

Ecology of *Candelariella* Distributed in Turkey

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Aim of the study: The genus of *Candelariella*, one of the 4 different genus belonging to the family Candelarieaceae, is lecanorin or biatorin type apothecia and contains 8 or more spores in the ascus and also secondary compounds including pulvinic acid and its derivatives. Approximately 50 *Candelariella* species are known worldwide, and in Turkey 17 species.

Material and Methods: The morphological and anatomical characteristics of the samples collected from 81 provinces of Turkey were determined under the microscope, ecological characteristics were evaluated with notes taken in the field. Collected species were identified, recorded and deposited in Erciyes University and Bozok University herbarium.

Results: As a result of field and laboratory studies, the ecological environment in which the species are found and the types of substrates on which they develop have been identified. 17 species belonging to the genus *Candelariella* have been determined to distribute and ecological characteristics in Turkey. Ecological similarities and differences between species spreading in the world and in Turkey have been determined.

Keywords: Candelarieaceae, *Candelariella*, biodiversity, ecology, Turkey.