

ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER SHARING EXPERTISE FROM TRANSHUMANCE



We used the ecological knowledge of transhumance and tried to adapt the appropriate practice to other production systems and exchange knowledge and expertise between farmers/production systems

TRANSHUMANCE ACTIVITIES IN TURKEY

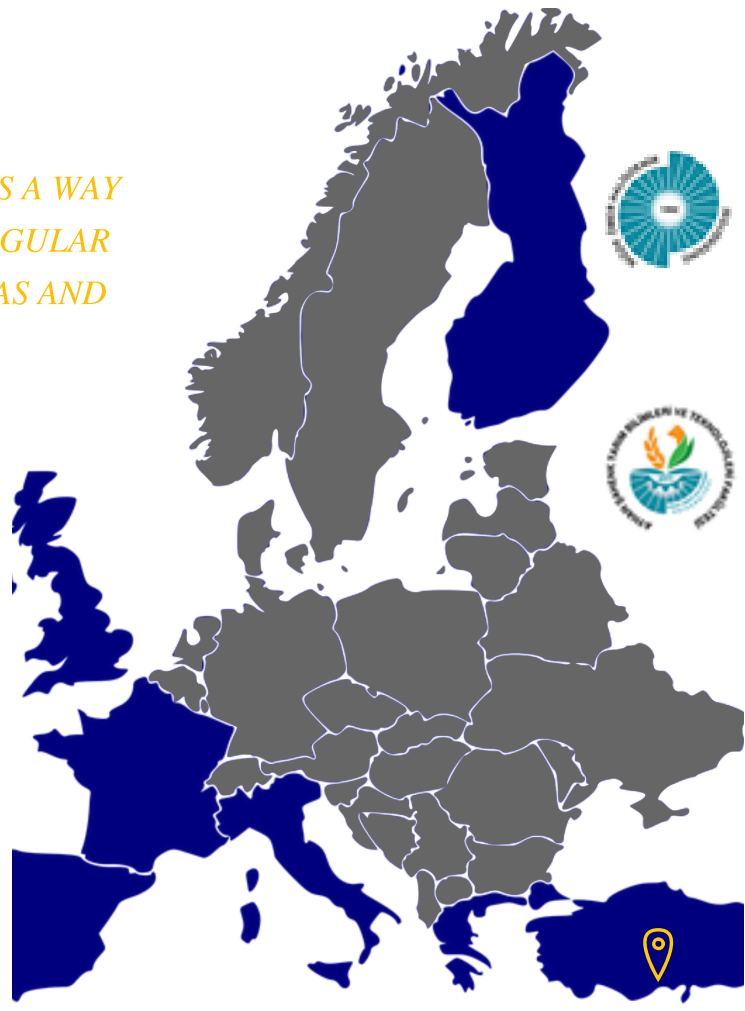
The study was carried out in order to obtain the current information about the livestock activities, constituting the main sources of income of transhumance, which still exists in the Mediterranean and Eastern Anatolian region.



TRANSHUMANCE, MEANING MOVING GROUPS, IS A WAY OF LIFE BASED ON LIVESTOCK REARING IN A REGULAR MIGRATION REGIME BETWEEN WINTERING AREAS AND PLATEAUS

Data on the traditional ecological knowledge of transhumance were collected because this way of life is still practiced widely in some areas of the Mediterranean region of Turkey. It has been considered as a sustainable and environmentally friendly production system.

This system requires a deep knowledge of the land and the availability of natural resources, as well as it includes spatial and temporal patterns, and ecosystem types.

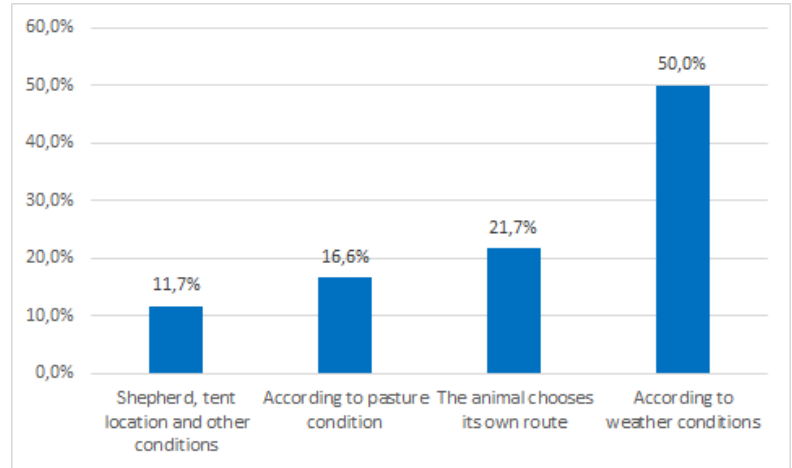


ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER AND SHARING EXPERTISE FROM TRANSHUMANCE

**TRANSHUMANCE IS CALLED "YÖRÜK" IN
TURKISH**

FARMER SURVEY

This study was carried out amount 60 families who still practise transhumance. Face to face surveys were conducted in the transhumance plateaus. A total of 28 open-ended questions were asked in the survey.



