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# Abundance and Economic Importance of the Species of Curculionoidea Superfamily on Almond (*Amygdalus communis* L.) of Southeastern and Eastern Anatolia Regions

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## ABSTRACT

In this study, 43 species belonging to the superfamily Curculionoidea were determined on almond (*Amygdalus communis* L.) in Mardin, Elazýð and Diyarbakýr provinces of Turkey, during 2002-2004. Among determined species, *Anthonomus amygdali* Hustache, *Tatianaerhynchites aequatus* (L.), *Rhynchites (Epirhynchites) smyrnensis* (Desbrochers), *Polydrusus roseiceps* Pes., *Lixus (Ortholixus) elegantulus* Boheman were recorded as important pests, widespread and abundant.

*Key words:* Almond, Curculionoidea, biodiversity, Turkey

## INTRODUCTION

Almond is one fruit crop whose culture and oil seem to be known since the early neolitic settlements in Anatolia, from 6500 to 5650 B. C (Mellaart, 1965). Today it is still an important fruit tree, largely grown over most of the Turkey, (Lodos, 1981).

The total amount of almond produced in Turkey is about 41000 tons. With the total production capacity of 5278 tons in Diyarbakýr, Elazýð and Mardin region, where this study is held, account for 7.7 % of Turkey‘s total almond production (Anonymous, 2002)

One of the most important reasons for the decrease of almond production is the plant protection problem. The primary problems are entomological. Some species