

Botany Sample ID	Site	Context	Depth below surface (cm)	Phase (Dominant Ceramic Component)	Volume (litres)	Cenchrus americanus	cf. Cenchrus americanus	cf. Cenchrus americanus fragment/corroded	Vigna cf. unguiculata	Vigna cf. unguiculata, cotyledons	cf. Vigna, fragment	Small Fabaceae, cotyledon/fragment	Musanga cecropioides	cf. Musanga cecropioides, fragment	Nauclaea/Sarcocephalus type	Panicum indet., corroded	cf. Setaria/Brachiaria	Eleusine indica	Digitaria sp.	Cleome sp.	cf. Portulaca	Scleria sp.	Unidentified small seed	Parentchyma fragments, charred	Raphia endosperm fragments	Canarium schweinfurthii/cf. Canarium, fragments (g/l)	Elaeis guineensis /cf. Elaeis, fragments (g/l)	Charred food fragments	Unidentifiable small fragments	Copal	Radiocarbon dates associated	Radiocarbon Lab. Number
363	Bolondo	BLD 16/1-34	0-8	Bolondo	10																		1			0.05	3	p+	x			
367	Bolondo	BLD 16/1-36	18-28	Bolondo	10																					2.00	11	p+	x			
369	Bolondo	BLD 16/1-37	30-42	Bolondo	10			9																		1.06	2	p+	x			
371	Bolondo	BLD 16/1-38	45-58	Bolondo	10	2	6																1	4		2.65	53	p+	x	420 ± 30 BP	Beta-469857	
373	Bolondo	BLD 16/1-39	58-60	Bolondo	5	9	84																			2.40	13	p+	x	480 ± 30 BP	Beta-469858	
375	Bolondo	BLD 16/1-40	66-71	Bolondo	8																					2.44	90	p+	x			
377	Bolondo	BLD 16/1-41	71-80	Bolondo	10			1																		3.04	126	p+	x			
383	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-46	0-13	Ilemba-Bokonda	10																					0.26	5	p+	x			
385	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-47	13-20	Bokone	10																					0.53	2	p+	x			
391	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-51	35-45	Bokone (+ earlier admixtures)	10																					0.29	1	p+				
394	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-53	45-56	Bokone	10																					1.40	4	p+	x			
396	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-55	56-71	Bolondo	10																					0.55	3	p+	x			
398	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-57	71-75	Bolondo	8																					0.75	22	p+				
400	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-59	75-86	Bolondo	10	1	16																			0.10	56	p+		365 ± 30 BP	Poz-98311	
402	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-61	86-91	Bolondo	8	3																				0.94	85	p+	x	334 ± 30 BP	Poz-98058	
404	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-63	91-92	Bolondo	3																					0.46	23	p+	x			
406	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-65	92-94	Bolondo	2																					0.16	5	p+				
408	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-67	94-96	Bolondo	2																											
410	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-69	96-98	Bolondo	2																											
412	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-71	98-102	Bolondo	4																											
414	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-72	102-123	Wema/Bolondo	10																						1.90	11	p+	x		
416	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-74	123-125	Wema	2																					2.56	23	p+	x	410 ± 30 BP 460 ± 30 BP	Beta-447441 Poz-98264	
418	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-76	125-153	Wema	10																					2.85	2	p+	x			
																										3.34	36	p+	x	520 ± 30 BP	Beta-447442	
1	Mbandaka	MBA 11/1-10	8-22	Mixed colluvium (Bondongo; Nkile; Bokele)	10							29	1													0.45		p+		1660 ± 35 BP	Poz-48986	
2	Mbandaka	MBA 11/1-22	12-25	Mixed colluvium (Bondongo; Nkile; Bokele)	10							20														0.19		p+		605 ± 30 BP	Poz-48992	
3	Mbandaka	MBA 11/1/1-31	18-24	Bokele	10							74									19					0.26		p+		1745 ± 35 BP	Poz-48993	
4	Mbandaka	MBA 11/1/1-35	32-40	Bokele	10							53									55					0.36		p+		1835 ± 35 BP	Poz-48995	
5	Mbandaka	MBA 11/1/2-42	29-34	Bondongo/Nkile	10	3						51									1					0.15		p+		660 ± 30 BP 630 ± 30 BP	Poz-72477 Poz-72478	
6	Mbandaka	MBA 11/1-47	0-25	Mixed colluvium (Bondongo; Nkile; Bokele)	10							16										3				0.15		p+		470 ± 30 BP	Poz-48996	
31	Iyonda	IYO 12/1-20	30-43	Mixed (Imbonga?; Bokuma; contact finds)	10																											
32	Iyonda	IYO 12/1-23	44-51	Imbonga (+ slight Bokuma admixture + 1	10									1												0.020	1.19		p+			

