

Journal of Ethnic Foods

Pindang, the Indonesian Indigenous Traditional Fish-Based Food

--Manuscript Draft--

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| Manuscript Number: | JEFO-D-23-00277 |
| Full Title: | Pindang, the Indonesian Indigenous Traditional Fish-Based Food |
| Article Type: | Review article |
| Funding Information: | |
| Abstract: | <p>Indonesia has myriad recipes of aquatic products-based dishes which represent the wealth of diverse histories, ethnicities, cultures and natural resources. One of which is pindang, which is native to Indonesia, with diverse authentic recipes as discovered across the country. Thus, this manuscript aims to explore, identify and develop a culinary profile of 80 Indonesian pindang dishes as discovered in about 16 provinces across the country as viewed from geographical distribution, historical, cultural and culinary aspects.</p> <p>Pindang has been shaped over centuries by unique histories, local wisdoms, cooking techniques, traditions, natural resources and philosophy. Historically, pindang was initially created as a stew from various species of fishes and aquatic animals, involving various spices, herbs, souring agents and other ingredients. In the course of periods, the dish was subsequently evolutionized to be a preserved-product (salt-boiled fish), in which this preservation technique is only discovered in Indonesia. In the term of diversity, pindang is discovered as stew (45 dishes), salt-boiled fish (11 dishes) and processing version of salt-boiled fish (24 dishes), with mostly concentrated in South Sumatra (23 dishes). Specialties such as pindang belida (spicy and sour featherback knifefish [Chitala ornata] stew) from South Sumatra, ikan tuna pindang (salt-boiled tuna) from Bali and sambel pindang kemangi (salt-boiled fish, stir-fried in lemon basil and chili sauce) from East Java are instances of pindang stew, salt-boiled fish and processed version of salt-boiled fish, respectively. Although mostly developed from fish, pindang stew can also be developed from livestock products and vegetables as shown in Central Javanese pindang Kudus (buffalo meat stew) and pindang rebung santan (coconut milk-based bamboo shoot stew), respectively. Meanwhile, salt-boiled fish is mostly created by boiling fish in salt solution until dry as demonstrated in cue, Bawean and paso methods. The salt-boiled fish can be further cooked as numerous new dishes, most of which are sambal-based.</p> |
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| Opposed Reviewers: | |
| Additional Information: | |
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Pindang, the Indonesian Indigenous Traditional Fish-Based Food

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Abstract

Indonesia has myriad recipes of aquatic products-based dishes which represent the wealth of diverse histories, ethnicities, cultures and natural resources. One of which is *pindang*, which is native to Indonesia, with diverse authentic recipes as discovered across the country. Thus, this manuscript aims to explore, identify and develop a culinary profile of 80 Indonesian *pindang* dishes as discovered in about 16 provinces across the country as viewed from geographical distribution, historical, cultural and culinary aspects.

Pindang has been shaped over centuries by unique histories, local wisdoms, cooking techniques, traditions, natural resources and philosophy. Historically, *pindang* was initially created as a stew from various species of fishes and aquatic animals, involving various spices, herbs, souring agents and other ingredients. In the course of periods, the dish was subsequently evolutionized to be a preserved-product (salt-boiled fish), in which this preservation technique is only discovered in Indonesia. In the term of diversity, *pindang* is discovered as stew (45 dishes), salt-boiled fish (11 dishes) and processing version of salt-boiled fish (24 dishes), with mostly concentrated in South Sumatra (23 dishes). Specialties such as *pindang belida* (spicy and sour featherback knifefish [*Chitala ornata*] stew) from South Sumatra, *ikan tuna pindang* (salt-boiled tuna) from Bali and *sambel pindang kemangi* (salt-boiled fish, stir-fried in lemon basil and chili sauce) from East Java are instances of *pindang* stew, salt-boiled fish and processed version of salt-boiled fish, respectively. Although mostly developed from fish, *pindang* stew can also be developed from livestock products and vegetables as shown in Central Javanese *pindang Kudus* (buffalo meat stew) and *pindang rebung santan* (coconut milk-based bamboo shoot stew), respectively. Meanwhile, salt-boiled fish is mostly created by boiling fish in salt solution until dry as demonstrated in *cue*, *Bawean* and *paso* methods. The salt-boiled fish can be further cooked as numerous new dishes, most of which are *sambal*-based.

Keywords: *pindang*, stew, salt-boiled fish, Indonesian traditional food, *sambal*-based dish, preservation, fermentation.

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Introduction

Indonesia, an archipelagic country strategically situated at the crossroads of Asia and Australia and surrounded by the Pacific and Indian Oceans, boasts over 17,000 official islands and spans more than 3 million square kilometers of water bodies (these encompass seas, straits, bays, rivers, lakes, marshlands, and floodplains). Located along the equator and characterized by intercontinental seasonal monsoon winds and a range of volcanic mountains, Indonesia is endowed with abundant natural resources, particularly aquatic animals [1]. The country hosts a remarkable variety of aquatic species, including freshwater and marine fishes as well as aquatic invertebrates [1, 2]. In economic terms, the total production of Indonesian aquatic animals surpassed 20 million metric tons by 2020, with a total commercial value exceeding 19 billion US dollars [2].

Indonesia also demonstrates a cultural megadiversity, with numerous languages, traditional ceremonies, arts, clothing, folk music, local wisdom, culinary traditions, dances, and so on, originating from nearly 1,300 distinct indigenous ethnic groups and impacted by various foreign influences [3]. The Indonesian culinary tradition has, over centuries, developed many vibrant and authentic recipes using the nation's abundant natural resources and diverse ethnic cultures, with hints of foreign gastronomical arts (Chinese, Indian, Arabian, European, and Polynesian culinary traditions) [3, 4]. Many Indonesian traditional dishes have been created from aquatic products as the main ingredients. One such dish is *pindang*.

Pindang is an intangible national heritage that represents the richness of Indonesian history, acculturation, natural resource, local wisdom, and culinary tradition [5]. Interestingly, the dish has become a specialty in some certain regions, often served on particular occasions, signifying a local identity [5, 6]. Every region has developed their own unique recipes of *pindang*,

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4 formulated over centuries, for processing fish and aquatic animals into succulent *pindang* dishes
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6 [5, 6, 7, 8]. *Pindang* is popularly recognized as a spicy and sour fish stew in the culinary tradition
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8 of some regions in Indonesia [5]. However, the term is also ambiguously understood as a salt-
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10 boiling preservation method in other regions [6]. Interestingly, the dish can also be prepared from
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12 other ingredients such as meat, eggs, and vegetables rather than aquatic-based products [7, 9, 10,
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19 The current study presents a literature review of *pindang* as observed from historical,
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21 philosophical, cultural, gastronomical, and food science points of view. The manuscript explores
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23 all aspects related to *pindang* from regions across the country, including recipes, distribution, and
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25 related data, as elaborated from a wide range of sources such as cookbooks, recipe books, and
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27 academic journals. The objective is to develop a culinary profile and facilitate scientific
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29 discussions that can potentially enrich both national and international gastronomical databases.
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32 The article also reveals the origin of the ambiguity of two classical *pindang* terms and offers some
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34 logical hypotheses and chronologies based on history and culture. The manuscript also reviews the
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36 preparation methods of *pindang* either as a stew or a preserved salt-boiled fish, as well as the
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38 further culinary processing of salt-boiled fish (*pindang* preserved fish) across regions in Indonesia.
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45 **History of *Pindang***

