**List of Tables**

Table 1: Harvesting periods of termites according to the main ethnic groups of Southern Cameroon. Values in Table refer to the percentage of respondents per ethnic group and values into brackets refer to the number of respondents.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Period**  **Ethnic group** | **Morning** | **Afternoon** | **Evening** | **Whole day** |
| **Bafia** | 50 (26) | 1.9 (1) | 55.8 (29) | 11.5 (6) |
| **Batanga** | 27.3 (6) | 0.0 (0) | 59.1 (13) | 22.7 (5) |
| **Eton** | 87.9 (51) | 0.0 (0) | 12.1 (7) | 3.4 (2) |
| **Bulu** | 42.9 (9) | 0.0 (0) | 47.6 (10) | 14.3 (3) |
| **Ntumu** | 27.3 (9) | 3.0 (1) | 57.6 (19) | 24.2 (8) |
| **Ewondo** | 36.4 (16) | 0.0 (0) | 54.5 (24) | 15.9 (7) |
| **Bassa** | 26.7 (8) | 3.3 (1) | 63.3 (19) | 20.0 (6) |
| **Pygmies** | 42.9 (12) | 7.1 (2) | 7.1 (2) | 42.9 (12) |
| **Maka** | 18.2 (8) | 2.3 (1) | 61.4 (27) | 25.0 (11) |
| **Yambassa** | 68.1 (32) | 0.0 (0) | 42.6 (20) | 8.5 (4) |
| **X2** | 78.8174 | 9.8498 | 58.5950 | 28.5368 |
| **P value** | <0.0001 | 0.3628 | <0.0001 | 0.0008 |
| **General mean** | 46.6 (117) | 1.6 (6) | 44.9 (170) | 16.9 (64) |

Table 2: Main reasons for acceptance of termites in the main ethnic groups of Southern Cameroon. Values in Table refer to the percentage of respondents per ethnic group and values in brackets refer to the number of respondents.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Ground**  **Ethnic group** | **Consumption** | **Medicine** | **Trade** | **Prediction of Happiness** |
| **Bafia** | 100.0 (50) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) |
| **Batanga** | 87.59 (7) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 25.0 (2) |
| **Eton** | 100.0 (55) | 1.82 (1) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) |
| **Bulu** | 100.0 (15) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) |
| **Ntumu** | 100.0 (3) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) |
| **Ewondo** | 100.0 (39) | 2.56 (1) | 2.56 (1) | 5.13 (2) |
| **Bassa** | 100.0 (14) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) |
| **Pygmies** | 100.0 (23) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) |
| **Maka** | 100.0 (38) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) |
| **Yambassa** | 100.0 (30) | 3.33 (9) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) |
| **X2** | 33.4968 | 4.1176 | 6.0734 | 37.9787 |
| **P value** | <0.0001 | 0.9035 | 0.7326 | <0.0001 |
| **General mean** | 99.64(274) | 1.09 (3) | 0.36 (1) | 1.45 (4) |

Table 3: Reasons for consumption of termites in the main ethnic groups of Southern Cameroon. Values in Table refer to the percentage of respondents per ethnic group and values in brackets refer to the number of respondents.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Reason**  **Ethnic group** | **High Nutritive value** | **Therapeutic virtues** | **Good taste** | **Part of culture** | **Part of eating habit** | **Natural food** | **Curiosity** |
| **Bafia** | 40.4 (21) | 0.0 (0) | 73.1 (38) | 61.5 (32) | 0.0 (0) | 1.9 (1) | 0.0 (0) |
| **Batanga** | 3.2 (1) | 0.0 (0) | 22.6 (7) | 3.2 (1) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 12.9 (4) |
| **Eton** | 67.2 (39) | 1.7 (1) | 70.7 (41) | 39.7 (23) | 3.4 (2) | 6.9 (4) | 0.0 (0) |
| **Bulu** | 5.6 (2) | 0.0 (0) | 30.1 (11) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 22.2 (8) |
| **Ntumu** | 5.1 (2) | 0.0 (0) | 7.7 (3) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) |
| **Ewondo** | 54.0 (27) | 0.0 (0) | 60.0 (30) | 12.0 (6) | 0.0 (0) | 4.0 (2) | 0.0 (0) |
| **Bassa** | 24.4 (10) | 0.0 (0) | 29.3 (12) | 7.3 (3) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 2.4 (1) |
| **Pygmies** | 25.8 (8) | 0.0 (0) | 67.7 (21) | 71 (22) | 3.3 (1) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) |
| **Maka** | 10.4 (5) | 0.0 (0) | 70.8 (34) | 14.6 (7) | 25 (12) | 2.1 (1) | 8.3 (4) |
| **Yambassa** | 36.2 (17) | 0.0 (0) | 61.7 (29) | 34.0 (16) | 0.0 (0) | 2.1 (1) | 0.0 (0) |
| **X2** | 96.5662 | 6.4805 | 86.8915 | 126.2279 | 77.0205 | 11.3071 | 52.6039 |
| **P value** | <0.0001 | 0.6910 | <0.0001 | <0.0001 | <0.0001 | 0.2552 | <0.0001 |
| **General mean** | 30.5 (132) | 0.2 (1) | 52.2 (226) | 25.4 (110) | 3.5 (15) | 2.08 (9) | 3.94 (17) |

