

Litter Decomposition in Burned Corsican Pine Stands in Turkey

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This study was carried out to determine the effects of forest fire on litter decomposition in Corsican pine (*P. nigra*) stands. The study is located in Vezirkopru Forest area in Samsun, Turkey. We made measurements of litter decomposition in 80 to 100 years old stands subjected to prescribed burning. Measurements were made between November, 2013 and October, 2014. 20x20 cm litter bags were placed on soil surface and collected in July and October. Sampling time had significant effect on litter decomposition ($P < 0.05$). Litter decomposition was greater in the burned sites than in control sites. However, there was no significant difference in litter decomposition between burned and control sites. Similarly, we did not observe any significant difference among sites with high slope and with different fire intensity ($P > 0.05$).

Keywords: Litter Decomposition, Fire intensity, Slope, Controlled Burning.