

DESCRIPTORS FOR FARMERS KNOWLEDGE OF PLANT ON "MUTHUNGA" WEEDY VEGETABLE.

1 IDENTIFIERS			
FIELD WORK DATE	2019/01/26		
FIELD WORK ACTIVITY FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION			
NAME OF LOCAL INFORMATION PROVIDER: GATUME SELF HELP GROUP			
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: MUTHUNGA			
SPECIES RICHNESS:			
3 SITE (ECOGEOGRAPHICAL CONTEXT)			
COUNTRY :KENYA			
LATITUDE	S0° 29.496'	LONGITUDE	E36° 23.611' ELEVATION 6591 ft.
LOCATION OF FIELDWORK SITE GATUNDU			
NAME OF THE LOCATION OR NEAREST PLACE GATUNDU			
DISTANCE TO SITE: 12 KMS FROM SEED SAVERS NETWORK OFFICES			
TYPE OF DISTANCE: ROAD DISTANCE.			

DIRECTION FROM THE NEAREST PLACES: NEAR LANGALANGA SHOPPING CENTRE
LAND ELEMENT : VALLEY
4 RELATIVE ABUNDANCE
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: -



Name of the cultivar/landrace/botanical variety or wild form				
Plant further identification	Local vernacular names	Muthunga		
	Language(s) of local vernacular name	Kikuyu		
	Local name meaning	-		
	Biological status	Weedy; wild		
Relative abundance	Area cultivated for each cultivar	-		
	Number of plants	-		
	Total uncultivated area	-		
	Relative abundance of the plant (if uncultivated)	Rare.		
TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE ABOUT PLANT	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	Rust
			Pests	Red spider mite
			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.

1. Used as vegetable but usually mixed with other vegetables to reduce the bitter taste.
2. Medicinal value (prevents and cures diabetes).
3. It grows tall (up to 2metres high).
4. It has milky fluids
5. Don't cook for long.
6. Seeds are very light, and resembles cotton seeds ,dispersed by wind
7. It is usually eaten by livestock (rabbits, goat and cows)
8. Endures hot and dry spell.