

1067-P1-2011      **Anthony Tongen\*** (tongen1@jmu.edu), MSC 1911, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Harrisonburg, VA 22807, and **Laura Taalman** and **Roger J Thelwell**. *Solitaire Mancala*. Preliminary report.

Mancala is a popular “sowing” family of board games that originated in Africa and Asia. Sowing occurs when a player picks up stones in a particular bin and distributes them in adjacent bins. In order to better understand the movement of the stones in the more common two-player sowing games, we will focus on solitaire sowing games. We will examine Tchoukaillon, Tchuka Ruma, and newly created combinations of these games. We will analyze interesting patterns, uncover multiple ways to find a winning board, and examine how two different sets of moves can end in the same board state. (Received September 22, 2010)