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An Appraisal of Availability and Utilization of Information Resources and Library Services by Undergraduate Students in Three Agriculture University Libraries in Northern Nigeria (ABU, FUAM, FUTM)

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AN APPRAISAL OF AVAILABILITY AND UTILIZATION OF INFORMATION RESOURCES AND LIBRARY SERVICES BY UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN THREE AGRICULTURE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN NORTHERN NIGERIA (ABU, FUAM, FUTM)

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Abstract

The study appraisal of information resources and services in Agriculture University Libraries in Northern Nigeria; the respondents are undergraduate students in Ahmadu Bello University Zaria, Federal University Agriculture Makurdi, and Federal University Technology Minna sampled by the researcher. The main objective of the study is to evaluate information resources, services in Agriculture University Libraries in Northern Nigeria with view to examine the types of information resources, and services available, extent of utilization of the information resources by undergraduate students in Agriculture University Libraries in Northern Nigeria under study, while questionnaires were administered to the undergraduate students. The researcher has been taken 0.7% of the entire population of respondents=84278 = 78. therefore seventy eight six (78) copies of the questionnaires were administered to the respondents, however, sixty six (66) of questionnaires were retrieved and analyzed from the different Agriculture University Libraries in Northern Nigeria sampled representing (84.62%), Major findings testify that the current agricultural information resources and facilities available, accessible and utilized are insufficient in agriculture University libraries in Northern Nigeria. and internet services existed in agriculture University libraries in Northern Nigeria but were not well developed; current information resources particularly e-journals, e-books, information resources related to agricultural information such as databases, e-journals, e-books were the information needs identified are not much available. The study recommended, the improvement of the existing information resources, services and facilities for the user's information needs, subscriptions of offline databases such as, CeRA Journals Indiastat , CABI Abstract Horticulture Online Database, Agricultural Economics Database EBSCO Resource J-Gate Plus Fortnightly to access agricultural information offline with millions of information resources on text books journals available and continue to be added in each seconds. in order to assist the users to access and utilize agricultural information resources; repackaging agricultural information; and dissemination of information to users. These findings suggest the need to formalize and strengthen linkages between undergraduate students and library staff, to improve access to agricultural information, and to formulate policy and regulatory frameworks that are gender responsive. There is a need for policies that facilitate inter- library loan between agriculture University libraries and research institute libraries, collaboration and information sharing

Keywords: Availability, Agriculture, Information sources, Digital information, services, University library, Utilization, undergraduate students

Introduction

This study an appraisal of information resources and services in Agriculture University Libraries in Northern Nigeria in relation to the availability, accessibility, utilization of information resources and services by undergraduate students in Agriculture University Libraries in Northern country. The Agriculture University Libraries were selected because of their existence and spread across the three geopolitical zone in the country that is north East, North West and Middle belt.

However, in those days most libraries funds from their parent institutions and other donor agencies were favourable and when librarians sought funds for provision of resources they received them without much difficulty or delay. With time, the scenario changed into a new phase as Agriculture University Libraries recorded an unprecedented increase in the costs of running capable of coping with expansion of information and high demand from the clientele which lead to the rise in costs higher than the income generation and funding by the parent body. The bodies that fund today's Agriculture University Libraries are increasingly concerned with providing quality services while keeping costs down. Therefore, the Agriculture University Libraries have to develop various techniques of appraising the information resources and services, planning, and decision-making and expect the institutions they fund to use these techniques to identify what is done, why it is done, and how much is done. No longer can librarians simply ask for resources and expect to get them, instead they must indicate some meaningful and measurable ways and, the results of their services. In effect, they have to show that their programmes are appropriate for the intended users and are achieving the objectives in an effective and efficient manner. The pressing need for a study of this type is to contribute towards the accomplishment of the mission of the Agriculture University Libraries in Northern Nigeria to maintain the highest standards of excellence and realize the vision by providing access to the global base of knowledge and information around the world.

