



Medicinal use patterns of *Parkia biglobosa* (Jacq.) Benth. and *Vitellaria paradoxa* (Gaertn. F) in Benin, West-Africa

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Background

- ❑ *P. biglobosa* and *V. paradoxa* are predominantly used in traditional medicine and primary healthcare in Benin
- ❑ However, their medicinal properties have been little explicitly explored in the country
- ❑ Documenting their medicinal use patterns is essential in informing their ongoing conservation and also in fostering drugs discovery



Fig 3. Pressure on the species in Benin

Source: <https://afroculture.net/beurre-de-karite-les-1001-vertus/>

Results

- ❑ Eleven disease categories recorded for the two species
- ❑ Forty-five diseases and disorders listed for *P. biglobosa* against thirty-two for *V. paradoxa*
- ❑ Major ailments treated: hypertension, constipation, liver cancer, ulcer, stomach pain, diarrhea, dysentery, haemorrhoids, ascites, gastritis, icterus, dental caries, nausea, diabetes, female sterility, etc.

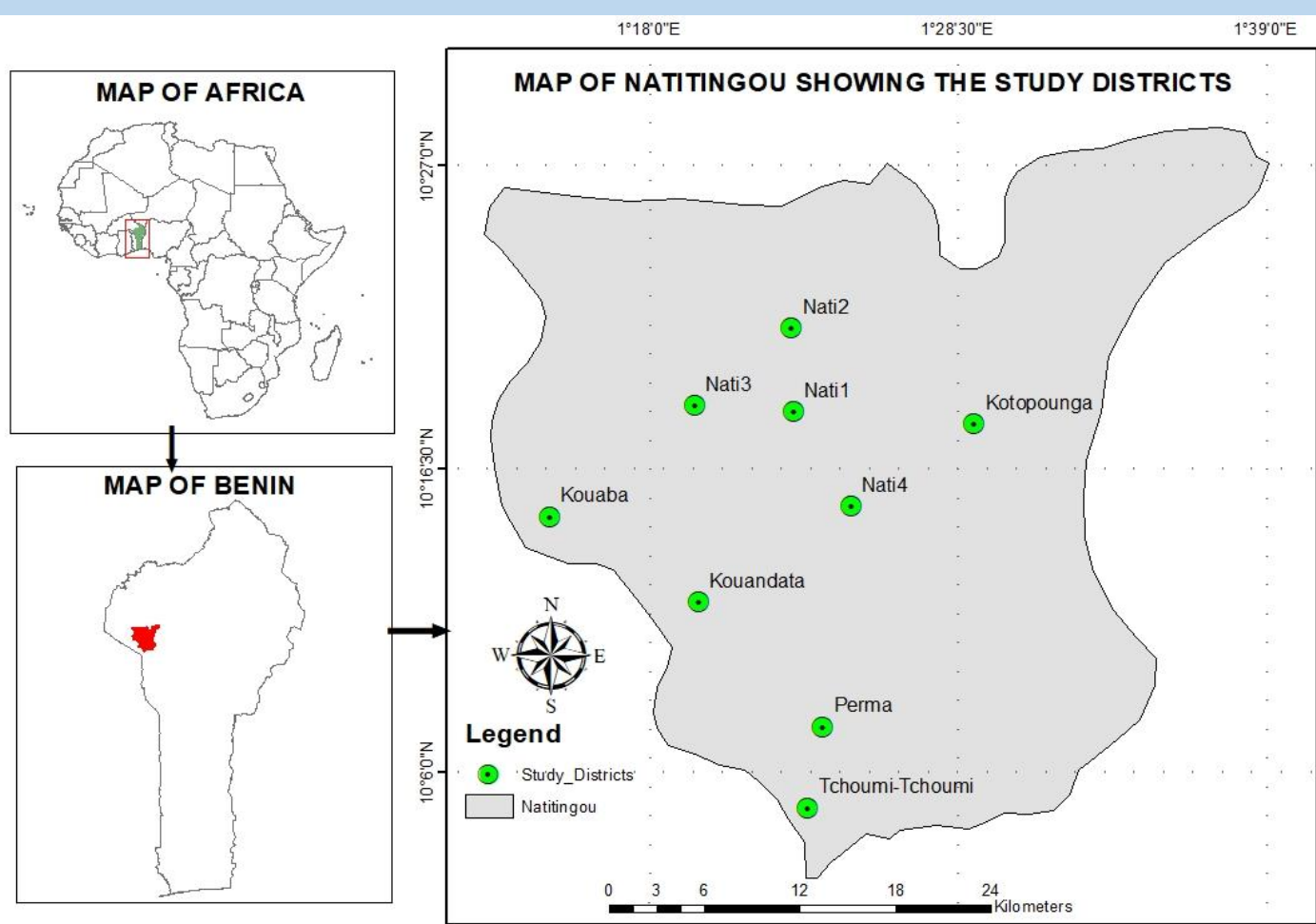


Fig 1. The study area: Natitingou Municipality, Northern Benin

Material and Methods

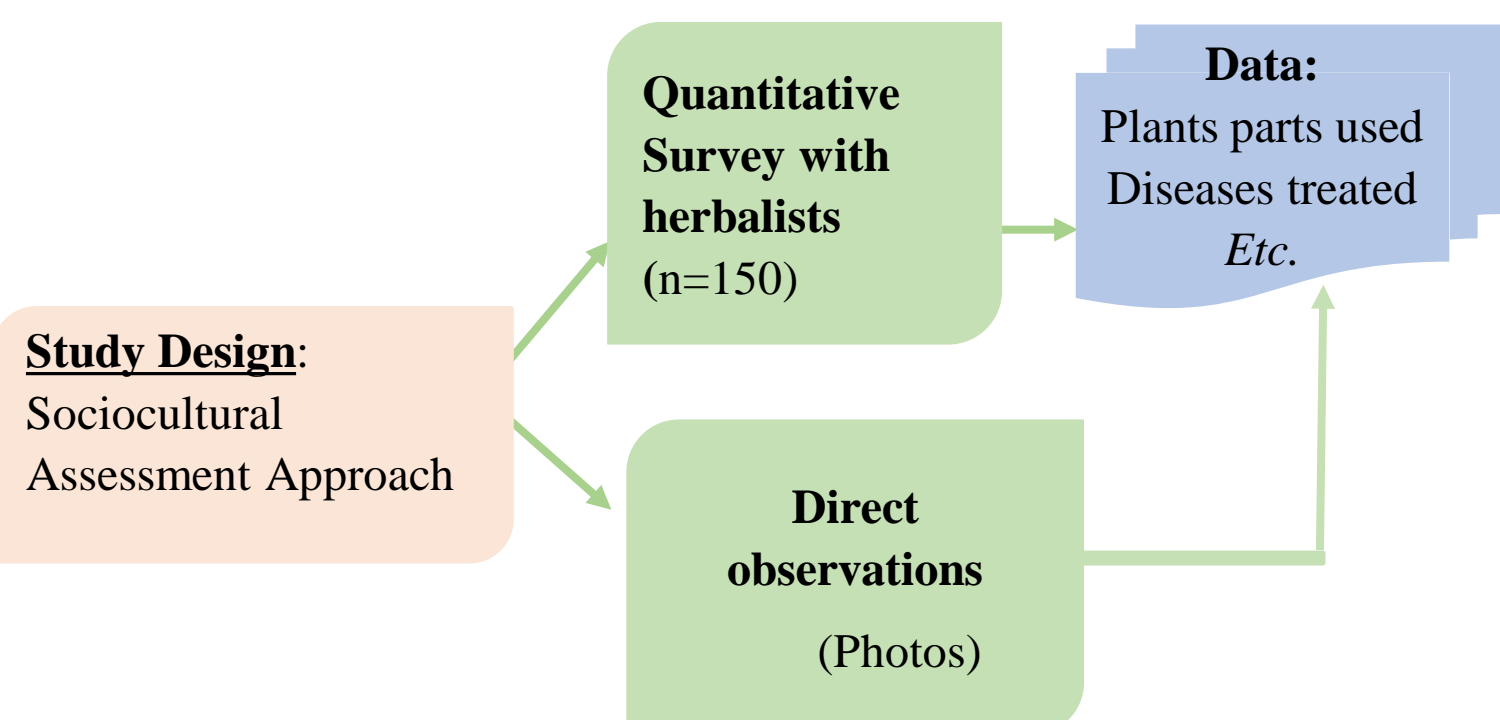


