

Ukaushaji wa Mnavu





Introduction

- African Nightshade (ANS) is among many indigenous African vegetables rich in nutrients such as vitamins, minerals and proteins
- ANS is used as a natural remedy in many Tanzania communities
- Matured ANS is susceptible to damage, so proper post-harvest handling should be maintained
- Processing by drying can ensure help maintain safety and quality of nutrients in the product
- Drying prolongs shelf life of the product and helps to retain minerals, and improve taste.



Stages in drying African nightshade

Collection and cooling

- Harvesting at 4-6 weeks
- Harvest early in the morning or late evening
- Exclude damaged ANS leaves

Receiving (sorting, washing and weighing)

- Remove debris, soil & decayed ANS leaves
- Wash ANS leaves under clean running water

Pre-treatment

- Blanch ANS in 3% salt conc. at 85 °C, 2 minutes
- Cool
- Drain out water

Drying

 Use solar (Mixed solar or indirect solar drier)

Packaging

- Cool at ambient temperature
- Package in laminated polythene bags

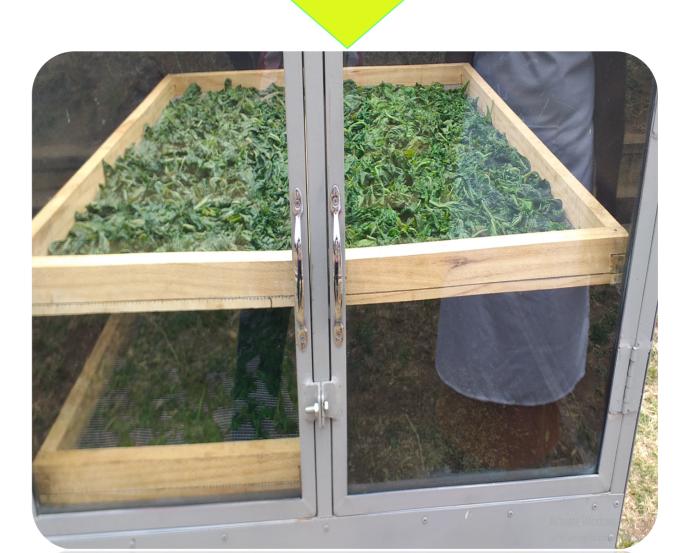




Washing of ANS ©Frank Sangija



Blanch in 3% salt conc. at 85 °C, 2 minutes© Marynurce Kazosi



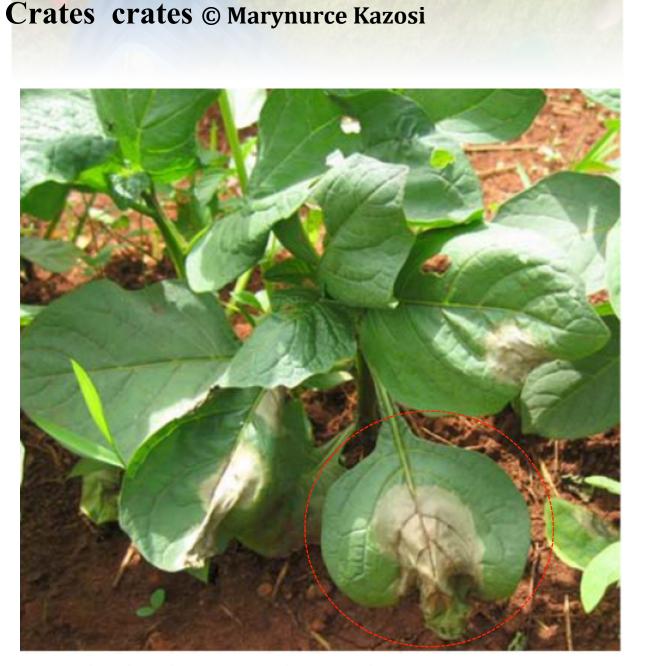
Drying of ANS © Marynurce Kazosi



Packaged ANS in in laminated polythene bags ©Marynurce Kazosi

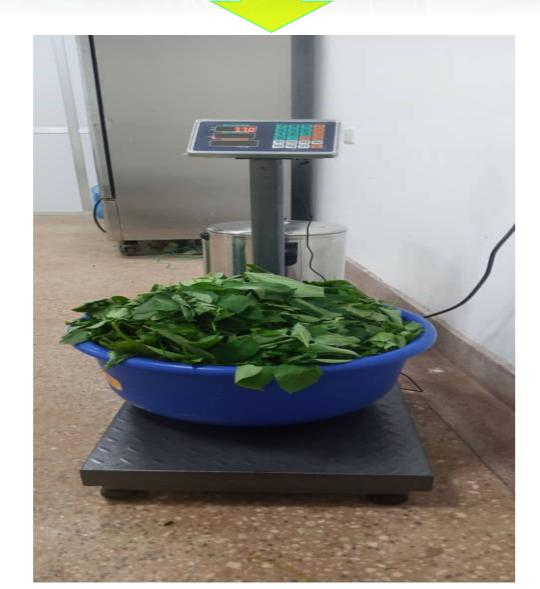


Collection and cooling of ANS in Plastic



Exclude damaged ANS leaves © Nono-Womdimo et al. (2009)





Weighing of sorted ANS © Frank Sangija





Draining of cooled ANS © Marynurce Kazosi



Turning upside down of ANs in drier for evenly drying ©Kazosi Marynurce





Label © Marynurce Kazosi





