

ROOT AND TUBER CROPS IN BENIN MARKET

By

GBENEBICHIE Sonia Onyinyechukwu

SR/2278/RPR/25/20

University of Benin

Benin City.

October, 2025

ROOT AND TUBER CROPS IN BENIN MARKET

By

GBENEBICHIE Sonia Onyinyechukwu

**A Project Report submitted to the Department of Plant Biology and
Biotechnology, Faculty of Life Sciences in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Award of Bachelor of Science (Honours) Degree
(BSc.) in Plant Biology and Biotechnology**

October, 2025

AUTHOR'S STATEMENT

I hereby grant the University of Benin, through the University of Benin Library, a non-exclusive, worldwide right to reproduce and distribute my thesis and abstract (hereinafter

"the Work"), in whole or in part, through any media, in its present form or any translated version for preservation and accessibility, provided such translation does not alter its content. This grant is royalty-free, and I retain the right to publish the Work in its current or future versions elsewhere. Warranties I further affirm that:

1. I am the sole author of the Work and grant the University of Benin the right to make it available four (4) years after the award of my degree, in compliance with the University of Benin Senate regulations.
2. The Work does not contain confidential information requiring third-party consent for disclosure.
3. I have exercised due diligence to ensure that the Work is original and does not breach any Nigerian law or infringe upon any third party's copyright or other Intellectual Property Rights, to the best of my knowledge.
4. Where the Work includes copyrighted material not owned by me, I have obtained unrestricted permission from the copyright holder to grant this license to the University of Benin Library. Such third-party materials are clearly identified and acknowledged within the Work.
5. In the event of any copyright dispute concerning the Work, I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the University of Benin, its officers, employees, and agents from any liability arising from the material authorized under this agreement.

6. The University of Benin is under no obligation whatsoever to take legal action on my behalf as the Depositor in the event of an intellectual property rights infringement or any other related dispute in the material deposited.

Gbenebichie	Sonia	Onyinyechukwu	_____

Author's Name		Signature /Date	Email

Prof. M.E Osawaru	_____	_____
Supervisor's Name	Signature /Date	Email

Prof. B. Ikhajiagbe	_____	_____
Head of Department	Signature /Date	Email

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this project work was carried out by **GBENEBICHIE** Sonia Onyinyechukwuin the department of Plant Biology and Biotechnology, Faculty of Life Science, University of Benin, Benin City, Nigeria.

Signed: -----

--

Prof. M.E Osawaru

(Project Supervisor)

Date

Signed: -----

- Prof. B. IKHAJIABGE

Date

(Head of Department)

DEDICATION

The work is dedicated to God almighty for His grace, favor, mercy and goodness upon my life. He has been my shield, comforter and my strength.

To my parent, Mr. And Mrs. Gbenebichie, and to everyone that supported my academic Journey.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

All praise and adoration go to Almighty God in whom I put my trust of giving me life, good health, sense of direction and strength to all through the period of my study and this project work

My special thanks and appreciation goes to my parents, Mr. And Mrs. Gbenebichie, my brothers, Emmanuel and Daniel, my uncles and aunties, Uncle Greg, Aunty Chioma, Uncle Chris, Aunty Oby, Aunty Abigail, Aunty Bawo, for their support in every area, encouragement and prayers. I am very grateful

My special thanks to my supervisor, Professor M.E. Osawaru, for his guidance and contributions to the completion of my academic work. I also want to say thank you to Dr. Ahana C. M., for his assistance and insights towards the completion of my project. and other distinguished lecturers and professors of the Department of Plant Biology and Biotechnology.

Also, I wish to thank all my friends and course mates, especially Gift and Hephzibah, whom I consider blessings to me. Thank you for your support in every area and for being my friends. To all my friends from different departments and different schools, I want to appreciate you all, thank you so much for all you do. To my church members, I want to say a big thank you for the prayers and for always checking in on me.