Literature Review

Types of Information Resources Available in Agriculture University Libraries

Consequently, the study carried out by Vijaya kumar (2017) opined that majority of the respondents said that newspaper, project reports, subject books, CD-ROM database and reference books are available and thesis, general books and web resources are less available. His views were corroborated by Kwaghgba, (2015) Onye, (2016), Yaseen, (2016) Ajiji, (2017) Aladeniyi (2018),

and Das (2015), while Abubakar, (2017) emphasized that e-databases for research by Agricultural Scientists in Federal University Libraries in Nigeria subscribed to such as AGORA and AFRICAL JOURNAL respectively. Others are CD-ROM, MEDLINE, PubMed, Biomed Central, African Journals Online, and HINARI, CAB Abstracts, BEAST CD, VET CD, TEEAL. This finding agreed upon by Bello (2020). On the Globalization of Library and Information Services: An Assessment of the Level of ICT Deployment in Academic Libraries in Oyo State, Nigeria where they confirmed the availability of E-Granary, EBSCOHOST, JSTOR, Jaypee Digital, HINARI, AGORA, OARE with Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) and partial Institutional Repository (IR). These views were agreed upon by Rukwaro (2015) and Ekene, (2016) where they stated that libraries acquire information resources such as books, theses, journals, government publications, encyclopedias, dictionaries, e-journals, e-books among others. But Akpe (2018) has different opinions where he stated that information resources are not available. This is an indication that the respondent's opinions are not too dissimilar from one another on their responses on the types of information needs in the Library. The study conducted by Afianmagbon (2020) on Information Literacy Skills, Availability of Information Resources as Factors Influencing Research Productivity of Academic Staff of Lead City University, Nigeria The study indicates that there is high level information resources availability to lecturers and other academic staff in Lead City University who are utilizing them in conducting researches, however Abubakar (2020) examined the Availability And Accessibility of Information Resources in University Libraries for Students' Academic Use: A Case Study of Pharmaceutical Science Students of The University of Jos, the study revealed that books as one of the information resources found in the library. Other information resources that were highly indicated by the respondents others are journals online databases and internet e-books computers e-journals encyclopedia directories and handbooks and newspapers and magazines Some of the information resources indicated low as revealed in the table by the respondents though identified by more than half of the respondents are: monographs and standards CD-ROM databases audio-visual conference proceedings and abstracts and indexes. However, Kutu (2020) has a different view in his study on the availability of information resources in libraries as he stated that the most available print information resources were newspapers, textbooks and journal collections while the least available include indexes, technical reports and manuscripts. This view was corroborated by Ilogho (2020), Swaminathan (2020) and Babarinde.(2020). Interms of accessibility scholars have diversion views on accessing information resources in the, however according to

Jabbar, (2020) on their study Accessibility and Use of Institutional Repository among Research Scholars: A Case of COMSATS Institute of Information Technology, Lahore where they stated that users accessed Information Resources out of campus while other respondents accessed Information Resources within campus some respondents accessed Information Resources through IP and very few used other mode of access. This study is similar to that of Jan (2020) on Usability and Accessibility of Internet by The University Students of Pakistan: A Quantitative Study of Khushal Khan Khattak University Karak-Pakistan, Where they found out that majority of the students of the Khushal Khan Khattak University Karak were accessing the Internet at their homes, hostels and University's Library. Interestingly, others were accessing the Internet at classrooms and Computer However, Olubiyo (2020) has different view on his study on Awareness, Accessibility and Use of Serial Publications among Undergraduate Students of Adeyemi College of Education, Ondo Library, he stated that students access serial materials by asking staff, follow directional sign, browsing the racks and shelves and by searching periodical catalogue in that order.

Types of Services provided in Agriculture University Libraries

The research also explored information services and facilities in the libraries such as reference services, lending services, current awareness (CAS), selection and dissemination of information (SDI), photocopying/ reprographic service, user education, online database searching services, among others, paper clipping service, catalogue, , information service, OPAC and computerized service, , reservation of book, indexing and abstracting service, translation and inter-library loan document delivery services,, orientation programme, online services as stated by Aba, (2015), Sangita (2016) and agreed upon by Gwang (2016) Renge (2016) Ifijeh (2016) Kalbande (2017) Choudhary (2017) Olasupo, (2017) Vijayakumar (2017) and Anyira (2020). However, Nath (2020) have different views on the services rendered in libraries as they mentioned on their study on Practice of Library and Information Services for Differently Able Community in the University Libraries of Assam stated that the services rendered includes Retrieval of Information from the stacks, Photocopy Assistance, Specialized Reference Service, Delivery Service, Modification of Lending Rules, Specialized Orientation Tours, Telephone Request, Discount for Online Searching, Sign Language for the Hearing Impaired, Braille Translation, Reformatting to Another Medium, Wheelchair and Toilet, this finding agree upon by Khasseh (2020) on Library Services to the Disabled in the Public Libraries of Iran (A Case of East Azerbaijan Province)". Moreover Gohain,

