

**Indigenous Knowledge in  
Conservation of  
Crop Genetic Resources**

**Proceedings of an International Workshop  
Held in Cisarua, Bogor, Indonesia  
January 30 - February 3, 1995**

**Edited by  
Jürg Schneider**

CIP-ESEAP  
P.O. Box 929, Bogor 16309  
Indonesia  
CRIFC  
Jalan Merdeka 147, Bogor 16111  
Indonesia  
© 1995 by CIP-ESEAP/CRIFC  
All rights reserved. Published 1995  
Printed in Indonesia

National Library: Cataloguing in Publication

INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE IN CONSERVATION OF CROP GENETIC  
RESOURCES

Proceedings of an International Workshop held in Cisarua, Bogor, Indonesia,  
January 30 - February 3, 1995  
edited by J. Schneider  
Bogor: CIP-ESEAP/CRIFC, 1995  
viii, 132 pp. ; 24.5 cm

ISBN 979-8161-56-4

- |                         |                |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Indigenous Knowledge | 2. Sweetpotato |
| J. Schneider.           | II.            |

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND LIBRARY

CAT  
BOM  
2002

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Foreword .....	vii
 <b>Part 1: General Issues</b>	
Workshop Goals and Major Issues <i>Jürg Schneider</i> .....	1
Social Science in Agricultural Research: Beyond Hard Life Science and Tangible Products <i>Sediono M.P. Tjondronegoro</i> .....	5
Seed Systems, Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Genetic Diversity <i>Pamela G. Fernandez</i> .....	11
 <b>Part 2: Methods</b>	
Recording Indigenous Knowledge - An Overview <i>Evelyn Mathias</i> .....	19
Methodologies for Documenting User's Indigenous Knowledge on Sweetpotato Varieties and Conservation of Rootcrop Genetic Resources <i>Maricel Piniero</i> .....	27
The Collection of Associated Knowledge During Short Germplasm Collections: Field Experiences in Java and Irian Jaya <i>Caecilia Afra Widyastuti</i> .....	35
Mental Maps and Traditional Knowledge: A Field Work Method in Human Ecology <i>Ali Rachman</i> .....	45
Rapid Appraisal for Biodiversity: An Alternative Approach for Assessing Biodiversity <i>Budhi Gunawan</i> .....	49
 <b>Part 3: Case Studies</b>	
Some Aspects of the Indigenous Knowledge of Selected Sweetpotato Farming Systems in Irian Jaya <i>Hubertus Matanubun, Achmad Rochani, and Agus Sumule</i> .....	57
Farmer Practices and Sweetpotato Diversity in Highland New Guinea <i>Jürg Schneider</i> .....	63

Tuber Crops in Irian Jaya: Diversity and the Need for Conservation <i>La Achmady and Jürg Schneider</i> .....	71
Sweetpotato of the Kimaam, Irian Jaya <i>Angel Manembu</i> .....	79
Ethnobotany of Economic Plants in the Baliem Valley, Jayawijaya, Irian Jaya <i>Harry Wiradinata</i> .....	87
Sweetpotato Germplasm Management and Utilization at MARIF <i>St. A. Rahayuningsih, Yudi Widodo, S.S. Antarlina, and N. Nugrabaeni</i> .....	99
Sweetpotato Cultivation in a Rice-Based Farming System: The Dynamics of Indigenous Knowledge <i>Yudi Widodo</i> .....	105
<b>Part 4: Appendices</b>	
Conclusions of the Working Groups .....	115
Program .....	123
List of Contributors .....	127
List of Participants .....	131

# Foreword

In recent years, indigenous knowledge (IK) has received greater attention by the international scientific community. Its relevance in sustainable development has been stressed, and activities for its documentation and application on a broader base have increased. Agriculture, a human practice which requires intricate and constant local adaptation, has generated a vast array of indigenous knowledge regarding cultivation practices, crop varieties and the environmental factors involved in agricultural production.

The contributions to this volume were presented at a workshop on **Indigenous Knowledge in the Conservation of Genetic Resources** jointly organized by CIP-ESEAP and CRIFC from January 30 through February 3, 1995. A number of papers examine general and methodological aspects of the study of indigenous knowledge, whereas others are concerned with settings in which IK plays a significant role. Geographically, most of these case studies deal with Irian Jaya and its tuber crops.

The genetic resources of sweetpotato are the focus of a project currently coordinated by CIP-ESEAP and funded by the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC). The project's aim is to contribute to the preservation of sweetpotato diversity in Indonesia, one important aspect being the indigenous knowledge associated with diversity in local cultivars. We would like to thank SDC for its support which has made the organization of the workshop and this publication possible.

We hope that some of the concepts and data presented in this volume prove a helpful reference to researchers and students concerned with IK, particularly in this country possessing such great natural and cultural diversity.

Bogor, September 1995

Dr. Jürg Schneider  
Anthropologist, former Project Coordinator

Dr. Peter Schmiediche  
Regional Representative  
International Potato Center  
East Asia, South East Asia and Pacific Region

**ISBN 979-8161-56-4**