

# Tobacco Cultivation in Türkiye



## Tobacco cultivation regions in Türkiye

Contracted and non-contracted tobacco growers, production area and production quantities at regional level, 2021

## Tobacco Cultivation in Aegean Region

Provinces & Years	2018		2019	
	Decare	Ton	Decare	Ton
Afyonkarahisar	100	3	43	4
Aydın	40.843	2.652	46.211	3.441
Balıkesir	17.936	1.338	17.037	1.395
<b>Denizli</b>	<b>221.878</b>	<b>14.542</b>	<b>210.799</b>	<b>17.112</b>
İzmir	25.242	1.964	26.135	2.033
Kütahya	747	92	854	93
Manisa	227.556	14.695	222.019	15.998
Muğla	14.892	939	12.963	1.215
Uşak	113.279	7.701	122.471	7.402
<b>Total</b>	<b>666.473</b>	<b>43.926</b>	<b>658.522</b>	<b>48.693</b>
<b>Türkiye</b>	<b>935.034</b>	<b>75.276</b>	<b>882.362</b>	<b>68.224</b>

Source: Turkish Statistical Institute (TUIK)

## Tobacco Cultivation Calendar

- The successful cultivation of tobacco hinges significantly on the ability to cultivate robust, well-rooted, and adequately flavored seedlings in ample quantities, and within the right timeframe.
- The minuscule size of tobacco seeds necessitates meticulous care in providing suitable growing conditions.
- Optimal seed germination calls for a minimum temperature of 12–14°C, typically achieved in warm seedbeds.
- Given the extended growing season of tobacco plants, early spring transplanting is crucial to capitalize on the favorable summer temperatures and ensure leaf drying occurs during sunny, rain-free weather. This timing avoids exposure to autumn rains.
- The choice to begin cultivation as seedlings in a confined area offers distinct advantages, including cost-effective disease and pest management, efficient maintenance, and streamlined labor processes. This approach, conducted over a span of 45 to 60 days, is conducive to successful seedling cultivation.

Approximately 5 m<sup>2</sup> of seedling space suffices for cultivating tobacco for one decare of land.

### 1 Seedling Preparation



Seedling trays should be raised to a height of 15cm above the soil surface. This height facilitates efficient drainage, prevents water accumulation around the roots, ensures proper aeration and reduces the risk of root diseases such as root rot and black rot.

### 2 Seedling Cultivation Process



The seedbed surface must be maintained at a constant moisture level from sowing until germination is complete. Prior to germination and during the early stages of seedling growth, small amounts of water should be applied frequently. As the seedlings grow, watering should become less frequent but more abundant. In addition, as the seedlings increase in size, a top dressing of fertiliser should be applied and watered to encourage strong root development.

### 3 Seedling Removal and Transplanting Process



The seedlings are carefully watered before removal. When it's time for transplanting, the mature seedlings are gently uprooted from the nurseries and transported to the planting site. During this process, the seedlings are gently handled by gripping their leaves and neatly stacked in moulds. Typically, the following day, these seedlings are planted in a well-prepared field using a specialised tobacco planting machine.