(2020) emphasized that more services were conducted in the libraries as he mentioned in the study on Exploring users' experiences with digital information services in the Law College libraries affiliated to University of Mumbai, Maharashtra as he explain the availability of different digital information services such current awareness services, full-text access to e-journals, remote access to e-resources, virtual reference services, and electronic document delivery, remote enquiry services and personalized alert services, Electronic journals services digital information services provided by the library the above finding aligns with that of Neog, (2020) on Library services through Social Media during lockdown due to COVID-19 with special reference to University Libraries of Assam, Ng'ang'a,(2020) Application of Library Service Charter in Quality Service Delivery in University Libraries and Omona, (2020) on The roles of library and information services in achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Uganda

Utilization of Information Resources in Agriculture University Libraries

In the same vein, Oyewumi, (2015) conducted a study on Information Communication Technology (ICT) and its effect on newspaper utilization in University Libraries in Nigeria The result explicitly reveals that majority of the respondents use scholarly journals twice monthly and by monthly basis and they purposely use it for self-examination, learning more about a subject, for assignment and coursework. The study also shows that scholarly journals are readily available and accessible to the respondents. However, most of the respondents indicated that scholarly journals help to direct and guide them on how to carryout research and do quality research. The finding was agreed upon by Aba (2015) Oriogu, (2015) conducted similar view on the study conducted on availability, accessibility and utilization of library information resources by students of the Federal University of Technology, Owerri (FUTO). The study reveals that World Wide Web (WWW), e-mail services, e-journal, e-books, e-database and DVD/CD ROMS database, textbooks and internet are the resources that students mainly utilize. They also use the electronic information resources always such as databases, electronic journals, and electronic books. cybercafés, reports, handbooks seminar/conference maps/atlas, frequently“, while CeRA Journals Indiatat , CABI Abstract Horticulture Online Database, Agricultural Economics Database EBSCO Resource J-Gate Plus Fortnightly“, FAO and Agricola Agricat were utilized moderately to prepare for examination, browsing the web, up-dating knowledge, in-depth research work, up-dating lecture notes and for communication. Majority of the respondents agreed that they use the Library resources for the

purpose of obtaining general information, for examination, assignment and for research. The findings were supported by Owolabi, (2016), Kumar (2017) Akpe (2018) Aladeniyi (2018), and Salubi (2018). While Madondo, (2017) and Madu (2018) have a contrary views in their study on Use of Electronic Information Resources by Undergraduate Students in the Faculty of Management and Administration at Africa University, Mutare, Zimbabwe and on Availability and Utilization of ICT for Information Retrieval by Undergraduate Students in Ramat Library, University of Maiduguri respectively They asserted that the electronic information resources are generally inadequately utilized by undergraduate students in Africa University. The findings revealed the low level of computer utilization for information retrieval in the Library, utilization of CD ROM was very low and there was low level of internet utilization. Also, majority of the respondents do not use e-mail for information retrieval in the Library

Moreover, the above studies show beyond reasonable doubt that the information resources were utilized by the respondents with sharp disagreement that there is low level of utilization of the resources in some African countries including Nigeria. But in developing countries like India, the level of utilization is very high. However, access to and utilization of agricultural information, resources, services and facilities in Agriculture University Libraries in Nigeria are of great concern. But what has happened since then? The current research could find some of the obstacles.