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50 According to the official Indonesian dictionary, the term *pindang* is literally described as
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52 a preservation method for fish and poultry products by boiling the ingredients in a brine or acidic
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54 solution with herbs containing a substance like tannin, followed by smoking or prolonged boiling
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56 until dry [12]. Furthermore, the definition is extended to include spicy and sour stews of fish (and
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4 in some cases, meat and seafood are utilized as primary ingredients), as prepared using various
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6 herbs and spices [5].
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9 There are two versions of *pindang*, with the latter being the older one historically. Many
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11 historians trace the origin of *pindang* back to southern Sumatra during the *Srivijaya* empire era
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13 (671–1025 AD) [13]. Examples of *pindang* stew include *pindang gabus* (spicy and sour snakehead
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15 fish [*Channa striata*] stew from South Sumatra), *pindang belida* (spicy and sour featherback
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17 knifefish [*Chitala ornata*] stew from South Sumatra), *pindang patin* (spicy and sour shark catfish
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19 [*Pangasius bocourti*] stew from South Sumatra and West Kalimantan) (Fig. 1A) and *pindang*
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21 *tongkol* (sour and spicy mackerel tuna [*Euthynnus affinis*] stew from Bangka-Belitung) (Fig. 1B)
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23 [5, 7, 14]. Interestingly, *pindang* shares similarities with other spicy and sour fish/meat stews found
24
25 in mainland Southeast Asia, such as *samlar machu* (Cambodian-styled sour and spicy fish soup),
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27 *tom yum* (Thai-styled sour and spicy fish soup), and *canh chua* (Vietnamese-styled sour and spicy
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29 fish soup) [15, 16]. In the first century AD, the Funan kingdom was established and became a
30
31 trading hub between China, India, and the Southeast Asian archipelago for about 500 years [17].
32
33 The historic connections (through religio-cultural and economic activities) between the Indonesian
34
35 archipelago and the mainland Indo-China probably facilitated the spread of these spicy and sour
36
37 fish stews from the mainland to maritime Southeast Asia [13, 18]. Some historians also
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39 hypothesized that the decline of the Funan kingdom in the mid-6th century probably led to
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41 migration, including people and nobles, to the southern island of Sumatra [18]. The intermarriage
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43 of Indo-Chinese immigrants with native Malay people might hypothetically establish a new entity,
44
45 the *Srivijaya* kingdom (671 AD) [18, 19]. This cultural amalgamation potentially influenced
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47 culinary traditions, with the Indo-Chinese spicy and sour fish stews probably inspiring the creation
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49 of *pindang* in Sumatra [13, 20]. Today, *pindang* stews are still served at homes and restaurants in
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4 South Sumatra, as well as at traditional ceremonies and feasts. Given its diverse ingredients,
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6 *pindang* stew symbolizes unity in South Sumatra society, bringing people together from various
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8 social and religious backgrounds [13, 21].
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11 As the *Srivijaya* empire emerged as a thalassocratic empire (671–790 AD) and expanded
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13 its territory to include almost four-fifths of Sumatra island, the Malay peninsula, the western coast
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15 of Kalimantan, as well as western and central Java; the dish (*pindang*) spread throughout the entire
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17 imperial area [19]. The *Srivijaya* empire adopted a *mandala* political system whereby a state
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19 evolved from the network of many vassalized kingdoms under an influential central dominion.
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21 Political orders and policies diffused from the epicenter of the empire to vassal kingdoms and
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23 principalities [22]. This was a contrast to the common model of imperial political systems such as
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25 the Roman and Chinese empires, where the emperor strictly limited the sovereignty of vassal
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27 kingdoms and assigned governors as imperial representatives. The *mandala*-based ruling houses
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29 often orchestrated strategic diplomatic marriages with local ruling families as a means of exerting
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31 control and bolstering the *mandala* political system [18, 19, 22]. For example, the *Shailendra*
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33 dynasty (725–835 AD), a Malay *Srivijaya*-Javanese noble family, was designated as a co-ruler of
34
35 *Srivijaya* empire to control several kingdoms in Java, including *Mataram*, *Sunda*, and *Kalingga*
36
37 kingdoms [18, 19, 23]. The dynasty eventually assumed a sole ruler of the empire at the summit
38
39 of their glory (812–833 AD) and shifted the capital from South Sumatra to central Java [18, 23].
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41 It was probably the family who introduced and popularized *pindang* in Java. As it gained
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43 popularity among the Javanese people, *pindang* became a delicacy for a wider range of people and
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45 activities, from commoners to religious offerings and imperial banquets [24]. Even when the last
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47 monarch of *Shailendra* dynasty, *Balaputradewa*, was defeated by *Rakai Pikatan* from *Sanjaya*
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49 dynasty, the native dynasty of *Mataram* kingdom, which historically terminated the dominance of
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4 *Srivijaya* realm in Java (835 AD), *pindang* was still served in the royal table banquets and religious
5 ceremonies as documented in *Taji* inscription (901 AD) [19, 24].
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9 Later, in Java, *pindang* evolved beyond its association solely with spicy and sour fish
10 stews, and developed into a preservation method for seafood products. The method involves an
11 extended period of stewing or boiling until almost all the water evaporates, resulting in a dry
12 product. This process can extend the shelf life of a product [6]. It is suggested that the development
13 of this preservation method was probably a local wisdom of the Javanese people to navigate
14 challenging conditions, as there were instabilities in Java (circa 910–1100 A.D) due to numerous
15 volcanic eruptions and inter-imperial wars that made it impossible to prepare food in the traditional
16 ways [25]. Sometimes, additional processes were involved to prolong the shelf life of the products
17 such as drying and smoking which can still discover until today. This method is referred to as “wet
18 preservation” in order to distinguish it from the traditional salted-dried fish method [6]. *Ikan*
19 *cakalang pindang* (salt-boiled skipjack tuna [*Katsuwonus pelamis*] found in Central Java, East
20 Java, and Bali) (Fig. 1C), *ikan tongkol pindang* (salt-boiled mackerel tuna [*Euthynnus affinis*]
21 found in Central Java, East Java, and Bali) (Fig. 1D) and *ikan tenggiri pindang* (salt-boiled wahoo
22 [*Acanthocybium solandri*] found in Central Java, East Java, and Bali) are instances of the
23 application of this preservation method [6]. The term *ikan tongkol pindang* differs from *pindang*
24 *tongkol*, the latter being the stew version [5, 6]. This ancient preservation method is still being
25 practiced in the northern coast of Java [6]. The collapse of the Hindu-Buddhist *Majapahit* empire
26 and the rise of Islamic states in Java spurred demographic migrations from Java to Bali, introducing
27 this preservation method in the latter region [26]. An instance of Balinese specialty using this
28 preservation technique is *ikan tuna pindang* (salt-boiled tuna) (Fig. 1E) [6]. Interestingly, the by-
29 product of this preservation process, the residual boiling water, is sometimes seasoned with spices
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4 and herbs and utilized as a dressing in *rujak kuah pindang*, a Balinese-styled fruit salad (Fig. 1F)
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6 [27].
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9 During the course of its history, *pindang*, in both stew and preserved forms, exhibited
10 versatility beyond seafoods and fishery products. Its application to various meats (beef, pork,
11 buffalo meat, mutton, and chicken) and other ingredients (vegetables and eggs) in the dish is
12 widely observed in many regions in Indonesia [5, 7]. For example, a Javanese delicacy, *telur*
13 *pindang* (Javanese-styled marbled egg from Central Java) (Fig. 1G), involves preserving eggs by
14 boiling them in a mixture of brine and teak (*Tectona grandis*) leaves [5]. Sharing a similarity with
15 Chinese marbled egg, the dish exhibits a hint of the past bilateral relationship with China dating
16 back to the 11th century AD [27]. However, the Javanese employ teak leaves instead of tea
17 (*Camelia sinensis*) leaves in the preservation process, as teak forests have long grown in Java for
18 thousands of years [24, 28]. The tannin present in teak leaves aids in constricting egg proteins,
19 thus reducing the pore size on the eggshell. This prevents the infiltration of foodborne bacteria
20 through the pores [29]. Furthermore, *telur pindang* has been utilized in other Javanese delicacies
21 such as *gudeg telur pindang* (a Javanese-styled marbled egg served with sweetened young jackfruit)
22 discovered in Yogyakarta [30].
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44 On the other hand, contemporary meat-based *pindang* stews such as *pindang Kudus*
45 (Central Javanese buffalo meat stew) (Fig. 1H), *pindang tetelan* (Central Javanese cattle tendon
46 stew) (Fig. 1I), and *pindang kambing* (Central Javanese mutton stew) probably originated in Java
47 before the arrival of Islam (before the 15th century). They were probably prepared using non-*halal*
48 meats (forbidden according to Islamic dietary law) such as pork, canine, and reptile meat [5, 9,
49 24]. Unfortunately, the remnants of these non-*halal pindang* stew are currently arduous to discover
50 in Java. Entrhrillingly, traces of the ancient non-*halal pindang* stew have been discovered in the
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4 Kapampangan region of the Philippines, where it is locally known as *pindang babi* (pork *pindang*
5 stew) [31]. Meanwhile, *burong baboy* is the dried-fermented version of *pindang babi* [32]. The
6 term *pindang* being used for both dish names and their resemblance to Javanese *pindang* (both the
7 meat-based stew and the preserved version) demonstrate a longstanding inter-insular relationship
8 between Java and the Philippines, as evidenced by the *Laguna* copperplate inscription from the
9 early 10th century AD [33]. Probably, it was the Javanese who introduced the dishes to the region
10 [33].
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22 The arrival of Europeans, especially the Portuguese and the Spaniards, in Southeast Asian
23 archipelago (16–17th century AD) introduced new crops such as chili pepper (*Capsicum annum*),
24 pineapple (*Ananas comosus*), and tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*) from the American continent.
25 These new ingredients enhanced the sourness and spiciness of *pindang* stew [21, 34]. Interestingly,
26 several *pindang* stews also gained favor among the descendants of foreign immigrants, such as the
27 Chinese and the Portuguese-based Creole-speaking *Mardjiker* people, inspiring them to create
28 their own version of *pindang*. The abundance of milkfish (*Chanos chanos*) on the north coast of
29 Batavia (modern-day Jakarta) enabled the *Mardjiker* people in Kampung Tugu to develop *pindang*
30 *serani* (a Portuguese-Indonesian version of spicy milkfish stew) (Fig. 1J). The word *serani* derives
31 from a corrupted version of the word *nasrani*, meaning Christian, the prevailing faith within the
32 community [7, 35]. Meanwhile, the Chinese settlers created *pindang bandeng kecap* (milkfish
33 stewed in soy sauce found in Indonesia's Chinatowns) (Fig. 1K) commonly served during Chinese
34 holidays like *imlek* (Chinese new year) and *cap go meh* (the 15th day of the first month in the
35 Chinese calendar), as bones of milkfish symbolize prosperity in Chinese belief [27].
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Distribution of *Pindang*

Table 1 and appendix 1 recapitulate about 80 *pindang* dishes as collected from regions across Indonesia. These *pindang* dishes were discovered in 16 provinces situated mainly in the western part of the country (Fig. 2). The dishes are dominated by 45 *pindang* stews, with 23 originating primarily from South Sumatra (Fig. 2). Examples include *pindang telur gabus* (spicy and sour snakehead fish roe [*Channa striata*] stew) (Fig. 1L), *pindang kerang* (spicy and sour blood cockle [*Anadara granosa*] stew) (Fig. 1M) and *pindang patin* [5, 7]. Conversely, *pindang* dishes classified in terms of salt-boiled fish (11 dishes) and their further processed forms (24 dishes) are mostly discovered in Java and Bali (Fig. 2). Examples are *ikan kembung pindang* (salt-boiled Indian mackerel [*Rastrelliger kanagurta*] found in Central Java, East Java, and Bali), *tumis ikan pindang* (stir-fried salt-boiled fish found in Central Java and East Java), and *pindang tongkol suwir kemangi* (shredded salt-boiled mackerel tuna [*Euthynnus affinis*] stir-fried with lemon basil found in East Java) (Fig. 1N) [6, 36, 37]. Unfortunately, salt-boiled fish and the processing version of the preserved products are rarely discovered in Sumatra, especially South Sumatra (Fig. 2). On the other hand, the stew version (16 dishes) is still discovered in other parts of Indonesia (including in Java with 12 dishes) (Fig. 2). These facts reinforce the aforementioned hypothesis that *pindang* likely originated in South Sumatra during the *Srivijaya* empire's period (circa 671–1025 AD) in stew form [13, 17, 21]. The current distribution of dishes in the former regions of the ancient *Srivijaya* empire (mostly in the western part of Indonesia) indicates that *pindang* was historically introduced by the *Srivijaya* to the entire imperial region [17]. In Java, *pindang* was not only served as a stew, but it also evolutionized into a preservation method [6, 17]. From Java, this preservation method was introduced to other places in Indonesia, including Sumatra [6]. The Acehese delicacy

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4 of *keumamah* is a dried-version of salt-boiled fish while *pindang balado* (salt-boiled fish stir-fried
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6 in chili sauce of West Sumatra) is the contemporary creation of *pindang* (salt-boiled fish) (Table
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8
9 1) [38, 39]. Both are possibly influenced by Javanese culinary traditions [6, 24].