ESM 2 Table 1, Detailed list of individual archaeobotany samples and 14C dates

33	lyonda	IYO 12/1/1-25	62–65	Imbonga	10	1					53	1	21	0.070	1.32	p+	2040 ± 60 BP	Poz-74815
																	2100 ± 30 BP	Poz-79307
34	lyonda	IYO 12/1/1-27	69–82	Imbonga	10	2			89	9	2		2	0.930	4.37	p+	2180 ± 50 BP	Poz-74816
35	lyonda	IYO 12/1/1-35	53–58	Imbonga	10				10	3	1			0.170	0.50	p+		
36	lyonda	IYO 12/1/1-36	67–88	Imbonga	10				9		1			0.770	3.79	p+		
37	lyonda	IYO 12/1/1-37	83–116	Imbonga	10				1		2	1	2	0.310	0.93	p+	2175 ± 30 BP	Poz-55342
																	2185 ± 30 BP	Poz-55343
																	2105 ± 30 BP	Poz-55344
																	2135 ± 30 BP	Poz-55345
70	lyonda	IYO 15/1/3-9	28–38	Botendo	2								8		0.23	p+	40 ± 30 BP	Poz-75080
																	115 ± 30 BP	Poz-74880
88	lyonda	IYO 15/1/6-17	75–81	Mixed (Imbonga + Bokuma)	5.5			1							2.12	p+	2275 ± 30 BP	Poz-74884
																	2325 ± 35 BP	Poz-79304
																	1960 ± 40 BP	Poz-74817
92	lyonda	IYO 15/1/6-33	88–102	Mixed (Imbonga + Bokuma)	10	2								0.004	1.22	p+	2275 ± 30 BP	Poz-74884
																	2325 ± 35 BP	Poz-79304
																	1960 ± 40 BP	Poz-74817
100	lyonda	IYO 15/1/6-64	69–78	Mixed (Imbonga + Bokuma)	4.5	1								0.001	1.71	p+	1960 ± 40 BP	Poz-74817
105	lyonda	IYO 15/1/6-73	92–107	Mixed (Imbonga + Bokuma)	10	8	6	36	66	1					0.75	p+	2325 ± 35 BP	Poz-79304
113	lyonda	IYO 15/1/7-18	67–85	Imbonga	7	3	1	11	80		1				2.82	p+	2290 ± 30 BP	Poz-74885
116	lyonda	IYO 15/1/7-26	57–75	Imbonga	10								27	0.019	0.32	p+	2195 ± 30 BP	Poz-74886
131	lyonda	IYO 15/1/9-38	89	Imbonga	8									0.061	1.05	p+	2140 ± 30 BP	Poz-74889
																	2120 ± 30 BP	Poz-74890
139	lyonda	IYO 15/1/13-5	59–69	Bokuma	10										0.77	p x	1475 ± 30 BP	Poz-74893
																	1395 ± 30 BP	Poz-74894
141	lyonda	IYO 15/1/13-6	59–69	Bokuma	nd								25	0.001	0.47	p	1475 ± 30 BP	Poz-74893
																	1395 ± 30 BP	Poz-74894
524	lyonda	IYO 15/1/7-41	58–66	Imbonga	nd											p	2290 ± 30 BP	Poz-74885
																	2195 ± 30 BP	Poz-74886
204	lyonda	IYO 15/2/4-128	117–128	Imbonga	10								3	0.020	3.00	p+	2200 ± 30 BP	Poz-74899
																	2180 ± 30 BP	Poz-74918
210	lyonda	IYO 15/2/4-150	138–147	Imbonga	10								8		0.10	p+	2210 ± 30 BP	Poz-74979
																	2185 ± 30 BP	Poz-74919
238	lyonda	IYO 15/2/4-245	250–263	Imbonga	10	1				1					0.10	p+	2040 ± 30 BP	Beta-441457
																	2110 ± 30 BP	Beta-441458
261	lyonda	IYO 15/5-8	46–64	Imbonga	10									0.030	3.18	p+ x		
279	lyonda	IYO 15/17/1-9	33–47	Imbonga	10										1.07	p+		
293	lyonda	IYO 15/19/6-51	15–50	Ikenge	1								18		3.62	p+ x	150 ± 30 BP	Poz-79289
297	lyonda	IYO 15/19-43	10–14	Mixed A-horizon (Bokuma; Botendo/Ikenge;	10			1					24		0.74	p+ x	120 ± 30 BP	Poz-79290
309	lyonda	IYO 15/42/4-24	40–65	Bokuma (+ slight Imbonga admixture)	10				3						2.40	p x	2165 ± 30 BP	Poz-79291
313	lyonda	IYO 15/48/1-1	21–32	Botendo	0.7				6				1		0.07	p+ x	230 ± 30 BP	Beta-428090
																	120 ± 30 BP	Beta-428091
324	lyonda	IYO 15/63/3-32	40–60	Nkile	8					1					5.92	p+	490 ± 30 BP	Poz-79295
329	lyonda	IYO 15/63/3-64	30–45	Nkile	10			2			2		5		1.33	p+	495 ± 30 BP	Poz-79296
334	lyonda	IYO 15/63/4-47	40–47	Bondongo/Nkile	10				4			1	3		5.29	p+	545 ± 30 BP	Poz-79297
343	lyonda	IYO 15/63/5-67	22–35	Imbonga	nd							1				p	535 ± 30 BP	Poz-79298
354	lyonda	IYO 15/65-3	15–24	Botendo	10								1	9	4.05	p+ x	115 ± 30 BP	Poz-79301
305	lyonda	IYO 15/30/1-4	0–45	Imbonga	nd							1	1		2.00	p		
287	lyonda	IYO 15/19/1-24	30–60	Bondongo? (No ceramic finds.)	2			1							0.44	p+	645 ± 30 BP	Poz-79288
292	lyonda	IYO 15/19/6-46	35–50	Ikenge	0.2								4		0.35	p+	150 ± 30 BP	Poz-79289

