

# Review of: "Assessing the Impact of COVID-19 on Food Consumption Preferences"

Željko Vaško<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> University of Banja Luka

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Any research on the topic of changes in consumer behavior caused by the pandemic of the COVID-19 virus is welcome. In this context, it is appreciated the efforts of this group of researchers. However, the level of living standards and cultural differences make it difficult to compare the results of this research with the results of numerous studies on the same topic around the world. Methodologically, the authors conceived the research well (respecting the structure of the meals and the predominant way of providing them) and processed its results statistically correctly.

The research was conducted on a small sample, in only one village. A good methodological exercise, but not an example that provides representative data for Uganda. E.g. a drastic reduction in food purchases at the market and a significant increase of food production in home gardens may be appropriate for one village, but cannot be attributed to all consumers in Uganda. The authors themselves emphasised the need to undertake similar research of a wider geographical scope.

The period to which the questions referred is long (from February 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 to January 31<sup>st</sup> 2022) and does not separate the lockdown period from the period without restrictions on movement and consumption of food outside the home. This is important for the possibility of comparison with the results of other researches because consumer behavior was definitely not the same during the lockdown and after the lockdown. In the discussion, the own results (which do not separate the lockdown period) are compared with the results that refer exclusively to the lockdown period.

It would be useful to state and quantify the extent to which Uganda is self-sufficient in food, apropos, to what extent it is dependent on food imports (seems that shortages were the results of insufficient own food production). It is important to understand consumers' preferences to solutions lead to improve food abundance.

Question is also why black tea is enlisted in food, when it is a beverage (it was confirmed that black tea was the most popular food?).

There are still plenty of freely accessible sources with the results of similar research in the world that the authors could refer to in the discussion, with a special emphasis on the need to refer to the results of research conducted in a similar environment (countries with a similar level of GDP per capita).