

Research Article

Production and Improvement of Highland Bamboo (*Yushania alpina*) Resources Utilization in Dawro Zone, Ethiopia

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ABSTRACT

Highland bamboo (*Yushania alpina*) is a perennial, multipurpose, and fast-growing plant that significantly supports local livelihoods. This study, conducted in the Dawro Zone of SNNPRG, Ethiopia, aimed to enhance the utilization of bamboo resources. A cross-sectional survey design employing both qualitative and quantitative approaches was used, with multistage sampling techniques. Site preference showed a strong positive correlation with bamboo production, with a correlation coefficient of .917**. Factors such as site condition, agro-ecology, bamboo species, plantation technique, and tilling frequency were positively correlated with production. Discussions with stakeholders highlighted the need for scientific management to improve production. Traditional products crafted from bamboo include mats, tables, chairs, beehives, and baskets, mostly sold directly to consumers. However, the production remains limited, with poor processing techniques and no formal training provided. Bamboo diseases are poorly managed, with uprooting being the only mitigation strategy. There is no use of commercial fertilizers, and the bamboo market chain is hindered by inadequate infrastructure. Scientific intervention is essential to enhance bamboo utilization in the Dawro Zone.

Keywords: *Yushania alpina*, Production, Resources, Dawro