Statement of the Problem

An appraisal provides the opportunity to Agriculture University Libraries in Northern Nigeria to assess how well they contribute in achieving the goals of their parent organizations, diagnose problems in the areas of provision of information resources and service, monitor progress towards specification, compare past, current and desired level of the future and identifies areas where improvement is, what the libraries have or do not, what they do, how well they do it and what they need to accomplish with evidence that the expectations of the parent body are being met. In this aspect, one of the ways for Agriculture University Libraries in Northern Nigeria to make their contributions to the Universities and the undergraduate students is by appraising the information resources and services. To identify the gap in the provision of information resources and services

Research Objectives

1. To examine the types of Information Resources, and Services that is available in Agriculture University Libraries in Northern Nigeria in terms of identifying:

- a. Information resources available in Libraries
- b. Services provided in the Libraries under study

2. To determine the extent to which library resources and services are utilized in Agriculture University Libraries in Northern Nigeria. Specifically this objective intends to:

- a. Establish the extent of utilization of Information resources in the Libraries
- b. Determine the level of utilization of the Services in Libraries

Hypotheses

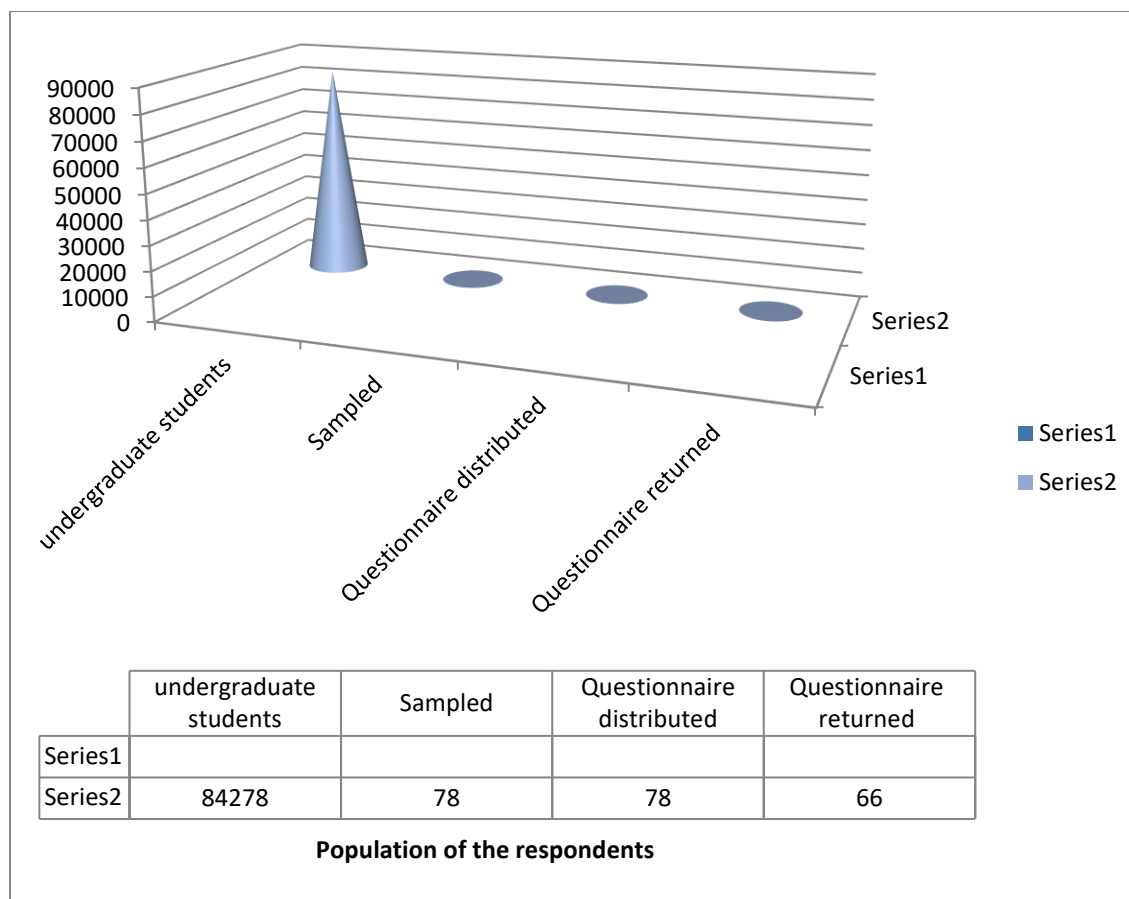
H₀₁. There is no correlation between availability and utilization of information resources and services and the research productivity of undergraduate students in the agriculture university libraries under study