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11 Most South Sumatran *pindang* stews (9 dishes) (Table 1 and Fig. 2) utilize diverse
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13 species of freshwater fish as the main ingredient, including gourami fish (*Osphronemus gouramy*)
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15 (Fig. 3A), snakehead fish (*Channa striata*) (Fig. 3B), *baung* fish (*Hemibagrus nemurus*) (Fig. 3C),
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17 featherback knifefish (*Chitala ornata*) (Fig. 3D) and shark catfish (*Pangasius bocourti*) (Fig. 3E)
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19 [5, 7, 14, 40]. Meanwhile, about 6 dishes of South Sumatran *pindang* stews (Table 1 and Fig. 2)
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21 are made from seafood products such as red snapper (*Lutjanus argentimaculatus*) (Fig. 3F), blood
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23 cockle (*Anadara granosa*) (Fig. 3G), and shrimp (*Penaeus monodon*) (Fig. 3H) [5, 41]. The
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25 climatic and geographical conditions of South Sumatra, situated within a tropical region repleted
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27 with vast water bodies encompassing large rivers, marshlands, and seas, contribute significantly
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29 to the abundance of aquatic resources [1, 19, 21, 42]. This abundance probably encouraged the
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31 locals in the region to immediately process these ingredients [21]. The simplest technique
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33 recognized by the traditional people at that time was by stewing the aquatic products in a mixture
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35 of certain spices, herbs, brine and acidic solutions [5, 21]. On the other hand, the main ingredients
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37 employed in Javanese *pindang* stew are more vibrant than those in Sumatra (Table 1 and Fig. 2),
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39 as they are not limited to aquatic products, but also incorporates livestock products such as buffalo
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41 meat (Fig. 3I), offal (Fig. 3J), mutton (Fig. 3K), and poultry eggs (Fig. 3L) in the dish [5, 7]. It is
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43 suggested that the agriculture-based life in Java has significantly influenced the culinary processes,
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45 including the creation of Javanese *pindang* stews based on livestock products as an adaptation of
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47 traditional fish-based *pindang* stews [19, 24]. Fascinatingly, aquatic product-based *pindang* found
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49 in Java—whether in the form of stew, salt-boiled fish, or processed preserved fish—are
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4 predominantly prepared from marine fishes (Table 1 and Fig. 2) such as mackerel tuna (*Euthynnus*
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6 *affinis*) (Fig. 3M), skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*) (Fig. 3N), and wahoo (*Acanthocybium*
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8 *solandri*) (Fig. 3O) rather than freshwater fishes [6]. Geographically, Java's limited availability of
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10 freshwater bodies such as marshlands and large rivers has historically compelled locals to rely
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12 primarily on marine sources of aquatic protein [1, 19].
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16 Sumatran *pindang* stews tend to be sour, spicy and less sweet, while Javanese *pindang*
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18 stews elaborate more diverse tastes (sweet, sour, spicy, savory, and salty). The preference for
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20 particular tastes is determined by many factors such as culture, natural resources, and
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22 gastronomical traditions inherent to particular regions [4]. The various compositions of spices,
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24 herbs and other additional ingredients produce distinct tastes of *pindang* stew (Table 1). Turmeric
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26 (*Curcuma domestica*) (Fig. 4A), galangal (*Alpinia galanga*) (Fig. 4B), lemongrass (*Cymbopogon*
27
28 *citratus*) (Fig. 4C), ginger (*Zingiber officinale*) (Fig. 4D) and chili pepper (*Capsicum annum*) (Fig.
29
30 4E) feature in almost all *pindang* stews across the country and infuse the dishes with eccentric,
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32 aromatic, and spicy tastes (Table 1 and Fig. 2) [5, 43, 44, 45]. The degree of sourness is determined
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34 by several additional ingredients incorporated into the stews such as *belimbing wuluh* (*Averrhoa*
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36 *bilimbi*) (Fig. 4F), *rambai* fruit (*Baccaurea motleyana*) (Fig. 4G), tamarind (*Tamarindus indica*)
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38 (Fig. 4H), yellow mangosteen (*Garcinia xanthochymus*) (Fig. 4I), pineapple (*Ananas comosus*)
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40 (Fig. 4J) and tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*) (Fig. 4K), which are also found in almost all *pindang*
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42 stews in Sumatra, Java, Kalimantan and other regions (Table 1 and Fig. 2) [5, 7, 40, 46].
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44 Meanwhile, the incorporation of ingredients such as soy sauce and palm sugar delivers a level of
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46 sweetness to *pindang* stews, as mostly found in some dishes in Java (Table 1 and Fig. 2) [9, 47].
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48 Furthermore, some Indonesian indigenous herbs such as *kecombrang* (*Etlingera elatior*) (Fig. 4L),
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50 June plum leaf (*Spondias dulcis*) (Fig. 4M), *kencur* (*Kaempferia galanga*) (Fig. 4N) and *wadung*
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4 (*Garcinia tetranda*) (Fig. 4O) are also employed in some stews across the country (Table 1 and
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6 Fig. 2) such as *pindang ikan bunga kecombrang* (South Sumatran fish stew spiced with
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8 *kecombrang* [*Etlingera elatior*]), *pindang gunung* (Sundanese-styled spicy and sour fish stew from
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10 West Java), *pindang rebung santan* (Central Javanese coconut milk-based bamboo shoot stew),
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12 and *pindang gendam* (East Javanese spicy Indian mackerel [*Rastrelliger kanagurta*] stew) (Fig.
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14 1O), respectively [10, 48, 49, 50]. These ingredients produce distinctive aromatic flavors and
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16 introduce naturally preserving agents into the stews [43]. On the other hand, in the form of a
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18 preserved product, *ikan pindang* (salt-boiled fish) tends to be savory and salty due to the large
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20 amounts of salt used during its boiling process [6]. Furthermore, most salt-boiled fishes are
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22 subsequently cooked (stir-fried) with some spicy and aromatic ingredients such as chili pepper
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24 (*Capsicum annum*), lemon basil (*Ocimum sanctum*) (Fig. 4P), and kencur (*Kaempferia galanga*),
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26 as discovered in some dishes in Java and Bali (Table 1 and Fig. 2) such as *pindang lombok ijo*
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28 (Central Javanese salt-boiled fish, stir-fried in green chili sauce), *sambel pindang kemangi* (East
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30 Javanese salt-boiled fish, stir-fried in lemon basil and chili sauce), and *pindang kesuna cekuh* (salt-
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32 boiled fish, stir-fried with garlic and *kencur* [*Kaempferia galanga*] found in Bali) (Fig. 1P),
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34 respectively [51, 52]. The incorporation of spices, herbs, and even certain fruits in *pindang* dishes
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36 is associated with the Indonesian traditional culinary wisdom, in which the addition of aromatic
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38 and acidic-producing food materials can improve organoleptic properties and reduce undesired
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40 aroma in foods, including reducing fishiness level in foods based on aquatic products [28, 43]. In
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42 addition, the presence of some spices, herbs and other ingredients such as ginger, garlic, turmeric,
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44 galangal, chili pepper, soy sauce, pineapple, and tomato in the stew indicates a historical economic
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46 and cultural relationship between Indonesia, the Indian sub-continent, China, and Europe [17, 34,
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Preparations of *Pindang*

Ingredients

The main ingredients of *pindang* are tabulated in table 1. These, in general, consist of various species of freshwater fishes, marine fishes, aquatic invertebrates, livestock products, and vegetables. Meanwhile, the secondary ingredients include numerous aromatic spices and herbs, souring-agent fruits, salt, sugar, and fermented products, as also described in table 1.

Cooking Process

There are three versions of *pindang*: the stew, the preserved product (salt-boiled fish), and the processed version of salt-boiled fish. Each of these has a unique cooking method, as demonstrated in the flowcharts in figure 5.

