

Review of: "Ethnobotanical Documentation of Yerba Mate in Syria"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The manuscript provides an extensive exploration of the traditional uses, social practices, and preparation methods of Yerba Mate among Syrian consumers. It also delves into many of the health benefits and cultural significance attributed to Yerba Mate within this community. The authors employed an electronic survey to gather data, which appears to have been a practical and effective method for capturing consumer habits and perceptions. The survey methodology is clear and allows for a robust understanding of how Yerba Mate is integrated into daily life in Syria. The survey methodology also allows for drawing some interesting conclusions.

One of the strengths of the manuscript is the inclusion of a well-structured table documenting the traditional herbs commonly added to Yerba Mate in Syria. This table not only enriches the understanding of how Yerba Mate is consumed but also highlights the unique ways in which Syrian consumers modify or adapt their Mate consumption by incorporating local herbs. This cultural adaptation of the drink provides valuable insight into the global diffusion and localization of Yerba Mate, as it is traditionally associated with South American countries.

My only observation is that it is important to note that Mate is traditionally consumed in some countries of South America such as Argentina, Paraguay, Brazil, and Uruguay, where it holds a similarly deep cultural significance. This context would enrich the reader's understanding of the global journey of Yerba Mate and its adaptation in various cultures.

The manuscript provides valuable documentation of the cultural significance of Yerba Mate in Syria, and its findings contribute to the broader understanding of how this drink transcends geographical boundaries.