THE BIODIVERSITY OF BUHANGA RELICT FOREST



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The relict forest of Buhanga is located in Musanze District in Northern Province. Buhanga, also called Gihondohondo is at 7 km from Musanze District administrative center. It is a site of depression tectonics, originally corresponding to the former Nyabarongo Valley and is bounded on the East by strongagainst Bugarura (Musanze District) and west by the escarpment fault of Buhoma (Nyabihu District). Gihondohondo is a rocky site which indicates the presence of volcanic materials resulting from strombolian eruption. It is characterized by gigantic Ficus and dracaena species. This forest used to serve as a place of spiritual investiture for Rwandan Kings. This forest was recently recognized as a protected area by the government of Rwanda and given to the Rwanda office of Tourism and National Parks (ORTPN).

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This quick survey was done to assess the biodiversity of the forest; identify the birds; plants and the Mammal species of the area. An ethno-botanical survey was also done to record the cultural values attached to the forest by the neighboring community. The survey was done during the months of June and July 2008 by the ACNR team. The team consisted of the senior researchers (ornithologist, mammalogist, and ethnobotanist) based at Kigali and Karisoke. The team employed various scientific research techniques to carry out the various surveys. They used point counts and opportunistic sampling to record the birds in the forest. The Birds' survey enabled the team to compile a comprehensive list of the birds living or spending part of their life in the forest. The mammalogy task involved the use of direct and indirect observation. Dung and footprints were part of the indirect observation techniques used. This also enabled the team to document the species of mammals in the forest. The local people were also interviewed and their responses were used to determine the actual mammals living in the forest. Plant and ethnobotanical surveys were done to establish the community perceptions of the forest resources and the actual extent of utilization. Participatory interviews, semistructured questionnaires and observation were the techniques used. Phanelogams were used for plant survey. Existing literature was used to identify the plants. Photos were also taken to help in identifying plants that could not be immediately identified.

The forest contains a rich biodiversity of flora and fauna and holds some very important cultural secrets of the community in Buhanga. Some animal species that have been said to be extinct in the neighboring Volcanoes National Park (like leopards) were said to be living in Buhanga forest. The sacred places and other cultural sites have benefited from community conservation efforts, embedded in the cultural importance attached to the forest.

There is need for more research to establish and identify the actual biodiversity of the area and design a conservation strategy. Since the community's traditional values, beliefs and practices associated with the forest have led to its conservation thus far, the government should recognize, appreciate, protect and reward these local people's culture and integrate it in the conservation strategy.

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CHAPTER ONE: THE BUHANGA RELICT FOREST

1. Introduction

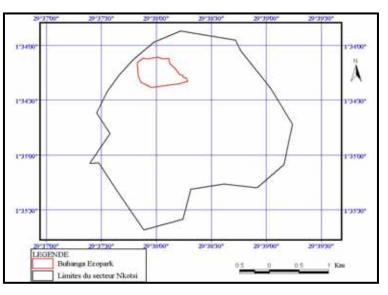
1.1. Location

The relict forest of Buhanga also called Gihondohondo is located in Northern Province at 7 km from Musanze District administrative center. It is a site of depression tectonics, originally corresponding to the former Nyabarongo Valley and is bounded on the East by Bugarura sector and on west by the escarpment fault of Buhoma (Nyabihu District).

1.2. History

For reasons of culture or adherence to the traditions, Gihondohondo has not yet been cleared but its borders are threatened today. The site is marked by the presence of giant *Ficus sp* and old houses used as places of spiritual investiture for the various monarchs of Rwanda. The monarchs were required to make the pilgrimage before they took office. It is said that the forest is home to a snake (*Python*) with extraordinary power. This snake is a spiritual guardian of the place and sometimes it blocks the road to any unwanted incursion. Local people have long revered this sacred place so far and ensure its ecological integrity (reported in Iraguha, 2004).

Figure 1: Locating Buhanga Ecopark



Source: from the database of Rwanda and GPS points by Iraguha, 2004.

1.3. Climate

The Buhanga forest environment experiences a wet tropical climate tempered by altitude. Temperatures fluctuates around 20 ° c. The upward orographic and convection heat can, especially in the afternoons, give rise to abundant rainfall when moisture is sufficient.

1. 4. Flora and fauna

Buhanga relict forest is composed of a rich biodiversity. The vegetation climax calls back to the vegetation in Mukura, Nyungwe and Volcanoes National park. The oviparous fauna is impressive in its variety. A dozen species are identified. Some animal species threatened with extinction appear from time to time in this ecosystem. Such include the porcupine, the jackal, the partridge, and leopard.

1. 5. Gihondohondo tourist site

The rational exploitation of tourism in Rwanda is an economic imperative for the country's development. Despite the immense tourism potential, the tourism industry in Rwanda is limited in its operation to visit national parks. It is therefore a monotone tourism product that could become an ephemeral face of modern tourism; increasingly demanding in visitors' tastes and cultural aspirations and scientists.

With its touristic assets, Buhanga mini Park presents natural and cultural opportunities for the promotion of scientific cultural and ecological tourism. It is with a greatest originality by the fact that it is seen by history and folk traditions as the cradle of Rwandan civilization.

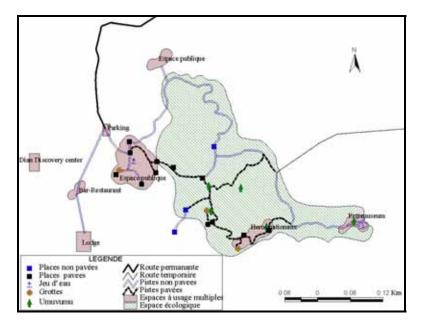


Figure 2: Buhanga ecological and cultural map

Source: from the database of Rwanda and GPS points, Iraguha 2004

For tourists seeking to know the geological history of Rwanda, they will find at Gihondohondo many scientific sights on the formation of relief. It is a region where the phenomena of folds, collapse tectonics, volcanism, escarpment fault, disruption of drainage, adaptation of the drainage network to the tectonic structure and even inappropriate by overtaxation are very visible. We can finally mention that the site is

easily accessible; it is located within 20 km of Volcanoes National Park and Lakes Ruhondo and Burera.

CHAPTER TWO: BIRDS' SURVEY



1. Introduction

An ornithological survey was carried in Buhanga Relict Forest during the months of June and July 2008 to produce information on birds of the site. Emphasis was placed on producing a bird checklist and documenting categories of birds to help develop a conservation strategy for Buhanga relict forest. This survey also served as a training exercise for a member of the Association pour la Conservation de la Nature au Rwanda (ACNR, Birdlife Partner in Rwanda), a student from National University of Rwanda, to help and mentor him undertake research in ornithological field. Birds were detected by use of sight and calls in point counts. Opportunistic records were considered to maximize a number of birds encountered. The observers used 10 x 40 pairs of binoculars and a telescope. Birds were identified using a standard text for East Africa (Stevenson and Fanshawe, 2002) and a field guide of Birds of Prey of Africa and its Islands (Alan & Meg Kemp, 1998).

2. Study sites

Buhanga relict Forest is a secondary forest of 33.3ha. Three transects were selected according to the direction South-North of the forest. The first transect was a rock path located in the center of the forest, the second on the right and a third one on the left. These transects were parallel to each other, separated by 100m between them. Points in transects were visited three times each. Sampling points every 100m along each transect were used to record birds seen and heard. Opportunistic recording of species was made along all transect.

3. Methods

To study birds of Buhanga, two methods, point counts and opportunistic sampling were used.

3.1. Point counts

Points were established in three transects surveyed. The points were established at an interval of 100m along the selected transect. A point is a single station from which a count is made and each point in this study was visited three times. Habitat types at the point counts were defined by identifying a plant species in which the bird species was seen. At each point observers waited for 2 minutes to allow birds settle down and then recorded all sightings and calls of birds for a period of 10 minutes (Sutherland, W. 2000). We then moved on to the next point and repeated the same process. The data were used to produce a bird checklist and to document migratory and Albertine Rift Endemic species. No attempt was made to measure relative encounter rates and estimate bird density because of the few sightings for majority of the species recorded.

3.2. Opportunistic sampling

Opportunistic recording were used to maximize the number of species encountered in each transect. All bird species seen or heard at different times of the day were recorded. These data were used to complete the total record list of birds in Buhanga Relict Forest.

4. Results

4.1. Bird checklist

A total of 65 bird species, were recorded by sights and/or sounds during the point counts. If a species was not known by the team, field guides were consulted (to identify it). An additional 18 species were recorded opportunistically, bringing the total to 83 species gathered in 36 families, heard or seen during this survey. However some of these birds were not forest species but species that were flying over the forest or moving to or from cultivation land closer to the forest. A total list of species found in Buhanga is provided in Appendix of this report.

