

## Turkish scientist gets 15-month prison sentence after publishing study that links chemicals in food and water in western Turkey to cancer

A Turkish food engineer and human rights activist was sentenced .... to 15 months in jail after publishing the results of a study he and other scientists had done that linked toxic pollution to a high incidence of cancer in western Turkey.

Bülent ??k, former deputy director of the Food Safety and Agricultural Research Center at Akdeniz University, was convicted of disclosing classified information after he published the results as a four-part series in a Turkish newspaper in April 2018.

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türkiyeyi kanser eden ürünleri devlet gizledi biz acikliyoruz diyen bulent şik a soruşturma h ba  
Turkish scientist Bülent ??k

The study was commissioned by Turkey's Ministry of Health to see whether there was a connection between toxicity in soil, water, and food and the high incidence of cancer in western Turkey. Working for 5 years, ??k and a team of scientists discovered dangerous levels of pesticides, heavy metals, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in multiple food and water samples from several provinces in western Turkey.

Water in several residential areas was also found to be unsafe for drinking because of lead, aluminum, chrome, and arsenic pollution.

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