



Indigenous Crop Varieties and Food Security in Ethiopia: A Methodological Approach

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Abstract

Indigenous crop varieties play a crucial role in food security across diverse landscapes, including Ethiopia's varied agricultural ecosystems. A mixed-methods approach combining field surveys and participatory rural appraisal (PRA) techniques was employed to gather data on indigenous crops' resilience, yield potentials, and farmer preferences in different regions of Ethiopia. Field observations indicated a significant variance in crop yields between traditional and modern varieties, with an average increase of 20% in productivity observed across selected sites. The analysis revealed that integrating indigenous crops into agricultural practices could significantly contribute to food security while preserving local biodiversity. Strategic investments should be directed towards developing conservation programmes for indigenous crop varieties and enhancing farmer training on sustainable cultivation methods. The empirical specification follows $Y = \beta_{0+\beta}^* p X + \text{varepsilon}$, and inference is reported with uncertainty-aware statistical criteria.

Keywords: *African, GIS, Participatory Rural Appraisal, Conservation Agriculture, Indigenous Knowledge Systems, Climate Change Adaptation, Community-Based Monitoring*

ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

This is an abstract-only publication. The complete research paper with full methodology, results, discussion, and references is available upon request.

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