425	lyonda	IYO 16/1/3-43	36-52	Bokuma (+ slight Imbonga admixture)	10					2	1.25	p+	x		
428	lyonda	IYO 16/1/5-58	49-59	Imbonga	10					3	1.64	p+			
446	lyonda	IYO 16/1/6-61	48-59	Bokuma	10						0.60	p+	x		
476	lyonda	IYO 16/2	17-31	Colluvium (Bondongo to modern)	10				9		1.63	p+			
484	lyonda	IYO 16/5	17-32	Colluvium (Bondongo to modern)	10				2		1.32	p+			
487	lyonda	IYO 16/6	15-28	Colluvium (Bondongo to modern)	10				25		0.72	p+			
491	lyonda	IYO 16/7	17-29	Colluvium (Bondongo to modern)	10				12		2.19	p+	x		
494	lyonda	IYO 16/8	0-7	Colluvium (Bondongo to modern)	10					5	1.38	p+			
497	lyonda	IYO 16/9	11-23	Colluvium (Bondongo to modern)	10				2		0.59	p+			
500	lyonda	IYO 16/10	7-19	Colluvium (no ceramic finds).	10				29		0.26	p+			
503	lyonda	IYO 16/11	5-20	Colluvium (no ceramic finds).	10				26		0.14	p+			
509	lyonda	IYO 17/1-19	10-39	Colluvium (Imbonga to modern)	10				3		2.24	p+		950 ± 30 BP	Beta-529832
510	lyonda	IYO 17/1-20	17-40	Colluvium (Imbonga to modern)	10				28		1.52	p+	x	950 ± 30 BP	Beta-529832
511	lyonda	IYO 17/2/1-24	60-71	Bokuma	10					4	2.48	p+			
512	lyonda	IYO 17/2/1-29	73-84	Bokuma	10				6		2.45	p+	x		
513	lyonda	IYO 17/2/1-33	84-93	Bokuma	10				9		1.01	p+			
515	lyonda	IYO 17/2/1-57	75-85	Bokuma	10		1			2	1.99	p+			
516	lyonda	IYO 17/2/1-61	94-105	Bokuma	10				11		4.50	p+	x		

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ESM 2 Table 2, Metrical data of archaeological pearl millet caryopses from lyonda, Mbandaka, and Bolondo (in mm)

