

THE USE OF BIOPESTICIDES IN INDIGENOUS CROPPING SYSTEMS IN STATE, NIGERIA

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Abstract

The use of plants as biopesticides in indigenous cropping systems in Ogun State of Nigeria was investigated using pre-tested questionnaires to obtain relevant information from 150 respondents from 150 respondents farming selected from 15 farming communities in the State. The results show that a total of 28 plant species from 17 families were exploited as biopesticides for crop management. The species were from namely tree, shrub, herb and climber. Twelve tree species, eleven shrub, three herb, climber species respectively were exploited. Only 9 of the 28 species were cultivated, while the rest were obtained from the wild. Leaves were the most commonly used parts of the biopesticide, followed by fruits and whole plants. Other parts used were juice, oil, stem, root and rhizome. Leaves accounted for 43%, fruits 14%, while whole plants 11%, nine others accounted for the rest 32%. Major modes of action of the biopesticide plants were as repellents, anti-feedants and contact poisons. It is suggested that for careful and profitable management of forests, there should be a change in the methods of forest utilization by traditional communities. Forest biopesticides should be subjected to research especially with regards to their biodynamics, and levels of potency and toxicity.