Bird species of ACCIPITRIDAE (8), NECTARINIIDAE (7), HIRUNDIDAE (5), PICIDAE (5), PLOCEIDEA and TURDIDAE (5) families are more abundant in Buhanga Relict Forest. Of all 34 families recorded in Buhanga during this survey, 13 families are represented by only one species (Figure 1)

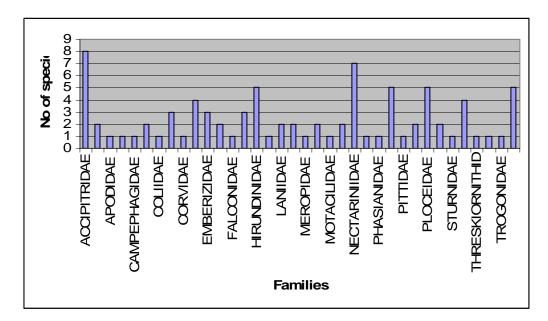


Figure 3: A bar chart showing bird family richness in Buhanga Relict Forest

Birds were assigned on the categories in the appendix to look at patterns of forest specialists. (Wilson, 1995; Bennun, Dranzoa & Pomeroy 1996 in Owiunji et al 2005):

A Afrotropical migrant – a species migrating within Africa

P Palearctic migrant – a species that breeds in Europe or Asia

p A species with at least some palearctic populations

FF Forest specialist - species typical of forest interiors

F Forest generalist – less specialized but occured in small patches of forest f Forest visitor

W Waterbird specialist - normally restricted to wetlands or open waters

w Waterbird non-specialist - often found near water

4.2. Migratory and Albertine Rift Endemic bird species

The table of checklist gives also the status of migratory and Albertine Rift Endemic bird species seen/heard. No threatened species were recorded in Buhanga relict Forest. Two migratory species, African Pitta (M) and Wahlberg's Eagle (MB) and four species endemic to the AlbertineRift, three of them species of NECTARINIIDAE Family, were recorded.

4.3. Bird species and habitat types

The main habitat of birds Buhanga is constituted by big and long trees, shrubs and undergrounds. Big and long trees include species of *Ficus*, *Erythrina* and alien species like Eucalyptus, Cypressus and Grevelia robusta mainly found around the forest in cultivation land.

A big number of species was recorded in shrubs where birds were hidden (40), followed by *Ficus spp* (21), 14 bird species were recorded in cultivation lands, five bird species were mainly recorded on *Dracaena spp* while four species were observed foraging for food on the ground (Figure 2).

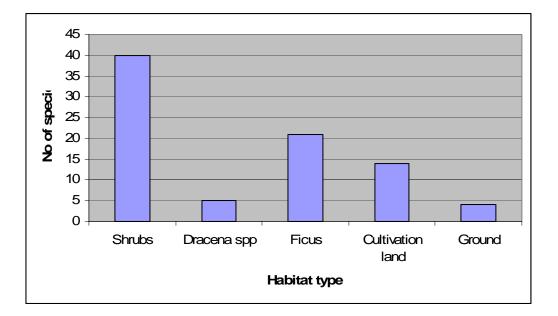


Figure 4: Bird species and habitat types in Buhanga Relict Forest

4.4. Breeding records

During our bird survey in Buhanga relict Forest, we observed an immature Augur Buzzard, Tawny Eagle, Red-rumped Swallow, Rufous-necked Wryneck and Greenbacked Woodpecker. A Baglafecht Weaver was making a nest with leaves of *Pennicetum purpeum*. Chicks of Black-headed Heron were recorded in Eucalyptus while chicks of White-winged Tit were observed in *Ficus spp*.

4.5. Special observations

On 21st May at 15:50 PM, in five meters from the Forest, a Martial Eagle killed a hyrax (Photo 1). The bird hovered on the mammals and caught it using the long toes inserted on the neck. The Eagle flew when we approached and continued perching waiting for our departure.

Figure 5: Hyrax killed by a Martial Eagle



5. Discussion

Buhanga is a secondary forest found in Albertine Rift region which is believed to be the richest region in bird species than other regions in Africa (Mittermeier et *al.* 2004 in ARECO, 2006). Buhanga is rich in birds with 83 species and three of them are Albertine Rift Endemics which makes 3.48% of the birds of Buhanga.

In Buhanga, A big number of species was recorded in shrub because they were hidden and were recorded by calls or seen flying for insect catching and coming back to their hideouts. Other 21 bird species were recorded in *Ficus spp*. These bird species feed on *Ficus spp* fruits. Birds of prey seat on *Ficus*' branches waiting for preys. The prey, to be hunted, includes either small bird species or small,ground mammals like Hyrax. The Bird species recorded getting out and coming to the forest feed on maize or use plants in cultivation lands or fly around. Birds seen flying out include swifts, swallow and sawwings. Many birds of prey were seen soaring in the sky and hovering on the prey. These included Falcons, and Vultures, Kites, Bateleur, etc.

Buhanga Relict Forest is separated from the Volcanoes National Park by about 5km as the crow flies and they are both located in the Virunga and Albertine Rift region. They are both mountain forests and they are both closer to cultivation lands, birds come out for feeding on crops like maize and using plants like eucalyptus in cultivated lands.

46 (56.2%) bird species in Buhanga are also found in Volcanoes National Park in which a total number is currently estimated at 146 species (Nsabagasani, unpublished). The

difference in number may be caused not only by the difference in size but also by the altitude and habitat types of these forests. The area of Buhanga is 33.3 ha of surface (MUJAWAYEZU, 2006) whereas VNP is 16,000 ha (ORTPN, 2004) meaning 480.5 times of the remnant Buhanga forest. The altitude of Buhanga varies between 1621 and 1647meters while the altitude of VNP varies between 2400 and 4500m (ORTPN, 2004).

The bird habitat in VNP is constituted by vegetation which varies with altitude (Weber, 1987) and other kind of habitat like swamps and lakes. There is eight vegetation types in VNP related to the variation of altitude while in Buhanga there is no significance in altitude variation and there are no swamps and lake.

Buhanga Relict Forest was identified as stopover for a migratory bird species "African Pitta" since 2006 (Nsabagasani, C. 2008).

At the same period, the species was found in Musanze Town but in 2007 was not recorded either in Buhanga nor in Musanze. This year (2008) it has not been observed in the town (Marcell, pers.). All the time the the species was followed in the rock path but it flew into the shrub when approached only to come back after the invesitgating team left. In 2006, the species found in the town, was wounded by a Pied Crown (Classeen, M. 2006) this may be due to a lack of hideout from predators and hence the species preferred the forest like Buhanga.

6. Conclusion and recommendations

Buhanga Relict Forest located in the Albertine Rift and volcanic region, is a home range of 83 bird species with a size of 33.3 ha. The habitat of Birds is mainly composed of shrubs, *Ficus spp.*, and some of them come out in land cultivation. This survey recorded breeding patterns, migratory habbits and bird species endemic to the Albertine Rift. Unfortunately, this survey was carried out only in the morning (7:00 - 11:00 AM and in the afternoon (4:00 to 6:00 PM) and the results do not contain any night bird species. But, this is the basic study to provide basic information on birds of Buhanga More research which may cover the night and different seasons is necessary in order to get data on night species and on migratory species.

This study showed how much Buhanga is rich in terms of bird species and is the only site currently known as a stopover of the African Pitta in Rwanda. If we want to conserve the restricted range species or endemic species to the Albertine Rift and migratory species, it is crucial to protect the remnant forest.

At the end of this survey we recommend that

- 1. The conservation of Buhanga Relict Forest be strengthen and the proposition of the government to annex the forest on VNP be implemented
- 2. The monitoring of birds in this forest be regular. This will reveal not only how much the forest is rich in biodiversity but also more information on bird migratory species.
- 3. The cultural values, beliefs and practices of the local community members be recognized, appreciated and integrated in the conservation strategy for the forest.

CHAPTER THREE: PLANTS SURVEY



1. Introduction

A botanical survey was carried in Buhanga relict forest to provide information on the diversity of plant species found in the area. The survey also served as a training exercise for students from the National University of Rwanda, Biology Department and for the staff of ACNR to help them undertake research and monitoring in botany in future (see the pictures below).

Figure 6: Capacity building of ACNR staff and NUR students



2. Methods

The vegetation growth and the species diversity in Buhanga are related to the topography and the geology of the site. The existing trails were used for accessibility during the survey. One transect lay out in direction north-south. The sampling points were every 100 m along each trail. Transects were used to record plants in plots. The species found for the first time along the trail or transect were recorded too.

The preferred sampling period was the rainy season which is when there is much growth of the deciduous vegetation.

2.1. Circular plots

Data on herbaceous plants, lianas, shrubs and trees were collected along the existing trails or transect. Circular plots of 20 meters in radius measured by a calibrated string were established at every 100 m interval along trails or transect. All trees and shrubs were recorded, while lianas and herbs were recorded respectively in 10 and 5 meters radius.

3.2. Identification

In addition to the flowering plant species, the Pteridophytes were also surveyed while the Bryophytes and Thallophytes couldn't due to the lack of prior literature on these groups and limited time.

The species identification was done with a magnifying glass and observations by microscope and using prior work; Owiunji (2004),Troupin Vol.I, II, III, IV for the flowering plant species and Agnew et al. (1994), Johns (1991), Taton (1946), Roux (2003), Schelpe (1986), for the Pteridophytes.

3.3. Voucher specimens

Voucher specimens of the majority of plants of interest in this survey were collected and duplicate to allow for further identification of those plants that could not be positively identified and to confirm the identification of those that were identified in the field.

3.4. Plant photos

Photos were taken to illustrate some aspects of the vegetation surveyed and the species in the forest including common and dominant species. However some species were not referenced in the existing literature and will have to be described and/or identified or as new species. These will be presented only as photos in this report.