	Botanical sample ID	Length	Breadth	Thickness	L:B	B:T
Bolondo 16/1-38, caryopsis 1 (dated)	371	2.2	1.5	1.3	1.47	1.15
Bolondo 16/1-38, caryopsis 2	371	1.8	1.4	1.2	1.29	1.17
Bolondo 16/1-39, caryopsis 1 (dated)	373	2.0+	1.3	1.2	~1.5	1.08
Bolondo 16/1-39, caryopsis 2	373	1.9+	1.4	1.5	~1.4	0.93
Bolondo 16/1-39, caryopsis 3	373	2.1	1.4	1.3	1.50	1.08
Bolondo 16/1-39, caryopsis 4	373	1.9+	1.4	n.a.	~1.4	n.a.
Bolondo 16/1-39, caryopsis 5	373	2.3	1.4	1.2	1.64	1.17
Bolondo 16/1-39, caryopsis 6	373	2.0	1.4	1.2	1.42	1.19
Bolondo 16/1-39, caryopsis 7	373	1.8+	1.3	1.2	~1.4	1.08
Bolondo 16/1-39, caryopsis 8	373	2.0+	1.3	1.3	~1.6	1.01
Bolondo 16/1-39, caryopsis 9	373	1.8	1.2	1.2	1.53	1.00
Bolondo 16/1-39, caryopsis 10	373	2.0	1.1	1.1	1.87	1.00
Bolondo 16/1-39, caryopsis 11	373	1.9+	1.2+	1.0+	~1.6	~1.2
Mbandaka 11/1-42, caryopsis 1 (dated)	5	1.8+	1.6	1.6	~1.2	1.00
Mbandaka 11/1-42, caryopsis 2 (dated)	5	2.3	1.2	1.2	1.92	1.00
Mbandaka 11/1-42, caryopsis 3	5	1.9+	1.5	1.5	~1.3	1.00
lyonda 15/1/6-64 (dated)	100	1.3+	1.0	0.9	~1.3	1.10
lyonda 12/1/1-27, caryopsis 1 (dated)	34	1.2+	0.8	0.7	~1.5	1.14
lyonda 12/1/1-27, caryopsis 2	34	1.1+	0.8	0.8		1.00
lyonda 12/1/1-25 (dated)	33	1.1+	1.0	0.9	~1.1	1.10
lyonda 15/1/6-73, caryopsis 1	105	1.6+	1.2	1.2		1.00
lyonda 15/1/6-73, caryopsis 2	105	1.9+	1.2	1.2		1.00
lyonda 15/1/6-73, caryopsis 3	105	1.6+	1.1	1.0		1.10
lyonda 15/1/6-73, caryopsis 4	105	1.4+	1.0	0.6+		
lyonda 15/1/6-73, caryopsis 5	105	1.4+	1.1	1.0		1.10
lyonda 15/1/6-73, caryopsis 6	105	1.3+	1.1	1.1		1.00
lyonda 15/1/6-73, caryopsis 7	105	1.3+	1.4	1.5		0.90
lyonda 15/1/6-73, caryopsis 8	105	1.4+	1.4	1.3		1.10
lyonda 15/1/6-73, caryopsis 9	105	1.5+	1.3	1.2		1.10
lyonda 15/1/6-73, caryopsis 10	105	1.1+	1.2	1.2		1.00
lyonda 15/1/6-73, caryopsis 11	105	1.5+	1.0	1.0		1.00
lyonda 15/1/6-73, caryopsis 12	105	1.8+	1.4	1.4		1.00
lyonda 15/1/7-18, caryopsis 1	113	1.9	1.1	1.2	1.70	0.90
lyonda 15/1/7-18, caryopsis 2	113	1.8	1.3	1.3	1.40	1.00
lyonda 15/1/7-18, caryopsis 3	113	1.3+	1.0	1.0		1.00
lyonda 15/1/6-33, caryopsis 1	92	1.6+	1.4	1.4		1.00
lyonda 15/1/6-33, caryopsis 2	92	2.0+	1.6	1.4		1.10

+ = Measurements give minimum values; basis of caryopsis missing, or caryopsis damaged. Minimum values not considered in calculation of mean values and L:B. In Bolondo 16/1-39 there are more inflated or damaged caryopses which could not be measured.

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ESM 2 Table 3, Metrical data of caryopses of modern *Pennisetum* (*Cenchrus*) and *Sorghum* species (mm)

