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Indigenous Post-harvest Systems: A Case of Mamone Village in Sekhukhune District, Limpopo Province, South Africa

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ABSTRACT The Limpopo province is one of the poorest provinces in South Africa, characterized by a high unemployment rate, poverty and lack of access to a range of resources that frustrate a majority of the people's ability to secure their livelihoods. The Sekhukhune district municipality is food insecure and is one of the poorest districts in the country. Sekhukhune district was identified as one of the presidential notes by the South African government based on the poverty index in 1997. Most of the crops planted in the Sekhukhune district are white Sorghum (4.3%), red Sorghum (4.6%), groundnuts (4.7%) and pearl millet (4.2%) compared to other districts such as Vhembe and Mopani. The primary aim of the research was to identify and document indigenous post-harvest practices in Sekhukhune, in order to incorporate them into development activities. The following objectives were identified: identify and document indigenous post-harvest and food storing activities practiced in Sekhukhune village. A representative sample of 50 households participated in the research and the research was done in Mamone village. The purposive sampling method used covered most of the households involved in indigenous post-harvest activities. The questionnaire was administrated to households and included matters relating to indigenous post-harvest and food accessibility. Software package for social science (SPSS) was used to code, capture and analyze the data. The results showed that a good percentage of Mamone village households are still practicing indigenous post-harvest systems and is contributing to food accessibility.