

**A RECENT IDENTIFICATION OF A NEW GLUME WHEAT TYPE:
A BIOMETRICAL AND MORPHOLOGICAL STUDY OF SPIKELET FORKS FROM
THE NEOLITHIC LEVELS IN MERSIN-YUMUKTEPE (TURKEY)**

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The questions of cultivated and/or wild glume wheat use in the Near East pre-ceramic era and during the Neolithic period are still being discussed. Particularly, if we talk about the so-called “new glume wheat type”, we know that it is one of the most hard to interpret as far as its origin, first use and taxonomic classification are concerned.

The archaeobotanical evidences of this cereal, particularly the spikelet forks, come from three Neolithic sites and one Bronze Age site in northern Greece, as well as from Neolithic and Bronze Age sites in Turkey, Hungary, Austria, Germany and probably northern Italy. Among the earliest evidence, we have now found the forks from Mersin-Yumuktepe too, from the early Neolithic levels (7200 B.C.) and the following middle and late Neolithic period levels.

In this presentation, we show a thorough morphological and biometrical analysis of “new glume wheat type” spikelet fork characters, comparing them with the most similar ones, of *Triticum dicoccum*.

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