Pindang Stew

In general, the preparation process for the 45 *pindang* stew dishes is technically similar, as depicted in figure 5A. Initially, spices and herbs such as garlic, shallot, chili pepper, turmeric, ginger, candlenut, shrimp paste, coriander, black pepper, salt, sugar, and cooking oil are pulverized, prior to stir-frying with the main ingredients (fish, meat, and vegetables). As an aromatic fragrance is generated, the stewing process is initiated by adding an appropriate quantity of water to the mixture. Tamarind is ground into a paste and herbs such as galangal and lemongrass are crushed

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4 by hammering. Sourcing-agent fruits such as tomatoes and pineapples are chopped. The spices,
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6 herbs, and fruits are subsequently incorporated into the stew along with other herbs such as bay
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8 leaf and lemon basil. Sugar and salt are also added. After several minutes of stewing, the *pindang*
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10 stew is ready to be served [5].
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16 ***Ikan Pindang* (Salt-Boiled Fish)**

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21 In principle, the production of *ikan pindang* (salt-boiled fish) requires salt as an essential
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23 ingredient. Salt has for a long time in history been utilized as a preservative [6]. Boiling in a high
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25 concentration of salt solution prevents the growth of foodborne bacteria, as the scorching-saline
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27 liquid destroys bacterial cells by denaturizing the cell wall and draining out the cytoplasmic fluid
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29 [6, 73]. As the salt solution penetrates into the fish flesh, it expels the native fishy liquid from the
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31 flesh [6]. The application of a high temperature during boiling process also denaturizes the fish
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33 proteins and liberates amino acids such as glutamic acid to produce savory and salty flavors [6,
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38 74].
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41 There are four basic methods in the production of *ikan pindang* (salt-boiled fish) (Fig.
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43 5B, 5C, 5D and 5E). In general, this process involves the utilization of salt in both coarse crystal
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45 and solution (brine) forms. In the *pasu* and *Bawean* methods, coarse salt is spread on every layer
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47 of fish and mixed thoroughly (Fig. 5C and 5E). In the *Muncar* method, the fish is soaked in the
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49 brine solution for several hours (Fig. 5B). Afterwards, the fish is boiled in clay pottery (*pasu* in
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51 Sundanese or *kendil* in Javanese) in the *pasu* and *Bawean* methods (Fig. 5C and 5E). Fish can also
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53 be boiled in brine along with their bamboo-based traditional containers (*naya* in Sundanese or *loko*
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57 in Javanese), as conducted in the *cue* method (Fig. 5D). On the other hand, fish is steamed rather
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4 than boiled in the *Muncar* method, a production method of salt-boiled fish which is native to
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6 Muncar district, Banyuwangi regency, East Java (Fig. 5B). Lastly, fish is drained out and packed
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8 prior to being delivered to the market [6].
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11 The proper post-production management is required to control the product quality during
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13 delivery to the market. As aforementioned, the *pindang* boiling process also produces moisture
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15 with an undesired fishy odor on the fish surface (containing amino acids, sugars, and fatty acids),
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17 which can promote the growth of foodborne bacteria [75]. In general, the shelf life of salt-boiled
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19 fish is about 3 - 14 days [6]. Thus, additional processes are required to prolong the shelf life of the
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21 product such as smoking, pickling, and drying. Salt-boiled fish can also be smoked after boiling
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23 to drain out the rest of its moisture, as in the *Bawean* method developed over centuries in the
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25 Bawean islands of East Java (Fig. 5C). This process can elongate the shelf life of the product by
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27 up to 3 months, after which fermentation and aging occur during storage [6]. On the one hand, the
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29 combination of salt and phenolic compounds reduces the growth of foodborne bacteria. On the
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31 other hand, the combination enables the growth of lactic acid bacteria (probiotics), as in smoked-
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33 fermented sausages [76]. Another example is the *Acehnese* specialty, *keumamah*, in which salt-
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35 boiled fish is desiccated under sunlight after the boiling process. Hence, the dried fish can be stored
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37 for several years. This preserved food was part of the vital military supplies for the soldiers of
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39 *Aceh* sultanate during the *Aceh* war (1873–1913) [38].
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48 However, the additional processes still have their drawbacks. The texture of salt-boiled
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50 fish becomes increasingly harder as a result of a smoking or drying process, either of which
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52 significantly decreases moisture content [6]. The texture of *keumamah*, for instance, resembles a
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54 piece of wood, hence it is popularly known as the “wood fish” [38]. The woody texture resembles
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56 those of *jamon iberico* (Spanish dried-fermented pork) and *katsuobushi* (Japanese dried-fermented
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4 fish), both of which require some effort to slice [77, 78]. A smoking process can also potentially
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6 increase the risk of cancer, as the method produces a high concentration of polycyclic aromatic
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8 hydrocarbons (PAHs) [78].
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11 To overcome these problems, several recommendations are proposed in this article. For
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13 example, liquid smoke can be utilized in the preservation of salt-boiled fish [79]. Nevertheless, the
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15 concentration of the smoke should be carefully considered, since it still contains carcinogenic
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17 substances akin to the smoking method [78, 79]. Lactic acid-based fermentation (pickling) can
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19 potentially be an interesting alternative for the post-production of *ikan pindang*, since probiotic
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21 bacteria produces lactic acid that can inhibit the growth of food degrading bacteria [80, 81]. Lactic
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23 acid bacteria can also decrease undesired aroma, since the bacteria can metabolize amino acids,
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25 sugars, and fatty acids for the growth [82]. Although pickling exhibits several merits in terms of
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27 food preservation, the acidic condition during the fermentation process can affect the taste of the
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29 product. Hence, bacteria growth and lactic acid production should be controlled [81]. In order to
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31 maintain the moisture of *ikan pindang* during the pickling process, it is necessary to incorporate a
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33 particular chemical substance that can seal in the moisture (salt solution). The addition of tannin
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35 can chemically coagulate proteins on the fish surface, thereby locking moisture in the salt-boiled
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37 fish, much like in the traditional preparation of *telur pindang* [5, 29]. This preparation creates a
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39 chewy texture on chicken eggs. Furthermore, moisture locking can also prevent the absorption of
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41 lactic acid into salt-boiled fish during the pickling process [29].
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Processing Version of *Ikan Pindang*

Table 1 elaborates various dishes made from salt-boiled fish across several Indonesian regions, ranging from curries to *sambal*-based (chili sauce) dishes. In this section, we describe the preparation of *sambel pindang kemangi*, a delicacy from East Java (Fig. 5F). Notably, the majority of processed salt-boiled fish are *sambal*-based dishes. The process commences with the main ingredient, either *ikan cakalang pindang* (salt-boiled skipjack tuna) or *ikan tongkol pindang* (salt-boiled mackerel tuna), being finely shredded into pieces. Meanwhile, portions of garlic, shallot, chili pepper, shrimp paste, salt, sugar, and cooking oil are finely ground into a spice blend prior to being stir-fried with shredded salt-boiled fish. Lemon basil is also incorporated into the mixture during cooking (stir-frying), following which the *sambel pindang kemangi* is ready to be served [51].

Conclusion

In summary, *pindang* is an Indonesian delicacy and a national heritage which has developed over centuries, influenced by history, culture, natural resource, philosophy, and cooking techniques. In general, *pindang* is widely recognized in two forms: as a spicy and sour fish stew and a preserved food. Historically, *pindang* was initially developed and introduced as the stew. Subsequently, the dish was expanded to be a preservation method. *Pindang* (80 dishes) is widely distributed across 16 provinces, categorized as stew (45 dishes), salt-boiled fish (11 dishes), and processing versions of salt-boiled fish (24 dishes) primarily concentrated in South Sumatra (23 dishes). The creation of *pindang* stew involves main ingredients such as fishes, aquatic animals,

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4 livestock products, and vegetables as well as various spices, herbs, and souring agents. On the
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6 other hand, the preparation of *pindang* salt-boiled fish is based on different processing methods
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8 which involve the use of salt. Salt-boiled fish (*ikan pindang*) can be further cooked and served as
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10 numerous new dishes, most of which are *sambal*-based.
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15 16 **Acknowledgements**

17
18 Author would like to thanks to Pempek Mang Piri (a South Sumatra restaurant) and some *pindang*
19
20 salt-boiled fish small-scale home industries in Kendal, Central Java, Indonesia which become an
21
22 inspiration for the manuscript writing.
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28 29 **Author contributions**

30
31 IP designed the study, collected some literatures, tabulated and analyzed the data and were in
32
33 charge of the manuscript writing and organizing the references. The author has read and approved
34
35 the final manuscript before being sent.
36
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39

40 41 **Availability of data and materials**

42
43 The data and material used in this work are available upon request.
44
45
46
47

48 49 **Funding**

50
51 The author received no specific funding for this work.
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4 **Declarations**
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9 **Ethics approval and consent to participate**
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11 Not applicable.
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16 **Consent for publication**
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18 The author has given approval for the publication of this manuscript.
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23 **Competing interests**
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25 The author declares no competing interests.
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Table 1. The Indonesian *pindang* dishes based on their origin, type of dishes, and ingredients.

| No | Name of Dishes | English Version of Dishes | Regions of Origin | Type of Dishes | | | Main Ingredients | Spices, Herbs and Other Ingredients | References |
|----|-------------------------------|---|-------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|---|---|------------|
| | | | | Stew | Preserved-Fish | Processed Preserved-Fish | | | |
| 1 | Keumamah | Sun-Dried Salt-Boiled Fish | Aceh | | √ | | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Salt | [38] |
| 2 | Pindang Balado | Salt-Boiled Fish Stir-Fried in Chili Sauce | West Sumatra | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, shrimp paste, salt, sugar, cooking oil. | [39] |
| 3 | Pindang Gurame Kuning | Spicy Gourami Fish (<i>Osphronemus gouramy</i>) Stew Spiced with turmeric | South Sumatra | √ | | | Gourami Fish (<i>Osphronemus gouramy</i>) | Garlic, shallot, galangal, turmeric, ginger, green tomato, chili pepper, tamarind, salt, cooking oil. | [5] |
| 4 | Pindang Ikan Bunga Kecombrang | Fish Stew Spiced with <i>Kecombrang</i> (<i>Etingera elatior</i>) | South Sumatra | √ | | | Wahoo (<i>Acanthocybium solandri</i>) | Garlic, shallot, <i>belimbing wuluh</i> (<i>Averrhoa bilimbi</i>), <i>kecombrang</i> (<i>Etingera elatior</i>), turmeric, ginger, galangal, chili pepper, soy sauce, salt, cooking oil. | [48] |
| 5 | Pindang Gabus | Spicy and Sour Snakehead Fish (<i>Channa striata</i>) Stew | South Sumatra | √ | | | Snakehead Fish (<i>Channa striata</i>) | Garlic, shallot, galangal, citrus leaf, candlenut, chili pepper, ginger, turmeric, lemongrass, pineapple, tomato, salt, cooking oil. | [5] |
| 6 | Pindang Telur Gabus | Spicy and Sour Snakehead Fish Roe Stew | South Sumatra | √ | | | Snakehead Fish (<i>Channa striata</i>) Roe | Garlic, shallot, galangal, citrus leaf, candlenut, chili pepper, ginger, turmeric, lemongrass, pineapple, tomato, salt, cooking oil. | [5] |
| 7 | Pindang Kakap | Spicy and Sour Red Snapper (<i>Lutjanus argentimaculatus</i>) Stew | South Sumatra | √ | | | Red Snapper (<i>Lutjanus argentimaculatus</i>) | Garlic, shallot, galangal, turmeric, ginger, tamarind, tomato, citrus leaf, chili pepper, salt, cooking oil. | [41] |
| 8 | Pindang Kerang | Spicy and Sour Blood Cockle (<i>Anadara granosa</i>) Stew | South Sumatra | √ | | | Blood Cockle (<i>Anadara granosa</i>) | Garlic, shallot, galangal, turmeric, ginger, tamarind, bay leaf, lime, tomato, citrus leaf, chili pepper, salt, cooking oil. | [5] |
| 9 | Pindang Kerupuk | Spicy and Sour Fish Cracker Stew | South Sumatra | √ | | | Fish Cracker | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, galangal, lime, tomato, bay leaf, turmeric, ginger, shrimp paste, lemongrass, pineapple, salt, cooking oil. | [44] |
| 10 | Pindang Meranjat | Spicy and Sour Smoked Fish Stew | South Sumatra | √ | | | Glass Catfish [Kryptopterus bicirrhis], Shark Catfish [Pangasius bocourti] | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, galangal, tamarind, turmeric, ginger, shrimp paste, bay leaf, lemongrass, pineapple, salt, cooking oil. | [45] |

