

Case Report

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Medicinal and Economic Values of Forest Products in the Treatment of Cancer in Southwest Nigeria



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Abstract

Medicinal plants are used to address the twin problems of promoting sustainable livelihoods and treatment of numerous illnesses in Nigeria. The study examined the medicinal value of forest products in the treatment of cancer in South-west Nigeria. Primary data was obtained in a cross section survey of 327 respondents comprising 127 Traditional Medicine Practitioners (TMPs), 100 Orthodox Medicine Practitioners (OMPs) and 100 respondents from the General Public drawn by multistage sampling technique from the study area. Interview schedule was used in collection of data on the effectiveness of forest products in cancer treatment. The result showed that seven species were identified belonging to seven different families; Rutaceae, Asteraceae, Anacardiaceae, Annonaceae, Meliaceae, Guttiferaceae and Leguminaceae topped the TMPs priority list. Result of economic analysis shows minimal competition in the anti-cancer forest product market and a high level of monopoly with a Gini coefficient of 0.83.

The rate of return on investment was 180.08% indicating that the TMPs were making profit. Five of the plants were tested against cancer cell lines MCF7 and Hs578T while Doxorubicin (a synthetic anticancer drug) was used as the control treatment. Three plants; *Saccharum officinarum* (Stem), *Scurinega virosa* (Root) and *Piper guineensis* (Seed) produced no result; *Garcinia kola* (Bark) did not exhibit any anticancer effect even at a concentration of 10u1/m1 while only one plant species was effective against the cancer cell line at 1u1/m1. It is therefore concluded that forest products are effective in the treatment of cancer.

Keywords: Medicinal plants; Cancer; Traditional medicine practitioners (Tmps); Forest products; Southwest Nigeria

Introduction

Medicinal plants are important for a number of reasons. A large proportion of the world's rural population depends on these plants for their health care needs Largo [1]. They also provide the basic raw material for the production of traditional medicines FAO [2], FAO [3]. The collection and processing of medicinal plants provide employment and income opportunities for a large number of people in rural areas Marshall et al. [4].

The importance of traditional medicinal plants in conservation of biological diversity also merits attention Okoli [5]. WHO has been conducting studies on medicinal plants. These studies prompted the initial identification of 20000 species of medicinal plants and a more detailed investigation of a short list of 200 (WHO [6], WHO [7]. Olopade [8] and Odugbemi [9] reported that a great number of these plants have their origins in the world's tropical forests and their present use is largely rooted in traditional medicines which play a major part in maintaining the health and welfare of both rural and city dwellers in developing countries.

More than 60% of world's total new annual cases occur in Africa, Asia and Central and South America. These regions account for 70% of the world's cancer deaths. It is expected that annual

cancer cases will rise from 14 million in 2012 to 22 million within the next two decades IARC [10], WHO [11]. Consequently, there is need to institute measures that will ensure the availability of anticancer forest products in the forest of Southwest Nigeria and ensure the sustainability of the practice of the TMPs who use forest products to treat cancer. It has been estimated that as many as 75% to 90% of the world's rural people rely on herbal traditional medicine as their primary health care WHO [7] and this is a source of income for the growers of such plants and the TMPs USAID [12]. African flora is potential for new compounds with pharmacological activities. Such efforts have led to the isolation of several biologically active molecules that are in various stages of development as pharmaceuticals.

The main objective of this study is to evaluate the economic and medicinal value of forest products in the treatment of cancer in southwest Nigeria, particularly Ogun State and the specific objectives are:

- To determine the availability of medicinal plants used for the treatment of cancer in Southwest Nigeria.
- To determine the efficacy of some of the forest products used for the treatment of cancer in Southwest Nigeria.
- To investigate the stakeholders' socioeconomic

characteristics and their involvement in the usage of forest products for the treatment of cancer in Southwest Nigeria.

d. To determine the factors that affect the income of the TMPs in the study area and the market structure of forest products used for the treatment of cancer in Southwest Nigeria.

