

**ANALYSIS OF BUSHMEAT SALES IN SOME SELECTED FOOD CANTEENS IN
ABEOKUTA, OGUN STATE**

BY

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ABSTRACT

The study on analysis of bushmeat sales in some selected food canteens in Abeokuta, Ogun State was carried to identify wild animals consumed as bushmeat. Simple random sampling was used to select the respondents. Data collected were analyzed using descriptive statistics such as table, bar chart etc. Fifty structured questionnaire were used to elicit information from respondents. . Wild animals consumed as bushmeat include Grasscutter (*Thryonomys swinderianus*), Duiker (*Cephalophus spp*), Snail (*Achachatinal marginata*), Guinea Fowl (*Numida Meleagris*), Squirrel (Grizzled giant squirrel) (*Ratufa macroura*), Rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*), Monitor Lizard (*Veranus niloticus*), Kobs, (*Kobus kob*) Giant Rat (*Cricetomys gambianus*), Price of animals offered as bushmeat in the food canteens ranges from N100-N500. 96% of food vendors selling bushmeat in Abeokuta were females. Among the respondents 40% had no formal education, 13% had primary education, 14% had secondary education while 3% had tertiary education. In terms of frequency of purchase, 30% purchase weekly, 12% monthly and only 8% daily, 26% claimed that bushmeat is nutritious, 16% is more delicious while 9% say that it is more saver to eat. Seventy percent of the food vendors buy their bushmeat from hunters only, 12% from bushmeat sellers while 6% from farmer that rear wildlife in domestication and multiplication units. Most of the respondents selling bushmeat have been in the business between 11 and 20 years (52%). Twenty-Nine percent of food canteen in Abeokuta claimed that customer preferred other animal protein to bushmeat because bushmeat is expensive, 50% of the food vendors said that bushmeat is preferable because of the nutrient content and 32% preferred bushmeat to other animal protein because it is delicious. To ensure continuity and sustainable supply of bushmeat, activities of hunters should be checked through law enforcement agencies and through effective legislation. Domestication and multiplication of desirable wildlife species should be highly encouraged to reduce hunting pressure on wildlife animals and to make them available in abundance to meet the future purpose.