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About the Institute

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE
CROPS RESEARCH DIVISION
BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND

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New Crops Research Branch
August 18, 1958

Dr. Baki Kasapligil
Mills College
Oakland, California

Dear Dr. Kasapligil

We have a rather exacting request from one of our forestry professors for seeds of the genus Platanus for genetic studies. The conditions under which he would like the seed to be collected are listed below.

1. Between 5 and 20 seed balls per tree.
2. Five mother trees per sampling location with seeds from each tree kept separate. The trees should be naturally occurring (not planted) with no very strong probability of a parent-progeny relationship.
3. Sampling locations for a given species to be 100 air miles apart with a maximum diameter of 60 air miles.
4. Would like P. orientalis from 2 - 4 European and 2 - 4 Asian sampling areas.

We realize this is a rather monumental request but would appreciate very much your contribution of seeds or referral of this request to someone who would be in a position to give us some assistance. Perhaps someone in your native Turkey would be able to assist us.

Sincerely yours,



Herbert W. Fisher
Plant Introduction Section

Dr. Herbert H. Fisher
Plant Introduction Section
U.S.D.A. Agricultural Research Service
Beltsville, Maryland
Dear Dr. Fisher,

October 4, 1958

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Thank you for your letter of August 18, 1958. I asked Mr. Macit Gülgör, former Director of the Institute of Forestry Research in Ankara to send the seeds of Platanus orientalis, but he informed me that he resigned recently. The following persons in Turkey would be in a position to give you the necessary assistance to secure the seeds from indigenous trees:

- 1) Mr. Turgut Boskuk
Orman Araştırma Enstitüsü (Institute of Forestry Research)
Posta Kutusu 24
Bahçelievler, Ankara - Turkey
- 2) Mr. Talat Erdem
Orman Umum Müdürlüğü, Ağaçlandırmaya Subesi Müdürü (Forestry Service)
Ankara - Turkey
- 3) Mr. Mesud Erdem
Devlet Orman İşletmesi Müdürü (Director of Forest District)
Ayancık - Turkey

You may contact the following persons in Iran and Iraq for the sampling areas of P.orientalis in further east:

Dr. Sabeti
Director
Research Center of Forest Ecology
Noshahr (Naushahr), Iran

Dr. Hassan Kittani
Director General of Forestry
Baghdad, Iraq

Finally I would like to suggest F.A.O. Forestry Division in Rome to arrange the european sampling areas of Platanus orientalis.

Please let me know if I may be of further assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

Baki Kasapligil