Sampling method, sample selection and data collection

Data sources and collection: For the purpose of data collection in this study, field trips, collection of available medicinal plant species used for the treatment of cancer, determination of their species type, oral interviews of Traditional Medicine Boards officials, administration of structured questionnaires on relevant target groups, that is, Traditional Medicine Practitioners (TMPs), Orthodox Medicine Practitioners (OMPs) and the General Public (GP) were carried out. Ethno medicinal surveys were also conducted in the study area for collection of data related to the medicinal use of forest products in the treatment of cancer in addition to the pharmacological screening of the plants to determine the level of their efficacy in the treatment of cancer and to validate the claims of the TMPs (Figure 1).

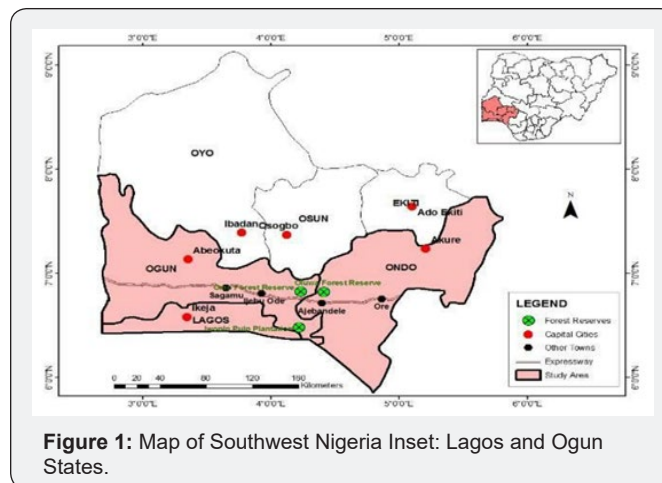


Figure 1: Map of Southwest Nigeria Inset: Lagos and Ogun States.

To identify the locations with high concentration of TMPs in the Study Area, primary data were obtained through oral interviews of the officials of the Hospital Management Department of the Federal Ministry of Health, Federal college of Complementary and Alternative Medicine (FEDCAM), Abuja and the Nigeria Natural Medicine Development Agency, Lagos. Multistage sampling technique was employed. The South

Western Nigeria was first stratified into six states to produce primary units namely: Ekiti, Lagos, Ogun, Ondo, Osun and Oyo. Out of these primary units, Ogun State was purposively sampled because of the high concentration of TMPs in the State.

Results

Availability of medicinal plants used for the treatment of cancer in South-Western Nigeria

List of Plants Used by the Traditional Medicine Practitioners in the Treatment of Cancer. Estimated Cost Range = 500-10,000 Naira/kg

List of Plants Used by the Traditional Medicine Practitioners in the Treatment of Cancer. Estimated Cost Range = 500- 10,000 Naira/kg									
S/No	Local Name	Species	Family	Floral Type	Source	Status of availability	Parts used	Form used	Products
1	Eru	<i>Xylopia aethiopica</i>	Annonaceae	Tree	Free areas	Abundant	Fruit, branches	Green, dry (Water boiled).	Firewood, Medicinal
		(Dunal) A. Rich							
2	Oganwo	<i>Khaya ivorensis</i> A Chev	Meliaceae	Tree	Free areas	Rare	Stem, Branches Bark	Dry	Firewood, Medicinal
3	Mango	<i>Magnifera indica</i> Linn	Anacardiaceae	Fruit Tree	Free areas, Forest, plantation	Abundant	Leaves, fruits, bark, branches, stem	Green, dry(Water boiled).	Fruit, firewood, medicinal
4	Kaju	<i>Anacardium occidentale</i> Linn	Anacardiaceae	Fruit Tree	Free areas, Farmland, forest, plantation	Abundant	Fruits, branches, stem	Green, dry(Water boiled).	Fruit, firewood, medicinal
5	Iyeye	<i>Spondias mombin</i> Linn	Anacardiaceae	Fruit Tree	Farmland, Free areas, forest	Abundant	Fruits, bark	Green, dry(Water boiled).	Fruit, medicinal
6	Abo	<i>Annonasenegalensis</i> Pers	Annonaceae	Shrub	Free areas, forest	Abundant	Leaves, fruits, stem	Green, dry(Water boiled).	Medicinal, fruit, firewood