Table 1. The Indonesian *pindang* dishes based on their origin, type of dishes, and ingredients (continued).

| No | Name of Dishes | English Version of Dishes | Regions of Origin | Type of Dishes | | | Main Ingredients | Spices, Herbs and Other Ingredients | References |
|----|------------------------|---|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|--|--|------------|
| | | | | Stew | Preserved-Fish | Processed Preserved-Fish | | | |
| 11 | Pindang Musi Rawas | Musi Rawas-Styled Spicy and Sour Fish Stew | South Sumatra | √ | | | Nile Talapia (<i>Oreochromis niloticus</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, tamarind, turmeric, ginger, shrimp paste, bay leaf, lemongrass, tomato, salt, cooking oil. | [53] |
| 12 | Pindang Patin | Spicy and Sour Shark Catfish (<i>Pangasius bocourti</i>) Stew | South Sumatra, West Kalimantan | √ | | | Shark Catfish (<i>Pangasius bocourti</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, shrimp paste, lime, citrus leaf, turmeric, ginger, lemon basil, bay leaf, lemongrass, tomato, pineapple, salt, cooking oil. | [7] |
| 13 | Pindang Sekayu | Sekayu-Styled Sweet Fish Stew | South Sumatra | √ | | | Baung Fish (<i>Hemibagrus nemurus</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, tamarind, turmeric, ginger, sugar, bay leaf, lemongrass, pineapple, palm sugar, salt, cooking oil. | [54] |
| 14 | Pindang Udang | Spicy and Sour Shrimp Stew | South Sumatra | √ | | | Shrimp (<i>Penaeus monodon</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, tamarind, turmeric, ginger, sugar, bay leaf, lemongrass, tomato, salt, cooking oil. | [5] |
| 15 | Pindang Ceker | Spicy and Sour Chicken Feet Stew | South Sumatra | √ | | | Chicken Feet | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, turmeric, ginger, galangal, bay leaf, lemongrass, rambai fruit (<i>Baccaurea motleyana</i>), salt, cooking oil. | [55] |
| 16 | Pindang Hati Ayam | Spicy and Sour Chicken Liver Stew | South Sumatra | √ | | | Chicken Liver | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, turmeric, ginger, galangal, bay leaf, lemongrass, tomato, salt, cooking oil. | [56] |
| 17 | Pindang Asam Kambing | Spicy and Sour Mutton Stew | South Sumatra | √ | | | Mutton | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, tamarind, soy sauce, bay leaf, lemongrass, salt, cooking oil. | [5] |
| 18 | Pindang Tulang | Spicy Cattle Bone Stew | South Sumatra | √ | | | Cattle Bone | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, galangal, tamarind, turmeric, ginger, bay leaf, lemongrass, sugar, salt, cooking oil. | [8] |
| 19 | Pindang Kacang Panjang | Spicy and Sour Asparagus Bean (<i>Vigna unguiculata</i>) Stew | South Sumatra | √ | | | Asparagus Bean (<i>Vigna unguiculata</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, galangal, tamarind, turmeric, ginger, bay leaf, lemongrass, tomato, sugar, salt, cooking oil. | [57] |
| 20 | Pindang Pegagan | Pegagan-Styled Spicy and Sour Fish Stew | South Sumatra | √ | | | Baung Fish (<i>Hemibagrus nemurus</i>), Snakehead Fish (<i>Channa striata</i>), Shark Catfish (<i>Pangasius bocourti</i>), Helicopter Catfish (<i>Wallagonia leerii</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, tamarind, shrimp paste, bay leaf, lemongrass, tomato, salt, cooking oil. | [58] |

Table 1. The Indonesian *pindang* dishes based on their origin, type of dishes, and ingredients (continued).

| No | Name of Dishes | English Version of Dishes | Regions of Origin | Type of Dishes | | | Main Ingredients | Spices, Herbs and Other Ingredients | References |
|----|----------------------|--|---|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|--|---|------------|
| | | | | Stew | Preserved-Fish | Processed Preserved-Fish | | | |
| 21 | Pindang Ikan Kembung | Spicy and Sour Indian Mackerel (<i>Rastrelliger kanagurta</i>) Stew | South Sumatra, Bangka-Belitung, West Kalimantan | √ | | | Indian Mackerel (<i>Rastrelliger kanagurta</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, tamarind, turmeric, ginger, bay leaf, lemongrass, tomato, lime, sugar, salt, cooking oil. | [59] |
| 22 | Pindang Tenggiri | Spicy and Sour Wahoo (<i>Acanthocybium solandri</i>) Stew | South Sumatra, Bangka-Belitung | √ | | | Wahoo (<i>Acanthocybium solandri</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, galangal, tamarind, turmeric, ginger, bay leaf, citrus leaf, lemongrass, belimbing wuluh (<i>Averrhoa bilimbi</i>), sugar, salt, cooking oil. | [5] |
| 23 | Pindang Belida | Spicy and Sour Featherback Knifefish (<i>Chitala ornata</i>) Stew | South Sumatra | √ | | | Featherback Knifefish (<i>Chitala ornata</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, galangal, tamarind, bay leaf, lemon basil, lemongrass, pineapple, sugar, salt, cooking oil. | [14] |
| 24 | Pindang Ayam | Spicy and Sour Chicken Stew | South Sumatra | √ | | | Chicken | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, turmeric, ginger, galangal, bay leaf, lemongrass, tomato, salt, cooking oil. | [5] |
| 25 | Pindang Buntut Sapi | Spicy and Sour Oxtail Stew | South Sumatra | √ | | | Oxtail | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, <i>belimbing wuluh</i> (<i>Averrhoa bilimbi</i>), soy sauce, bay leaf, lemongrass, salt, cooking oil. | [7] |
| 26 | Pindang Kerapu | Spicy and Sour Brown-Marbled Grouper (<i>Epinephelus fuscoguttatus</i>) Stew | Bengkulu | √ | | | Brown-Marbled Grouper (<i>Epinephelus fuscoguttatus</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, galangal, yellow mangosteen (<i>Garcinia xanthochymus</i>), turmeric, ginger, bay leaf, citrus leaf, lemon basil, lemongrass, pineapple, sugar, salt, cooking oil. | [46] |
| 27 | Pindang Tongkol | Spicy and Sour Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>) Stew | Bangka-Belitung | √ | | | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, galangal, tamarind, turmeric, ginger, bay leaf, lime, citrus leaf, lemon basil, lemongrass, sugar, salt, cooking oil. | [5] |
| 28 | Pindang Cumi-Cumi | Spicy and Sour Squid Stew | Bangka-Belitung | √ | | | Squid | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, galangal, tamarind, turmeric, ginger, bay leaf, lemongrass, pineapple, sugar, salt, cooking oil. | [5] |
| 29 | Pindang Bangka | Bangka Styled Spicy and Sour Fish Stew | Bangka-Belitung | √ | | | Blue Butterfish (<i>Stromateus fiatola</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, galangal, tamarind, turmeric, ginger, bay leaf, lemongrass, sugar, salt, cooking oil. | [60] |
| 30 | Pindang Baung | Spicy and Sour <i>Baung</i> Fish (<i>Hemibagrus nemurus</i>) Stew | Lampung | √ | | | <i>Baung</i> Fish (<i>Hemibagrus nemurus</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, galangal, <i>belimbing wuluh</i> (<i>Averrhoa bilimbi</i>), turmeric, ginger, bay leaf, lemon basil, lemongrass, <i>rambai</i> fruit (<i>Baccaurea motleyana</i>), sugar, salt, cooking oil. | [40] |

Table 1. The Indonesian *pindang* dishes based on their origin, type of dishes, and ingredients (continued).