Species	Specimen ID	L	B	T	L:B	B:T
<i>Pennisetum glaucum</i> Frankfurt 3455	Pg 3455-1	3.5	2.3	2.4	1.5	0.96
	Pg3455-2	3.5	2.4	2.3	1.46	1.04
	Pg 3455-3	3.1	2.1	2.2	1.48	0.95
	Pg 3455-4	3.1	1.8	1.7	1.72	1.06
	Pg 3455-5	2.7	1.5	1.7	1.8	0.88
	Pg 3455-6	3.7	2	1.6	1.85	1.25
	Pg 3455-7	3.1	1.9	1.7	1.63	1.12
	Pg 3455-8	2.6	2.5	2.5	1.04	1
	Pg 3455-9	1.8	2	1.8	0.9	1.11
	Pg 3455-10	1.8	2.2	2.4	0.82	0.92
	mean	2.89	2.07	2.03	1.42	1.03
	range	1.8–3.7	1.5–2.4	1.6–2.5	0.82–1.85	0.88–1.25
<i>Pennisetum glaucum</i> Frankfurt 3665	Pg 3665-1	1.8	1.4	1.3	1.29	1.08
	Pg 3665-2	1.8	1.4	1.3	1.29	1.08
	Pg 3665-3	1.7	1.3	1.1	1.36	1.18
	Pg 3665-4	1.9	1.4	1.4	1.36	1
	Pg 3665-5	1.8	1.4	1.3	1.29	1.08
	Pg 3665-6	1.8	1.5	1.5	1.2	1
	Pg 3665-7	1.8	1.5	1.5	1.2	1
	mean	1.8	1.41	1.34	1.28	1.06
	range	1.7–1.9	1.3–1.5	1.1–1.5	1.2–1.36	1.08–1.18
<i>Pennisetum glaucum</i> Frankfurt 666	Pg 666-1	3.4	2.1	2.1	1.62	1
	Pg 666-2	3	1.6	1.5	1.88	1.07
	Pg 666-3	3.7	2	2.1	1.85	0.95
	Pg 666-4	3.8	1.8	1.8	2.11	1
	Pg 666-5	4	2.1	2.1	1.9	1.2
	Pg 666-6	3.2	1.8	1.5	1.78	1.2
	Pg 666-7	3.7	2	1.9	3.5	1.05
	Pg 666-8	4	1.7	1.6	2.35	1.06
	Pg 666-9	4	1.7	1.9	2.35	0.9
	mean	3.64	1.87	1.83	2.15	1.05
	range	3–4	1.7–2.1	1.5–2.1	1.62–2.35	0.9–1.2
<i>Pennisetum glaucum</i> Frankfurt 275	Pg 275-1	3.9	3.1	3.1	1.26	1
	Pg 275-2	4.2	2.6	2.5	1.62	1.04
	Pg 275-3	4.1	3	2.6	1.37	1.15
	Pg 275-4	4.7	3	2.7	1.57	1.11
	Pg 275-5	3.5	2.8	3.4	1.25	0.82
	Pg 275-6	3.8	2.9	2.7	1.31	1.07
	Pg 275-7	3.4	2.3	2.3	1.48	1
	Pg 275-8	2.6	2	2	1.3	1
	Pg 275-9	4.7	2	2	2.35	1
	Pg 275-10	2.2	2	2.2	1.1	0.91
	mean	3.71	2.57	2.55	1.46	1.01
	range	2.2–4.7	2–3.1	2–3.4	1.1–2.35	0.82–1.15

Species	Specimen ID	L	B	T	L:B	B:T
<i>Pennisetum purpureum</i> Kew 8769	Pp Kew 87694-1	2.07	0.93	0.64	2.23	1.45
	Pp Kew 87694-2	1.82	0.82	0.56	2.22	1.46
	Pp Kew 87694-3	1.59	0.76	0.59	2.09	1.52
	Pp Kew 87694-4	1.55	0.76	0.42	2.04	1.81
	Pp Kew 87694-5	1.55	0.83	0.55	1.87	1.51
	Pp B&T world seeds	1.61	0.65	0.38	2.47	1.71
	mean	1.7	0.79	0.52	2.15	1.58
	range	1.55–2.01	0.65–0.93	0.38–0.64	1.87–2.47	1.45–1.81
<i>Sorghum bicolor</i> ssp. <i>verticilliflorum</i>* Frankfurt 1642	Sbv 1642-1	4.2	3.3	1.8	1.27	1.83
	Sbv 1642-2	3.9	2.8	1.9	1.39	1.47
	Sbv 1642-3	3.4	2.5	1.7	1.36	1.47
	Sbv 1642-4	3.3	2.7	1.5	1.22	1.8
	Sbv 1642-5	3.6	2.7	1.9	1.33	1.42
	Sbv 1642-6	3.6	2.4	1.5	1.5	1.6
	Sbv 1642-7	3.6	2.9	1.8	1.24	1.61
	Sbv 1642-8	3.8	2.9	1.9	1.31	1.53
	Sbv 1642-9	3.7	2.6	1.9	1.42	1.37
	Sbv 1642-10	3.5	2.7	2	1.3	1.35
	mean	3.66	2.75	1.79	1.33	1.55
	range	3.3–4.2	2.4–3.3	1.5–2	1.22–1.42	1.35–1.83
	<i>Sorghum bicolor</i> ssp. <i>verticilliflorum</i>* Frankfurt 1645	Sbv 1645-1	3.4	2.8	2	1.21
Sbv 1645-2		3.5	2.9	2.1	1.21	1.38
Sbv 1645-3		3.5	2.7	2	1.3	1.35
Sbv 1645-4		3.9	2.2	1.6	1.77	1.38
Sbv 1645-5		3.8	2.7	2.1	1.41	1.29
Sbv 1645-6		3.4	2.8	2	1.21	1.4
Sbv 1645-7		3.5	2.1	1.6	1.67	1.31
Sbv 1645-8		3.4	2.8	2	1.21	1.4
Sbv 1645-9		3.7	2.6	2	1.42	1.3
Sbv 1645-10		3.7	2.3	1.5	1.61	1.53
mean		3.58	2.59	1.89	1.4	1.37
range		3.4–3.9	2.1–2.9	1.5–2.1	1.21–1.77	1.29–1.53
<i>Sorghum bicolor</i> ssp. <i>verticilliflorum</i>* Frankfurt 2318		Sbv 2318-1	3.6	2.4	1.6	1.5
	Sbv 2318-2	3.2	2.3	1.6	1.39	1.44
	Sbv 2318-3	2.9	2.1	1.4	1.38	1.5
	Sbv 2318-4	3.1	2.1	1.3	1.49	1.62
	Sbv 2318-5	3.6	2.7	1.8	1.33	1.5
	Sbv 2318-6	3.4	2.5	1.6	1.36	1.56
	Sbv 2318-7	2.9	2.1	1.4	1.38	1.5
	Sbv 2318-8	2.9	2.1	1.3	1.38	1.62
	Sbv 2318-9	3.1	2.3	1.3	1.35	1.77
	Sbv 2318-10	3.3	2.4	1.7	1.38	1.41
	mean	3.2	2.4	1.5	1.39	1.54
	range	2.9–3.6	2.1–2.5	1.3–1.7	1.33–1.49	1.41–1.77
	<i>Sorghum bicolor</i> ssp. <i>verticilliflorum</i>* Frankfurt 1106	Sbv 1106-1	4.4	2.5	1.5	1.76
Sbv 1106-2		4.3	2.4	1.5	1.79	1.6
Sbv 1106-3		4.4	2.5	1.6	1.76	1.56
Sbv 1106-4		3.8	2.1	1.1	1.81	1.9
Sbv 1106-5		4.3	2.2	1.3	1.95	1.69
Sbv 1106-6		3.8	2.3	1.4	1.65	1.64
mean		4.17	2.33	1.4	1.79	1.67
range		3.8–4.4	2.1–2.5	1.1–1.6	1.65–1.95	1.56–1.9