7	Ahun	<i>Alstoniaboonei</i>	Apocynaceae	Tree	Free areas, forest	Scarce	Leaves, bark, root	Green, dry(Powder)	Medicinal, firewood
		<i>De Wild</i>							
8	Osanwewe	<i>Citrus medica</i> Linn.	Rutaceae	Shrub	Free areas, forest	Abundant	Leaves	Green, dry(Water boiled).	Medicinal
9	Oruwo	<i>Morindalucida</i> Benth.	Rubiaceae	Tree	Free areas, forest	Abundant	Leaves	Green, dry(Cold water squeezed).	Medicinal
10	Oori-nla	<i>Vitexdoniana</i> Sweet	Verbenaceae	Tree	Free areas, forest	Abundant	Fruit, leaves	Green(Water boiled).	Fruit, medicinal
11	Osopupa	<i>Enantiachlorantha</i> Oliv.	Annonaceae	Tree	Free areas, forest	Abundant	Bark	Green, dry(Water boiled).	Medicinal
12	Owu-elepa	<i>Piliostigmathinningi</i> Milne Redhead	Leguminosae Sub: Mimosoidae	Shrub	Free areas, forest	Abundant	Leaves	Green, dry(Water boiled).	Medicinal
13	Putu	<i>Ricinodendronheudelotii</i> (Baill.) Heckel	Euphorbiaceae	Tree	Free areas, forest	Abundant	Leaves, bark	Green, dry(Water boiled).	Medicinal
14	Opoto	<i>Ficussur</i> Forsk.	Moraceae	Tree	Free areas, forest	Abundant	Fruit, bark	Green, dry(Water boiled).	Fruit, medicinal
15	Asasa	<i>Margaritariadiscoidea</i> (Baill.) Webster	Euphorbiaceae	Tree	Free areas, forest, dry outliers	Scarce	Leaves, branches, stem, bark, roots	Green, dry(Water boiled).	Medicinal, firewood
16	Dongoyaro	<i>Azadirachtaindica</i> A. Juss	Meliaceae	Tree	Free areas, plantation	Abundant	Leaves, branches, stem	Green, dry(Water boiled).	Medicinal, firewood
17	Atare	<i>Afromomumeleguata</i> Lindl.	Zingiberaceae	Shrub	Free areas, forest	Abundant	Fruits	Green, dry(Water boiled).	Medicinal
18	IgiFrutu	<i>Terminaliacatappa</i> Linn	Combretaceae	Tree	Free areas, forest	Abundant	Leaves, fruit, branches, stem	Green, dry(Water boiled).	Fruit, medicinal, firewood
19	Apa	<i>Afzeliaafricana</i> (Smith) Sm.	Leguminosae Sub: Caesalpinioideae	Tree	Forest area, forest	Scarce	Branches, stem, bark, root	Green, dry(Powder)	Medicinal, firewood
20	Oboo	<i>Erythrophleumsuaveolens</i> (Gull. and Perr.)	LeguminosaeSub: Caesalpinioideae	Tree	Forest	Scarce	Leaves, branches, stem, bark, root	Green, dry(Water boiled).	Medicinal, firewood
21	Asofeyeje	<i>Rauwolfiavomitria</i> Afzel	Apocynaceae	Tree	Free areas, forest	Abundant	Leaves, fruit, bark, root	Green, dry(Powder)	Medicinal
22	Omo	<i>Cordiamilleni</i> Bak.	Bignoniaceae	Tree	Free areas, forest	Scarce	Leaves, branches, stem	Green, dry(Water boiled).	Medicinal, firewood
23	Ewuro	<i>Vernoniaamygdalina</i> (Schreb) Del.	Asteraceae	Tree	Free areas, forest	Abundant	Leaves, branches, bark, root	Green, dry(Juice)	Medicinal, chew-stick
24	Ope	<i>Elaeiguinensis</i> G. Don.	Palmae	Palm Tree	Swampy areas, forest,	Abundant	FronD, exudate, bark	Green, dry(Water boiled).	Basket, palm wine,
25	Iya	<i>Danielliaoliveri</i> Rolfe	Leguminosae Sub: Caesalpinioideae	Tree	Savannah forest, re-growth	Abundant	Branches, stem, bark, root	Green, dry(Powder, Juice)	Firewood, medicinal