4. Results and Discussion.

In total 189 plant species were recorded. Among these 165 are the flowering plant species and 18 are non-flowering species (Pteridophytes).

With the references on life forms: 37 are trees while 37 are lianas and 115 are herbs.

Buhanga is a relict forest dominated by *Ficus* trees associated with *Dracaena steudneri* the heavy climbers and poor undergrowth.

The presence of non indigenous and crop trees like: *Eucalyptus maidenii, Cupressus sp., Persea americana, Grevillea robusta, Musa acuminata, Pennissetum purpureum* are indicators of human activity in Buhanga for many years.

Some plant species and trees (*Ficus divsp, Dracaena steudneri, Rhus vulgaris and Rhus natalensis*, etc) provide fruits such that Buhanga has became a souhaitable habitat of insects and birds.

The management of Buhanga for ecotourism purposes has led to the introduction of other plants, like bamboo, *Scadoxus multiflorus, Zebrina* and young *Dracaena*.. The introduction of the species must have positive or negative impact on Buhanga biodiversity. For better management and conservation of Buhanga, the impact of the species introduced needs to be assessed.

According to Owiunji (2004), the following plants are recorded as albertine rift endemic species: *Elatostema monticola* HOOK. F., *Impatiens burtonii* HOOK. *var.burtonii*, *Leucas deflexa* HOOK.F., *Parietera debilis* FORST. F, *Pilea bambuseti* ENGL.,

Ranunculus bequaertii DE WILD., Rumex bequartii DE WILD., Pentas lanceolata (FORSSKAL) DEFLERS, Pentas zanzibarica var. rubra VERDC., Smithia elliotii BAKER f. var. elliotii, Arisaema mildbraedii ENGL..

Some plant species found have not been referenced or are unknown in our available literature. Those are excluded and recognized only by their genus name.



Figure 7: Buhanga plant species

Bohmeria sp (Urticaceae)

Tunbergia sp. (Acanthaceae)



Acanthaceae species unknown

Ficus trees (Moraceae) and Dracaena steudneri(Agavaceae)



Fabaceae unknown



Dorstenia sp. (Moraceae)

The traditional use of plant species for the household items in rwandan culture in addition to the growth of urbanization have led to their removal in the great part of the country. Buhanga will be a genetic bank of species such us: *Ficus divsp, Dracaena steudneri, Erythrina abyssinica, etc.*

4. Conclusions and recommendations

As highlighted above Buhanga is very important for conservation as a germplasm bank of threatened plant species, its history, for ecotourism and recreation purposes.

Therefore the following rehabilitative and conservation measures must be taken:

To set up a resource use/ management plan for the protection of Buhanga To continue scientific research in this specific ecosystem and describe species and their conservation status.

Sensitize local communities around Buhanga about its importance and conservation. Organize and regulate ecotourism, tourism and recreation in Buhanga.

CHAPTER FOUR: MAMMALS SURVEY



1. Introduction

The Buhanga relict forest, located Northern Province, used to be a cultural and spiritual site for the former Rwandan kingdom. This has been reason for the protection of this forest.

Nowadays, this forest is under human pressure. Illegal activities such as poaching especially for Rock Hyrax, grazing, medicinal plant collection and wood cutting for deferent uses especially for firewood are major threats to this forest.

Recently, a large interest has been raised at national level for the ecological status of Buhanga forest because of rumors saying that this forest may be home of different species of carnivores. Therefore the government approved that the forest will be managed by the Rwanda Office of Tourism and National Parks (ORTPN).

2. Field methods

The reconnaissance survey method (recce method) was used. Different parts across Buhanga relict forest were surveyed. We used existing human or animal paths, and recorded all species of mammals seen or heard and other signs (Dung and feeding signs) (White, L. & Edwards, A. (2000). The animal tracks were not possible to be used because of the rocky soil. We also based on local people information, the species they use to see in order to complete our list.

These reconnaissance surveys enabled us to obtain basic information on mammals, necessary to determine the biological richness of the area.

3. Results

The species of mammals shown in Table below were recorded during this survey. In total, 13 species of mammals were recorded. All these species are carnivores except two species of herbivores: the Porcupine *Hystrix africae australis* and Rock Hyrax *Procavia johnstoni*.

Scientific name	Common name	Kinyarwanda	Observation	
		name	technique	
Genetta servalina	Genet	Urutoni	D, I	
Ichneumia albicauda	White-tailed Mongoose	Igiharangu	D, I	
Felis serval	Serval	Imondo	D, I	
Panthera pardus	Leopard	Ingwe	F, I	
Nandinia binotata	Civet	Impimbi	Ι	
Herpestes ichneumon	Egyptian Mongoose	Umutereli	Ι	
Herpestes sanguineus	Slender Mongoose	Akayongwe	S, I	
Felis sylivestris	Wildcat	Inturo	Ι	
Canis adustus	Side-striped Jackal	Ingunzu	Ι	
Mungos mungo	Banded Mongoose	Umuga	Ι	
Poecilogale albinuca	African Striped Weasel	Inkoryo	Ι	
Procavia johnstoni	Rock Hyrax	Impereryi	S, D	
Hystrix africae australis	Porcupine	Ikinyogote	F	

Table 1: Mammal species recorded in Buhanga relict forest

S = seen; D = Dung piles; F = Feeding signs I = Information from local guide

4. Discussion and conclusion

The most significant finding from the mammals' surveys was the recording of leopard. This species was recorded based on information provided by local people and feeding signs. On the photo below, a goat was caught and killed by a leopard when it was coming from browsing in the forest (Oral communication).

Figure 8: Feeding signs: these are the remains of a goat killed by a leopard



This species is expected to be extinct in the nearest Volcanoes National Park since 1972.

In spite of the disturbance that has taken place in Buhanga relict forest in the last decade, 10 species of carnivores and 2 species of herbivores were recorded as still inhabiting this forest. Although these species are shy except the Rock Hyrax, in a few days we saw individuals of Slender Mongoose and Rock Hyrax from a close range. Dung of Genet, White-tailed Mongoose and Serval was also seen.

Figure 9: Serval dung



It is difficult to predict at this stage if some day it will be possible to develop tourist visits to view/track mammals in Buhanga. The assets or positive factors might be: (i) the reserve is small; (ii) the slopes are not very steep as compared to other forests; (iii) there is very good security in the area. The obstacles or negative factors might be: (i) the thick vegetation, rough ground composed of huge rocks and caves; the leopard which might attack humans.

CHAPTER FIVE: ETHNO BOTANICAL SURVEY



1. Introduction

The ethnobotanical survey aimed at identifying the plants used in general by herbal medicines and using interviews and group discussion on the utilization of the relict forest. A total of 38 medicinal plants were recorded in the area both for hilling human diseases and cattle diseases, represented by 34 genera belonging to 19 vascular plant families. Only 65, 78% of medicinal plants used by traditional hillers are found in the relict forest. Leaf material forms the major of plant part collected. The majority of remedies are prepared in the form of juice from the freshly collected plant parts. Most of remedies are mainly taken orally and are harvesting in the wild. For cultural reasons and conformity to the tradition, Buhanga relict forest also called"Igihondohondo" has a spiritual value for local people to its conservation and utilization.

2. Methods and Materials

The ethnobotanical survey data was collected in June and July 2008 during a period of one week, based on semi-structured interview with selected knowledge elders. Most of the interviews and group discussions were conducted in local language (Kinyarwanda) in Nkotsi sector, Bikara cell surrounding Buhanga relict forest.

2. 1. Community utilization of Buhanga relict forest

Local knowledge may sometimes be referred to us as indigenous knowledge but not obviously the same thing. Indigenous knowledge is seen to be culture specific whereas local knowledge is viewed by contemporary sources as being dynamic and gained through observation and experience rather than just a legacy of the past (Fairhead and Leach, 1994; Richards, 1994; Thapa *et al.*, 1995; Sillitoe, 1998; Sinclair and Walker, 1999 in Francis, B. ,2006)

Participatory discussions were conducted amongst people of different age classes. The group consisted of 15 people aged between 50 and 80 with a strong knowledge of Buhanga relict forest history. All participants in this group were residents of Nkotsi, Bikara village and were native, local people.

During the group discussion, every member of the group was interviewed for about 10 minutes on the importance of the culture for the conservation of Buhanga relict forest and the use of the relict forest products by local community.

Figure 10: Group discussion with local communities



2. 2. Survey on medicinal plants use

Information regarding the use of medicinal plants of Buhanga relict forest was provided by traditional healers, members of "Abadahemuka" cooperative in *Nkotsi na Bikara* sector.

At the end of each interview, specimens of plants with property for medicinal uses, difficult to identify at species level at the time were collected for later determination in the herbarium of Karisoke Research center (DFGFI).

During this ethnobotanical study, 8 traditional healers (5 men and 3 women) between the ages of 41 and 80, were involved in the study area. These herbalists were chosen from the different sites surrounding Buhanga relict forest with the assistance of local authorities and community elders (Nyumba kumi).

In order to verify the reliability of data obtained from herbalists during the survey, each plant were visited in the forest. If the species observed in the traditional hiealers' garden were not found in the forest, the species was collected for later identification in the herbarium. Species recognised only through vernacular names without identification was considered unreliable and was rejected.