**WHICH FACTORS DETERMINE YOUR DAILY ROUTE IN
TRANSHUMANCE?**

JOB SHARING WITH IN FAMILY

Livestock rearing in the transhumant family is done together shared by all family members. In addition, house work- milking, cheese- and yogurt- making are done by women; routine flock management, such as animal feeding, grazing and shearing, and marketing the products are carried out by men. Children help their family members with these tasks.



THE GOATS OF TRANSHUMANCE

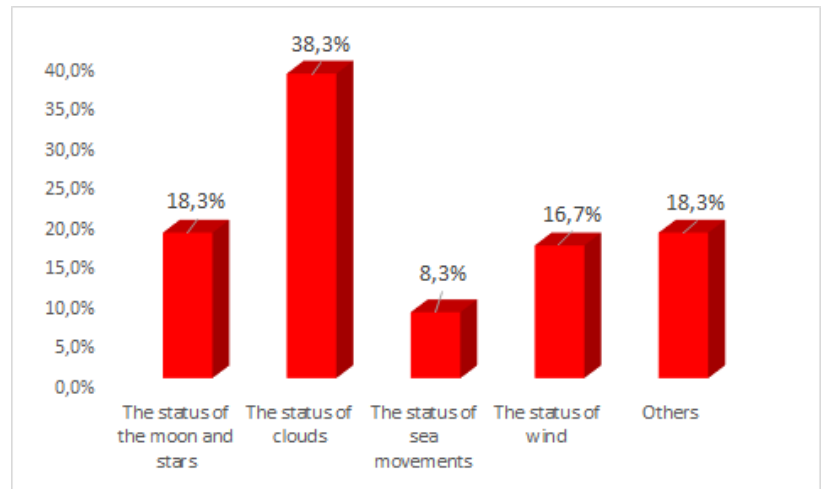
WOMEN HAVE A MAIN ROLE IN TRANSHUMANT LIFE

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**TRANSHUMANTS DESCRIBE THEMSELVES AS
HARD-WORKING, HONEST AND PATRIOTIC,
DEALING WITH ANIMAL HUSBANDRY**

GRAZING PREFERENCES

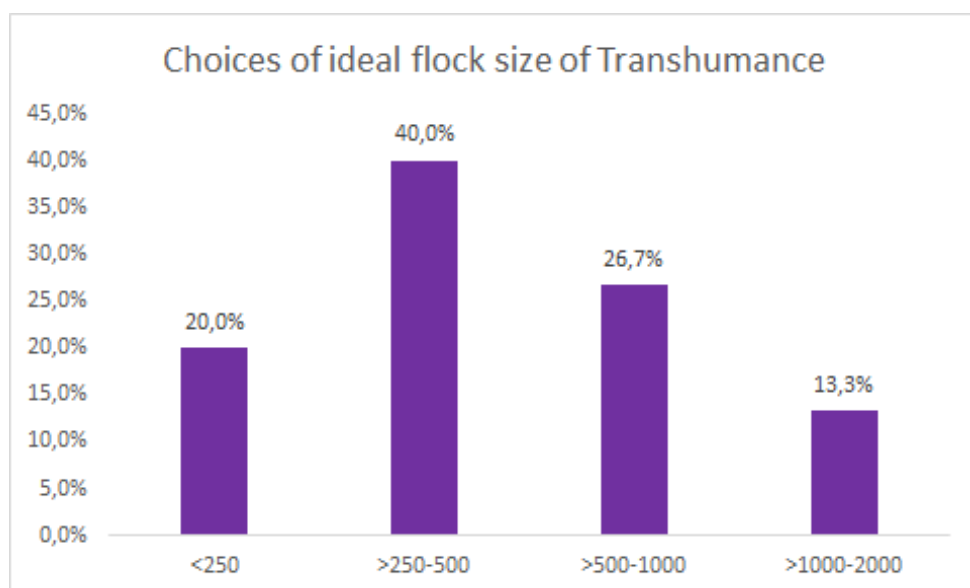
Transhumants decide where to graze their animals according to the quality of the pasture, plant yield, water resources and animal preferences.



**DO TRANSHUMANTS HAVE A TRADITIONAL WAY OF
FORECASTING THE WEATHER?**

ROUTES

Transhumants usually do not want to change their routes, Although sometimes they are forced to do it due to the opening of new roads and the afforestation of some areas.



A GOOD FLOCK SIZE MEANS GOOD TRANSHUMANCE

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PROBLEMS

General problems of transhumance:

- no problem 35%.
- extinction of transhumance 5%
- insufficient support by the government 8.3%,
- highland road status and transportation problems 8.3%.
- electricity and communication problems 20%.
- high feed costs 23.3%

**ONE IN THREE TRANSHUMANTS THINK THAT
THEIR ACTIVITY DOES NOT FACE ANY
PROBLEM**



1

A sustainable flock size is 250-500 heads according to transhumants

2

Transhumants stay on the plateau for about 4 months

3

Transhumants usually do not change their migration dates (90%)

4

Transhumants know well the water resources and pasture plants

TRANSHUMANCE IS A POWERFUL BRIDGE FROM THE PAST TO THE FUTURE

THANKS: To the breeders, association and participating farmers

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