26	Ataile	<i>ZingiberofficinaleRossae.</i>	Zingiberaceae	Herb	Free areas, forest	Abundant	Rhizome	Green, dry(Powder)	Medicinal
27	Ayan	<i>DistemonanthusbenthamianusBenth</i>	LeguminosaeSub:Caesalpinioideae	Tree	Forest	Abundant	Leaves, branches, stem, bark, root	Green, dry(Water boiled).	Firewood, chew stick medicinal
28	Osankotu	<i>Sidaacuta</i>	Malraceae	Herb	Forest\wild, cultivate	Abundant	Leaves, branches, stem, root	Green, dry(Water boiled).	Medicinal
29	Tana'oposo	<i>Mirabilis nyctaginea</i>	Nyctaginaceae	Herb	Forest\wild, cultivate	Abundant	Leaves, branches, stem, root	Green, dry(Powder)	Medicinal
30	Orin Ata	<i>Zanthoxylumzanthoxyloides</i>	Rutaceae	Herb	Forest\wild, cultivate	Abundant	Branches, stem, bark, root	Green, dry(Powder)	Medicinal chew stick
31		<i>Agerantumconyzoides</i>			Wild		Leaves, branches, stem, root	Green, dry(Juice)	Medicinal
	Imiesu		Compositae	Shrub		Abundant			Insecticide
									Animal Feed
							Leaves	Green, dry(Powder)	
			<i>Allium sativum Linn</i>						
32	Ayu		Liliaceae	Rhizome		Abundant		Green, dry(Powder)	
		<i>Helianthus annuus</i>					Leaves, stem,		
		<i>Securinegavirosa</i>			Forest/wild, cultivate			Green dry (Water boiled).	Medicinal
	Sun								
33	Flower		Asteraceae	Shrub	Forest\wild, cultivate	Abundant	Leaves, stems, root	Green, dry(Lotion)	
								Juice	Medicinal
34	Ewe Akintola	<i>Vitellariaparadoxa</i>	Euphorbiaceae		Forest\wild, cultivate		Fruit		
		<i>Saccharum</i>		Shrub	Forest/wild, cultivate	Abundant			
		<i>officinarum</i>			Forest\wild, cultivate		Leaves, stems, roots	Green, dry(Powder)	Medicinal
	Ori				Forest\wild, cultivate			Green, dry(Powder)	
35		<i>Piper guineensis</i>	Sapotaceae	Tree		Abundant	Leaves, stems, roots, fruits		Medicinal
	Ireke	<i>Garcinia koli</i>					Fruits, Leaves		
36	Kanafuru		Poaceae	Shrub		Abundant			Medicinal
									Food
37	Orogbo		Piperaceae	Shrub		Abundant			Medicinal
38			Guttiferae	Tree					Food
						Abundant			

Thirty eight species of Medicinal Plants were identified from the information supplied by the TMPs. Table 1 shows the distribution of the species in relation to the source, availability status, parts of the plant used, form of the plant used, products and the species regeneration in the study area. The life forms of these plants Table 2 shows that the trees constituted the highest number (66%), followed by shrubs (20%), herb (11%) and rhizome (3%) In all, the family Leguminosae was dominant with 4 species. This was followed by Annonaceae, Anacardiaceae Euphorbiaceae, and Caesalpinioideae (3 species each).The existence of other plant families in Table 3 demonstrates the rich forest diversity in Southwest Nigeria. This also shows the dynamism in ecosystem maintenance. A number of them also serve economic purposes and are consumed as food in one way or the other. Some of these include: Anacardium

occidentalis, A, Mangiferaindica, Musa sapientum, Citrus medica, Vernoniaamygdalina, etc.