| No | Name of Dishes | English Version of Dishes | Regions of Origin | Type of Dishes | | | Main Ingredients | Spices, Herbs and Other Ingredients | References |
|----|------------------------|---|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|---|--|------------|
| | | | | Stew | Preserved-Fish | Processed Preserved-Fish | | | |
| 31 | Pindang Lampung | Lampung-Styled Spicy and Sour Fish Stew | Lampung | √ | | | Baung Fish (<i>Hemibagrus nemurus</i>), Shark Catfish (<i>Pangasius bocourti</i>), Snakehead Fish (<i>Channa striata</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, galangal, tamarind, turmeric, ginger, bay leaf, citrus leaf, lemon basil, lemongrass, tomato, sugar, salt, cooking oil. | [61] |
| 32 | Pindang Bandeng | Spicy and Sour Milkfish (<i>Chanos chanos</i>) Stew | Jakarta, Central Java | √ | | | Milkfish (<i>Chanos chanos</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, galangal, tamarind, turmeric, bay leaf, citrus leaf, tomato, palm sugar, soy sauce, stinky bean, salt, cooking oil. | [5] |
| 33 | Pindang Serani | Portuguese-Indonesian Version of Spicy Milkfish Stew | Jakarta | √ | | | Milkfish (<i>Chanos chanos</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, turmeric, bay leaf, citrus leaf, lemongrass, tomato, sugar, salt, cooking oil. | [7] |
| 34 | Pindang Gunung | Sundanese-Styled Spicy and Sour Fish Stew | West Java | √ | | | Red Snapper (<i>Lutjanus argentimaculatus</i>), Blue Butterfish (<i>Stromateus fiatola</i>), Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, shrimp paste, kecombrang (<i>Etilingera elatior</i>), turmeric, june plum leaf (<i>Spondias dulcis</i>), chili pepper, tamarind, salt, cooking oil. | [49] |
| 35 | Pindang Kepala Manyung | Spicy Marine Catfish Head (<i>Arius venosus</i>) Stew | West Java, Central Java | √ | | | Marine Catfish (<i>Arius venosus</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, galangal, turmeric, ginger, tamarind, bay leaf, citrus leaf, lemon basil, lemongrass, tomato, palm sugar, salt, cooking oil. | [62] |
| 36 | Pais Pindang | Spicy Salt-Boiled Fish Steamed in Banana Leaf Wrappings | West Java | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, shrimp paste, galangal, ginger, lemongrass, bay leaf, salt, sugar, lemon basil, cooking oil. | [63] |
| 37 | Kecap Cicue | Soy Sauce with Mashed Salt-Boiled Fish | West Java | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Soybean, palm sugar, salt, star anise. | [64] |
| 38 | Ikan Pindang Cue | Brine-Boiled Fish | West Java | | √ | | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Salt | [6] |
| 39 | Pindang Mujaer | Spicy and Sour Redbelly Talapia (<i>Coptodon zillii</i>) Stew | West Java | √ | | | Redbelly Talapia (<i>Coptodon zillii</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, black pepper, coriander, tomato, ginger, tamarind, bay leaf, citrus leaf, lemongrass, candlenut, salt, cooking oil. | [5] |
| 40 | Telur Pindang | Javanese-Styled Marbled Egg | Central Java | | √ | | Chicken Egg | Salt, teak leaf (<i>Tectona grandis</i>) | [5] |

Table 1. The Indonesian *pindang* dishes based on their origin, type of dishes, and ingredients (continued).

| No | Name of Dishes | English Version of Dishes | Regions of Origin | Type of Dishes | | | Main Ingredients | Spices, Herbs and Other Ingredients | References |
|----|-----------------------|--|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|---|--|------------|
| | | | | Stew | Preserved-Fish | Processed Preserved-Fish | | | |
| 41 | Telur Bebek Pindang | Javanese-Styled Marbled Duck Egg | Central Java | | √ | | Duck Egg | Salt, teak leaf (<i>Tectona grandis</i>) | [7] |
| 42 | Pindang Kudus | Bufallo Meat Stew | Central Java | √ | | | Bufallo Meat | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, shrimp paste, <i>keluak</i> (<i>Pangium edule</i>), soy sauce, coriander, galangal, <i>Gnetum gnemon</i> leaf, bay leaf, tamarind, coconut milk, cooking oil, salt. | [9] |
| 43 | Pindang Kambing | Mutton Stew | Central Java | √ | | | Mutton | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, turmeric, ginger, soy sauce, galangal, <i>lemongrass</i> , bay leaf, soy sauce, cooking oil, salt. | [5] |
| 44 | Pindang Rebung Santan | Coconut Milk-Based Bamboo Shoot Stew | Central Java | √ | | | Bamboo Shoot | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, <i>kencur</i> (<i>Kaempferia galanga</i>), black pepper, galangal, bay leaf, coconut milk, cooking oil, salt, sugar. | [10] |
| 45 | Pindang Tetelan | Cattle Tendon Stew | Central Java | √ | | | Cattle Tendon | Garlic, shallot, candlenut, black pepper, chili pepper, shrimp paste, <i>keluak</i> (<i>Pangium edule</i>), coriander, galangal, <i>lemongrass</i> , bay leaf, citrus leaf, palm sugar, cooking oil, salt. | [5] |
| 46 | Bothok Pindang | Spicy Grated Coconut Flesh and Salt-Boiled Fish Steamed in Banana Leaf Wrappings | Central Java | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, shrimp paste, galangal, ginger, <i>lemongrass</i> , bay leaf, salt, sugar, lemon basil, cooking oil, shredded coconut flesh. | [9] |
| 47 | Pindang Lombok Ijo | Salt-Boiled Fish Stir-Fried in Green Chili Sauce | Central Java | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, green chili pepper, salt, sugar, cooking oil. | [51] |
| 48 | Tumis Ikan Pindang | Stir-Fried Salt-Boiled Fish | Central Java, East Java | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, salt, sugar, tomato, cooking oil. | [36] |
| 49 | Mangut Pindang | Spicy Salt-Boiled Fish Curry | Central Java | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, turmeric, galangal, salt, <i>lemongrass</i> , ginger, coconut milk, cooking oil. | [65] |
| 50 | Lodeh Pindang | Salt-Boiled Fish Curry | Central Java | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, galangal, salt, ginger, coconut milk, cooking oil. | [66] |

Table 1. The Indonesian *pindang* dishes based on their origin, type of dishes, and ingredients (continued).

| No | Name of Dishes | English Version of Dishes | Regions of Origin | Type of Dishes | | | Main Ingredients | Spices, Herbs and Other Ingredients | References |
|----|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|---|--|------------|
| | | | | Stew | Preserved-Fish | Processed Preserved-Fish | | | |
| 51 | Ikan Tenggiri Pindang | Salt-Boiled Wahoo (<i>Acanthocybium solandri</i>) | Central Java, East Java, Bali | | √ | | Wahoo (<i>Acanthocybium solandri</i>) | Salt | [6] |
| 52 | Ikan Kembung Pindang | Salt-Boiled Indian Mackerel (<i>Rastrelliger kanagurta</i>) | Central Java, East Java, Bali | | √ | | Indian Mackerel (<i>Rastrelliger kanagurta</i>) | Salt | [6] |
| 53 | Ikan Cakalang Pindang | Salt-Boiled Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Central Java, East Java, Bali | | √ | | Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Salt | [6] |
| 54 | Ikan Tongkol Pindang | Salt-Boiled Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>) | Central Java, East Java, Bali | | √ | | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>) | Salt | [6] |
| 55 | Gudeg Telur Pindang | Javanese-Styled Marbled Egg Served with Sweetened Young Jackfruit | Yogyakarta | | | √ | Chicken Egg | Garlic, shallot, tamarind, soy sauce, palm sugar, salt, palm sugar, galangal, bay leaf, cooking oil. | [30] |
| 56 | Pindang Bumbu Rujak | Salt-Boiled Fish Cooked in Fruty and Spicy Dressing | East Java | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, salt, sugar, palm sugar, shrimp paste, tamarind, cooking oil. | [47] |
| 57 | Sambel Pindang Kemangi | Salt-Boiled Fish Stir-Fried in Lemon Basil and Chili Sauce | East Java | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, shrimp paste, salt, sugar, lemon basil, cooking oil. | [51] |
| 58 | Pindang Sambel Pencit | Salt-Boiled Fish Stir-Fried in Young Mango and Chili Sauce | East Java | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, shrimp paste, shredded young mango flesh, salt, sugar, cooking oil. | [51] |
| 59 | Sambal Pindang Suwir | Shredded Fried Salt-Boiled Fish Served with Chili Sauce | East Java | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, shrimp paste, salt, sugar, cooking oil. | [67] |
| 60 | Pindang Tongkol Suwir Kemangi | Shredded Salt-Boiled Mackerel Tuna Stir-Fried with Lemon Basil | East Java | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, lemon basil, cooking oil. | [37] |

Table 1. The Indonesian *pindang* dishes based on their origin, type of dishes, and ingredients (continued).

| No | Name of Dishes | English Version of Dishes | Regions of Origin | Type of Dishes | | | Main Ingredients | Spices, Herbs and Other Ingredients | References |
|----|---------------------------|---|-------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|---|--|------------|
| | | | | Stew | Preserved-Fish | Processed Preserved-Fish | | | |
| 61 | Pindang Masak Santan | Salt-Boiled Fish Cooked in Coconut Milk Broth | East Java | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, salt, turmeric, galangal, coconut milk, cooking oil. | [37] |
| 62 | Geseng Ikan Pindang | Salt-Boiled Fish Stir-Fried with Chopped Chili Pepper | East Java | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, shrimp paste, salt, sugar, cooking oil. | [57] |
| 63 | Kotokan Pindang | Salt-Boiled Fish Cooked in Spicy Coconut Milk Broth | East Java | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, turmeric, shrimp paste, galangal, salt, lemongrass, ginger, coconut milk, belimbing wuluh (<i>Averrhoa bilimbi</i>), cooking oil. | [57] |
| 64 | Pindang Gendam | Spicy Indian Mackerel (<i>Rastrelliger kanagurta</i>) Stew | East Java | √ | | | Indian Mackerel (<i>Rastrelliger kanagurta</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, wadung (<i>Garcinia tetranda</i>), galangal, bay leaf, citrus leaf, lemongrass, salt, cooking oil. | [50] |
| 65 | Pindang Koyong | Javanese-styled Sour and Spicy Wahoo (<i>Acanthocybium solandri</i>) Stew | East Java | √ | | | Wahoo (<i>Acanthocybium solandri</i>) | Garlic, shallot, belimbing wuluh (<i>Averrhoa bilimbi</i>), coriander, turmeric, ginger, galangal, lemongrass, citrus leaf, chili pepper, black pepper, salt, cooking oil. | [68] |
| 66 | Pindang Asem Probolinggo | Madurese-Styled Spicy and Sour Fish Stew | East Java | √ | | | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, belimbing wuluh (<i>Averrhoa bilimbi</i>), coriander, turmeric, ginger, galangal, lemongrass, citrus leaf, chili pepper, black pepper, salt, cooking oil. | [69] |
| 67 | Ikan Pindang Asap Bawean | Smoked Salt-Boiled Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>) | East Java | | √ | | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Salt | [6] |
| 68 | Ikan Pindang Kukus Muncar | Steamed Salt-Boiled Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>) | East Java | | √ | | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Salt | [6] |
| 69 | Rujak Kuah Pindang | Balinese-Styled Fruit Salad | Bali | | | √ | Fruits, fish broth. | Garlic, shallot, salt, sugar, shrimp paste, chili pepper, citrus leaf, lemongrass, cooking oil. | [27] |
| 70 | Pindang Kesuna Cekuh | Salt-Boiled Fish Stir-Fried with Garlic and <i>Kencur</i> (<i>Kaempferia galanga</i>) | Bali | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, shrimp paste, salt, sugar, <i>kencur</i> (<i>Kaempferia galanga</i>), cooking oil. | [52] |

