

A SURVEY ON ACCEPTABILITY OF GOAT'S MILK IN OGBOMOSO AND ITS ENVIRONS

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ABSTRACT

A total of 100 structured questionnaires were administered in a survey to determine the level of awareness and acceptability of goat's milk to the people of Ogbomoso and its environs. Data generated were analyzed using descriptive statistics. The results showed that 97% of the respondents consumed milk while 3% did not. Only 5% had consumed goat's milk before while 95% of the respondents had never consumed it in the study area. Only 19% of the respondents were aware of the nutritional value of goat's milk while 81% were not aware. Also, 4% of the respondents were adequately informed about the usefulness of goat's milk, while 96% were not. Any effort, either public or private, at promoting goat's milk production and consumption in the study area would be embraced and welcomed by 92%, while 8% would not embrace it. It was concluded that the level of awareness of the people in the study area in respect of goat's milk was very low leading to lack of its acceptability. Therefore, if people are educated in the study area about the nutritional value of goat milk, they would embrace it.

INTRODUCTION

In Nigeria, the indigenous cattle have been the major source of domestic meat and milk supply (Zahraddeen *et al.*, 2007). Nigeria is still trailing behind with the current low animal protein intake per head per day of 10 g compared to FAO recommended 36 g (FMAWR, 2008). Milk supply from other animals such as sheep, goat and camel is negligible (Ibeawuchi and Dalyop, 1995). Adebambo *et al.*, (2011) observed that goat, apart from being easy to manage and highly prolific, has high potential for milk production. Bhat and Khan (2009) illustrated that although not all goats are kept for milk production, goat milk is consumed in countries where they are bred, and the value of milk as an important source of nutrients, particularly in Asia, Pakistan and Indonesia, is widely recognized. Tayo *et al.* (2001) affirmed that goat milk is unique not only because of its anti allergic properties but also because it is believed to score above cow milk in its composition of fat, protein, some vitamins and minerals. Barrionuevo *et al.* (2002) also showed that goat milk increased the absorption and utilization of both iron and copper. Due to the inadequate supply of cow milk and inability of most of the grassroot Nigerians to afford the expensive cost of cow milk, goat milk will serve as an alternative. Moreover, individuals who are allergic to cow milk would find useful alternative in goat milk. It is therefore necessary to investigate

the level of awareness and acceptability of goat milk to the people in Ogbomoso area of Oyo State.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study area: This study was carried out in five Local Government Areas (L.G.As) in Ogbomoso and its environs in Oyo State. The five local Government Areas are Ogbomoso North, Ogbomoso South, Orire, Ogo-Oluwa and Surulere. Ogbomoso zone of Oyo State is bordered in the North by Irepo L.G.A, in the West by Oyo L.G.A, in the South by Ejigbo L.G.A of Osun State and in the East by L.G.A of Kwara State. It is located on latitude 8.1°N and 3.29°E and longitude 4° 15' (Ogbomoso Town Planning Authority, 1998). The population of the area is about 166,034 according to 1991 population census (Federal Office of Statistics). The annual rainfall is about 1500mm and the vegetation is derived savanna. The major occupations of the people are farming and trading. The domestic livestock mainly reared are local chickens, sheep and goats using traditional system of management. Goats are commonly reared on small scale with an average of 5 to 6 goats per household.

Data collection

Data for this study were collected through field survey. Information was obtained from people using 100 structured questionnaires. Twenty-five (25) questionnaires were randomly distributed in each of Ogbomoso North and South Local Government Areas, being more populated than

others; 20 questionnaires were distributed in Ogo-Oluwa Local Government Area, while 15 questionnaires were distributed in each of Orire and Surulere Local Government Areas being least populated. Interview scheduled on structured questionnaire was administered to the respondents in each of the local government areas. Data collected were statistically analyzed using descriptive method of analysis (Steel and Torrie (1981).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of this study are presented in Tables 1 to 7. Table 1 reveals that 58% of the respondents were male while the remaining 42% were female. This shows that both male and female were served the questionnaires on acceptability of goat's milk in the study area. Table 2 shows that 54% of the respondents were Christians while 46% were Muslims. There were no traditional worshippers among those who filled in the questionnaires. It is shown from Table 3 that 97% of the respondents consumed milk while 3% of the respondents did not consumed milk, which could be due to allergic or medical reasons. Table 4 shows the level of awareness of the people in respect of the nutritional benefits of goat milk compared to that of cow. It was observed that the vast majority (81.0%) of the respondents were not aware of the nutritional advantage of goat milk, while only 19.0% had the awareness. Table 5 presents the distribution of the respondents based on their reason for not consuming goat milk. Very high proportion (95%) did not consume goat milk because it was not available in the study area. This suggests that if goat milk was available in the study area, they would consume it, consciously or unconsciously. Table 6 shows the responses of the respondents viz-a-viz the possibility of goat's milk being a good supplement to cow's milk in the study area. It was observed that 65% of the respondents were of the opinion that goat's milk can supplement cow's milk. While 35% were of the opinion that it could not. It was understood from Table 7 that 92% of the respondents would welcome any public or private effort to promote goat's milk production and consumption while 8% of them would not.

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of the study, it could be recommended that an enlightenment campaign should be organized on the importance of goat's milk in the diet of man in the study area. Government should also be interested in the development projects that will enhance goat's milk production.

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Table 1. Sex distribution of the respondents to the questionnaires.

Sex	Frequency	%
Male	58.0	58.0
Female	42.0	42.0
Total	100.0	100.0

Table 2. Distribution of respondents based on religion.

Religion	Frequency	%
Christianity	54.0	54.0
Islam	46.0	46.0
Total	100.0	100.0

Table 3. Distribution of respondents based on whether or not they consume milk.

Response	Consumption of milk	
	Frequency	%
Yes	97.0	97.0
No	3.0	3.0
Total	100.0	100.0

Table 4. Awareness of nutritional value of goat milk

Response	Frequency	%
Aware	19.0	19.0
Not aware	81.0	81.0
Total	100.0	100.0

Table 5. The distribution of respondents based on their reasons for not consuming of goat's milk.

Reason	Frequency	%
Goat's milk is available	5.0	5.0
Goat's milk is not available	95.0	95.0
Total	100.0	100.0

Table 6. Possibility of goat milk supplementing cow's milk

	Frequency	%
Yes	65.0	65.0
No	35.0	35.0
Total	100.0	100.0

Table 7. Acceptability of enlightenment and awareness on nutritional benefits of goat milk

Response	Frequency	%
Yes	92.0	92.0
No	8.0	8.0
Total	100.0	100.0