H₀₂. There is no correlation between information resources and services provision and the areas of specialization of undergraduate students in the agriculture university libraries under study

Population of the Study

Table 1: Population of the respondents

S/N	undergraduate students	Sampled	Questionnaire distributed	Questionnaire returned
1	84278	78	78	66



Since the study is a mini project to understand the Availability and Utilization of Information Resources and Library Services by Undergraduate Students in three Agriculture University Libraries in Northern Nigeria (ABU, FUAM, FUTM), the sample of 78 means around 0.7% is justifiable. However, at last only 66 questionnaires were returned with complete response.

Data Analysis

Table 2: Demographic of respondents

Gender	Frequency	Percentage %
Male	13	19.70%
Female	53	80.30%

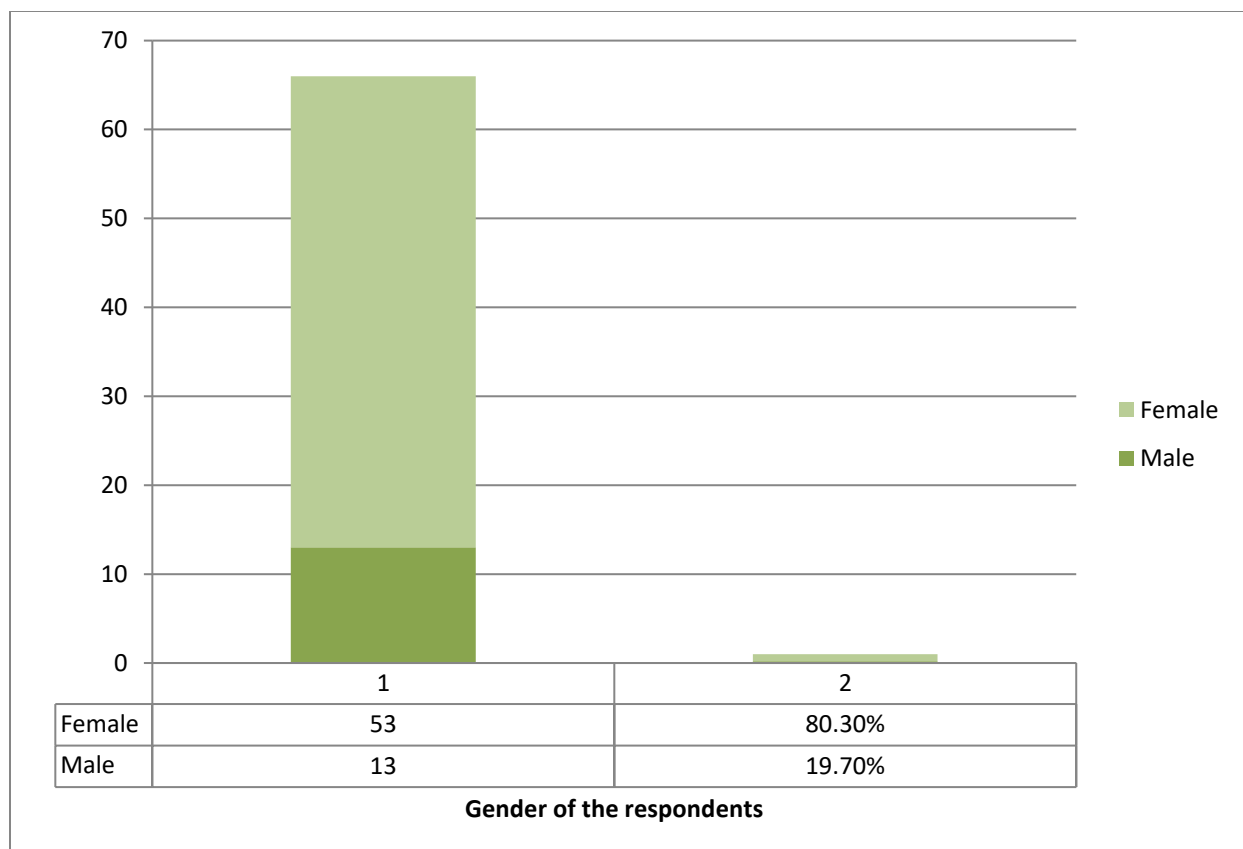
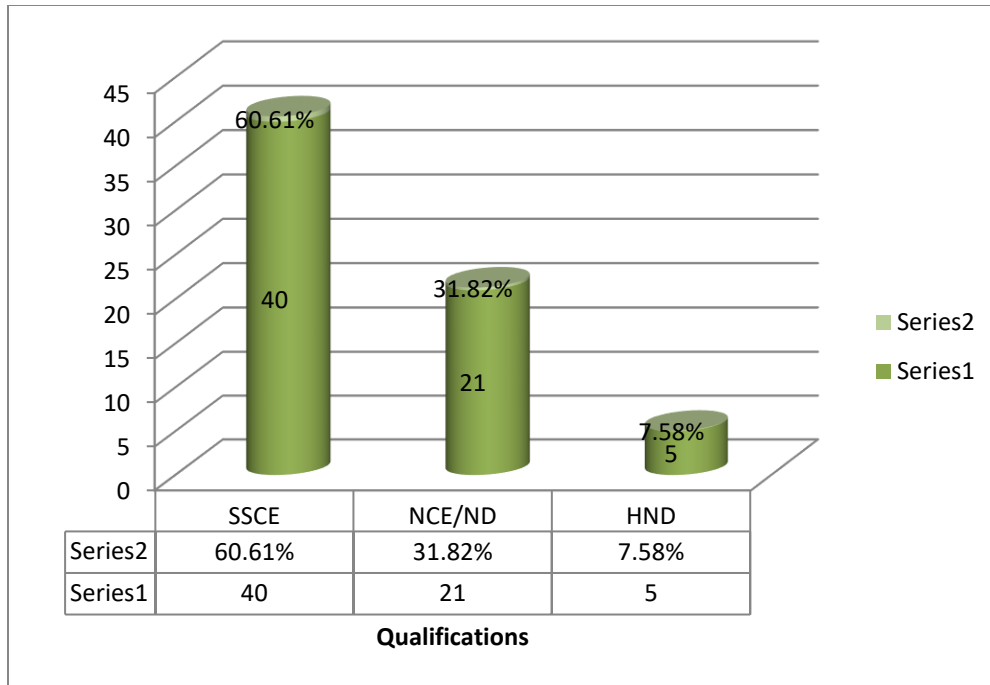