Table 4: Forms of consumption of termites in the main ethnic groups of Southern Cameroon. Values in table refer to the percentage of respondents per ethnic group and values in brackets refer to the number of respondents.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Form**  **Ethnic group** | **In soup** | **Fried** | **braised** | **Raw** | **Grilled** | **In Cake** |
| **Bafia** | 0.0 (0) | 85.4 (41) | 0.0 (0) | 12.5 (6) | 18.8 (8) | 39.6 (19) |
| **Batanga** | 14.3(1) | 100 (7) | 0.0 (0) | 14.3 (1) | 14.3 (1) | 14.3 (1) |
| **Eton** | 7.4 (4) | 80.0(44) | 1.8 (1) | 5.5 (3) | 23.6 (13) | 65.5 (36) |
| **Bulu** | 6.7 (1) | 60.0 (9) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 33.3 (5) | 0.0 (0) |
| **Ntumu** | 0.0 (0) | 66.7 (2) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 33.3 (1) | 0.0 (0) |
| **Ewondo** | 5.3 (2a) | 84.2 (36) | 2.6 (1) | 5.3 (2) | 2.6 (1) | 23.7 (9) |
| **Bassa** | 7.1 (1) | 50.0 (7) | 0.0 (0) | 7.1 (1) | 57.1 (8) | 14.3 (2) |
| **Pygmies** | 8.7 (2) | 82.6 (19) | 0.0 (0) | 34.8 (8) | 8.7 (2) | 8.7 (2) |
| **Maka** | 2.6 (1) | 42.1 (16) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 76.3 (29) | 7.9(3) |
| **Yambassa** | 6.7 (2) | 43.3 (13) | 0.0 (0) | 3.3 (1) | 53.3(16) | 26.7 (8) |
| **X2** | 5.9017 | 44.1745 | 4.0594 | 30.3410 | 72.8331 | 60.4277 |
| **P value** | 0.7497 | <0.0001 | 0.9075 | 0.0004 | <0.0001 | <0.0001 |
| **General mean** | 5.2(14) | 70.1(190) | 0.7(2) | 8.1(22) | 31.4(85) | 29.5(80) |

Table 5: Awareness of cooking techniques of termites in the main ethnic groups of Southern Cameroon. Values in Table refer to the percentage of respondents per ethnic group and values in brackets refer to the number of respondents.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Awareness**  **Ethnic group** | **Yes** | **No** | **X2** | **P Value** | **Total** |
| **Bafia** | 59.6 (31) | 40.4 (21) | 1.9231 | 0.1655 | 100 (52) |
| **Batanga** | 13.8 (4) | 86.2 (25) | 15.2069 | <0.0001 | 100 (7) |
| **Eton** | 80.7 (46) | 19.3 (11) | 21.4912 | <0.0001 | 100 (57) |
| **Bulu** | 10.3 (3) | 89.7 (26) | 18.2414 | <0.0001 | 100 (29) |
| **Ntumu** | 7.7 (1) | 92.3 (12) | 9.3077 | 0.0023 | 100 (13) |
| **Ewondo** | 55.1 (27) | 44.9 (22) | 0.5102 | 0.4751 | 100 (49) |
| **Bassa** | 13.5 (5) | 86.5 (32) | 19.7027 | <0.0001 | 100 (37) |
| **Pygmies** | 70.4 (19) | 29.6 (8) | 4.4815 | 0.0343 | 100 (27) |
| **Maka** | 44.4 (20) | 55.6 (25) | 0.5556 | 0.4561 | 100 (45) |
| **Yambassa** | 31.9 (15) | 68.1 (32) | 6.1489 | 0.0131 | 100 (47) |
| **General mean** | 44.4 (171) | 55.6 (214) | 4.8026 | 0.0284 | 100(385) |