Table 1. The Indonesian *pindang* dishes based on their origin, type of dishes, and ingredients (continued).

| No | Name of Dishes | English Version of Dishes | Regions of Origin | Type of Dishes | | | Main Ingredients | Spices, Herbs and Other Ingredients | References |
|----|------------------------------|---|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|---|---|------------|
| | | | | Stew | Preserved-Fish | Processed Preserved-Fish | | | |
| 71 | Pindang Sambal Embe | Salt-Boiled Fish Served with Chopped Chili Pepper and Cooking Oil | Bali | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, lime, salt, sugar, cooking oil. | [51] |
| 72 | Ikan Tuna Pindang | Salt-Boiled Tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>) | Bali | | √ | | Tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>) | Salt | [6] |
| 73 | Pindang Nangka | Spicy and Sour Young Jackfruit | West Nusa Tenggara | √ | | | Jackfruit | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, black pepper, candlenut, turmeric, coriander, galangal, citrus leaf, bay leaf, lemongrass, coconut milk, cooking oil, sugar, salt. | [70] |
| 74 | Pindang Ikan Tuna Kunyit Mai | Tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>) Stewed in turmeric-Based Broth | East Nusa Tenggara | √ | | | Tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, candlenut, turmeric, coriander, bay leaf, lemongrass, cooking oil, sugar, salt. | [71] |
| 75 | Pampis Pindang | Spicy Shredded and Chopped Salt-Boiled Skipjack Tuna | North Sulawesi | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, shrimp paste, galangal, lemongrass, salt, sugar, lemon basil, cooking oil. | [67] |
| 76 | Pindang Lele | Spicy and Sour Catfish (<i>Clarias anguillaris</i>) Stew | Ubiquitous | √ | | | Catfish (<i>Clarias anguillaris</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, candlenut, <i>belimbing wuluh</i> (<i>Averrhoa bilimbi</i>), turmeric, coriander, galangal, ginger, citrus leaf, bay leaf, lemongrass, coconut milk, cooking oil, sugar, salt. | [36] |
| 77 | Pindang Bumbu Tomat | Salt-Boiled Fish Stir-Fried in Tomato Sauce | Ubiquitous | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, tomato, salt, sugar, cooking oil. | [57] |
| 78 | Ikan Pindang Goreng | Fried Salt-Boiled Fish | Ubiquitous | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Cooking oil. | [6] |
| 79 | Ikan Pindang Bakar | Grilled Salt-Boiled Fish | Ubiquitous | | | √ | Mackerel Tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>), Skipjack Tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) | Garlic, shallot, soy sauce, sugar, salt. | [72] |
| 80 | Pindang Bandeng Kecap | Milkfish Stewed in Soy Sauce | Indonesian Chinatowns | √ | | | Milkfish (<i>Chanos chanos</i>) | Garlic, shallot, chili pepper, sesame oil, turmeric, bay leaf, citrus leaf, tomato, palm sugar, oyster sauce, fish sauce, soy sauce, stinky bean, salt, cooking oil. | [7] |



Fig. 1. *pindang patin* (spicy and sour shark catfish [*Pangasius bocourti*] stew) from South Sumatra and West Kalimantan (A); *pindang tongkol* (sour and spicy mackerel tuna [*Euthynnus affinis*] stew) from Bangka-Belitung (B); *ikan cakalang pindang* (salt-boiled skipjack tuna [*Katsuwonus pelamis*]) from Central Java, East Java, and Bali (C); *ikan tongkol pindang* (salt-boiled mackerel tuna [*Euthynnus affinis*]) from Central Java, East Java, and Bali (D); *ikan tuna pindang* (salt-boiled tuna) from Bali (E); *rujak kuah pindang* (Balinese-styled fruit salad) from Bali (F); *telur pindang* (Javanese-styled marbled egg) from Central Java (G); *pindang kudus* (buffalo meat stew) from Central Java (H); *pindang tetelan* (cattle tendon stew) from Central Java (I); *pindang serani* (Portuguese-Indonesian version of spicy milkfish stew) from Kampung Tugu Jakarta (J); *pindang bandeng kecap* (milkfish stewed in soy sauce) from Indonesia's Chinatowns (K); *pindang telur gabus* (spicy and sour snakehead fish roe [*Channa striata*] stew) from South Sumatra (L); *pindang kerang* (spicy and sour blood cockle [*Anadara granosa*] stew) from South Sumatra (M); *pindang tongkol suwir kemangi* (shredded salt-boiled mackerel tuna [*Euthynnus affinis*] stir-fried with lemon basil) from East Java (N); *pindang gendam* (spicy Indian mackerel [*Rastrelliger kanagartha*] stew) from East Java (O); and *pindang kesuna cekuh* (salt-boiled fish, stir-fried with garlic and *kencur* [*Kaempferia galanga*]) from Bali (P).

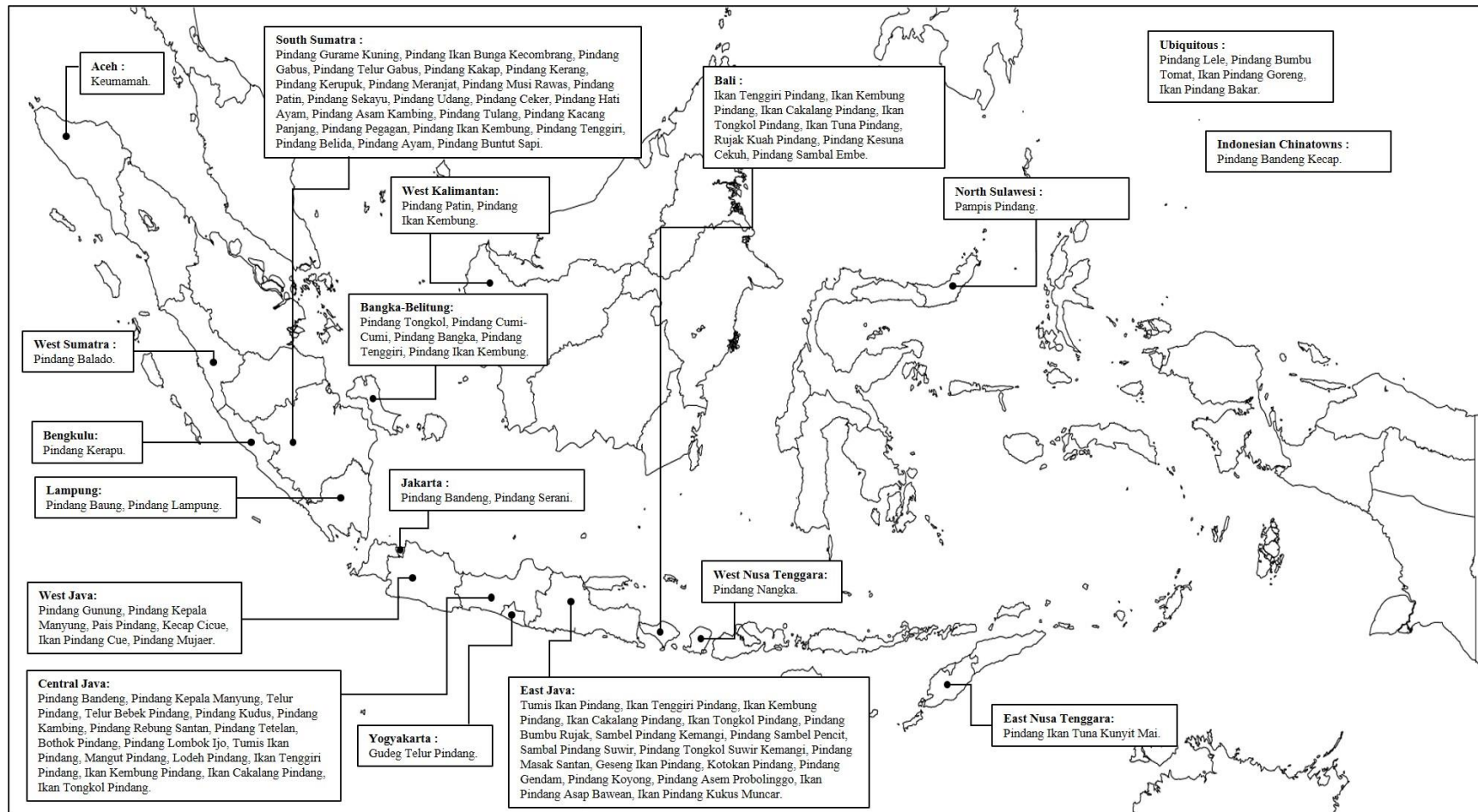


Fig. 2. The geographical distribution of Indonesian *pindang* dishes.



Fig. 3. gourami fish (*Osphronemus gouramy*) (A); snakehead fish (*Channa striata*) (B); baung fish (*Hemibagrus nemurus*) (C); featherback knifefish (*Chitala ornata*) (D); shark catfish (*Pangasius bocourti*) (E); red snapper (*Lutjanus argentimaculatus*) (F); blood cockle (*Anadara granosa*) (G); shrimp (*Penaeus monodon*) (H); buffalo meat (I); offal (J); mutton (K); poultry eggs (L); mackerel tuna (*Euthynnus affinis*) (M); skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*) (N); and wahoo (*Acanthocybium solandri*) (O).