For each species, the proportion of informants independently reported its use against a particular disease/disease category was also assessed using approaches employed by Gerique, A. (2006).

2. 3. Data analysis

Processing

According to Martin (1995), ethnobotanical data are organized in a way that facilitates statistical analysis. A matrix with different fields should be defined. Potential fields are: Collection number, local plant name, scientific plant name, habit, plant parts used, uses, preparation, habitat, locality, name of the informant, etc. The data collected on each separate item (a plant species, for instance) constitute a record. The values are the specific data that correspond to each field and record (adapted from Martin, 1995).

3. Results

3.1. Community utilization of Buhanga relict forest

The people who live adjacent to Buhanga relict forest have a variety of interests regarding their use and management. Within the communities are specialist user groups with interests such as beekeeping, traditional medicines and other traditional practices for cultural purposes. The table1 summarize the multipurpose species use by local community

Table 2: List of plant species used by local community around Buhanga relict forest

Scientific name	Family	Vernacular name	Part used	Utilization	
				Traditional plate	
1.Stephania abissinica	Menispermaceae	Umuhanda	Stem	(inkoko)	
2. Triumphetta rhomboidea	Malvaceae	Umusarenda	Stem	Ceiling (Idari)	
3. Pennissetum purpureum	Poaceae	Urubingo	Stem	Ceiling (Idari)	
4. Stephania cyananta	Menispermaceae	Umwifuzo (liana)	Stem	Vans (ibigega)	
			Stem		
5. Guania longispicata	Rhamnaceae	Umusando	Leaves	Basket (Ibitebo)	
				Traditional mats	
6. Urera hypselondendron	Urticaceae	Umuse	Stem	(ibirago)	
				Stick pressure for	
				drinking traditional	
7. Clerondendrum				beer (Umiheha,	
rotundifolium	Verbenaceae	Umuziranyenzi	Stem	imikenke)	
				Vat for fermentation	
8. Ficus sp.	Moraceae	Umuvumu	Stem	of banana wine	

Although Buhanga relict forest is known for collection of medicinal plants by local community, it is also important as a source of wood resource. Local people use the buffer zones to collect old branch of trees for firewood.



Figure 11: Local community collecting old branch of trees

For cultural reasons and conformity to the tradition, Buhanga relict forest also named "Igihondohondo" has a spiritual value for local people for its utilization and management. The table 2 shows different sites and species of great spiritual importance for people of Nkotsi and Bikara.

Table 3: List of sites and species of spiritual importance for people of Nkotsi and Bikara

Sites or species	Importance	Brief history
1. Caves	Place for spiritual	Caves of Buhanga relict forest are spiritual sacred
	rituals	places for local people. For example always former
		Kings of Rwanda spent a night in caves before their
		investiture.
2. Mysterious water-	Water-spring for	In 1983, the government authorities tried to improve
spring	the villager	the water-spring to modern catchments, immediately
		the water-spring dried and after renouncing the project
		the water started flowing again. Also, water collected
		from the site was taken as a first bath for the former
		kings of Rwanda before their investiture. Currently,
		people come from everywhere in the region to visit
		and collect water for cultural purposes.
3. Igishanga cya	Place for spiritual	Sacred place for spiritual rituals for local people and
Gihanga	rituals outside the	according to them, he is said to harbour giant snake
(marshland)	relict forest	protecting the forest.
3. Dracenae steudneri	Social symbol	The species was used to entomb single people
4. Ficus sp.	Cultural Symbol	The species is planted in the entry of the parcel:
	(respectful tree)	-as a symbol of keeping valuables (heritage) to remain
		in the family
		-as a symbol for showing the personality (respect) of
		the family.
5. Erithrina abyssinica	Spiritual protection	The species is planted as spiritual protection against
		evil spirit in the parcel

3.2. Medicinal plant survey

During the present ethnobotanical survey, 38 plant species were reported by traditional medicinemen for their medicinal uses both for healing human and cattle ailments, represented by 34 genera and 19 families (Table 4 and Table 5). Four species belong to the family of Asteraceae and three in the family of Fabaceae. The family of Chenopodiacece, Rutaceae, Rhamnaceae, Ranunculaceae, Polygonaceae, Solanaceae, Urticacaea and Cucurbitaceae were represented by two species each, while 9 families were represented by a single species.

Analysis of data shows that 23 species are herbs, 7 species are trees, 6 species lianas or climbers and 2 species are shrubs.

Of the 38 reported medicinal plants, 29 species were used to cure 9 human diseases, 6 were used to treat cattle diseases and 3 species (*Zanthoxylum sp. Engl, Rumex abyssinicus Jacq. and Cassia floribunda CAV*) were used for both human and cattle diseases.

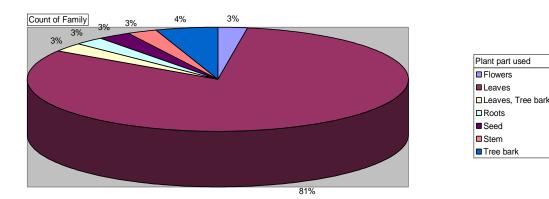
For human use- Six species are used as remedies against poison vomiting, five species against mental disorder and four species against KILONDATUMBU (alimentary tract/canal disorder) One to two species each were reported as being used for a number of different diseases such as mumps, stomach disorders, muscle disease and mental trouble (se table 4)

For veterinary use- Nine species are used as remedies against seven of cattle diseases, of which four species are used to treat bovine skin diseases against ticks (East Coast Fever, anaplasmosis and babesiosis) and two species treats Sexual dysfunction of cows, goats and sheep (Se table 5).

3.2.1. Plant parts used and the method of preparation

Leaves are the most widely plant part used around Buhanga relict forest, accounting for 81% of the reported medicinal plants, followed by 4% of tree bark. Other plant parts used represent 3% (see figure 3).

Figure 12: Proportion of plants part used per family



A majority of remedies are prepared in the part of juice from freshly collected plant parts. The juice is prepared by pounding or crushing plants part in the wooden or stone motor and pester. Water is mostly used to dilute the juice. Few remedies are prepared from dried, and subsequently ground plant parts. Usually, herbalists around Buhanga relict forest do not store the medicine for a long period of time. When the need comes, they go out and collect the plant, prepare the remedies and treat the sick animal or people. Most of the remedies were reportedly a concoction of two or more plant species.

3.2.2. Mode of administration

Most remedies are taken orally, accounting 84% of medicinal plants use, followed by external application (applied typically on skin 8 % and 5 % on ear application). One species (*Eucalyptus maideni*.) used as smoke is given anally to treat hemorrhoids. To improve the acceptability of certain oral remedies additives are frequently used. The juice prepared from the crushed leaves from *Prunus africana* to treat dysentery, for instant, is usually taken with *Aloes vera*. The remedies are prepared also with banana to sweeten them and reduce bitterness so that the preparation can be swallowed without much difficulty.

Some of the informants reported that restriction were imposed when certain type of remedies are taken by patients. For most of the remedies, a full dose is taken at once. The dose given for most patients depend on age, physical and health conditions.

3.2.3. Informant consensus and value of medicinal plants

Investigation during the study shows that some of medicine plants are more popular than others. Accordingly *Brillantaisia cicotricosa* is the most popular, cited by five informants for its medicinal value, followed by *Cassia floribunda* and *Solanum terminale* mentioned by four informants. *Zanthoxylum sp.*, *Ranuculus multifidus* and *Ajuga alba* were cited by three informants. Each one of the others reported medicinal plant was mentioned by two informants.

Similarly, some remedies are more familiar to the herbal medicine than others for use against health problems. Informant consensus for those remedies that were mentioned by two or more herbal medicine (informants) as being used for the same purpose is given in table 3 bellow:

Scientific name	Ailments	N ^o of informants
	Poison vomiting Stomach trouble	
1. Brillantesia cicotricosa	Mental trouble	5
2. Cassia floribunda	intestinal worm Diarrhea**	4
3. Solanum terminale	Placenta retention	4
4. Zanthoxylum sp.	Gonorrhea Babesiosis*	3
5. Ranunculus multifidus	Poison vomiting Fracture	3
6 Aiyog alba	Stomach trouble Fracture	2
6. Ajuga alba	Poison vomiting Muscle disease	3
7. Chenopodium apulifolium 8. Senecio manii	Kilondatumbu Poison vomiting	2 2

Table 4: List of medicinal plants mentioned by two or more herbal medicine (Informants) as being used for a particular ailment

** Both human and cattle diseases

* Cattle diseases

3.2.4. Original and current status of medicinal plants

Results from origin of medicinal plants of Buhanga relict forest shows that there is a little cultivation of medicinal plants in the area. Most of the medicinal plants (65, 78%) are harvested from Buhanga relict forest. During our survey, only thirteen medicinal plants representing 34, 21% (*Chenopodium procerum, Chenopodium apulifolium, Barleria grandicalyx, Lobelia gibberoa, Prinus Africana, Zanthoxylum sp, Rhamnus prinoides, Aloes vera, Lobelia gibberoa, Senecio manii, Agrostis sp., Ranculus multifudu, Solanum acquileastrum*) are under cultivation in the area, either in home garden or farming plots.

