Diversification and valorization of Non Timber Forest Products of plants resources in Torodi department (Niger, West Africa): social variation and implications for perspectives policies

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Background

- Environmental context of Niger combined with climate change of these last decades may be able to exhibit the country to food insecurity in future.
- In this respect, researches on Non Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) that are growing most international interest in this last decade may be a substantial contribution for improving sustainably livelihoods.

Objectives

- Inventory NTFPs of plants and their use
- Assess social variation of their use
- Identify NTFPs that have market value

Methods

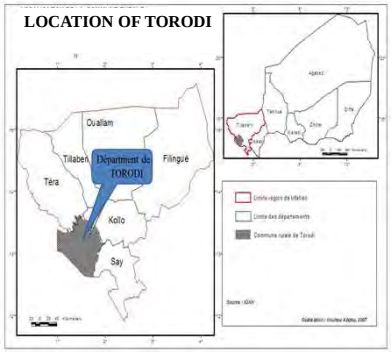

Figure 1: Location of Torodi department in Niger

- The study was carried out in the Torodi departmant situated in south west of Niger (figure 1).
- It situated between 12° 40' and 13° 30' N ;1° and 2° E.
- Two climate types were observed: sudanian (750 mm) and sahelo-sudanian (450 – 600 mm).
- Average rainfall of these three last decades: 588 mm
- Random sampling of 227 interviewed people
- Four villages (Kobadjé, Tchiambanga, Bantari and Dogona), four socio culturals groups (Peulh, Zarma, Gourmantché and Haoussa) and local markets were investigated.
- Structured interviews, focus group discussion and participative observations were implemented
- Data were processed and analyzed using graphs and statistical tests.

Results

- Social variation in NTFPs was not statistically significant (P > 0.05).
- However, some apparent differences were observed between sex and socio cultural groups (Figure 2, Table 1)
- Forty three plants (41), belonging to twenty four (24) families were inventoried as NTFPs in Torodi
- Several actors such as farmers, wholesalers, speculators, retailers and consumers are found to be involved in trade of leaves of *Adansonia digitata*, *Cassia tora* and *Ceratotheca sesamoides*

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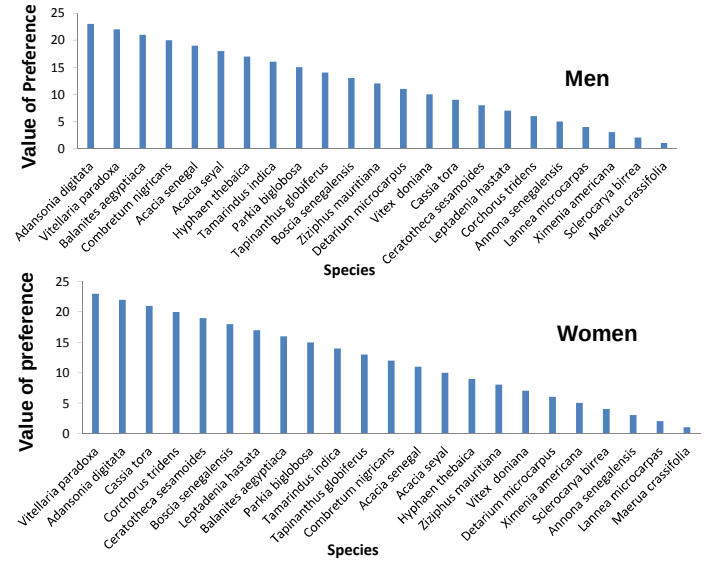

Figure 2: NTFPs species preferred according to men and women

Table 1: Ten most preferred NTFPs species ranked according to socio cultural groups

Species	Zarma	Peulh	Gourman	Haoussa
Adansonia digitata	1	1	1	12
Cassia tora	2	3	2	13
Vitellaria paradoxa	3	2	3	8
Ceratotheca sesamoides	4	4	19	5
Corchorus tridens	5	26	5	4
Leptadenia hastata	6	9	24	20
Balanites aegyptiaca	7	5	23	6
Boscia senegalensis	8	8	7	14
Boscia salicifolia	9	21	22	26

Photo 1: Leaves of *Ceratotheca sesamoides*

Perspectives

Perspectives will consist to

- Study chain value of trade of leaves of A. digitata, Cassia tora and Ceratotheca sesamoides
- Develop strategies to secure food in future by promoting most preferred NTFPs
- Enhance researches on conservation and domestication of most preferred species
- Study impact of climate change on availability of preferred NTFPs

Source

- Amadou Aïssa. 2013. Evaluation de la diversité et des modes de valorisation des PFNL dans le département de TORODI (Niger). Master Gestion des Ressources naturelles et de la biodiversité, Université d'Abomey Calavi, 77 pages.
- PDLT, 2005 : Plan de Développement Communal (Torodi), p 4.

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