

## DESCRIPTOR FOR FARMERS' KNOWLEDGE ON "GAKUNGUI" LOCAL VEGETABLE

<b>1 IDENTIFIERS</b>
FIELD WORK DATE <b>2019/06/17</b>
FIELD WORK ACTIVITY <b>FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION</b>
NAME OF LOCAL INFORMATION PROVIDER: <b>GATUME SELF HELP GROUP</b>
AGE: <b>44-83 YEARS</b>
MAIN OCCUPATION: <b>FARMING.</b>
ADDRESS : <b>GATUNDU</b>
ETHNIC GROUP : <b>AGIKUYU</b>
NAME OF PERSON CONDUCTING THE INTERVIEW : <b>PERIS KAMAU-SEED SAVERS NETWORK</b>
<b>2 PLANT IDENTIFICATION</b>
GENUS     -                   SPECIES-
COMMON NAME OF CROP OR WILD SPECIES: <b>GAKUNGUI</b>
SPECIES RICHNESS:
<b>3 SITE (ECOGEOGRAPHICAL CONTEXT)</b>
COUNTRY :KENYA
LATITUDE <b>S0° 29.496'</b> LONGITUDE <b>E36° 23.611'</b> ELEVATION <b>6591 FT</b>
LOCATION OF FIELDWORK SITE <b>GATUNDU</b>
NAME OF THE LOCATION OR NEAREST PLACE <b>GATUNDU</b>
DISTANCE TO SITE: <b>18 KMS FROM SEED SAVERS NETWORK OFFICES</b>
TYPE OF DISTANCE ROAD: <b>DISTANCE.</b>

DIRECTION FROM THE NEAREST PLACES: <b>NEAR LANGALANGA SHOPPING CENTRE</b>
LAND ELEMENT : <b>VALLEY</b>
<b>4 RELATIVE ABUNDANCE</b>
IN CULTIVATED AREAS: -
TOTAL AREA OF FARM LAND USED IN HA: -
IN UNCULTIVATED AREAS:-
NUMBER OF COLLECTING SITES/NICHES:-
ESTIMATED AREA OF EACH COLLECTING SITE-FREQUENCY OF COLLECTION (IF UNCULTIVATED): -
REASON FOR FREQUENCY OF COLLECTION: -



Figure 1 Gakungui plant

<b>Name of the cultivar/landrace/botanical variety or wild form</b>				
<b>Plant further identification</b>	Local vernacular names	Gakungui		
	Language(s) of local vernacular name	Kikuyu		
	Local name meaning	-		
	Biological status	Weedy; wild		
<b>Relative abundance</b>	Area cultivated for each cultivar	-		
	Number of plants	-		
	Total uncultivated area	-		
	Relative abundance of the plant (if uncultivated )	Rare.		
<b>TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE ABOUT PLANT</b>	Main reasons for using the cultivar / landrace or wild form	Food security.		
		Parts of the plant used	Leaf	
	Distinguishing traits /characteristics used	plant uses	Food (cooked).	
		Parts of the plant used	Leaf.	
		Traits attribute	Taste( sweet)	
		Agronomic traits	Earliness	
		Abiotic stresses	High temperature	
		Biotic stresses	Diseases	
			Pests	-
			Other biotic stresses	-
		Quality traits related to the food uses	Organoleptic qualities	Taste(bitter)
			Nutritional qualities	Source of vitamins.
	Other quality traits		Cooks very fast.	

		Market traits		
	Social aspects	Division of labour by gender	Labour	Harvesting.
			Gender	Predominantly female.
	Socio-economic characteristics		Seed supply	Naturally occurring.
			Main use of plant	Home consumption.
			Main form of market outlet	-

**Collectors Note.**

- The plant resembles Thorn melon plant.
- The leaves are used to prepare traditional food known as “Mukimo” in Agikuyu community.
- The stem has pricks making it uncomfortable to pick the leaves unless you put on gloves.
- It produces fruit that is believed to reduce pain during toothache, once you brush with it.
- Someone suffering heel cracks (put the fruit in fire to get hot then drip the warm/hot juice in the cracked heel) believed to eliminate.