Fig 2. Flow chart of the methodological approach used

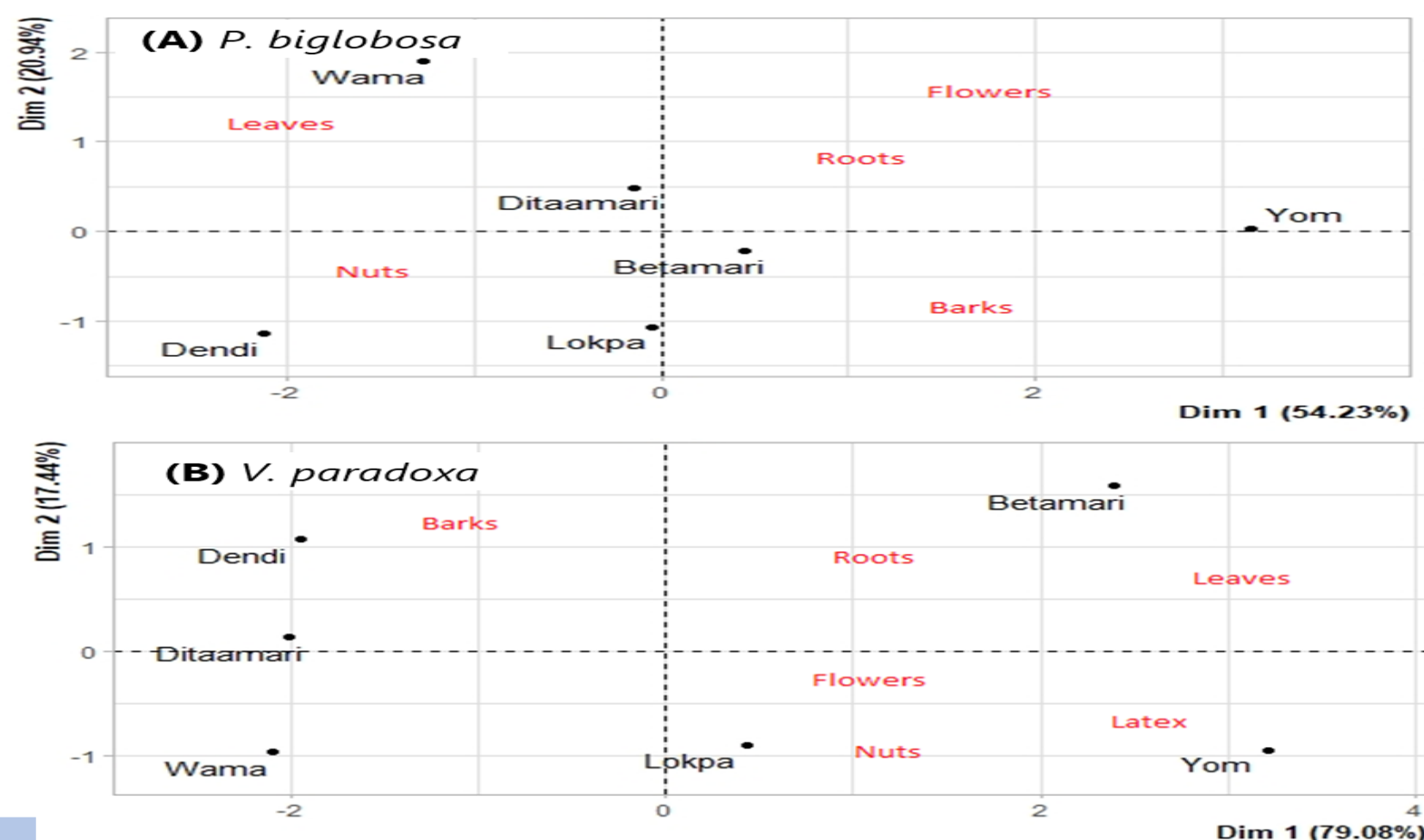


Fig 4. Patterns of correlation among uses of plant parts and how this is related to ethnic group

Policy Recommendations

- ❑ Conserve some populations of the species in their natural habitats
- ❑ Raise awareness across the country to sensitize the local population about their importance and gradual collapse
- ❑ Promote their sustainable use in order to prevent their die out
- ❑ Conduct more studies geared towards their conservation nationwide and across West Africa