

Utilization of climate-resilient crops for complementary food among agro-pastoralists of Benna-Tsemay district, South-Omo zone, Ethiopia: *Qualitative study*

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Introduction

- In Ethiopia, limited evidence is available about the utilization of climate-resilient crops for local complementary foods.
- This study assessed food group and inclusion of climate-resilient crops for complementary food among agro-pastoralists of Benna-Tsemay district (Fig. 1), South-Omo zone, Ethiopia.

Research Methodology

- Qualitative [1] design comprising two focused group discussions among lactating women (n=20), direct observations (n=9), and key informant interviews (n=10)
- Thematic analysis approaches was followed [2].

Results

- Grains, roots and tubers were dominant in CF.
- CFs lack flesh foods, egg, pulses, vitamin-A rich and other fruit and vegetables food groups.
- Moringa leaf and sorghum were climate-resilient crops and major constituent (Fig. 2).

Conclusions

- Low diversity may contribute to possible nutrient deficiencies. CF quality improvements and awareness creations are suggested.

Ways forward

1. Quantitative data collection: Dry & wet seasonal surveys: anthropometry, dietary assessment, & morbidity
2. Complementary food formulation: Experimentation
3. Systematic review and meta-analysis: Climate change, weather variability and child under-nutrition in tropical countries

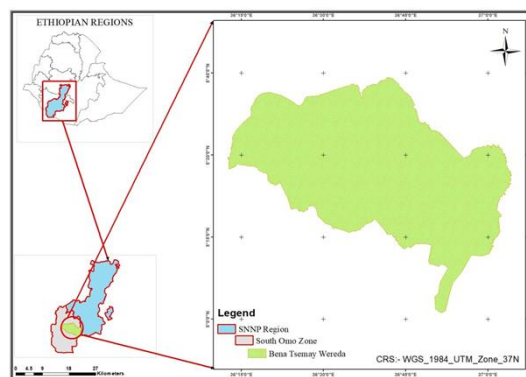


Figure 1: Map of the study district (Benna-Tsemay), South-Omo Zone, SNNPR, Ethiopia (2023)

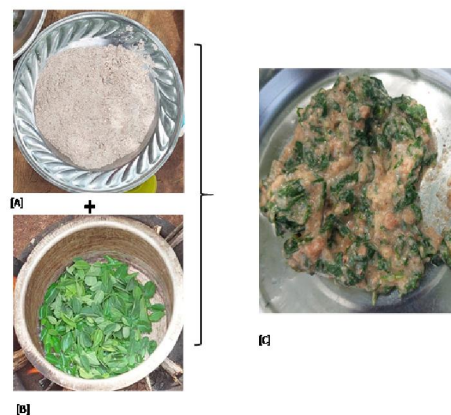


Figure 2: Porridge [C] prepared from blended maize and sorghum flour [A] and moringa leaf [B] for 11 months child during household observations.

References

- [1]. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1609406920967174>.
- [2]. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1534484320903890>.

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