Table 1 shows that majority of the TMPs source their medicinal plants from free areas and rarely cultivate them. Table 1 shows that some of the plants are already scarce and species regeneration is by wilding. According to the reports by Gbile et al. [13] and Oguntala et al. [14] the Nigerian ecosystems are at greater risk of extinction if urgent attention is not given to the cultivation of medicinal plants. Table 1 shows that 90% of the TMPs use the whole plant for treatment that is, they make use of the fruits, stems, barks and leaves at the same time. Table 1 also shows that the forest products used for the treatment of cancer are multipurpose; they are used as firewood, medicine, foods, chewing sticks and animal feeds (Agerantum conyzoides). This corroborate the works of Adekunle [15].

Table 2: The form and method of usage by the traditional medicine practitioners in the treatment of cancer.

Name of Plant	Species	Form Used	Method of Usage	No. of Times Taken
Eru	<i>Xylopi aethiopica</i>	Fresh and dry forms	By boiling in water for drinking	2ce.Daily
	(Dunal) A. Rich			
Oganwo	<i>KhayaivorensisA. Chev.</i>	Dry	By boiling in water for drinking	3ce. Daily
Mango	<i>MangiferaindicaLinn.</i>	Green, fresh and dry.	Juicing with coldwater	2ce.Daily
Kaju	<i>AnacardiumoccidentalisLinn</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water for drinking	3ce. Daily
Iyeye	<i>SpondiasmombinLinn.</i>	Green, dry.	By boiling in water for drinking	3ce. Daily
Abo	<i>AnnonasenegalensisPers</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water for drinking and bathing	3ce. Daily
Ahun	<i>Alstoniaboonei</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water for bathing	2ce.Daily
	<i>De Wild</i>			
Osanwewe	<i>Citrus medicaLinn.</i>	Green, dry.	By boiling in water, Juice	2ce.Daily
Oruwo	<i>MorindalucidaBenth.</i>	Green, dry.	By boiling in water, Cold water squeezed	2ce.Daily
Oori-nla	<i>VitexdonianaSweet</i>	Green	By boiling in water for drinking	3ce. Daily
Osopupa	<i>EnantiachloranthaOliv.</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water, soaking in cold water	2ce.Daily
Owu-elepa	<i>PiliostigmathonningiMilne Redhead</i>	Green, dry (Water boiled).	By boiling in water for drinking	3ce. Daily
Putu	<i>Ricinodendronheudelotii(Baill) Heckel</i>	Green, dry	soaking in cold water	3ce. Daily
Opoto	<i>FicussurForssk.</i>	Green, dry.	By boiling in water for drinking	Weekly wash
Asasa	<i>Margaritariadiscoidea(Baill.) Webster</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water for drinking	2ce. Daily
Dongoyaro	<i>AzadirachtaindicaA. Juss</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water for drinking and bathing	2ce.Daily
Atare	<i>AfromomumeleguataLindl.</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water, mixing with pap.	2ce.Daily
IgiFrutu	<i>TerminaliacatappaLinn</i>	Green, dry	Ground, boiling in water for drinking and bathing	2ce.Daily
Apa	<i>Afzeliaafricana(Smith) Sm.</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water for drinking and bathing	Weekly Wash
Oboo	<i>Erythrophleumsuaveolens(Gull. and Perr.)</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water for drinking and bathing	2ce.Daily