Some of Buhanga medicinal plants species which formerly were forest-inhabiting species are now rarely encountered in the area as remnant on farm plots. For example according to some of informants *Prunus africana* disappear completely in the relict forest. Other species are commonly or occasionally found in Buhanga relict forest.

Table 5: List of medicinal p	plants used in traditional vete	rinary medicine
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	Vernacular		Life			Plant part	Route of
Scientific name	name	Family	form	Substance	Application	used	administration
				Juice,	Babesiosis	Roots, Tree	
Zanthoxylum sp.(Engl.)	Intare y'irungu	Rutaceae	Tree	powder	(Umushitwe)	bark	Oral
	Urunyanja,				Anaplasmosis		
Basela alba L.	Ururarama	Baselaceae	Liana	Juice	(gasheshe)	Leaves	Oral
Cyatula schimperiana (Hochst.					Sexual		
ex. Moq.)	Igifashi	Amaranthaceae	Herb	Juice	dysfunction	Flowers	Sex
Agrostis sp.	Urwiri	Poaceae	Herb	Leaves	Injury	Leaves	Skin
Cassia floribunda CAV.	Umukubanzoka	Ceasalpiniaceae	Shrub	Juice	Diarrhea	Leaves	Oral
					Desexualize		
Rumex abyssinicus Jacq.	Umufumbageshi	Polygonaceae	Herb	Juice	cattle	Leaves	Sex
Rumex usambarensis (ENG)					Sexual		
DAMMER	Umufumba	Polygonaceae	Herb	Juice	dysfunction	Leaves	Sex
					East Coast fever		
Solanum acquileastrum Dunal.	Intobokarema	Solanaceae	Herb	Juice	(ikibagarira)	Leaves	Oral
					East Coast fever		
Lobelia gibberoa HERSLEY	Intomvu	Lobeliaceae	Herb	Juice	(ikibagarira)	Leaves	Oral

4. Discussion

4.1. Community utilization of Buhanga relict forest

Result of interview conducted from a group discussion on different age classes show that older people are more knowledgeable on the utilization of Buhanga relict forest than young ones. The species selected play some important role in the lives of local people in Buhanga relict forest. Some species are used for weaving baskets, traditional mats and others furniture. For example baskets are important as a container for carrying beans. Rwandan's farmers carry farm produce in baskets from farms to the home/market (Mbarubukeye, S. et Niang A.I., 1996).

Buhanga relict forest is also used as an important site for local people for cultural purpose. Water springs are used as source of water for local people and both caves and some plant species (*Dracenae steudneri*, *Erithrina abyssinica* and *Ficus* sp) are used for spiritual ritual in the area (see figure 4).

Figure 13: Some important sites and species of Buhanga relict forest



Water spring

Cave

Dracenae steudneri (Igihondohondo)

The levels of usage of the plants named above and different site located in the relict forest for community utilization are protected under ORTPN (Rwanda office of Tourism and National Park). Since 2005, Buhanga relict forest was added as part of National Volcanoes Park. Although in the caves and sacred places in Buhanga, important spiritual ceremonies of native people continue to take place accessibility is still restricted. Neither visitors nor villagers are allowed to enter in the relict forest without permission.

4.2. Medicinal plants use

The reported number of medicinal plants (38 species) being used by traditional medicines is not small, considering the Buhanga relict forest size. Species of the family of Asteraceae are the most utilized for traditional medicine. Most of the diseases which are treated by herbal medicine in the area are poison vomiting, diarrhea and stomach problems.

According to Weber (1987), in 2005 there was an epidemic of dysentery in Musanze district because of the loss of water cleaning ability of the volcanic region.

The most widely sought after plant parts for the preparation of herbal medicine in the area is the leaf. Collecting leaves does not pose a great danger to existence of individual plant as compared to the collection of an underground part, stem, or whole plant. Studies have shown that removal of up to 50% of tree leaves does not significantly affect the growth of the species, (Poffenberger et al., 1992). However, the popularity of roots including bulbs and rhizomes, bark and stem has grave consequences from both ecological and species' survival point of view (Dawit Abebe and Ahadu Ayehu, 1993 in Giday, M., 2001).

Traditional veterinary medicines practiced around Buhanga relict forest treat some cattle ailments like bovine skin disorders (East Coast Fever, babesiosis and anaplasmosis). Merker, (1987) in Njangwe B. *et al.*, (2000) said bovine skin diseases are significant in Rusizi plain. Anaplasmosis and babesiosis, present enormous cost in term of times and money in Rwanda (Van Puyvelde *et al.*, 1985 in Njangwe B. *et al.*, 2000).

All informants agreed that more medicinal plants were in use in the past than reported now. This has happened as a result of over harvesting in the area. This situation gave rise to the local loss of some medicinal plants and the associated knowledge.

5. Conclusion

The ethnobotanical study of useful medicinal plants surrounding Buhanga relict forest aim to help local people to take care of their health problems. Through the ethnobotanical survey a total of 38 medicinal plants were recorded in the area both for healing human diseases and cattle diseases, represented by 34 genera belonging to 19 vascular plant families. Only 65, 78% of medicinal plants used by traditional healers are found in the relict forest. There is no real threat to medicinal plants in the area as result of over-harvesting for their medicinal purpose. They are used locally and therefore harvested in small quantity. Some plant species of Buhanga relict forest are also widely used elsewhere in the country for their medicinal value (some of them even for the same medicinal use). The wide use of these medicinal plants could be attributed to their effective medicinal properties.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMANDATIONS

Buhanga relict forest is an area with diverse associated habitats, flora and fauna along with manifestations of unique or traditional land-use patterns and social organisations as evidenced in human settlements and local customs, livelihoods, and beliefs. Buhanga forest should provide opportunities for public enjoyment through recreation and tourism within its normal lifestyle and economic activities.

Referring to the Six IUCN Protected Area Categories, Buhanga relict forest can be classified in Category V: **Protected Landscape/Seascape: Protected Areas managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation**. This category is defined as an area of land, with coast and sea as appropriate, where the interaction of people and nature over time has produced an area of distinct character with significant aesthetic, ecological and/or cultural value, and often with high biological diversity.

Therefore, the Objectives of Management could follow the IUCN guidelines for Protected Area Management Categories and are the following:

 \cdot to maintain the harmonious interaction of nature and culture through the protection of landscape and/or

seascape and the continuation of traditional land uses, building practices and social and cultural

manifestations;

 \cdot to support lifestyles and economic activities which are in harmony with nature and the preservation of the

social and cultural fabric of the communities concerned;

 \cdot to maintain the diversity of landscape and habitat, and of associated species and ecosystems;

 \cdot to eliminate where necessary, and thereafter prevent, land uses and activities which are inappropriate in

scale and/or character;

 \cdot to provide opportunities for public enjoyment through recreation and tourism appropriate in type and scale

to the essential qualities of the areas;

 \cdot to encourage scientific and educational activities which will contribute to the long term well-being of

resident populations and to the development of public support for the environmental protection of such

areas; and

 \cdot to bring benefits to, and to contribute to the welfare of, the local community through the provision of

natural products (such as forest and fisheries products) and services (such as clean water or income

derived from sustainable forms of tourism).

As it is also stipulated in IUCN Guidelines Protected Area Management Categories, Buhanga relict forest may be managed by the Rwanda Office for Tourism and National Parks (ORTPN), a public authority, but is is more likely to comprise a mosaic of private and public ownerships operating a variety of management regimes. These regimes should be subject to a degree of planning or other control and supported, where appropriate, by public funding and other incentives, to ensure that the quality of the landscape/seascape and the relevant local customs and beliefs are maintained in the long term.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1. The bird species recorded in Buhanga by this study

The bird's checklist of Buhanga Relict Forest, showing the Families, IUCN conservation status, Common and Scientific names and category of species.

Taxonomy and nomenclature follow the standard 2007 list produced by Birdlife International and the common names of some of the birds listed may differ in the field guides of birds of East Africa.

FAMILY AND		Conservation	
COMMON NAME	SC NAME	Status	Category
ACCIPITRIDAE			
African Harrier-hawk	Polyboroides typus	LC	
Augur Buzzard	Buteo augur	LC	FF
Bateleur	Terathopius ecaudatus	LC	
Black Kite	Milvus migrans	LC	pА
Martial Eagle	Polemaetus bellicosus	LC	
Mountain Buzzard	Buteo oreophilus	LC	FF
Wahlberg's Eagle	Aquila wahlbergi	LC	Af
Tawny Eagle	Aquila rapax	LC	FF
ALCEDINIDAE			
African Pygmy-kingfisher	Ceyx pictus	LC	
Grey-headed Kingfisher	Halcon leucocephala	LC	
APODIDAE			
Little Swift	Apus affinis	LC	
ARDEIDAE			
Black-headed Heron	Ardea melanocephala	LC	W
CAMPEPHAGIDAE			
Black Cuckoo-shrike	Campephaga flava	LC	
CAPITONIDAE			
Double-toothed Barbet	Lybius bidentotus	LC	F
Spot-flanked Barbet	Tricholaema lacrymosa	LC	F
COLIIDAE			
Speckled Mousebird	Colius striatus	LC	
COLUMBIDAE			
Emerald-spotted Wood-dove	Turtur chalcopsilos	LC	f
Red-eyed Dove	Streptopelia semitorquata	LC	f
Tambourine Dove	Turtur tympanistria	LC	F
CORVIDAE			
Pied Crow	Corvus albus	LC	
CUCULIDAE			
African Cuckoo	Cuculius gularis	LC	
Blue-headed Coucal	Centropus monachus	LC	W
Klass's Cuckoo	Chrysoccoccyx klass	LC	f
Red-chested Cuckoo	Cuculus solitarius	LC	

