

## Perception of Rural Dwellers on the Nutritional and Social Values of Mushroom in Oyo State, Nigeria

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**Abstract :** The study assessed the perception of rural dwellers on the nutritional and social values of mushroom in Oyo state, Nigeria. One hundred and forty respondents were sampled and interviewed. Results showed that majority (84.9%) had below secondary education and 81.4 % were married, with fairly large (71.4%) household size (5-8). Also, 52.1% had favourable perception toward the nutritional values and 57.1% toward the social values of mushrooms in the study area. There was significant relationship between sex ( $X^2 = 4.673$ ), educational level ( $X^2 = 11.969$ ) and perception on the values of mushroom. The knowledge level of respondents on mushroom utilization and production is low in the study area. Farmers' research field should be established to educate rural dwellers on mushroom farm practices and utilization.

**Keywords :** mushroom, nutritional value, rural dwellers, social value

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