Asofeyeje	<i>Rauvolfia vomitriafzel</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water for drinking	2ce.Daily
Omo	<i>Cordiamilleniibak.</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water for drinking	2ce.Daily
Ewuro	<i>Vernonia amygdalina(Schreb) Del.</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water, Juicing	Once Daily
Ope	<i>ElaeisguinensisG. Don.</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water for drinking	2ce.Daily
Iya	<i>DanielliaoliveriRolfe</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water for drinking	2ce.Daily
Ataile	<i>ZingiberofficinaleRossae.</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water for drinking	2ce.Daily
Ayan	<i>DistemonanthusbenthamianusBenth</i>	Green, dry	Heating	Weekly Wash
Broom weed	<i>Sidaacuta</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water, Juicing	2ce Daily
Tana'poso	<i>Mirabilis nyctaginea</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water for drinking	2ce.Daily
Fagara	<i>Zanthoxylumzanthoxyloides</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water for drinking	2ce.Daily
Goat Weed	<i>Agerantumconyzoides</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water, Juicing for drinking	2ce.Daily
Garlic	<i>Allium sativum Linn</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water for drinking	2ce.Daily
Sun	<i>Helianthus annuus</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water for drinking	3ce. Weekly
Flower				
Bush Weed	<i>Securinega virosa</i>	Green, dry	By boiling in water for drinking and bathing	2ce.Daily
African Shea Butter	<i>Vitellaria paradoxa</i>	Green	Processed into lotion to rub on affected parts of the body	2ce.Daily
Sugar Cane		Fresh, Green		
	<i>Saccharum offinarum</i>		Juice	2ce.Daily
African pepper	<i>Piper guineensis</i>	Green, dry	Adjunct to other preparation	2ce.Daily
Bitter Kola	<i>Garcinia koli</i>	Green, dry, wet form	By boiling in water and chewing	2ce.Daily

Table 2 projects the second objective of this work, it shows that 90% of the TMPs use the green and dry forms of the forest products; afterwards they use water to soak or boil them. Also, using water the TMPs make juices from plants like Citrus medica, Morinda lucida, Vernonia amygdalina, Sida acuta and Agerantum conyzoides. Table 2 shows that 65% of the TMPs administer their medications twice daily while 23% of the TMPs adopt the thrice daily dosage. This helps to ensure frequent interactions and effective communication between the TMPs and their clients unlike the orthodox physicians. This was also reported by Adodo [16]. Weekly wash is employed by 14% of the TMPs [17,18].

Inferential statistics results for TMPs in Southwest Nigeria

Inferential Statistics is used to further achieve objectives three and four. (Table 3) is the result of the regression analysis showing the relationship between the profit of the Traditional Medicine Practitioners (TMPs) and their demographic data.

Three (3) functional forms of production model including linear, semi-log and Cobb-Douglas (double-log) functions were fitted for the regression analysis. This was done to select the function which gave the result with the best fit. The estimated functions were evaluated in terms of the statistical significance of the coefficient of multiple determinations (R²) as indicated by F value, the significance of the coefficients and the magnitude of the standard errors. The R² is the coefficient of multiple determinations which measures the extent to which the variation in the dependent variable is explained by the explanatory variables. The F-value measures the goodness of fit of the model. Based on these statistical and economic criteria, Cobb-Douglas functional form was selected as the lead equation. The coefficient of multiple determinations (R²) obtained for the Cobb-Douglas, that is, 0.437 shows that 43.7% of the variation in the profit of the TMPs was explained by the included explanatory variables, while the remaining 56.3% unexplained

was due to the variables not included in the model which was the error term. Number of patients received, total cost of production, age of the practitioners and their years of experience are the significant factors influencing the profit of the practitioners;

each of these variables has positive sign, which suggests that an increase in these variables would lead to an increase in the profit of the practitioners (Figure 2).

Table 3: Regression analysis result to determine demographic factors that affect the profit of the traditional medicine practitioners.

