

21st Global Summit on

Food Processing, Safety & Technology

September 28-29, 2018 | Chicago, USA

Food production, packaging and preservation

Modupe Johnson Sobayo
Nuvembrez Farms, Nigeria

Food production, packaging and preservation were investigated in Nigeria. Five (5) Nigerian agricultural producing states, namely, Benue, Edo, Kano, Ibadan and Ogun were used as case studies for this research work which outcome can be used as a model for solving similar challenges in other other African countries and the developing countries of the world at large. The result of the questionnaires and the interview conducted on farmers from the above five (5) states during the research shows that despite the rich fertile soil, favourable weather and abundance of man-power across Nigeria, only 40% of the farm produce is really made available for consumption. This is because the country losses 18% of its yields to pest, 10% of the farm produce goes bad during harvesting while 32% get destroyed on transit to the market. These losses were attributed to lack of modern technologies for harvesting, lack of modern storage facilities, unavailable of well-equipped food processing plants to buy off farm produce in bulk from farmers, lack of modern packaging and preservation techniques which culminate to food wastage and scarcity, loss of time invested, loss of income to farmers and the government. Ultimately, these surmountable challenges makes agriculture and food production sector to be vulnerable and unattractive to the youth and farmers but which investors can take advantage of the result indicate that despite the challenges, Nigerian farmers are committed to food security. Hence, farmers are willing to invest their times, energy, techniques and money into food production but appealing for modern technologies, storage facilities, well equipped food processing plants, modern packaging and preservation technologies to be made available in order to preserve the lifespan of these perishables which will maximize food production; eradicating hunger around the world.

Biography

Modupe Johnson Sobayo is a seasoned farmer from Nigeria. He is the C.E.O., NUVEMBARZ FARMS. Born on Nov. 10th, 1984. He obtained his Higher National Diploma (HND) in Business Administration from Lagos State Polytechnic, Nigeria, in 2009. He worked briefly with Accion Microfinance Bank until 2012 to pursue his childhood dream of becoming a farmer. NUVEMBARZ FARMS was founded in 2013. He is a registered and licenced fish farmer. He is the BoT Chairman and the President, AQUACULTURE BREEDERS OF NIGERIA (AQUABREN). He is an expert in fish farming, cattle ranching, goat farming, heliculture and grasscutter farming.

nuvembarzfarms@gmail.com

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