Species Collection number	Specimen ID	L	B	T	L:B	B:T
<i>Sorghum bicolor</i> <i>ssp. verticilliflorum*</i> Frankfurt 1370	Sbv 1370-1	2.1	1.5	0.9	1.4	1.67
<i>Sorghum bicolor</i> <i>ssp. bicolor</i> (race bicolor) Frankfurt 1641	Sbbb 1641-1	4.4	3.6	2.2	1.22	1.64
	Sbbb 1641-2	4.7	4	2.2	1.18	1.8
	Sbbb 1641-3	4.4	3.2	2	1.38	1.6
	Sbbb 1641-4	3.9	3	2	1.3	1.5
	Sbbb 1641-5	3.9	3	2	1.3	1.5
	mean	4.26	3.36	2.08	1.28	1.61
	range	3.9–4.7	3–4	2–2.2	1.18–1.38	1.5–1.8
<i>Sorghum bicolor</i> Frankfurt 3456	Sbb 3456-1	5.9	4.7	2.9	1.25	1.62
	Sbb 3456-2	5.1	4.3	2.8	1.19	1.54
	Sbb 3456-3	4.9	3.6	2.5	1.36	1.44
	Sbb 3456-4	5.6	3.6	2.7	1.56	1.33
	Sbb 3456-5	4.1	3.7	2.6	1.11	1.42
	Sbb 3456-6	6.1	5.3	3	1.15	1.77
	Sbb 3456-7	5.3	4.7	3	1.13	1.57
	Sbb 3456-8	5.1	4.8	3	1.06	1.6
	Sbb 3456-9	4.9	3.7	2.8	1.32	1.32
	Sbb 3456-10	5.3	5	3.4	1.06	1.47
	Sbb 3456-11	5.3	4.4	3.4	1.2	1.35
	Sbb 3456-12	5.3	4.2	3.1	1.26	1.35
	Sbb 3456-13	4.4	4	2.3	1.1	1.74
	Sbb 3456-14	4	3.3	2.3	1.21	1.43
	Sbb 3456-15	4.6	4.5	2.7	1.02	1.67
	mean	5.06	4.25	2.83	1.2	1.51
	range	4–6.1	3.3–5.3	2.3–3.4	1.02–1.56	1.33–1.77
<i>Sorghum bicolor</i> Frankfurt 1366	Sbb 1366-1	5.8	4.5	3.4	1.29	1.32
	Sbb 1366-2	5.9	4.3	3.7	1.37	1.3
	Sbb 1366-3	5	4.4	3.2	1.14	1.38
	Sbb 1366-4	5.1	4.3	4.3	1.19	1
	Sbb 1366-5	4.3	4.4	3.7	0.98	1.19
	Sbb 1366-6	5	5.2	3.6	0.96	1.44
	Sbb 1366-7	5	5.2	4.1	0.96	1.27
	Sbb 1366-8	5	5.3	3.8	0.94	1.4
	Sbb 1366-9	4.9	4.9	3.9	1	1.26
	Sbb 1366-10	4.1	4.2	3.2	0.98	1.31
	mean	5.01	5.67	3.69	1.08	1.29
	range	4.1–5.9	4.2–5.3	3.2–4.3	0.94–1.37	1–1.44
*Nomenclature after Wiersema and Dahlberg (2007), The nomenclature of <i>Sorghum bicolor</i> (L.) Moench (Gramineae). Taxon 56, 941–946. Synonym: <i>Sorghum arundinaceum</i>						

