

## Ethnomedical outcomes on botanicals often used for children's health in South Eastern Nigeria

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### Abstract

This research reviews and documents statistics on medicinal plants and their botanical planning used in the treatment of children's ailments in South-eastern Nigeria. Children under the age of five in developing countries suffer from diseases with high morbidity and mortality rate yearly due to inaccessible and unaffordable health care. Organized questionnaires were managed to the herbal sellers, traditional medicine general practitioner, nursing mothers and adult inhabitants to gather data on the names of plants cast-off to treat the duration of treatment, adverse effects, conditions, methods of provision, and the methods of management of the plant materials. A total of 135 plants belonging to 55 families were identified for the management of children's health in the area. Common paediatric ailments which were said to be treated with herbal remedies by the respondents included malaria, pneumonia, stomach ache, diarrhoea, dysentery, measles, chicken pox/small pox, convulsion, jaundice, pile, ringworm, scabies, eczema, stubborn cough, scurvy, catarrh, wounds, boils, insect bites, food poison, cholera, and umbilical cord complications. Calculations of respondent were; nursing mothers (11.1%), herbal sellers were (48.2%), traditional medical practitioners (21.6%), and others (19.1%). The most occurring plant families were *Apocynaceae*, *Fabaceae* and *Euphorbiaceae* with eight species of plants each, followed by *Asteriaceae* and *Annonaceae* with seven and six species in turn. The recipes were made from the combination of different parts of two or more plants species, and others were made from single plant parts. Methods of withdrawal were regularly decoction, raw clutching out of the juice and infusion, while oral management was the foremost route of administration.

**Keywords:** Botanicals, Ethno medical, Children's health, Survey, South-eastern Nigeria.



### Biography:

Chioma Jovita Nwakamma has completed her graduate of Plant Science and Biotechnology from Imo State University Owerri, and a Post-graduate student of Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, Nigeria. Her research interest includes medicinal plants and ethno botany, drug discovery, plant conservation, biotechnology, plant taxonomy and biosystematics. Currently she teaches Agriculture and Biological Sciences in one of the high schools in Nigeria.

### Speaker Publications:

1. "Antimicrobial Activity of Secondary Metabolites of Fungi Isolated from Leaves of Bush Mango"; *Journal of Next Generation Sequencing & Application* / 2016 / Vol. 3: (3) 1-6.
2. "The fungi associated with the spoilage of bread in Enugu state"; *International Journal of Current Microbiology and Applied Sciences* / 2018 / Vol. 4: (1) 989-995.
3. "Assessment of Saclux Paint Industrial Effluents on Nkoho River in Abia State, Nigeria"; *J. Ecosyst. Ecography* / 2017 / Vol. 7: (2).
4. "The Effects of selected toothpaste on the microbial flora of the mouth of GOU Student"; *International Journal of Current Microbiology and Applied Sciences* / 2018 / Vol. 3: (9) 785-792.

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