

## Sweet potato

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The lexical variants presented in the note below are arranged according to their frequency of occurrence in the survey data—from most frequent to least frequent.

The following words were noted in the survey conducted in various parts of the state of Maharashtra to refer to the tuber ‘Sweet potato’ (*rətaʎə*):

*rətaʎə, rəttalə, rəttal, rətaʎ, rətaʎi, rətaʎo, rətela, rəttalə, rətaʎa, rətaʎo, rətaʎu, rəttalu, rətal, rəttala, rətaʎu, rətala, rətale, rətaʎe, rətaʎay, rətnaʎ, rətaʎi, rətnaʎə, rətnarə, rətalya, rətaʎu, rətaʎə, ratera, rətala, rətteli, rəteli, rətaʎə, rətaʎə, rətnaʎu, rətnay, rətnaʎi, rətnalyə, rətnaʎ, rətaʎe, rətaʎu, rətaʎu, sakru, sak<sup>h</sup>ru, sak<sup>h</sup>aru, sakəru, sakri, sakrya, kənd, kəndə, səknarə, səknaru, səknara, səknar, səkla, səkərkənd, səkərkəndə, šəkərkənd, šəkərkəṅ, səkərkəndə, činnə, čini, kaṭikən, koṅge, kəṅgew, kəṅgi, peṅḍya, maṭi, c<sup>h</sup>əkri, səkri, lateri, b<sup>h</sup>atkənd, batat, battas, b<sup>h</sup>eli, momna, etc.*

Molesworth (1975) recorded the word *rəktalu* as the original word and recorded the words *rətaʎe* and *rətaʎu* as alternative words. In the SDML survey, the word *rətaʎə* was observed in almost all districts of Maharashtra except Gondiya. The word *rətaʎə* and its phonetic variants were reported as given above. Dhongde (2013: 62) notes the word *rətaʎi* in his ‘Linguistic Atlas of Maharashtra: A Pilot Study’. The word *sakəs* recorded in Dhule centre by Dhongde was not recorded in the SDML survey, however, the word *sakru* was recorded in the present survey in Dhule, Palghar, Nashik, Nandurbar, Aurangabad, and Jalgaon districts. The Hindi word for sweet potato, *šəkərkənd*, was reported in Bhandara and Gondia districts along with the word *səkərkənd* as its phonetic variant. The words *činnə*, *čini* were observed only in Chandgad taluka of Kolhapur district. The words *koṅge*, *kəṅgew*, *kəṅgi*, *kəṅga*, *kaṭikən*, etc. were noted in Dodamarg taluka of Sindhudurg which is adjacent to Goa. Additionally, the word *rətnaʎ* was reported in Buldhana, Akola, Yavatmal, Washim, Amravati, Nagpur, and Wardha districts in Vidarbha.

The word *b<sup>h</sup>eli* was observed in the Korku community of Amravati district whereas the word *momna* was observed in the Arak community of Amravati district. The word *maṭi* was reported by respondents of the Rajgond communities in Yawatmal, Nagpur, and Gadchiroli districts. The words *batat*, *battas* were reported by the Christian community of Korlai village in Murud taluka of Raigad district.

References:



1. Dhongde, Ramesh (1995) (Reprint 2013) *Maharashtracha Bhashik Nakasha (Purvatayari)*, Mumbai: Rajya Marathi Vikas Sanstha.

2. Molesworth (1831) *Molesworth's Marathi-English Dictionary* (2nd edition: 1857, revised Reprint 1975), Pune: Shubhada Sarasvat.

