TITLE:

THE ROLE OF INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE IN THE CONSERVATION OF CROP BIODIVERSITY: THE CASE OF LOCAL CROPS IN UGANDA. EAST AFRICAN

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ABSTRACT

This discussion paper highlights the Indigenous Knowledge (IK) methods in crop production that has been used in Uganda especially in this era of climate change challenges and loss of food security.

This paper examines the various methods which have been used in crop biodiversity conservation in Uganda and these include seed identification, storage and use, Land preparation and use, organic manure production and use, and harvesting and storage. It examines how these methods have contributed to both increased food crop production by over 40% and crop biodiversity conservation by 50% in the last 30 years (1986 to 2016 using Uganda as an example.

The paper makes major recommendations on policy to policy makers and on practical approaches to farmers in light of the IK and modern farming methods. The recommendations include production and enforcement of policies on organic manure production and how local farmers can use the same for increased food production.