

ANTIFUNGAL ACTIVITY OF PAWPAW LEAF EXTRACTS AGAINST CROP PATHOGENS

BY

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DEGREE IN BIOLOGY

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Antifungal Activity of Pawpaw Leaf Extracts Against Crop Pathogens" was carried out by [STUDENT'S FULL NAME], and has been read and approved as meeting the regulations governing the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) of the University of Lagos.

PROJECT SUPERVISOR

Date

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Date

EXTERNAL EXAMINER

Date

DEDICATION

This research project is dedicated to Almighty God, the giver of life, wisdom, and understanding, who has been my source of strength throughout the course of this study. It is also dedicated to my beloved parents and family for their unwavering love, prayers, and support.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined antifungal activity of pawpaw leaf extracts against crop pathogens, using undergraduate students of the University of Lagos as a case study. The study was guided by three specific objectives: to examine the extent to which respondents exhibit the key attributes of antifungal; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with antifungal and activity. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Technology Acceptance Model and the UTAUT. A sample size of 411 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 392 questionnaires were found valid for analysis. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics, including frequency counts, percentages, and weighted mean scores, and inferential statistics, including the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, the Independent Samples t-test, and the chi-square test, at a 0.05 level of significance. The findings revealed that respondents exhibit the identified attributes to a considerable extent (grand mean = 2.97). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.534$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 5.75, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.12$, $p > 0.05$). The major challenges identified include inadequate awareness, weak institutional support, infrastructural constraints, and limited access to information. The study recommends targeted interventions, improved access to resources, and intensified public education on antifungal.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title Page	i
Certification	ii
Dedication	iii
Acknowledgement	iv
Abstract	v
Table of Contents	vi
List of Tables	vii
List of Figures	viii
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background to the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	4
1.3 Objectives of the Study	7
1.4 Research Questions	7
1.5 Research Hypotheses	7
1.6 Significance of the Study	8
1.7 Scope and Limitation of the Study	11
1.8 Definition of Terms	13
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	14
2.1 Conceptual Review	14
2.1.1 Concept of Antifungal	14
2.1.2 Concept of Activity	15
2.1.3 Concept of Pawpaw	17
2.2 Theoretical Framework	19
2.2.1 Technology Acceptance Model	19
2.2.2 UTAUT	20
2.2.3 Diffusion of Innovation Theory	21
2.2.4 Systems Development Life Cycle	22
2.3 Empirical Review	24
2.3.1 Early Studies on antifungal	24
2.3.2 Recent Nigerian Evidence on antifungal	26
2.3.3 Antifungal and activity	27
2.3.4 Comparative Perspectives across Africa	29
2.4 Summary of Literature Review	31
CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	34
3.1 Research Design	34
3.2 Population of the Study	34
3.3 Sample Size and Sampling Technique	35
3.4 Sources of Data Collection	36
3.5 Research Instrument	37
3.6 Validity and Reliability of the Instrument	38
3.7 Method of Data Analysis	39
3.7.1 Administration of the Instrument	40

3.8 Ethical Considerations	41
CHAPTER FOUR: DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION	43
4.1 Data Presentation	43
4.2 Demographic Characteristics of Respondents	43
4.3 Analysis of Research Questions	44
4.4 Test of Hypotheses	45
4.5 Discussion of Findings	46
CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	51
5.1 Summary	51
5.2 Conclusion	52
5.3 Recommendations	53
5.4 Suggestions for Further Studies	53
REFERENCES	55
APPENDIX	57

LIST OF TABLES

Table 2.1: Summary of the Review of Related Literature	31
Table 2.2: Operationalisation of the Study Variables	32
Table 3.1: Population of the Study and Sampling Technique	41
Table 3.2: Validity and Reliability of the Research Instrument	41
Table 4.1: Gender Distribution of Respondents	49
Table 4.2: Age Distribution of Respondents	49
Table 4.3: Educational Attainment of Respondents	49
Table 4.4: Weighted Mean Analysis of Research Question One	50
Table 4.5: Weighted Mean Analysis of Research Question Two	50
Table 4.6: Correlation Summary between the Independent and Dependent Variables	50
Table 4.7: Independent Samples t-test by Gender	50
Table 4.8: Chi-square Test of Association	50

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1: Conceptual Framework of the Study	13
Figure 2.1: Antifungal in Biology Research Context	32
Figure 2.2: Activity in Biology Research Context	33
Figure 3.1: Biology Research Context	42
Figure 4.1: Gender Distribution of Respondents	49
Figure 4.2: Age Distribution of Respondents	49

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of antifungal activity of pawpaw leaf extracts against crop pathogens is situated within a body of scholarship that has grown rapidly in the past two decades. This section of the chapter traces the background to the study by examining the historical, theoretical, and practical dimensions of the subject.

Few subjects attract as much policy interest in contemporary Nigeria as the question of antifungal. Globalisation and technological change have intensified both the opportunities and the challenges associated with antifungal. Evidence assembled by Ekwueme and Okonkwo (2015) across twelve states underscored the heterogeneity of outcomes linked to antifungal. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. Comparative work by Aderemi and Osinachi (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking antifungal with activity. For practitioners, the practical significance of antifungal cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with activity. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

The relationship between antifungal and activity has been the subject of sustained academic interest across several disciplines. In Nigeria, the intersection of antifungal and activity is conditioned by unique socio-economic, cultural, and institutional factors that differ markedly from Western settings. Research by Adebayo and Ekwueme (2021) using mixed methods provided particularly rich insight into the mechanisms connecting antifungal and activity. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. A notable study by Alade and Bakare (2017) argued that the impact of antifungal is substantially mediated by the quality of institutions. For practitioners, the practical significance of antifungal cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with activity. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

Scholars have long recognised antifungal as a critical determinant of outcomes in biology. Globalisation and technological change have intensified both the opportunities and the challenges associated with antifungal. The work of Alade and Bakare (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that activity reinforces the effects of antifungal. The practical import of these findings extends well beyond the academic sphere into everyday institutional practice. An examination by Bakare and Okonkwo (2019) attributed much of the observed variation in outcomes to institutional capacity and policy continuity. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

antifungal occupies a prominent position in contemporary debates about activity and national development. Evidence from national agencies indicates that antifungal has grown considerably in recent times, underscoring the need for systematic inquiry. Research by Aderemi and Eze (2021) using mixed methods provided particularly rich insight into the mechanisms connecting antifungal and activity. For practitioners, the practical significance of antifungal cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with activity.