

**ASSESSMENT OF DAMAGES CAUSED BY WILD ANIMALS TO CROPS IN
OBAFEMI-OWODE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF OGUN STATE**

BY

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CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research work was carried out by **Olaleye Taiwo O. (060924)** of the department of Forestry and Wildlife Management, College of Environmental Resources Management, University of Agriculture, Abeokuta.

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ABSTRACT

This project work studied the damages caused by wild animal species on farmlands at Obafemi-Owode Local Government Area of Ogun State, Nigeria. A total of 100 structured questionnaires were randomly administered through face to face interview with farmers in twelve regional areas in the Local Government. Infestation of crops by farm wildlife species is of major concern to farmers in all the farmlands visited. The wildlife species and the crops infested. Wild guinea fowl (*Numida mealigries*) with a total number of 10 within wildlife species, 8 infested maize and 2 infested cassava, giant rat (*Cricetomys gambianus*) with a total number of 70 within wildlife species, 4 infested maize, 60 infested cassava, 5 infested tomato and 1 infested vegetable, cane rat (*Thryonomis swinderanus*) with a total number of 62 within the wildlife species, 11 infested maize, 50 infested cassava and 1 infested yam, squirrel (*Protezerus srangerri*) with a total number of 65, 51 infested maize, 5 infested cassava, 7 infested tomato, 1 infested yam and 1 infested maize/yam, rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) with a total number of 54, 35 infested maize, 17 infested cassava, 1 infested maize/cassava and 1 infested yam, raccoon (*Procyon lotor*) with a total number of 2 infested only cassava, mouse (*Aconomy cashirines*) with a total number of 19, 13 infested maize, 5 infested cassava and 1 infested yam, senegal parrot (*Psittacus erithacusi*) with a total number of 9, 8 infested maize and 1 infested cowpea, rat (*Ratus ratus*) with a total number of 40, 30 infested maize, 5 infested cassava, 3 infested tomato and 2 infested watermelon, opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*) with a total number of 2 both maize and cassava, bat (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*) with a total number of 9, 7 infested maize and 2 infested cassava, francolin (*Francolinus bicakarats*) with a total number of 8, 7 infested maize and 1 infested okra, raven (*Corvus corax*) with a total number of 2 infested both maize and sweet potato, and baboon (*Papio*

anubis) with just a total number of 1 infested only maize. The percentage value of crop loss to wild guinea fowl (*Numida meliagries*) is 14.000%, giant rat (*Cricetomys gambianus*) is 12.286%, cane rat (*Thryonomis swinderanus*) is 13.323%, squirrel (*Protezerus srangerri*) is 13.815%, rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) is 12.593%, raccoon (*Procyon lotor*) is 10.000%, mouse (*Aconomys cashirines*) is 13.684%, senegal parrot (*Psittacus erithacus*) is 12.000%, rat (*Ratus ratus*) is 12.875%, opossum (*Didelphis virgianiana*) is 10.000%, bat (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*) is 11.111%, francolin (*Francolinus bicakarats*) is 10.625%, raven (*Corvus corax*) is 12.500%, and baboon (*Papio anubis*) is 5.000%.

The activities of the wildlife species need to be curbed because of serious damage they cause to farm crops, livestock and man. These damage lead to a great reduction in crop yield and income of the farmers, which poses a serious threat to the socio economic values of the people in Obafemi-Owode Local Government Area of Ogun State.