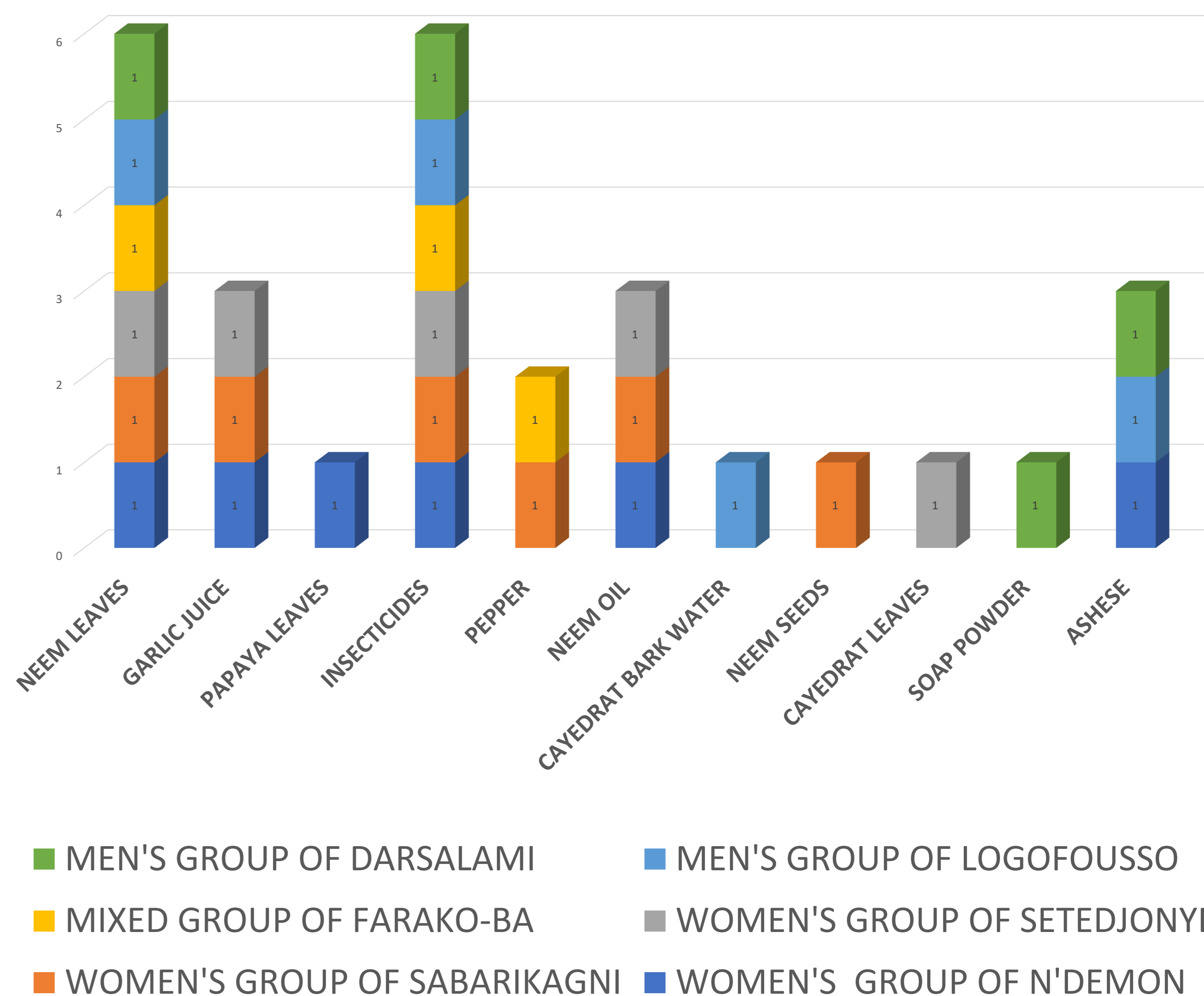


Context: integrated pest management on cowpea is very challenging for farmers and other stakeholders in the cowpea value chain. Finding an appropriate method is a key challenge faced by researchers in sub-Saharan Africa and in Burkina Faso in particular. The aim is to understand and characterize the pest management technics by stakeholders in the cowpea value chain. There is an urgent need to consider not only the market potential for new seed products (Rutsaert et al., 2022) but also to acknowledge the voices of the people who will ultimately benefit and give their views more visibility in the use of pest management technics.

Methods: Mix method was used to understand traits preferences from farmers perspective with respect to cowpea seed. This includes 10 focus group discussions using an interview guide and a survey with 615 respondent in the dry and the humid zone using a questionnaire. A field participatory selection was added to the socio-economic studies to shed light on the integrated pest management from farmers perspective

Results

THE DIFFERENT TREATMENT TECHNIQUES USED BY EACH GROUP



The graph above allows us to know that the method of treatment of the crops with neem leaves and the method of treatment with insecticides (synthetic chemicals) are the two methods most used by the groups. This means that these two methods of control are the most known and practiced by each group.

