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An ethno-zoological survey of insects and their allies among the remos (Ogun State) South Western Nigeria

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Abstract

The research was carried out to study the socio-economic characteristic of the Remos of Ogan State of Ngeria; to determine their relationship with insects which they regard as edible, which they

use for rituals and which they use for medicinal purposes.

Two hundred and eighty-five questionnaires were administered. The data collected was analysed by using frequency counts and percentages. Common edible insects were found to include termites

(*Macrotermes bellicosus*), cricket (*Brachytrypes* sp) and (*Analeptes trifaciata*). The insects used for rituals and medicinal purposes include the butterfly used for making love portion; *Cryptothelia rongeoti* used as a defense against any evil; *Brachytrypes* sp, *Lycosa* sp and *Apis mellifera* used for good fortune. The honey bee (*Apis mellifera*) is used to prevent dizziness, while the sting of Ant is used

for healing wound, curing of impotence in males and is also used as a cure for "thunderbolt". The study found that in this community insects are valuable for both food and medicinal purposes. It recommends that more work on medicinal and nutritional value of these insects be undertaken.

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Indilinga: African Journal of Indigenous Knowledge Systems. ISSN: 1683-0296