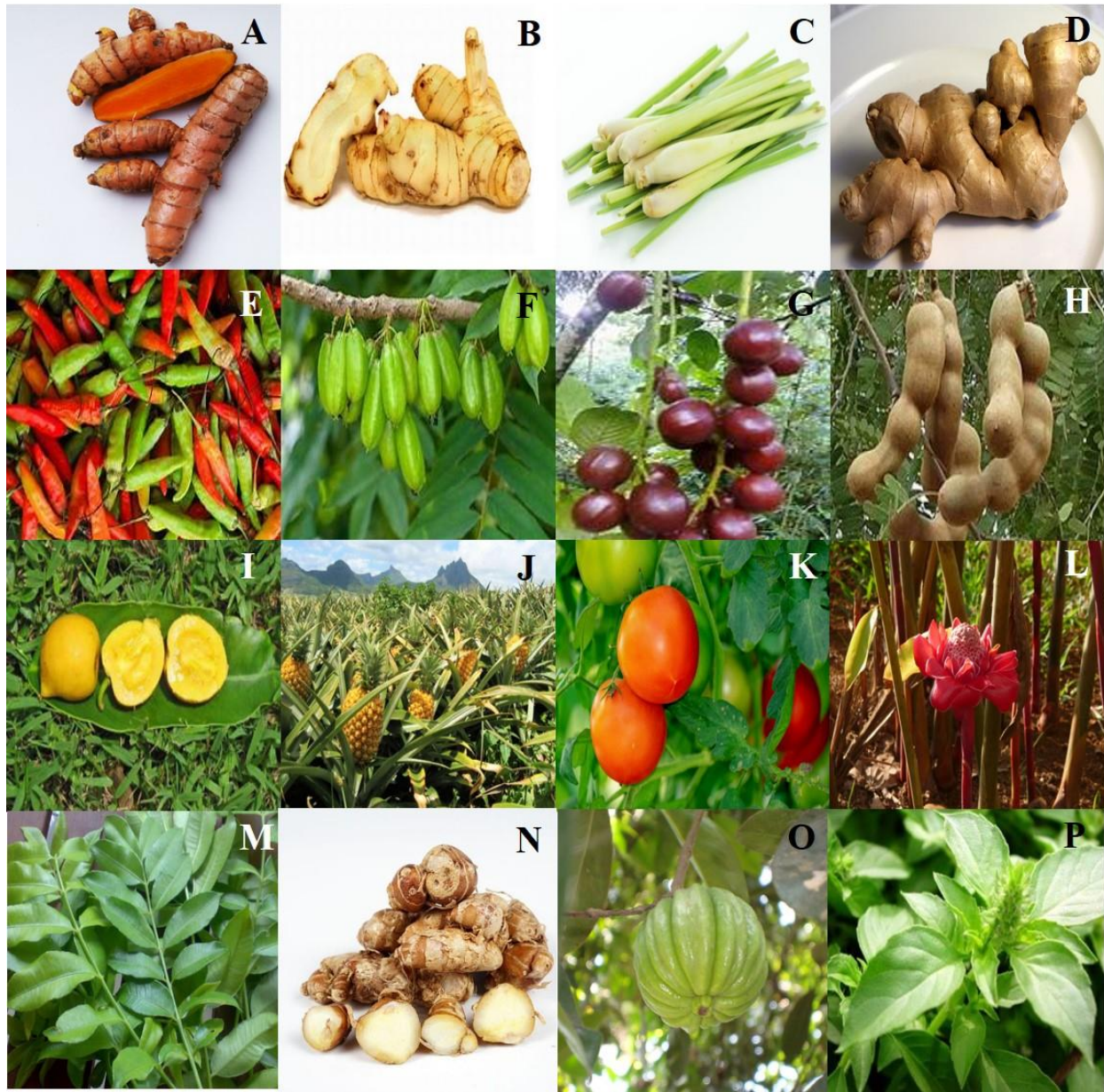


Fig. 4. turmeric (*Curcuma domestica*) (A); galangal (*Alpinia galanga*) (B); lemongrass (*Cymbopogon citratus*) (C); ginger (*Zingiber officinale*) (D); chili pepper (*Capsicum annum*) (E); belimbing wuluh (*Averrhoa bilimbi*) (F); rambai fruit (*Baccaurea motleyana*) (G); tamarind (*Tamarindus indica*) (H); yellow mangosteen (*Garcinia xanthochymus*) (I); pineapple (*Ananas comosus*) (J); tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*) (K); kecombrang (*Etlingera elatior*) (L); June plum leaf (*Spondias dulcis*) (M); kencur (*Kaempferia galanga*) (N); wadung (*Garcinia tetrandia*) (O) and lemon basil (*Ocimum sanctum*) (P).

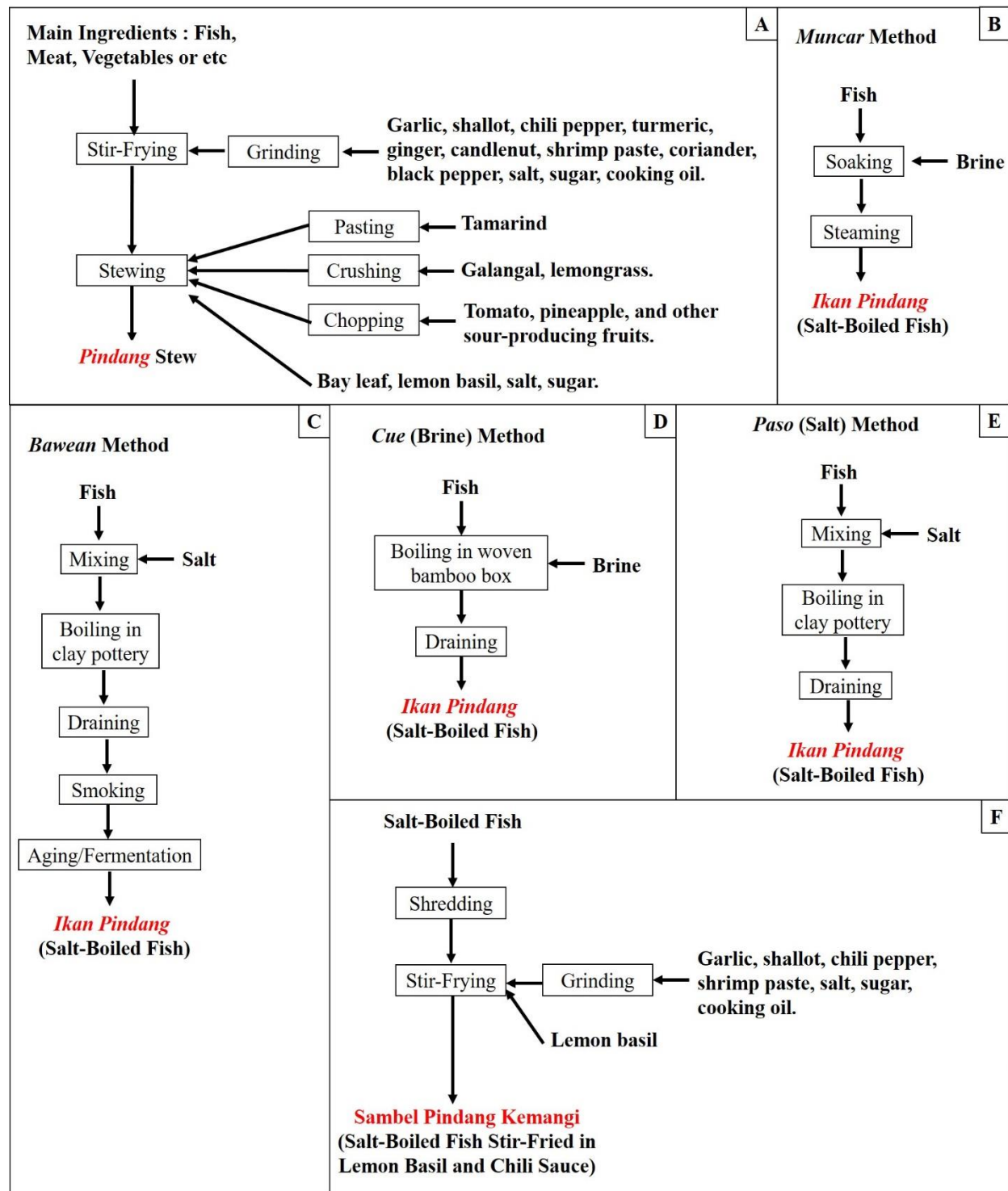
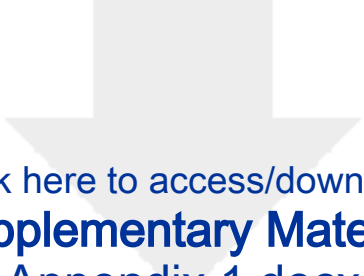
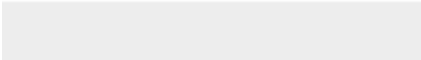

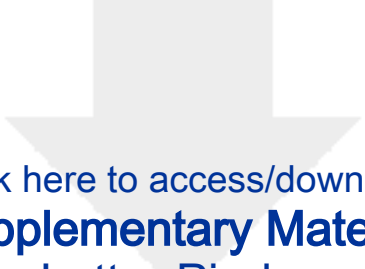


Fig. 5 preparations of *pindang* stew (A); *ikan pindang* (salt-boiled fish) using *Muncar* method (B); using *Bawean* method (C); using *Cue* (brine) method (D); using *Paso* (salt) method (E) and *sambel pindang kemangi* (East Javanese salt-boiled fish, stir-fried in lemon basil and chili sauce) as an instance of salt-boiled fish processing (F).

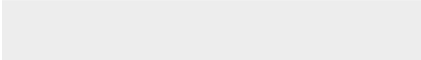



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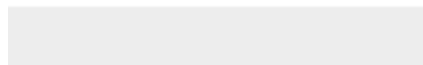




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