Table 2 revealed that Out of 66 respondents, about 53 (80.30%) were male while the remaining 13 (19.30%) were female. In general, it's obvious that many of the Agriculture University in Northern Nigeria Nigerian, we find that the male students are more comparing to that of females. There are many social phenomena for the less number of females in universities. One of the main reason is that female usually have no interest in agricultural sector. The government always encourages the female to go for higher education particularly agriculture sector o help their female counter parts by reducing the Joint Admission Matriculation Board (JAMB) marks to 10% for female as required entry in the universities.

Table 3: Highest Educational Qualification of the Respondents

Qualification	Frequency	Percentages %
SSCE	40	60.61%
NCE/ND	21	31.82%
HND	5	7.58%



(High National Diploma, NCE: National Certificate of Education, ND: National Diploma, SSCE: Senior Secondary School Certificate) Table 3 indicated that 40 (60.61%) of the respondents have recorded that SSCE as their highest qualification, followed by 21 (31.82%) NCE/ND and HND 5(7.58%) have the least qualification. The table indicates that almost sixty percentages of students are quitting the education with school levels and after school education, going for higher studies is gradually reduced. When they go for HND level education, we hardly find a very few successful candidates.

Availability of Information Resources in ABU, FUTM, AND FUAM

Table 4. Information resources and furniture available in the Library

University	Information resources/furniture																							
	Print resources									E-Resources									Furniture					
	Jour	Books	Conf/Te ch	Govt publi	Thesis /proje cts	Maga z	N/ papers	Atla s,	Manus	E- Data	E-Bks	E-J	E- Thesis	E- N/pa pers	CDROM	Microfil ms	Radi o	TV	Tables	Chairs	Fans	Computers	Printers	Photocop iers
FUTM	4500	34500	12000	123	2500	1500	6000	540	3600	67	4000	2000	14300	12	5600	NIL	6	8	800	1600	56	320	8	13
ABU	38500	27625	268	76	1970	1760	34000	27	25899	1200	5460	569	65	56	46	NIL	7	3	120	240	12	35	4	2
FUAM	5300	43000	20000	10418	30000	2000	43200	200	3000	7	30000	23000	1200	17	8000	NIL	2	15	600	1200	130	200	10	10

Sources data field 2020

In order to identify the type of information resources and furniture available in the Agriculture University Libraries studied, lists of possible library information resources and furniture were provided to the respondents to tick as many as possible. Table 29 below shows the type of information resources and furniture available as indicated by the respondents in Agriculture University Libraries in Nigeria. The study indicate that journals, text books, thesis /dissertations/projects, news papers, conf proceedings &technical reports, e-books, and e- thesis /dissertations/projects, dominate the available information resources in Agriculture University Libraries, followed by tables, fans, CDROM and computers as the most available furniture and equipment available in the library. The study indicates that none of the libraries has Microfilms and Microfiche. These findings aligned with that of Vijayakumar, (2017) who notes that newspapers, project reports, subject books, CD-ROM databases; reference books are mainly available in Libraries. Therefore, the Agriculture University Libraries studied have all types of information resources in both print and non-print forms to assist their users in meeting the University Library goals and objectives of supporting teaching, learning and research. The commonly available furniture in the libraries that are being used in Agriculture University libraries studied to ease and promote quick and timely access to and utilization of information resources are table, chairs and computers, while radio and television are not many in stark contrast to the number of users. This implies that such technological facilities are not fully used or they are very few in the libraries. The finding of the study stresses the fact that almost all the libraries in the study had computers, printers, Xerox, and fans for easy access to the resources needed and conducive learning environment

Utilization of Information Resources in ABU, FUTM, AND FUAM,

Table 5 Utilization of Information Resources in Agriculture University Libraries in Northern Nigeria

ABU										
Undergraduates										
Library resources and services	Very high		High		Medium		Low		Very low	
frequency/%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
Journals	10	40.00	3	12.00	4	16.00	2	8.00	4	16.00
Text books & Ref books	14	56.00	2	8.00	2	8.00	3	12.00	2	8.00
Conf proceedings & Technical reports	3	12.00	4	16.00	10	40.00	6	24.00	2	8.00
Government publications	6	24.00	7	28.00	8	32.00	4	16.00	0	0.00
Thesis /Dissertations/ projects	6	24.00	4	16.00	8	32.00	4	16.00	3	12.00
Magazines	6	24.00	9	36.00	5	20.00	5	20.00	0	0.00
News papers	11	44.00	5	20.00	3	12.00	4	16.00	2	8.00
Atlas, Maps&Posters	3	12.00	7	28.00	7	28.00	6	24.00	2	8.00
Manuscripts	2	8.00	5	20.00	15	60.00	3	12.00	0	0.00
E-databases	3	12.00	7	28.00	12	48.00	1	4.00	2	8.00
E-Books	4	16.00	4	16.00	8	32.00	7	28.00	2	8.00
E-Journals	3	12.00	4	16.00	8	32.00	8	32.00	2	8.00
E-thesis/projects	4	16.00	6	24.00	8	32.00	6	24.00	1	4.00
E-Newspapers&E-Zines	1	4.00	12	48.00	4	16.00	6	24.00	2	8.00
CDROM	4	16.00	9	36.00	5	20.00	6	24.00	1	4.00
Microfilms&Microfiche	2	8.00	9	36.00	6	24.00	4	16.00	4	16.00
Radio	9	36.00	6	24.00	4	16.00	4	16.00	2	8.00
Television	13	52.00	2	8.00	3	12.00	3	12.00	3	12.00