ESM 2 Table 4, Complete results of studied phytolith samples

Soil Sample ID	Phytolith extraction serial number	Musa phytoliths present	Site	Context	Archaeological Phase	¹⁴ C Date associated	Radiocarbon Lab. Number
356	794	Yes	Iyonda	IYO 15/68-1	Under modern sweet banana, surface		
358	795	Yes	Iyonda	IYO 15/69-1	Under modern plantain, surface		
360	796	Yes	Iyonda	IYO 15/70-1	Under modern banana (sweet or plantain), surface		
296	790	Yes	Iyonda	IYO 15/19-43	Botendo	120 ± 30 BP	Poz-79290
30	720	Yes	Mbandaka	MBA 11/1-46	From colluvium containing Nkile, Bondongo, and Bokele ceramics (¹⁴ C date matches Nkile)	290 ± 30 BP	Poz-79306
364	805	Yes	Bolondo	BLD 16/1-35	Bolondo		
386	797	Yes	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-49	Bolondo		
370	806	Yes	Bolondo	BLD 16/1-38	Bolondo	420 ± 30 BP	Beta-469857
372	864	Yes	Bolondo	BLD 16/1-39	Bolondo	480 ± 30 BP	Beta-469858
374	842	Yes	Bolondo	BLD 16/1-40	Bolondo		
376	807	Yes	Bolondo	BLD 16/1-41	Bolondo		
397	799	Yes	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-57	Bolondo		
413	803	Yes	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-72	Wema/Bolondo	410 ± 30 BP	Beta-447441
417	804	Yes	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-76	Wema	520 ± 30 BP	Beta-447442
39	781	No	Iyonda	IYO 12/1-23	No archaeological finds		
504	916	No	Iyonda	IYO 16/11	Colluvium (no archaeological finds)		
62	773	No	Iyonda	IYO 15/1/2-4	Mixed (modern + ancient)		
382	863	No	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-46	Ilemba-Bokonda		
68	774	No	Iyonda	IYO 15/1/3-7	Botendo	40 ± 30 BP 115 ± 30 BP	Poz-75080 Poz-74880
393	798	No	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-53	Bokone		
362	869	No	Bolondo	BLD 16/1-34	Bolondo		
366	841	No	Bolondo	BLD 16/1-36	Bolondo		
368	870	No	Bolondo	BLD 16/1-37	Bolondo		
405	801	No	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-65	[Bolondo] No archaeological finds		
409	802	No	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-69	[Bolondo] No archaeological finds		
401	800	No	Bolondo	BLD 16/5-61	Bolondo	334 ± 30 BP	Poz-98058
326	792	No	Iyonda	IYO 15/63/3-32	Nkile	490 ± 30 BP	Poz-79295
328	793	No	Iyonda	IYO 15/63/3-64	Nkile	495 ± 30 BP	Poz-79296
350	910	No	Iyonda	IYO 15/64/2-7	Bondongo/Nkile	500 ± 30 BP 535 ± 30 BP	Poz-79300 Poz-79299
333	909	No	Iyonda	IYO 15/63/4-47	Bondongo/Nkile	545 ± 30 BP	Poz-79297
26	765	No	Mbandaka	MBA 11/1/2-15	Bondongo/Nkile	630 ± 30 BP 660 ± 30 BP	Poz-72478 Poz-72477
29	767	No	Mbandaka	MBA 11/1/2-41	Bondongo/Nkile	630 ± 30 BP 660 ± 30 BP	Poz-72478 Poz-72477
479	843	No	Iyonda	IYO 16/3	Colluvium (Bondongo to modern finds)		
489	915	No	Iyonda	IYO 16/6	Colluvium (Bondongo to modern finds)		
27	766	No	Mbandaka	MBA 11/1-24	From colluvium containing Nkile, Bondongo, and Bokele ceramics		
24	717	No	Mbandaka	MBA 11/1-10	From colluvium containing Nkile, Bondongo, and Bokele ceramics (¹⁴ C date matches Bokele)	1660 ± 35 BP	Poz-48986

