

DESCRIPTOR FOR FARMERS' KNOWLEDGE ON "NGWACI WARU" SWEET POTATO.

1 IDENTIFIERS
FIELD WORK DATE 2019/2/19
FIELD WORK ACTIVITY: FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION
NAME OF LOCAL INFORMATION PROVIDER: KARUNGU-WENDANI SELF-HELP GROUP
AGE: 21-75 YEARS
MAIN OCCUPATION: FARMING.
ADDRESS : KARUNGA
ETHNIC GROUP : AGIKUYU
NAME OF PERSON CONDUCTING THE INTERVIEW : PERIS KAMAU -SEED SAVERS NETWORK
2 PLANT IDENTIFICATION
GENUS <i>Ipomoea</i> SPECIES <i>batatas</i>
COMMON NAME OF CROP OR WILD SPECIES: NGWACI WARU -SWEET POTATOES
SPECIES RICHNESS:
3 SITE (ECOGEOGRAPHICAL CONTEXT)
COUNTRY :KENYA
LATITUDE S0° 24.549' LONGITUDE E36° 21.875' ELEVATION 7392 ft.
LOCATION OF FIELDWORK SITE: KARUNGA
NAME OF THE LOCATION OR NEAREST PLACE: KARUNGA CENTRE
DISTANCE TO SITE : 12 KMS FROM SEED SAVERS NETWORK OFFICES
TYPE OF DISTANCE: ROAD DISTANCE.
DIRECTION FROM THE NEAREST PLACES: KARUNGA CENTRE
LAND ELEMENT: OPEN DEPRESSION

4. RELATIVE ABUNDANCE

IN CULTIVATED AREA:

TOTAL AREA OF FARM LAND USED IN HA:

IN UNCULTIVATED AREAS:

NUMBER OF COLLECTING SITES/INCHES:

ESTIMATED AREA OF EACH COLLECTING SITE-FREQUENCY OF COLLECTION(IF UNCULTIVATED:

REASON FOR FREQUENCY OF COLLECTION:



Ngwaci waru sweet potato

Name of the cultivar/landrace/botanical variety or wild form		Sweet potatoes	
Plant further identification	Local vernacular names	Ngwaci waru	
	Language(s) of local vernacular name	Kikuyu	
	Local name meaning	Resembles and taste like potatoes that why named after it.	
	Biological status	Traditional cultivar	
Relative abundance	Area cultivated for each cultivar	Small	
	Number of plants	Few plants distributed.	
	Total uncultivated area		
	Relative abundance of the plant (if uncultivated)	Rare.	
TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE ABOUT PLANT Distinguishing traits /characteristics used by farmers	Main reasons for using the cultivar / landrace or wild form		Food security (Eating as snack for breakfast and Feeding vines to livestock.
	Parts of the plant used		Leaf; tuber
	Plant uses		Food; fodder
	Parts of the plant used		Leaf; tubers; vines.
	Traits attribute		Taste(sweet)
	Agronomic traits		High yielding; matures early
	Abiotic stresses		
	Biotic stresses	Diseases	
		Pests	Cutworm
		Other biotic stresses	
	Quality traits related to the food	Organoleptic qualities	Taste sweet
		Nutritional qualities	Good source of vitamins.
		Other quality traits	Cooks very fast compared to other tuber crops.

		uses		
		Market traits		
	Social aspects	Division of labour by gender	Labour	Harvesting
			Gender	Female
	Socio-economic characteristics		Seed supply	Exchange by friend
			Main use of plant	Tubers and leaves
			Main form of market outlet	Only for home consumption

Collectors note:

1. Few crops distributed in the area, custodian farmer given by a relative from Limuru.
2. It resembles Irish potatoes
3. It is not sweet compared to other sweet potatoes varieties.
4. Has got no string while cooked, its cream white in colour inside and outside
5. Its vines is not as slender as other varieties,
6. Broader leaves compared to Kiburi and Kiganda variety.
7. At a certain stage of growth it produces white flowers.
8. Once planted it produces many branches becoming dense within a short while.
9. No noted diseases yet.