg for the oleaster peel and pulp, respectively (Faramarz et al., 2015; Hassanzadeh and Hassanpour, 2018).

**Texture Profile Analysis**

The hardness values of the crust and crumb of oleaster fruits were presented in Figure 1. The hardness values of crust of oleaster fruits from different locations varied between 30.36 and 39.01 N. There was no significant difference among the crust or crumb of oleaster fruits from different locations (P>0.05). The hardness values for the crumb ranged from 24.50 and 37.43 N. The hardness of the crumb of oleaster fruits was lower compared to that of crust.

**Conclusion**

This study clearly showed that the physical and bioactive properties of oleaster fruits can change significantly due to the geographical location. The genotype, climate and environmental conditions greatly influence the fruit composition. In this study, there were significant differences among total phenolic and flavonoid content, total tannin content and antioxidant activities of fruits from different locations. Also, this study demonstrated that the cultivated region of oleaster fruit did not affect the hardness of oleaster fruit. In addition, this study evaluated the crust and crumb of the oleaster fruit individually which would present the detailed information to researchers and food industry. As a result, the oleaster fruit has a potential to incorporate into foods due to its high bioactive content.

**References**


M’hirî N, Ioannou I, Mihoubi Boudhrioua N, Ghoul M. 2015. Effect of different operating conditions on the extraction of phenolic compounds from olive leaves and evaluation of its antioxidant activities. Ind. Crops Prod. 2018.07.070