Table 6: Forms in which termites are preserved of in the main ethnic groups of Southern Cameroon. Values in Table refer to the percentage of respondents per ethnic group and values in brackets refer to the number of respondents.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Form**  **Ethnic group** | **Raw** | **dried** | **Cooked in soup** | **fried** |
| **Bafia** | 0.0 (0) | 81.3 (13) | 6.2 (1) | 12.5 (2) |
| **Batanga** | 0.0 (0) | 66.7 (2) | 33.3 (1) | 0.0 (0) |
| **Eton** | 19.4 (6) | 67.7(25) | 6.5 (2) | 9.7 (3) |
| **Bulu** | 33.3 (1) | 66.7 (2) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) |
| **Ntumu** | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) |
| **Ewondo** | 10.0 (2) | 70.0 (14) | 5.0 (1) | 15.0 (3) |
| **Bassa** | 42.9 (3) | 71.4 (5) | 14.3 (1) | 0.0 (0) |
| **Pygmies** | 0.0 (0) | 80.0 (4) | 20.0 (1) | 0.0 (0) |
| **Maka** | 25.0 (1) | 75.0 (3) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) |
| **Yambassa** | 0.0 (0) | 83.3 (10) | 0.0 (0) | 16.7 (2) |
| **X2** | 13.8843 | 2.0010 | 6.7062 | 3.7391 |
| **P value** | 0.0848 | 0.9810 | 0.5686 | 0.8799 |
| **General mean** | 12.9 (13) | 73.3 (74) | 6.9 (7) | 9.9 (10) |

Table 7: Non-acceptance of termites in the main ethnic groups of Southern Cameroon. Values in Table refer to the percentage of respondents per ethnic group and values in brackets refer to the number of respondents.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Ground**  **Ethnic group** | **Cultural barrier** | **Not part of eating habit** | **Scarcity of edible termites in the locality** | **Bad taste** |
| **Bafia** | 1.9 (1) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 5.8 (2) |
| **Batanga** | 58.1 (18) | 6.4 (2) | 6.4 (2) | 3.2 (1) |
| **Eton** | 0.0 (0) | 1.7 (2) | 0.0 (0) | 3.4 (2) |
| **Bulu** | 8.3 (3) | 16.7 (6) | 2.8 (1) | 30.6 (11) |
| **Ntumu** | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) |
| **Ewondo** | 0.0 (0) | 4.0 (2) | 2.0 (1) | 18.0 (9) |
| **Bassa** | 19.5 (8) | 15.0 (6) | 29.3 (12) | 2.4 (1) |
| **Pygmies** | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 0.0 (0) | 25.8 (8) |
| **Maka** | 0.0 (0) | 4.2 (2) | 0.0 (0) | 14.6 (7) |
| **Yambassa** | 4.3 (2) | 4.3 (2) | 0.0 (0) | 29.2 (14) |
| **X2** | 263.7741 | 27.5445 | 87.0503 | 47.0043 |
| **P value** | <0.0001 | 0.0011 | <0.0001 | <0.0001 |
| **General mean** | 15.70 (68) | 4.86 (21) | 3.70 (16) | 12.93 (56) |

**List of boxes**

**Box 1: Methods of preparation of Termites in the different ethnic groups of the Centre, South and East Regions of Cameroon**

**Method 1**: clean, boil and fry termites with little oil and spices

**Method 2**: clean and fry termites with little oil and spices

**Method 3**: wash termites with hot water then fry

**Method 4**: clean termites, crush, and mix them with pistachios or peanuts cakes

**Method 5**: grill termites to remove the wings then fry with oil and spices

**Method 6**: clean and fry termites with spices but without oil,

**Method 7**: clean termites, incorporate them whole into a peanut or pistachio cakes

**Method 8**: clean, boil and fry termites without oil