Variables	Linear Model	Semi-log Model	Double log Model
(Constant)	-191633.751	-6120497.800***	3.015***
	(-0.863)	(-7.560)	-7.52
Number of Patients Received	5668.860**	1.154*	0.102**
	-2.046	-1.671	-2.218
Total Cost of Production	0.781***	724844.917***	0.321***
	-3.659	-5.356	-4.627
Age	12712.758***	1351390.068***	0.614***
	-2.77	-3.144	-2.954
Years of Experience	17349.115**	821488.191**	1.134*
	-2.108	-2.373	-1.837
State of Origin	0.989	0.976	1.052
	(-0.151)	(-0.335)	-0.689
Occupation	1.041	1.03	1.015
	-0.559	-0.415	-0.219
Gender	1.048	1.022	1.036
	-0.647	-0.307	-0.5
Marital Status	1.073	1.091	1.094
	-0.969	-1.177	-1.268
Religion	1.015	1.009	1.052
	-0.216	-0.127	-0.745
Educational Level	0.89	0.918	0.918
	(-1.643)	(-1.227)	(-1.264)
R2	0.404	0.394	0.437
Adjusted R2	0.385	0.379	0.423
F-statistics	20.717	26.622	31.841

traditional medicine practitioners.

Dependent Variable: Profit

*** - significant at 1% level

** - significant at 5% level

* - significant at 10% level

Computed t-values in parenthesis

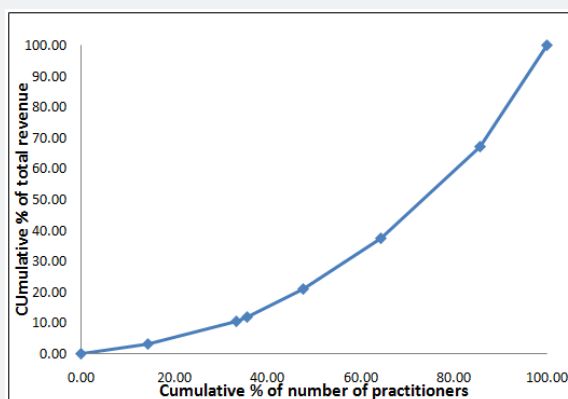


Figure 2: Gini curve.

Table 4 gives the regression analysis result showing the relationship between the profit of the Traditional Medicine Practitioners (TMPs) and some selected variables other than the demographic data of the practitioners. Number of patients per year, duration of treatment, remedy shelf-life, daily application, and time of harvest are shown to have significant positive influence on the profit of the TMPs, which suggests that an increase in these variables would lead to an increase in the profit of the TMPs. However, number of people referred is shown to have a significant negative influence on the profit suggesting that the more that number of people referred by the TMPs the lesser their profits just as it would be expected [19-21].

Table 4: Regression analysis showing relationship between some selected factors and the profits of the Traditional Medicine Practitioners.

Variables	Coefficients	t - values
Constant	-15021498.17	2.526**
Number of patients treated	41022.624	1.331
Number of relatives affected	5605.058	0.051
Number of people dead	-49103.012	-0.354
Number of patients per year	506016.983	2.106*
Number of people referred	-531373.962	2.514**
Duration of treatment	1283050.431	2.761**
Remedy shelf-life	246731.646	2.676**
Method of production	762933.303	1.599
Daily Application	793581.374	2.018**
Time of Harvest	1369993.31	3.450***

Dependent Variable: Profit

Traditional Medicine Practitioners.

*** - significant at 1% (p<0.01) level

** - significant at 5% (p<0.05) level

* - significant at 10% (p<0.1) level

(Table 5) is the result of the t-test analysis showing comparison of some selected parameters of the Traditional Medical Practitioners (TMPs) and the Orthodox Medical Practitioners (OMPs). The result shows that there is significant difference in the number of patients recovered, number of deaths recorded, number of referral and the cost of production between the two groups of practitioners with the mean values estimated as follows: number of patients recovered - TMPs (11.92), OMPs (1.99); number of deaths recorded - TMPs (1.75), OMPs (6.61); number of referral - TMPs (3.32), OMPs (8.26) and cost of production - TMPs (N17,246.58), OMPs (N106,750.00). However, the result shows that there is no significant difference in the number of patients treated by the two groups of practitioners. Result of the economic analysis shows minimal competition in the anti-cancer forest product market and a high level of monopoly with a Gini coefficient of 0.83 (Table 6). Net profit

was N650, 769.98 (Table 6). Table 6 also shows Rate of Return (280.08%) and the Rate of Return on Investment (180.08%) indicating that the TMPs are making profit.

