

INVESTIGATION OF ADULTERATION IN PALM OIL SOLD IN OPEN MARKETS

BY

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DEGREE IN CHEMISTRY

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Investigation of Adulteration in Palm Oil Sold in Open Markets" 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 investigation of adulteration in palm oil sold in open markets, 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 investigation; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with investigation and adulteration. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Technology Acceptance Model and the UTAUT. A sample size of 386 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 373 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 = 2.99). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.503$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 8.5, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.32$, $p > 0.05$). 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 investigation.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of investigation of adulteration in palm oil sold in open markets 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.

Investigation continues to command considerable attention among researchers, policymakers, and practitioners in chemistry. National policies and programmes have sought, with varying degrees of success, to respond to the realities of investigation and adulteration. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Chukwu and Ibrahim (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. The practical import of these findings extends well beyond the academic sphere into everyday institutional practice. Longitudinal research by Chukwu and Oyelaran (2016) revealed that sustained attention to investigation yields appreciable dividends over time. Such findings reinforce the argument that investigation deserves a place of priority on the development agenda. Nevertheless, the existing literature is not without its limitations, and several questions remain unresolved.

Investigation continues to command considerable attention among researchers, policymakers, and practitioners in chemistry. Rapid urbanisation and demographic expansion across Nigerian cities have heightened the salience of investigation in everyday life. A notable study by Bamgbose and Okonkwo (2017) argued that the impact of investigation is substantially mediated by the quality of institutions. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. Field evidence gathered by Olawale and Eze (2016) suggested that stakeholder engagement materially improves the results achieved in matters of investigation. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k₀} from confounding factors.

The relationship between investigation and adulteration has been the subject of sustained academic interest across several disciplines. The Nigerian context presents peculiar challenges, ranging from infrastructural deficits to institutional weaknesses, which shape the manner in which investigation unfolds. Empirical evidence from Olawale and Eze (2021) suggests that positive developments in adulteration are associated with improvements in investigation. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. Umeh and Ibrahim (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of investigation are unevenly distributed across groups. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

The phenomenon of investigation, while not new, has acquired fresh analytical urgency in Nigeria. The Nigerian context presents peculiar challenges, ranging from infrastructural deficits to institutional weaknesses, which shape the manner in which investigation unfolds. Studies by Aderemi and Ibrahim (2019) largely