EMBERIZIDAE			
African Firefinch	Lagonosticta rubricata	LC	
Bronze Mannikin	Lonchura cucullata	LC	
Red-billed Firefinch	Lagonosticta senegalensis	LC	
ESTRILDIDAE			
Black-crowed Waxbill	Estrilda nonnula	LC	f
Common Waxbill	Estrilda astrild	LC	
FALCONIDAE			
Pergrine's Falcon	Falco peregrinus	LC	
FRINGILLIDAE			
Streaky Seedeater	Serinus striolatus	LC	f
Thick-billed Seedeater	Serinus burtoni	LC	FF
Yellow-fronted Canary	Serinus mozambicus	LC	
HIRUNDINIDAE			
Blue Saw-wing	Psaldoprocne pristoptera	LC	
Lesser Striped-swallow	Hirundo abyssinica	LC	
Red-rumped Swallow	Hirundo daurica	LC	
Rock Martin	Hirundo fuligula	LC	
White-headed Saw-wing	Psaldoprocne albiceps	LC	
INDICATORIDAE			
Scaly-throated Honeyguide	Indicator variegatus	LC	
LANIIDAE			
Grey-backed Fiscal	Lnius excubitoroides	LC	
Mackinnon's Shrike	Lanius mackinnoni	LC	
MALACONOTIDAE			
Brown-crowned Tchagra	Tchagra australis	LC	
Tropical Boubou	Laniarius aethiopicus	LC	
MEROPIDAE	<i></i>		
Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater	Merops oreobates	LC	F
MONARCHIDAE			
African Paradise-flycatcher	Terpsiphone viridis	LC	f
White-tailed Blue Flycatcher	Elminia albicauda	LC	F
MOTACILIDAE			
Cape Wagtail	Motacilla capensis	LC	W
MUSCICAPIDAE			
Dusky Alseonax	Muscicapa adusta	LC	F
White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher	Dioptrornis fischeri	LC	F
NECTARINIDAE			
Blue-headed Sunbird	Nectariniae alinae	LC	FF/AR
Bronze Sunbird	Nectarinia kilimensis		f
Green-headed Sunbird	Cyanomitra verticalis	LC	-
Regal Sunbird	Nectarinia regia	LC	F/AR
Rwenzori Double Collared Sunbird	Cinnyris stuhlmanni	LC	F/AR
Scarlet-chested Sunbird	Nectarinia senegalensis	LC	f
Variable Sunbird	Nectarinia venusta	LC	f
			1
PARIDAE			

PHASIANIDAE			
Scaly Francolin	Francolinus squamatus	LC	F
PICIDAE			
Green-backed Woodpecker	Campethera cailliautii	LC	F
Nubian Woodpecker	Campethera nubica	LC	F
Olive Woodpeeker	Mesopicos griseocephalus	LC	F
Rufous-necked Wryneck	Jynx ruficollis	LC	F
	Dendropicos		
Specled-breasted Woodpecker	poecilolaemus	LC	F
PITTIDAE			
African Pitta	Pitta angolensis	LC	Μ
PLATYSTEIRIDAE			
Brown-throated Wattle-eye	Platysteria cyanea	LC	
Chinspot Batis	Batis militor	LC	f
PLOCEIDAE			
Holub's Golden-weaver	Ploceus xanthops	LC	
Baglafecht Weaver	Ploceus baglafecht	LC	f
Black-headed Weaver	Ploceus melanocephalus	LC	
Spectacled Weaver	Ploceus ocularis	LC	
Yellow Bishop	Euplectes capensis	LC	
PYCNONOTIDAE			
Common Bulbul	Pycnonotus barbatus	LC	f
Yellow-throated Greenbul	Chlorocichla flavicollis	LC	
STURNIDAE			
Ruppell's Glossy Starling	Lamprotornis purproptera	LC	
SYLVIIDAE			
Cinnamon Bracken-warbler	Bradypterus cinnamomeus	LC	F
Chubb's Cisticola	Cisticola chubbi	LC	F
Grey-backed Camaroptera	Camarptera brachyura	LC	f
Grey-capped Warbler	Eminia lepida	LC	
THRESKIORNITHIDAE			
Hadada Ibis	Bostrychia hagedash	LC	W
TIMALIIDAE			
Arrow-marked Babbler	Turdoides jardineii	LC	
TROGONIDAE			
Narina Trogon	Apaloderma narina	LC	
TURDIDAE			
Brown-backed Scrub-robin	Erythropygia hartlaubi	LC	
Common Stonechat	Saxicola torquatus	LC	
Olive Thrush	Turdus oliveceus	LC	F
Red-capped Robin-chat	Cossypha natalensis	LC	F
White-browed Robin-chat	Cossypha heuglini	LC	f

Appendix 2. The list of plant species recorded in Buhanga relict forest.

1. TREES

	Famille	Species	Local names
1	MORACEAE	Ficus asperifolia MIQ.	UMUSENE, UMUSENA
2	DRACAENACEAE	Dracaena afromontana MILDRAED	UMUHATE, UMUHATI
3	DRACAENACEAE	Dracaena steudneri ENGL.	IGIHONDOHONDO, UMUHATI
4	MORACEAE	Ficus sp.	UMUVUMU
5	MELIANTHACEAE	Bersama abyssinica FRESEN	UMUKAKA/UMUTURA MUGINA
6	TILIACEAE	Grewia forbesii HARVEY ex MASTERS	
7	SAPINDACEAE	Allophyllus africanus P. BEAUV.	UMUTETE
8	VERBENACEAE	Clerodendrum Sp.	IKIZIRANYEZI
9	ACANTHACEAE	Hypoestes triflora (FORSSKAL) ROEMER et SCHULTES	MAGARU
10	ASTERACEAE	Vernonia amygdalina DELLE	UMUBIRIZI,UMUGARAGARA
11	VERBENACEAE	Clerodendrum jonstonii OLIVER	UMUKONDOGORO
12	VERBENACEAE	Clerodendrum buchholzii GUERKE	UMUKUNGUMBURU, URUHESHYI, UMUHENE
13	CUCURBITACEAE	Lagenaria (SONDER) NAUDIN	UMUTANGA
14	BIGNONIACEAE	Markhamia lutea (BENTH.) SCHUM.	UMUSAVE
15	MALVACEAE	Hibiscus ludwigii ECKLON & ZEYHER	UMUNYABUTUTU, UMUSHOSHWE
16	ACANTHACEAE	Acanthus pubescens (THOMSON ex OLIVER) ENGL.	IGITOVU, UMUTOVU
17	RUBIACEAE	Canthium oligocarpum HIERN	UMUSHABARARA, UMUSHUBU,
18	LAURACEAE	Persea americana MILL.	AVOKA
19	MALVACEAE	Abutilon Mauritianum (JACQ.) MEDICUS	UMUKUNGERI
20	EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia candelabrum WELW.	UMUDUHA
21	RUTACEAE	Clausena anisata (WILLD.) HOOK f. ex. BENTH.	UMUNO
			UMUGENDAJORO, UMUGIRIGWA,
22	SAPINDACEAE	Lepidotrichilia volkensii LEROY	UMUNYWAMAZI
23	FLACOURTIACEAE	Dovyalis macrocalyx (OLIVER) WARB.	UMUSHUBI, UMUTEGENGERI, UMUTUKUZA
24	FLACOURTIACEAE	Dovyalis sp.	UMUSHUBI, UMUTEGENGERI, UMUTUKUZA
25	ASTERACEAE	Vernonia lasiopus O. HOFFM.	IGIRIHERI, IKAMAMBOGO, IVUMAVUMA, IVUMO
26	RUBIACEAE	Rytigynia bugoyensis (K. KRAUSE) VERDC	UMUSHABARARA, UMUSHUBU,
27	CAESALPINIACEAE	Albizia adianthifolia (SCHUM.) W.F. WIGHT	UMUSEBEYA
28	FABACEAE	Erythrina abyssinica LAM ex. A. RICH	UMUKO, IGIKO, UMURINZI
_0			

29	PITTOSPORACEAE	Pittosporum sp.
30	EUPHORBIACEAE	Ricinus communis L.
31	ANACARDIACEAE	Rhus vulgaris MEIKLE
32	ANACARDIACEAE	Rhus natalensis BERNHAM ex KRAUSE
33	CAESALPINIACEAE	Cassia floribunda
34	MYRITACEAE	Eucalyptus maideni.
35	CUPRESSACEAE	Cupressus sp.
36	PROTEACEAE	Grevillea robusta A. CUNN.
37	MYRITACEAE	Psidium guajava L.

