

THE HERB YIELD AND ESSENTIAL OIL COMPOSITION OF BUSH BASIL (*Ocimum micranthum* L.) GROWN IN TURKEY

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ABSTRACT

In this research we studied the essential oil components and herb yields and oil content (%) of bush basil grown in the Mediterranean region of Turkey. Bush basil was cultivated under Çukurova conditions in Turkey, and was harvested 3 times at the full-flowering stage. In our conditions, harvest number could be increased to 4 times provided that earlier sowing was performed. Total fresh leaf yield was 1320 kg/da. The maximum essential oil content (0.98 %) was obtained at the third harvest time from the dried leaf. Main component of the essential oil was methyl cinnamate.