All glory, honour and adoration to God for His goodness and wonderful works towards me and my entire household.

My sincere appreciation goes to my Head of Department.

TABLE OF CONTENT

Cover Page - - - - -	i
Title - - - - -	ii
Author's Statement- - - - -	iii
Certification - - - - -	- v
Dedication - - - - -	vi
Acknowledgment - - - - -	vii
Table of Contents- - - - -	viii
List of Tables - - - - -	ix

List of Figures - - - - - x

List of Plates - - - - - xi

Abstract - - - - - xiii

CHAPTER ONE:

1.0 Introduction - - - - - 1

1.2 Statement of problem - - - - - 4

1.3 Aim and Objectives - - - - - 5

1.4 Significance of the study - - - - - 5

1.5 Limitation of the study- - - - - 5

CHAPTER TWO:

2.0 Materials and Methods - - - - - 7

2.1 Study Area - - - - - 7

2.2 Sampling - - - - - 7

2.3 Data Collection and Identification - - - - - 9

2.4 Data Analysis - - - - - 9

CHAPTER THREE:

3.0 Results - - - - -
10

CHAPTER FOUR:

4.0 Discussion - - - - -
25

4.1 Conclusion - - - - -
27

References - - - - -
29

LIST OF TABLES

Table 2.1: Markets visited and their local government area - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12								
Table 3.1: Root and Tuber crops in Benin Market - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11								
Table 3.2: General Availability of Root and Tuber Crops in Selected Benin Markets	-	-						
15								
Table 3.3: Prices and Availability of Root and Tuber Crops in Oba Market - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-			
18								
Table 3.4: Prices and Availability of Root and Tuber Crops in Uselu Market - - - - -	-	-	-	-				
19								
Table 3.5: Prices and Availability of Root and Tuber Crops in New Benin Market - - - - -	-	-	-					
20								
Table 3.6: Prices and Availability of Root and Tuber Crops in Oregbeni Market-	-	-	-					
21								
Table 3.7: Prices and Availability of Root and Tuber Crops in Adolor Market - - - - -	-	-	-	-				
22								
Table 3.8: Prices and Availability of Root and Tuber Crops in Ekiadolor Market	-	-	-					
23								
Table 3.9: Prices and Availability of Root and Tuber Crops in Ekosodin Market	-	-	-					
24								

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 3.1: Indigenous and Exotic crop distribution - - - - -
18

ABSTRACT

A market survey was conducted to document and investigate the diversity and availability of root and tuber crops in selected markets within Benin City, Edo State. The main objective was to identify the types, local names, Price, uses, and origin (indigenous or exotic) of root and tuber crops commonly sold. This survey was conducted in seven major markets which are Oba market, Urelu market, New Beni market, Adolor market, Ekiadolo market, Oregbeni market, and Ekosodin market, using direct observation and interviews with traders. Results revealed a diversity of root and tuber crops, including White yam (*Dioscorea rotundata*), Yellow yam (*Dioscorea cayenensis*), Water yam (*Dioscorea alata*), Cocoyam (*Colocasia esculenta*), Sweet potato (*Ipomoea batatas*), Irish potato (*Solanum tuberosum*), Carrot (*Daucus carota*), Beetroot (*Beta vulgaris*), Turmeric (*Curcuma longa*), Ginger (*Zingiber officinale*), Radish (*Raphanus sativus*), and Tigernut (*Cyperus esculentus*). Among these, white yam, yellow yam carrot, turmeric, sweet potato, were the most frequently traded and widely consumed, indicating their dominance in the local food system. Few of the crops identified were indigenous, while a most of the crops identified were exotic, such as Irish potato, carrot, beetroot. The study concludes that root and tuber crops contribute significantly to food security, nutrition, and economic livelihood in Benin City. It also emphasizes the

importance of market surveys in assessing plant diversity and promoting the conservation of indigenous crop species.