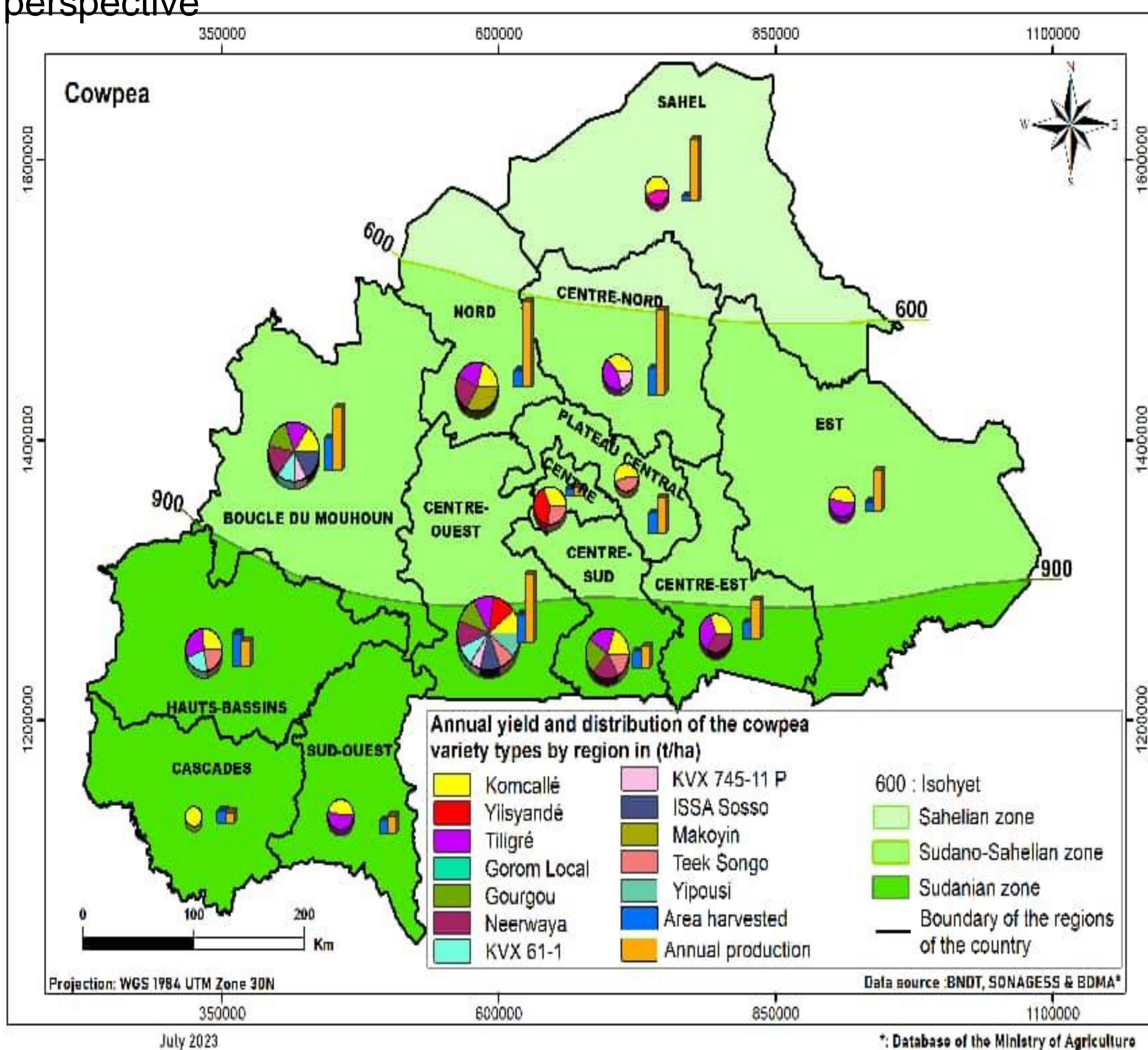


Figure 1. Map of Burkina Faso. Source: Eveline from row data from Ministry of Agriculture on Cowpea seeds distribution throughout the country in Burkina Faso versus yield

Relevance: pest management incur high-yielding, medium size, tasteful varieties referring to the local cowpea, white in color. But also good texture after harvest, short cycle, dual purpose use and easy to cook. Other criteria such as creeping form and drought resistance are also extra essential criteria that require breeders attention from farmers perspective. This study therefore enables farmers to express themselves and contribute directly to the cowpea breeding program in Burkina Faso.

Lessons and way forward:

continue to work with this integrated pest management method because it's accessible and less harmful. Well, we can't stop chemical pest control because when you have a large area to farm you have no choice but to use chemicals. The more the land is big the more its hard to use these above biological products. Only women can afford to compose the bio product for their small plots. As for men finding the row material bio fertilizer is challenging.



Photo 1 & 2: participatory assessment of pest management. photo taken on the field

Sources:

Shiratori, S.; Tobita, Y.; Sawadogo-Compaoré, E.M.F.W. 2023. Food Security, Nutritional Supply, and Nutrient Sources in Rural Burkina Faso. *Nutrients*, 15, 2285. doi.org/10.3390/nu15102285
 Rutsaert, P., Donovan, J. A., Mawia, H., Sousa, K. de, & van Etten J. 2022.. Future market segments for hybrid maize in East Africa. <https://cgspace.cgiar.org/handle/10568/128238>