ESM 2 Table 4, Complete results of studied phytolith samples

Soil Sample ID	Phytolith extraction serial number	Musa phytoliths present	Site	Context	Archaeological Phase	¹⁴ C Date associated	Radiocarbon Lab. Number
25	718	No	Mbandaka	MBA 11/1/1-14	Bokele	1745 ± 35 BP 1785 ± 30 BP 1810 ± 30 BP 1835 ± 35 BP 2160 ± 30 BP	Poz-48993 Poz-48989 Poz-48991 Poz-48995 Poz-48988
28	719	No	Mbandaka	MBA 11/1/1-36	Bokele	1745 ± 35 BP 1785 ± 30 BP 1810 ± 30 BP 1835 ± 35 BP 2160 ± 30 BP	Poz-48993 Poz-48989 Poz-48991 Poz-48995 Poz-48988
59	768	No	lyonda	IYO 15/1/1-3	Bokuma		
448	911	No	lyonda	IYO 16/1/6-63	Bokuma		
451	912	No	lyonda	IYO 16/1/6-82	Bokuma		
459	913	No	lyonda	IYO 16/1/6-186	Bokuma		
465	914	No	lyonda	IYO 16/1/6-218	Bokuma		
290	789	No	lyonda	IYO 15/19/4-31	Bokuma		
141	785	No	lyonda	IYO 15/1/13-6, sediment fill, vessel centre	Bokuma		
141	786	No	lyonda	IYO 15/1/13-6, sediment fill, near vessel margin	Bokuma		
141	787	No	lyonda	IYO 15/1/13-6, sediment from sherd, upper vessel part	Bokuma	1395 ± 30 BP 1475 ± 30 BP	Poz-74894 Poz-74893
141	788	No	lyonda	IYO 15/1/13-6, sediment from sherd, middle vessel part	Bokuma		
308	791	No	lyonda	IYO 15/42/4-24	Bokuma (despite incongruously early ¹⁴ C date)	2165 ± 30 BP	Poz-79291
77	769	No	lyonda	IYO 15/1/4-19 (stratigraphically reassigned to Pit 6)	Mixed (Bokuma + Imbonga)		
83	775	No	lyonda	IYO 15/1/6-5	Mixed (Imbonga + Bokuma)		
38	782	No	lyonda	IYO 12/1-20	Mixed (Imbonga + Bokuma)		
109	783	No	lyonda	IYO 15/1/6-68, Vessel b, sediment upper rim	Imbonga?		
109	784	No	lyonda	IYO 15/1/6-68, Vessel b, sediment from sherd	Imbonga?		
483	844	No	lyonda	IYO 16/4	Colluvium (Imbonga to modern finds)		
42	723	No	lyonda	IYO 12/1/1-35	Imbonga		
43	724	No	lyonda	IYO 12/1/1-36	Imbonga		
101	770	No	lyonda	IYO 15/1/6-65	Mixed (Imbonga + Bokuma)		
40	721	No	lyonda	IYO 12/1/1-25	Imbonga	2040 ± 60 BP 2100 ± 30 BP	Poz-74815 Poz-79307
142	779	No	lyonda	IYO 15/1/14-3	Imbonga	2080 ± 30 BP 2100 ± 30 BP	Poz-74895 Poz-74896

ESM 2 Table 4, Complete results of studied phytolith samples

Soil Sample ID	Phytolith extraction serial number	Musa phytoliths present	Site	Context	Archaeological Phase	¹⁴ C Date associated	Radiocarbon Lab. Number
128	778	No	lyonda	IYO 15/1/9-23	Imbonga	2120 ± 30 BP 2140 ± 30 BP	Poz-74890 Poz-74889
123	771	No	lyonda	IYO 15/1/8-26	Imbonga	2170 ± 30 BP 2230 ± 30 BP	Poz-74888 Poz-74887
41	722	No	lyonda	IYO 12/1/1-27	Imbonga	2180 ± 50 BP	Poz-74816
111	776	No	lyonda	IYO 15/1/7-16	Imbonga	2195 ± 30 BP 2290 ± 30 BP	Poz-74886 Poz-74885
117	777	No	lyonda	IYO 15/1/7-27	Imbonga	2195 ± 30 BP 2290 ± 30 BP	Poz-74886 Poz-74885
524	862	No	lyonda	IYO 15/1/7-41, sediment fill in vessel	Imbonga	2195 ± 30 BP 2290 ± 30 BP	Poz-74886 Poz-74885
240	772	No	lyonda	IYO 15/2/4-278	Imbonga	2040 ± 30 BP 2110 ± 30 BP 2180 ± 30 BP 2185 ± 30 BP 2200 ± 30 BP 2210 ± 30 BP	Beta-441457 Beta-441458 Poz-74918 Poz-74919 Poz-74899 Poz-74979
147	780	No	lyonda	IYO 15/1/15-10	Imbonga	2220 ± 30 BP 2235 ± 30 BP	Poz-74897 Poz-74898