Table 5: t-Tests analysis comparing some selected variables from the Traditional Medicine Practitioners

Variables	TMPs	OMPs	t - values
	(Mean Values)	(Mean Values)	
Number of Patients Treated	16.13	19.02	1.106
Number of Patients Recovered	11.92	1.99	6.110**
Number of Deaths Recorded	1.75	6.61	6.096**
Number of Referral	3.32	8.26	2.129*
Cost of Treatments	17246.58	106750	6.530**

(TMPs) and the orthodox medical practitioners (OMPs)

** Significant at 1% (p<0.01) level

* Significant at 5% (p<0.05) level

Table 6: Annual Average Costs and Returns Analysis

Item	Value
Total Revenue (TR)	1012142.86
Total Cost (TC)	361372.88
Net Profit(NP)	650769.98
Rate of Return (ROR)	280.08%
Rate of Return on Investment (RORI)	180.08%

Table 7: Treatment of identified plants in comparison with Doxorubicin against breast cancer cell line (HS 578T)

After Three Days of Treatment						
Con	0.738	0.785	0.765	0.693	0.74525	0.0398
Doxorubicin	0.661	0.666	0.638	0.642	0.65175	0.01382
Plant1-10ul/ml	0.759	0.728	0.77	0.719	0.744	0.02437
plant1-5ul/ml	0.78	0.782	0.789	0.723	0.7685	0.03058
Plant1-1ul/ml	0.73	0.786	0.737	0.737	0.7475	0.02588
Plant2-10ul/ml	0.83	0.843	0.825	0.815	0.82825	0.01164
plant2-5ul/ml	0.818	0.802	0.853	0.829	0.8255	0.02142
Plant2-1ul/ml	0.8	0.793	0.809	0.799	0.80025	0.0066

Table 8: Treatment of identified plants in comparison with Doxorubicin against breast cancer cell line (MCF7).

After Three Days of Treatment					
Con	0.933	0.921	0.902	0.91867	0.01563
Doxorubicin	1.035	0.985	1.02	1.01333	0.02566
Plant1-10ul/ml	1.005	0.964	0.893	0.954	0.05667
plant1-5ul/ml	1.03	1.009	0.986	1.00833	0.02201
Plant1-1ul/ml	1.027	0.972	0.898	0.96567	0.06473
Plant2-10ul/ml	0.944	0.889	0.934	0.92233	0.0293
plant2-5ul/ml	0.877	0.918	0.861	0.88533	0.0294
Plant2-1ul/ml	0.902	0.88	0.84	0.874	0.03143

Table 7 shows the test result against cancer cell lines Hs578T while Doxorubicin (a synthetic anticancer drug) was used as the control treatment. *Garcinia kola* (Bark) did not exhibit significant anticancer effect even at a concentration of 10u1/m1 while *Erythropleum saueoleons* was effective against the cancer cell line at 1u1/m1. Table 8 shows the Test result against cancer cell lines MCF7 while Doxorubicin (a synthetic anticancer drug) was used as the control treatment. *Garcinia kola* (Bark) did not exhibit significant anticancer effect even at a concentration of 10u1/m1 while *Erythropleum saueoleons* was effective against the cancer cell line at 1u1/m

Conclusion

Forest products are effective in treatment of cancer; therefore in order to achieve the millennium development goals on health; there is need for government to ensure the uniformity of herbal medicine practices. Factors such as, sources and identity of the plant, physical characteristics, chemical constituents, the pharmacological and biological activities of the crude drug and method of preparation, uses and storage, amongst others, need to be identified and documented. This study has justified the importance of plant species in the maintenance of ecosystem and as a source of livelihood for man.

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