

Assessment of Heavy Metals in Some Edible and Fodder Plants from Mazimbu Village, Morogoro, Tanzania

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ABSTRACT This paper presents findings on the concentration of different heavy metals namely copper, zinc, lead manganese and lead in edible and fodder plants growing in sewage areas. Plants with potential of being used as food and/or fodder were identified and their respective foliage samples were collected. Thereafter their respective green weights were recorded. The foliage samples were subsequently sun-dried to constant weights, ground and analyzed in the laboratory for their chemical compositions and concentrations. Results indicate that the samples recorded varied concentration of heavy metals, with high copper, zinc and manganese in most of the samples viz. in kapok leaf, lucaena leaf, sesban leaf, cocoyam leaf, manihot leaf. The highest recorded concentrations of heavy metals do not exceed published critical and phytotoxic levels. However, continuous exposure to these metals might bring about bioaccumulation and thus harmful health effects on the population.