

INTRODUCTION

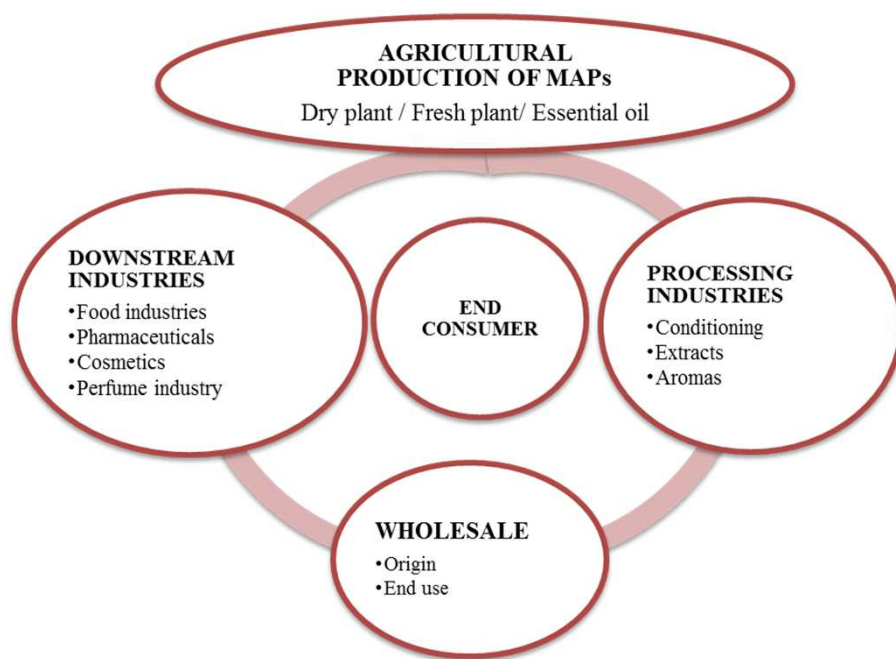
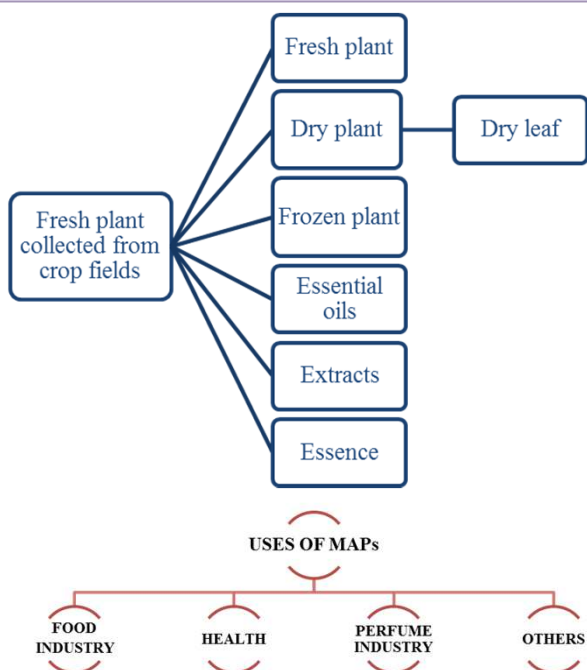
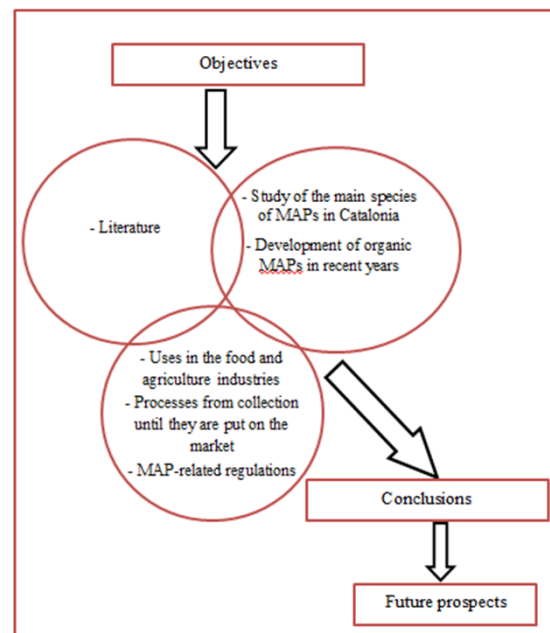
What are Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (MAPs) and How Has Their Production Developed in Catalonia over the Years

- MAPs are a large and diverse group of botanical species.
- They are characterized by their high content of active principles.
- The climate in Catalonia is typically Mediterranean, which allows large amounts of MAPs to be produced.
- In recent years there has been a steady increase in the demand of MAPs.

OBJECTIVES

- Study how MAPs are obtained (farming and reproduction).
- Distinguish between conventional and organic farming and reproduction.
- Observe how organic MAPs have developed in Catalonia in recent years.
- Describe the main species cultivated in Catalonia
- Analyze their processing and marketing.
- Get familiar with the regulations.

METHODOLOGY



CONCLUSIONS

- Due to its Mediterranean climate Catalonia is suitable for the production of MAPs, which can become an important activity of its primary sector.
- The MAP sector, both conventional and organic, has been increasing notably since 2012. However, in view of the great investment required, it is an agricultural sector with poor financial viability.
- The European Union must clearly delimit the use of MAPs for health purposes and their use as food, and regulate them by law.
- For the future, more research is needed on the active principles of MAPs to get more familiar with their health benefits and hazards.