### 4 Hoeing and Irrigation



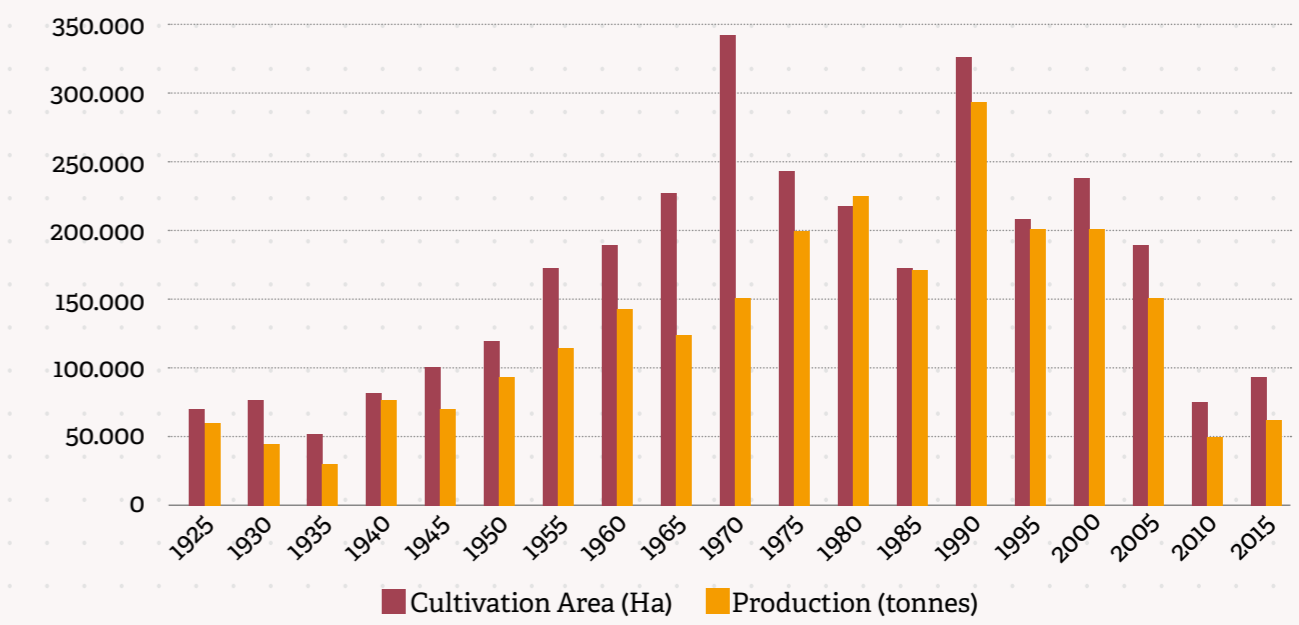
Hoeing is carried out with either a motorised or hand hoe to remove weeds and aerate the soil, followed by watering to maintain optimum soil moisture.