2. LIANAS

UMUSAGARA, UMUSAGARA-NYAMABUMBA UMUSAGARA UMUKUBANZOKA INTURUSU SIPURE IGEREVERIYA IGITI CY'IPERA

NORO

	Famille	Species	Local names
1	RUTACEAE	Toddalia asiatica (L.) LAM	
2	RHAMNACEAE	Gouania Longispicata ENGL.	UMUBIMBAFURO
3	URTICACEAE	Bohmeria sp. JACQ.	
4	EUPHORBIACEAE	Tragia brevipes PAX	ISUSA
5	ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum schimperii (SCHULTES-BIP) MOESER	
6	LILIACEAE	Gloriosa superba L.	INTERAMARUNGU/NYAMUKO/UMUKONC
7	ASCLEPIADACEAE	Gongronema angolense (N.E. BR.) BULLOCK	UMURONDORONDO
8	SMILACACEAE	Smilax anceps Willd.	
9	MENISPERMACEAE	Cissampelos mucronota A. RICH.	UMUHANDA
10	CACTACEAE	Rhipsalis baccifera (J.MILL.) STEARN	
11	ASCLEPIADACEAE	Periploca linearifolia DILLON et A. RICH	BAMBURAGAR
12	CUCURBITACEAE	Oreosyce africana HOOK.f.	UMUCYURO/UMWISHYA
13	CUCURBITACEAE	Zehneria scabra (L.f.) SONDER	UMWISHWA/UMUSHISHIRO
14	MORACEAE	Ficus ottoniifolia (MIQ.) MIQ	
15	CONVOLVULACEAE	Thunbergia sp.	
16	URTICACEAE	Urera hypselodendron (HOCHST. ex A. RICH.) WEDD.	UMUSE
17	ASTERACEAE	Gynura scandens O. HOFFM.	IGIFURANINDA, IKIZIMYAMURIRO
18	MENISPERMACEAE	Stephania abyssina (DILL. et RICH.) WALP.	UMUHANDA
19	VITACEAE	Cyphostema cyphopetalum (FRESEN.) DESCOINS	IKIBOMBWE
20	VITACEAE	Cyphostema bambusetii (GILG et BRANDT) DESCOINS	IKIBOMBWE
21	CUCURBITACEAE	Momordica pterocarpa A. RICH.	INKUNDABURIMA

22	FABACEAE	Desmodium intortum (MILLER) URBAN	ITUZA
23	FABACEAE	Desmodium sp.	ITUZA
24	PHYOTOLACACEAE	Phytolacca dodecandra L'HERIT	UMUHOKO, UMUHOKORO
25	SOLANACEAE	Solanum terminale FORSSKAL	UMUHANURANKUBA
			UMUHURURA, UMURYANYONI,
26	CONVOLVULACEAE	Ipomea wightii (WALLICH) CHOISY	UMUTARANUKA
27	DIOSCOREACEAE	Dioscorea sp	ITUGU
28	RUBIACEAE	Rubia cordifolia AUCT.	URUKARARAMBWE RUNINI
29	BASELLACEAE	Basella alba L.	URURARAMA, INDARAMA
30	ROSACEAE	Rubus sp.	INKERI
31	MENISPERMACEAE	Stephania cyanantha WELW. ex HIERN	
32	ASCLEPIADACEAE	Secamone sp.	
33	CONVOLVULACEAE	Ipomea sp.	
34	TILIACEAE	Triumfetta rhomboidea JACQ.	UMUCUNDURA, UMUSHYIGURA
35	VITACEAE	Rhoicissus tridentata (L.f.) WILD et DRUMOND	UMUMARA
36	CUCURBITACEAE	Momordica foetida SCHUM.	UMWISHWA, UMUCYURO
37	ASCLEPIADACEAE	Ceropegia meyeri-johanis ENGL.	

3. HERBS

	Famille	Species	Local n
1	MORACEAE	Dorstenia sp	
2	ORCHIDACEAE	Eulophia streptopetala LINDLEY	
3	APIACEAE	Torillis arvensis (HUDSON) LINK.	
4	ACANTHACEAE	Hpoestes triflora (FORSSKAL) ROEMER ET SCHULTES	MAGAR
5	AMARANTHACEAE	Celosia schweinfurthiana SCHINS	
			IBIYUYU
6	MALVACEAE	Pavonia urens var. urens (DE WILD.) HAUMAN	UMUTU
7	PRIMULACEAE	Lysimachia ruehmeriana VATKE	AKAYOI
8	POLYPODIACEAE	Loxogramme abyissinica (BAK.) M.G. PRICE	
9	ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium adianthum-nigrum L.	
10	ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium protensum Schrad.	
11	ADIANTACEAE	Cheilanthes kirkii (Hook) Alston	
12	ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium sandersonii Hook	
13	POLYPODIACEAE	Drynaria volkensii Hieron	

URA

names

RU

YU, IKINYAGAPYIZI, UTU OBORA, UMUYOBORA

14	ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium gemmiferum Schadr.	
15	OLEANDRACEAE	Nephrolepis undulata (Sw.) J.Sm	
16	ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium lobatum Pappe & Rawson	
17	OLEANDRACEAE	Arthropteris orientalis (Gmel.) Posth	
18	POACEAE	Penissetum purpureum SCHUM.	URUBING
19	ARALIACEAE	Polyscias fulva (HIERN) HARMS	UMWUNC
20	URTICACEAE	Boehmeria sp. JACQ.	
21	AMARANTHACEAE	Cyathula schimperana HOCHST. ex. MOQ	IGIFASHI
22	SOLANACEAE	Physalis perviana L.	IMBUHU,
23	CYPERACEAE	Mariscus sumatrensis (RETZ) RAYNAL	INDAGAR
24	ACANTHACEAE	Hypoestes triflora (FORSSKAL) ROEMER et SCHULTES	MAGARU
25	ACANTHACEAE	Hypoestes forskalei (VAHL) SOL. ex ROEMER et SCHULTES	IJOGWE, I
26	BALSAMINACEAE	Impatiens burtonii HOOK	INDONDC
27	BALSAMINACEAE	impatiens hochstetteri WARB.	INDONDC
28	ASTERACEAE	Bidens pilosa L.	IGISHOKO
29	ASTERACEAE	BIdens grantii (OLIVER) SHERFF	IHONGWI
30	URTICACEAE	Pilea bambusetii ENGL	UMURYA
31	URTICACEAE	Pilea chevalieri SCHELL	
32	COMMELINACEAE	Commelina diffusa BURM.	URUTEJA
33	AMARANTHACEAE	Achyranthes aspera L.	
34	BRASSICACEAE	Cardamine africana L	SOGA
35	AMARYLLIDACEAE	Scadoxus multiflorus (T. MARTYN) RAF.	
36	ADIANTACEAE	Peallea adianthoides (WILLD.) J.SM.	
37	OXALIDACEAE	Oxalis cornuculata AUCT.non L.	
38	ASTERACEAE	Ageratum conyzoides L.	INKURUR
		с .	AKARYAI
39	POACEAE	Panicum calvum STAPF.	IKIRUMB
40	URTICACEAE	Girardinia heterophylla (VAHL) DECAISNE	
41	CRASSULACEAE	Karankoe integra (MED.) O. KUNTZE	
			ICYUNGA
42	ACANTHACEAE	Brillantaisia cicatricosa LINDAU	IKINYAM
43	ACANTHACEAE	Brillantaisia patula T. ANDERSON	URUSOGO
44	LAMIACEAE	Ipoza riparia ouTetradenia riparia (HOCHST.) CODD	UMURAV
45	URTICACEAE	Parietaria debilis FORST. F.	
46	ASTERACEAE	Crassocephalum montuosum (S. MOORE) MILNE-REGH.	IGIFURAN
47	ASTERACEAE	Conyza sumatrensis (RETZ.) E.K. WALKER	BAMBUB

