

DESCRIPTOR FOR FARMERS' KNOWLEDGE ON "MUHIKA NA IHU" VEGETABLE

1.IDENTIFIER			
FIELD WORK DATE	2019/1/21		
NAME OF LOCAL INFORMATION PROVIDER: GATUME SELF-HELP GROUP			
FIELD WORK ACTIVITY: FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION			
AGE: 44-83 YEARS			
MAIN OCCUPATION: FARMING.			
ADDRESS : GATUNDU			
ETHNIC GROUP : AGIKUYU			
NAME OF PERSON CONDUCTING THE INTERVIEW : PERIS KAMAU -SEED SAVERS NETWORK			
2 PLANT IDENTIFICATION			
GENUS	-	SPECIES	
COMMON NAME OF CROP OR WILD SPECIES: - MUHIKA-NA-IHU			
SPECIES RICHNESS: -			
3 SITE (ECOGEOGRAPHICAL CONTEXT)			
COUNTRY	: KENYA	COUNTY:	NAKURU SUBCOUNTY: GILGIL WARD: MORENDAT
VILLAGE: GATUNDU			
LATITUDE	S0° 29.496	LONGITUDE	E36° 23.611' ELEVATION 6591 ft
LOCATION OF FIELDWORK SITE: GATUNDU			
NAME OF THE LOCATION OR NEAREST PLACE: LANGALANGA CENTRE			
DISTANCE TO SITE : APP 18KMS FROM SEED SAVERS NETWORK OFFICES			
TYPE OF DISTANCE: ROAD DISTANCE.			
DIRECTION FROM THE NEAREST PLACES: LANGALANGA CENTRE			

LAND ELEMENT: **OPEN DEPRESSION**

4.RELATIVE ABUNDANCE

IN CULTIVATED AREAS:-

TOTA LAREA OF FARM LAND USED INHA:-

IN UNCULTIVATED AREAS:-

NUMBER OF COLLECTING SITES/NICHES:-

ESTIMATED AREA OF EACH COLLECTING SITE:-

REASON FOR FREQUENCY OF COLLECTION:-



Name of the cultivar/landrace/botanical variety or wild form		Muhika-na-ihu		
Plant further identification	Local vernacular names	Muhika-na-ihu		
	Language(s) of local vernacular name	Muhika-na-ihu		
	Local name meaning	It's a plant that grows very fast at the onset of rain season ,immediately leaves emerge with seeds, so its compared with a lady who gets married while pregnant and gives birth almost immediately without waiting of nine month.		
	Biological status	Weedy		
Relative abundance	Area cultivated for each cultivar	It grows naturally In weed vegetation		
	Number of plants	-		
	Total uncultivated area	-		
	Relative abundance of the plant (if uncultivated)	It's a common plant only during rainy season.		
TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE ABOUT PLANT	Distinguishing traits /characteristics used	Main reasons for using the cultivar / landrace or wild form	It's used in mashing food and its believed its sweet and its green is much appealing compared to other veggies.	
		Parts of the plant used	Leaves	
		Plant uses	Used as vegetables for mashing traditional food	
		Parts of the plant used	Leaves.	
		Traits attribute	Retains colorful green while cooked Taste better than other vegetable used in mashing.	
		Agronomic traits	Matures fast than other vegetables at the onset of rainfall they emerge.	
		Abiotic stresses		
		Biotic stresses	Diseases	Not recognized
			Pests	Aphids
			Other biotic stresses	

	Quality traits related to the food uses	Organoleptic qualities		Taste
		Nutritional qualities		Believed its more healthy than other veggies
		Other quality traits		More appealing green.
	Market traits			
	Social aspects	Division of labour by gender	Labour	Harvesting.
			Gender	Female
	Socio-economic characteristics		Seed supply	Naturally occurring.
			Main use of plant	Leaves used to make traditional food in Agikuyu community.
			Main form of market outlet	Only for home consumption

COLLECTORS NOTE:

1. Muhika –Na –ihu plant is compared to a lady who gets married carrying a baby on her womb how she gives birth so quickly without 9months completion from the day she got married. The plant germinates and within few days it produces seed.
2. It most preferred in mashing traditional food due its good taste.
3. It a seasonal plant (found only during rainy season)