### 5 Cultivation

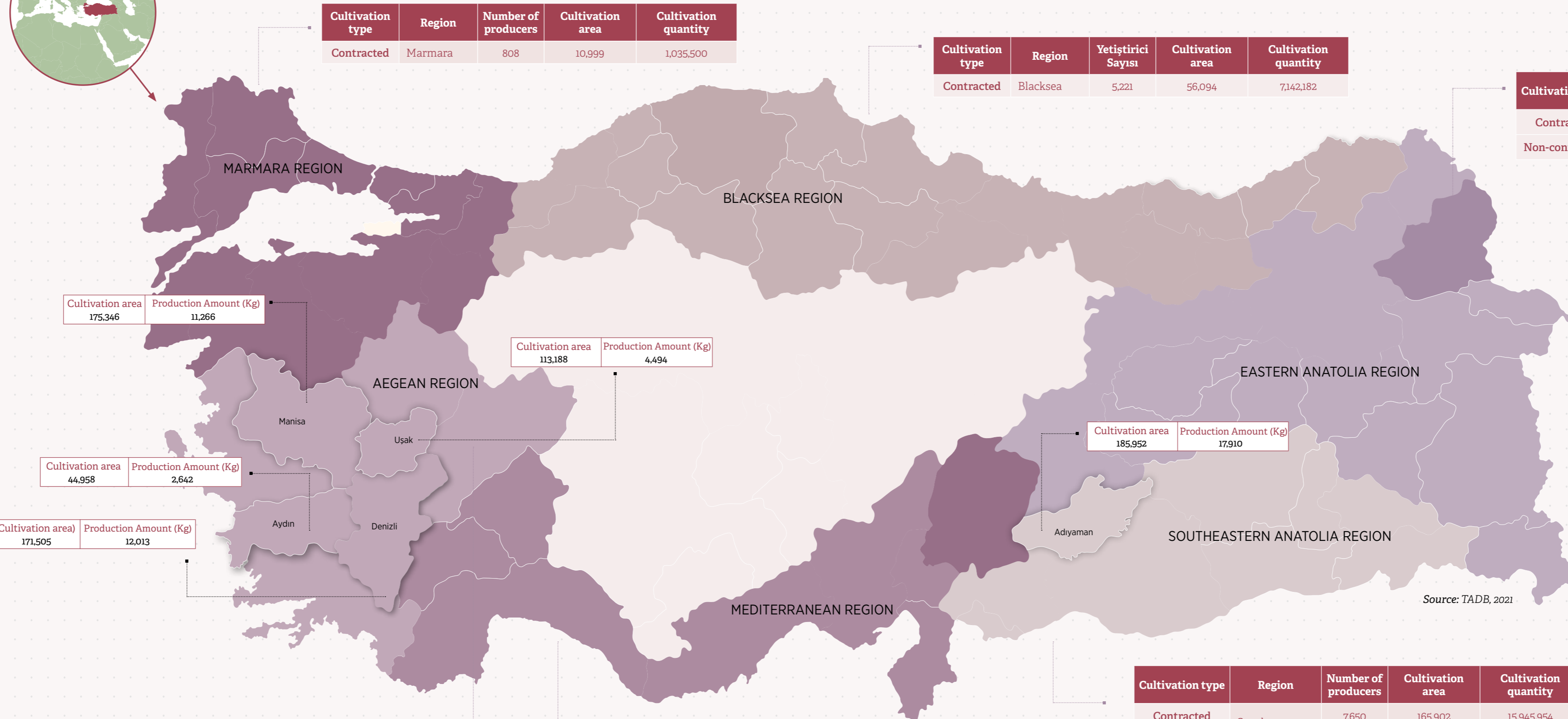


Gathering the tobacco leaves is a meticulous manual process, carried out step by step: first hand, main hand and last hand. The harvested leaves are then carefully dried in greenhouses.

## Tobacco cultivation areas and production in Türkiye by years

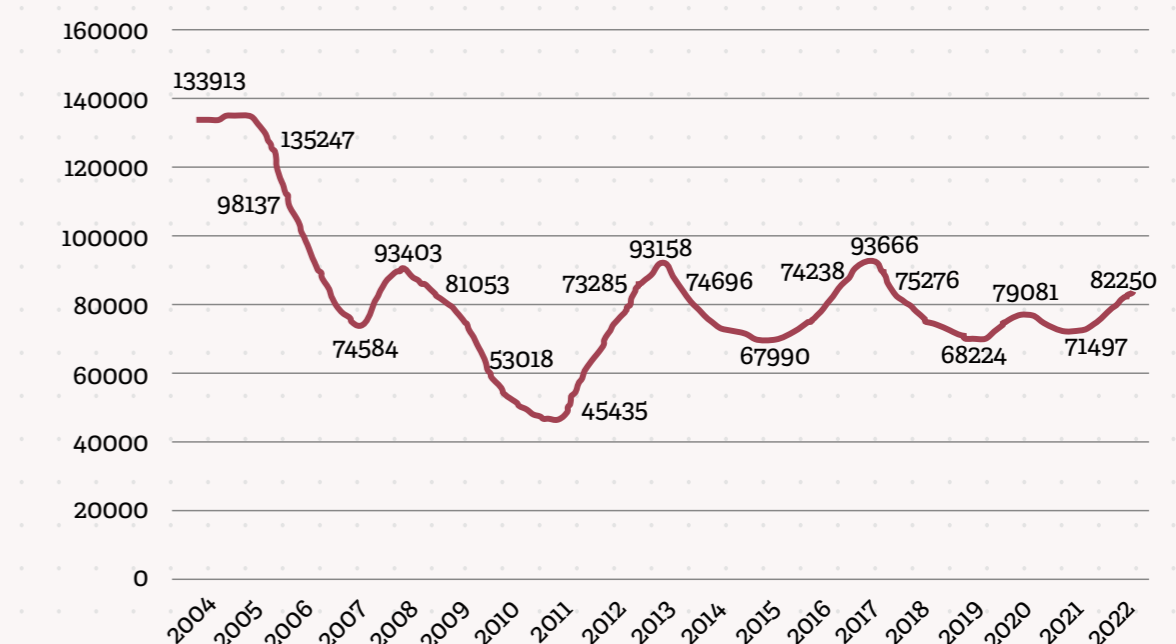


Source: Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat)



Source: TADB, 2021

## Tobacco leaf production in Türkiye by years (tonnes)



www.ka.org.tr  
Info@ka.org.tr  
kalkinmatolyesi  
kalkinmatolyesi

Çankaya Mah. Üsküpd Cad. No: 16/14 Çankaya - Ankara/Türkiye  
+90 (553) 211 38 97  
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TYPES OF TURKISH TOBACCO



