

CURRENT RESEARCH:

1. Morpho-genetic diversity and conservation of indigenous leafy vegetables of Southwestern Nigeria

The morphological and genetic diversity of neglected or rarely cultivated indigenous leafy vegetables of southwestern Nigeria is being investigated. Despite their numerous benefits, especially medicinal, most of the notable leafy vegetables of Yorubas have been abandoned mainly by urban dwellers and replaced with the greens (*Amaranthus* species) and *Celosia* spp. This work is an attempt to collect the germplasms of the vegetables from available parts of the southwest, screen them and conserve them possibly in gardens around the area. It is envisaged that providing the importance of these plants may encourage people to bring them into cultivation

2. Morpho-genetic diversity of selected crops of Nigeria and their responses to climate change

The several losses recorded from some crops in recent times particularly in the northern parts of Nigeria necessitate an investigation of the impact of climate change on the growth and development of the plants. There is need to characterise, identify, classify and select morphological and genetic traits capable of adapting these plants to drought and pest infestation stresses which are the major militating factors against crop yield in the region. This study focuses on *Sacchararum officinarum* (sugarcane) and other major crops both in the northern and southern regions of Nigeria.

3. Aeropolynological investigations of different areas of Ibadan, Oyo State

Many Nigerians are allergic to substances dispersed in air and some of these are pollen and spores. Often, such patients are treated for unrelated illnesses. Allergy when suspected and treated rarely take cognizance of airborne particles but reactions to drugs or food. Several studies of the pollen and spores in air have been conducted in several parts of Nigeria and the areas of high risk mapped. This is an attempt to extend such studies to Ibadan, a large cosmopolitan town and the nerve center of Oyo State, Nigeria

4. Taxonomic studies in the family Sapotaceae

This is a continuation of the systematic studies of taxa of economic importance in Nigeria. Some plant families such as the Polygonaceae, Tiliaceae, Sterculiaceae, Loranthaceae, Phyllanthaceae, Combretaceae and genera such as *Grewia* Linn., *Alchornea* Sw. *Cola* Schott.&Endl. and *Khaya* A. Juss., have been studied. The revision of the Sapotaceae is embarked upon with a view to understanding the taxonomic and evolutionary relationships among the various species in the family. Previous studies have revealed the diversity of these taxa and their distribution in Nigeria with new habitats discovered and new taxa revealed. The results continue to serve as an update to the records of the studied taxa in Nigeria