The combination of an increasing world population and technological advancements in recent decades has led to rapid urbanisation. Increasing empirical evidence, the expansion of urban areas has caused many environmental problems. Cities create air, water and soil pollution as well as they destroy biodiversity in urban areas and microclimate stabilisation. Urban sprawl has also started to put pressure on forests, water resources, and fields that surround urban areas. This pressure also affects agricultural land, which is essential for human survival and supports a main economic activity. Agriculture is not just about food production alone, since it is a complex multi-dimensional and multi-faceted sector which concerns the efficient use of the natural resources, productivity enhancement, and preservation of the ecosystems. Therefore, loss of productive agricultural lands has economic and ecological consequences and the loss of fertile lands reduce countries’ capacity to feed itself and made them dependent. Adana, on the shore of the Seyhan River, has expanded in a great measure after the 1950s. Its centre situated on the fertile lands of Çukurova plain, one of the biggest agriculturally productive area, owing to its large stretch of flat, fertile land. With industrial activities in the region, Adana has entered a process of both socio-cultural and spatial change depending on migration. Whereas, after 1970’s a large amount of agricultural field has been urbanised due to the urban sprawl. During this period, fertile agricultural lands, especially in the southern and western part of the city, have been urbanised. In accordance with all of these determinations, the starting point of the study exhibit the loss of agricultural lands within a historical process and determined to present information about this subject. The research is primarily a qualitative and descriptive study. In addition, it discusses the need for appropriate spatial planning strategies.

Keywords: Cukurova, urbanisation, threats for agriculture