GO NGO, UMWUNGU

H J, IPERI, UMUHUHU. ARAGO, INTARATARE U , ISOGO, NYIRABUTI OORI OORI KORO, INYABARASANYA VE, ISHIKASHIKE ABARENDA

A

JRA, KAZIRARUGUMA AMIRABAKOBWA, BI

A, IKIRAPU, MUGERE GO VUMBA

ANINDI, ICYUNAMYI BA, RUKABUKIRA

48	LAMIACEAE	Plectranthus ferrugineus (ROBYNS) TROUPIN et AYOBANGIRA	
49	MUSACEAE	Musa acuminata COLLA	
50	HYMENOPHYLLACEAE	Trichomanes sp	
51	PIPERACEAE	Peperomia fernandopoiana C. DC	
52	ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium theciferum (Kunth) Mett.	
53	ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium aethiopicum (Burm.f.) Becherer	
54	TILIACEAE	Sida cordifolia L.	UMUCUNDURA
55	FABACEAE	Phaseolus sp.	
56	POLYPODIACEAE	Rumex usambarensis (ENGL.) DAMMER	
57	POLYGONACEAE	Rumex abyssinicus JACQ	UMUFUMBA
58	ASTERACEAE	Lactuca inermis FORSSKAL	RURIRA
59	VERBENACEAE	Lantana trifolia L.	UMUSEKERA, UMUHENGERI
60	ORCHIDACEAE	Orobanche minor SMITH	
61	PTERIDACEAE	Pteridium aquilinum var. africanum (Hieron. Ex R.E. Fries)	
62	RUBIACEAE	Pentas zanzibarica var. rubra VERDC.	ISAGARA, KARABUTSIRWE
63	RUBIACEAE	Pentas lanceolata (FORSSKAL) DEFLERS	
64	FABACEAE	Crotalaria sp.	
65	FABACEAE	Tephrosia vogelii HOOK.f.	
66	SCROPHULLARIACEAE	Berbascum benthamianum HEPPER	GATERANYA
67	DRYOPTERIDACEAE	Dryopteris sp.	
68	LAMIACEAE	Plectranthus barbatus ANDREWS	IGICUNSHU
69	PTERIDACEAE	Pteris prolifera	
70	ASTERACEAE	Tagetes minuta L.	NYIRAMUNUKANABI
71	NYCTAGINACEAE	Mirabilis jalapa L.	
72	CYPERACEAE	Kyllignga apendiculata SCHUMANN	AGAKEREKEZI
73	CYPERACEAE	Kyllinga elatior KUNTH	
74	EUPHORBIACEAE	Acalypha psilostachya HOCHST.	
			IGISUNUNU, ISUNUNU,
75	ASTERACEAE	Crassocephalum vitellinum (BENTH.) S. MOORE	UMUSUNUNU
76	POACEAE	Ryncheltrum repens (WILLD.)HUBB., KEW BULL.	
77	POACEAE	Aristida adoensis HOCHST.	GAKOKI, ISHINGE, LUBUKA
78	EUPHORBIACEAE	Biophytum helenae BUSCAL.et MUSCHLER	NYAMABUMBA
79	RUBIACEAE	Spermacoce princae (SCHUMANN) VERDC.	NGINGWITANA
80	POACEAE	Agrostis sp.	
81	SCROPHULLARIACEAE	Alectra sessilflora (VAHL) KUNTZE	
82	ACANTHACEAE	Asystasia sp.	AKANYAMAPFUNDO

83	ASTERACEAE	Crassocephalum bumbense S. MOORE	IGIFURANINDI, ICYUNAMYI
84	ASCLEPIADACEAE	Secamone sp.	
85	POACEAE	Setaria sp.	
86	ASTERACEAE	Lactuca sp.	
87	ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum schimperi (SCHULTZ-BIP.) MOESER	
88	LAMIACEAE	Ocimum suave WILLD.	UMWENYA
89	MALVACEAE	Hibiscus fuscus GARCKE	UMUTOZO
90	POACEAE	Paspalum sp.	
91	ASTERACEAE	Galinsoga parvifolia CAV.	KIMALI
92	ASTERACEAE	Galinsoga ciliata (RAF.) S.F. BLAKE	KIMALI
93	ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium varians Wall.ex Hook.& Grev	
94	ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium lividum Melt ex. Kuhn	
95	PTERIDACEAE	Pteris friesii Hieron	
96	THELYPTERIDACEAE	Christella hispidula (Decne.) Holttum	
97	HYMENOPHYLLACEAE	Vandenboschia melanotricha (Scleschtend) Pichi Serm.	
98	ASPARAGACEAE	Asparagus recemosus WILLD.	
99	ASTERACEAE	Microglossa sp.	
100	RANUNCULACEAE	Thalictrum rhynchocarpum DILLON ex A.RICH	AKANYARUHIMA, UBUGOMBORO
101	FABACEAE	Vigna macrorhyncha (HARMS) MILNE-REDH	
102	ASTERACEAE	Bothriocline longipes OLIVER et HIERN	IGIHEHE, URUHEHE
103	ASTERACEAE	Sonchus asper (L.) HILL	KIKEMBEKEMBE, RURIRA
104	COMMELINACEAE	Zebrina pendula SCHNIZ.	URUTEJA
105	CARYOPHYLLACEAE	Drymaria cordata (L.) WILLD. ex ROEM et SHULTES	MVURIDAHITA
106	URTICACEAE	Elatostema monticola HOOK. F.	
107	BORAGINACEAE	Cynoglossum amplifolium HOCHST.ex A. DC	
108	RUBIACEAE	Rubia cordifolia auct. non L	URUKARARAMBWE
109	SCROPHULLARIACEAE	Veronica abyssinica Fresen	NYIRAGAHUZA
110	POLYGONACEAE	Polygonum nepalense Meissn	
111	FABACEAE	Indigofera arrecta Hochst. ex A. Rich.	UMUSORORO
112	ASTERACEAE	Dichrocephala integrifolia (L.F.) Kuntze	
113	RUBIACEAE	Galium chloroionanthum SCHUMANN	URUKARARAMBWE
114	TILIACEAE	Sida rhombifolia L	UMUCUNDURA
115	POLYGONACEAE	Rumex bequaertii DE WILD	UMUFUMBA
116	ARACEAE	Arisaema mildbraedii ENGL.	

Appendix 3. List of medicinal plants used against human ailments

	Vernacular				Medicinal	Plant p	art Route of
Scientific name	name	Family	Life form	Substance	indication	used	administration
Ranunculus miltifidus				Powder,	Fracture,		Broken part,
Forskk.	Kazingashya	Ranunculaceae	Herb	Juice	poison vomiting	Leaves	Oral
Ajuga alba							
(GUERKE) ROBYNS	Igitingwa	Lamiaceae	Herb	Juice	Poison vomiting	Leaves	Oral
Clerodendrum fuscus							
GUERKE	Umumara	Verbenaceae	Liana	Juice			
Rhamnus prinoides	Umunanira,						
L'HER.	umusasa	Rhamnaceae	Tree	Juice	Poison vomiting	Leaves	Oral
Lysimachia							
ruhmerians VALTKE.	Umuyobora	Primulaceae	Herb	Juice	Stomach trouble	Leaves	Oral
Clausena anisata							
(Willd) Hook. F ex.							
Benth	Umuzo	Rutaceae	Shrub	Juice	Varicela, scabies	Leaves	Skin lesions
Gouania longispicata							
Engl.	Umusando	Rhamnaceae	Liana	Juice	Foetal trouble	Leaves	Oral
Chenopodium							
apulifolium Auct. Non					Muscle disease,		
schrad.	Umugombe	Chenopodiacece	Herb	Juice	Kilondatumbo*	Leaves	Oral
Chenopodium							
procerum Hoschst. Ex							
Moq.	Umwisheke	Chenopodiaceae	Herb	Juice		Leaves	Oral
Desmodium repandum					Heart disease,		
(VAHL) DC.	Ituza	Fabaceae	Herb	Juice	Poison vomiting	Leaves	Oral
Barleria grandicalyx							
LINDAV.	Bugangabukari	Acanthaceae	Herb	Juice	Child Bellybutton	Leaves	Oral
Bidens pilosa L.	Inyabarasanya	Asteraceae	Herb	Juice	Mental trouble	Leaves	Oral
Asystasia sp.							
	Akanyamapfundo	Asteraceae	Herb	Juice	Mental trouble	Leaves	Oral
Brillantaisia	Kirogora,	Acanthaceae	Herb	Juice	Mental trouble,	Leaves	Oral

FloothictoumLIANDEV.	Ikinyamugere				Poison Vomiting,		
rhynchocarpum					Stomach trouble,		
Dilinu@ AfeicanaRICH	Ubugomboro	Ranunculaceae	Herb	Juice	Snakebites	Leaves, Tree	Oral
AHloeskverna	Igiikakamblaamba	Ailiygedadaceae	Heerb	Juice	Diasenteary	bædves	Oral
Erithrina abyssinica					Mental disease.		
Lam.	Umuko	Fabaceae	Tree	Powder	Kilondatumbo*	Tree bark	Oral
Dracenae steudneri							
AUCT. Non. ENGLER	Igihondohondo	Agavaceae	Tree		Mental disease		Oral
Zanthoxylum sp.				Powder,			
(Engl.)	Intare y'irungu	Rutaceae	Tree	Juice	Gonorrhea	Tree bark	Oral
Senecio manii Hook.							
<i>F</i> .	Umutagara	Asteraceae	Herb	Juice	Poison vomiting	Leaves	Oral
Solanum terminale							
Forsskal.	Umuhanurankuba	Solanaceae	Herb	Juice	Placenta retention	Leaves	Oral
Urtica massaica MI.							
IDBR.	Igisura	Urticacaea	Herb	Juice	Gonorrhea	Roots	Oral
Persea Americana							
MILIER.	Ivoca	Lauraceae	Tree	Juice	Stomach trouble		
Cassia floribunda							
CAV.	Umukubanzoka	Ceasalpiniaceae	Shrub	Juice	Intestinal worm	Leaves	Oral
Eucalyptus maideni	Inturusu	Myrtaceae	Tree	Smoke	Hemorrhoids	Stem	Anal
Cajanus cajan (L.)							
MILLSP.	Umukunde	Fabaceae	Herb	Juice	Mumps	Leaves	Ear
Zehneria scabra (L.							
SONDER	Umushishiro	Cucurbitaceae	Liana	Juice	Mumps	Leaves	Ear
Rumex abyssinicus							
Jacq.	Umufumbageshi	Polygonaceae	Herb	Juice	Kilondatumbo*	Leaves	Oral
Gunura scandens O.							
HOFFM.	Kizimyamuriro	Asteraceae	Liana	Juice	Kilondatumbo*	Leaves	Oral
Momordica foetida							
SCHUM.	Umwishwa	Cucurbitaceae	Liana	Juice	Poison vomiting	Leaves	Oral
Tragia brevipes PAX.	Isusa	Euphorbiaceae	Herb	Juice		Leaves	Oral