

PEST CONTROL DEMONSTRATIONS WITH LOCAL BOTANICALS

BY

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DEGREE IN SCIENCE EDUCATION

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Pest Control Demonstrations with Local Botanicals" 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 pest control demonstrations with local botanicals, 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 pest; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with pest and control. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Constructivist Learning Theory and the Technology Acceptance Model. A sample size of 401 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 = 3.1). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.563$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 7.28, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.31$, $p > 0.05$). 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 pest.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of pest control demonstrations with local botanicals 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.

Over the past two decades, pest has become increasingly significant within the Nigerian landscape and beyond. The socio-cultural diversity of Nigeria implies that responses to pest must be differentiated rather than uniform. Studies by Kalu and Famuyide (2019) largely support the view that pest exerts a measurable influence on outcomes of interest. These developments carry important implications for policy and practice in science education. Evidence assembled by Bamgbose and Eze (2015) across twelve states underscored the heterogeneity of outcomes linked to pest. For practitioners, the practical significance of pest cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with control. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

Few subjects attract as much policy interest in contemporary Nigeria as the question of pest. National policies and programmes have sought, with varying degrees of success, to respond to the realities of pest and control. Research by Adekunle and Bello (2021) using mixed methods provided particularly rich insight into the mechanisms connecting pest and control. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. Umeh and Bakare (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of pest are unevenly distributed across groups. For practitioners, the practical significance of pest cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with control. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

Over the past two decades, pest has become increasingly significant within the Nigerian landscape and beyond. The socio-cultural diversity of Nigeria implies that responses to pest must be differentiated rather than uniform. Findings reported by Umeh and Bakare (2018) observed that respondents with greater exposure to pest recorded markedly different results. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. Empirical evidence from Chukwu and Eze (2021) suggests that positive developments in control are associated with improvements in pest. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

The salience of pest in national discourse has grown steadily, driven by changing social conditions and technological penetration. National policies and programmes have sought, with varying degrees of success, to respond to the realities of pest and control. The work of Famuyide and Bello (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that control reinforces the effects of pest. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. Comparative work by Ibrahim and Kalu (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking pest with control. Accordingly, there is a growing