

-From the traditional healers perspective, areas that serve as a major source of material for traditional healers in major towns were also included in the collection sites.

-Wendo Genet and its surrounding was also included in the collection site to create link with the communities in the vicinity.

-Medicinal Plants that are endemic to the country and grow at an altitudinal range 1500-2500masl were also collected assuming these plants will survive at an altitude of Wendo Genet (1830m).

Through participation of representatives from the three stakeholder institutions, medicinal plant exploration and collection expeditions were conducted.

-A total of 183 germplasms were collected from 32 Weredas (Districts).

-A total of 323 germplasms are being conserved. Among which 26 are annual plants planted recently in Annuals Block, 7 are in the Nursery Block, 85 in the Perennial Herbs and Home-garden Plants Block, 43 in the

Shrubs Block, 21 in the Trees Block, 3 in the Shade Loving Plants Block and the rest 138 are conserved as seeds in Cold Store and some are also being processed to deliver for storage.

-A total of 67 samples were identified to species level and 33 to Genus level, which belong to 65 species. The rest samples are under taxonomic identification.

Future Plans

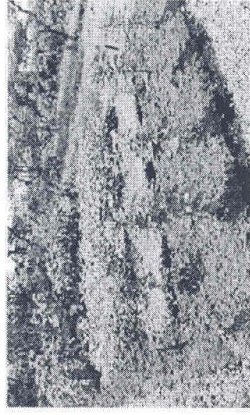
The future plans of the FGB are to:-

-Expand the existing 1.6 ha. holding and to conserve more endangered, threatened, rare and vulnerable medicinal plants of the country.

-Popularize the FGB to various stakeholders in order to strengthen and foster the integrated and sustainable utilization of medicinal plants genetic resources of the country.

-Complete the taxonomic identification of all medicinal plants conserved in the FGB.

Wendo Genet Medicinal Plants Field Gene Bank



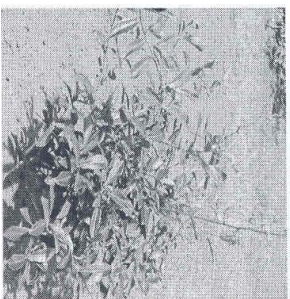
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Wendo Genet Medicinal Plants Field Gene Bank



Embelia schimperi-Enkoko-in Amharic

Introduction

Ethiopia is endowed with rich flora and fauna, due to its' physical and climatic diversity. The total number of vascular plants is estimated to be more than 6500 species out of which an estimated 10% are endemic and about 14% are used as medicinal plants. The deforestation rate ranges from 150,000 to 200,000 ha per year. Since Medicinal Plants are part and parts of the ecosystem they are being lost with the same rate of destruction. In order to salvage medicinal plants, a Field Gene Bank (MPFGB) was established at Wendo Genet to conserve threatened, endangered and rare medicinal plants.

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The Field Gene Bank

Wendo Genet Medicinal Plants' Field Gene Bank (FGB) is situated around 264 km South of Addis Ababa. It is located at 07° 05'25" N and 038°38'04" E. The altitude of the site is around 1830 meters above sea level. The area of the field Gene Bank at present is 16016 m² (1.6ha), with possible expansion up to 5 ha.

Three Institutions, Institute of Biodiversity Conservation (IBC), Essential Oils Research Center (EORC) and Ethiopian National Traditional Medicine Preparation and Study Association (ENTMPPSA) are being actively participated in the establishment and follow-up of the FGB; which is being coordinated by IBC.

The site is easily accessible and has a surface irrigation facility. The garden is subdivided into blocks to accommodate plants with different habits, annual and perennial herbs, shrubs and trees. There are also blocks for nursery and shade loving plants. In order to accomplish this task, a field preparation was started in August 2001.

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A field plan was prepared for 1.25 hectare (625m²) of land. The field consists of nursery and four blocks of land of more than 2120 m².

Achievements

The three stakeholder institutions prioritized medicinal plants and the sites from which the medicinal plants were to be collected. Thus, priority was given for:-

-Medicinal plants used for the treatment of three human and three livestock diseases mentioned in the Conservation and sustainable Use of Medicinal Plants Project (CSUMPP). The three major human diseases are tapeworm, bronchopneumonia and hypertension and the three livestock diseases are tapeworm, mastitis and dermatophilosis. Some of the proposed species in the project document have got also priority of collection. These include: *Dodonaea angustifolia* L. f., *Glinus lotoides* L., *Plumbago zeylanica* L., *Ranex abyssinicus* Jacq. and *Ranex nervosus* Vahl.

-The area where there is fast deforestation is another criteria to choose collection sites.

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