FUTM										
Undergraduates										
Library resources and services	Very high		High		Medium		Low		Very low	
frequency/%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
Journals	8	38.10	3	14.29	2	9.52	0	0.00	3	14.29
Text books & Ref books	4	19.05	3	14.29	3	14.29	7	33.33	4	19.05
Conf proceedings & Technical reports	2	9.52	4	19.05	3	14.29	7	33.33	5	23.81
Government publications	4	19.05	4	19.05	5	23.81	7	33.33	0	0.00
Thesis /Dissertations/ projects	3	14.29	4	19.05	4	19.05	5	23.81	5	23.81
Magazines	8	38.10	1	4.76	9	42.86	3	14.29	0	0.00
News papers	11	52.38	3	14.29	1	4.76	3	14.29	3	14.29
Atlas, Maps&Posters	3	14.29	4	19.05	4	19.05	7	33.33	3	14.29
Manuscripts	3	14.29	3	14.29	7	33.33	7	33.33	1	4.76
E-databases	5	23.81	2	9.52	8	38.10	1	4.76	5	23.81
E-Books	3	14.29	2	9.52	3	14.29	6	28.57	6	28.57
E-Journals	4	19.05	5	23.81	6	28.57	3	14.29	3	14.29

E-thesis/projects	5	23.81	7	33.33	3	14.29	3	14.29	2	9.52
E-Newspapers&E-Zines	6	28.57	7	33.33	2	9.52	3	14.29	3	14.29
CDROM	8	38.10	7	33.33	2	9.52	3	14.29	0	0.00
Microfilms&Microfiche	7	33.33	10	47.62	1	4.76	3	14.29	0	0.00
Radio	8	38.10	6	28.57	3	14.29	1	4.76	2	9.52
Television	9	42.86	8	38.10	1	4.76	0	0.00	3	14.29
FUAM	Undergraduates									
Library resources and services	Very high		High		Medium		Low		Very low	
frequency/%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
Journals	14	70.00	5	25.00	1	5.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Text books & Ref books	16	80.00	1	5.00	3	15.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Conf proceedings & Technical reports	13	65.00	4	20.00	2	10.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Government publications	8	40.00	4	20.00	2	10.00	3	15.00	3	15.00
Thesis /Dissertations/ projects	8	40.00	5	25.00	0	0.00	4	20.00	2	10.00
Magazines	10	50.00	4	20.00	2	10.00	1	5.00	3	15.00
News papers	1	5.00	1	5.00	4	20.00	6	30.00	8	40.00
Atlas, Maps&Posters	0	0.00	1	5.00	3	15.00	7	35.00	9	45.00
Manuscripts	0	0.00	1	5.00	6	30.00	5	25.00	8	40.00
E-databases	3	15.00	8	40.00	1	5.00	7	35.00	1	5.00
E-Books	3	15.00	3	15.00	4	20.00	2	10.00	8	40.00
E-Journals	2	10.00	0	0.00	4	20.00	4	20.00	10	50.00
E-thesis/projects	7	35.00	2	10.00	3	15.00	5	25.00	3	15.00
E-Newspapers&E-Zines	5	25.00	2	10.00	3	15.00	7	35.00	3	15.00
CDROM	0	0.00	1	5.00	3	15.00	7	35.00	8	40.00
Microfilms&Microfiche	4	20.00	5	25.00	1	5.00	3	15.00	7	35.00
Radio	2	10.00	3	15.00	2	10.00	6	30.00	7	35.00
Television	1	5.00	2	10.00	6	30.00	9	45.00	2	10.00

Sources data field 2020

In order to ascertain the extent of utilization of information sources in Agriculture University Libraries studied, the respondents were provided with a list of information sources, to rank according to priority status. Table 5 above shows the information Sources rank as per priority in Agriculture University Libraries studied. Majority of the respondents ranked books, journals, e-books and e-journals very higher respectively. Government publications, atlas, maps and posters for instance are the type of library information resources ranked very lower with percentages scores

Hypotheses tested

H₀₁ There is no correlation between the availability of information resources, and services and the utilisation in research productivity of undergraduate students in Agriculture University Libraries under study.

To test this hypothesis, Spearman’s Rank Order Correlation statistic was used. The data was analysed using SPSS, and the result is presented in the table below:

Table 6 Relationship between availability of information resources, and facilities and utilisation in research productivity of faculty members in Agriculture University Libraries under study

		Availability of IRS&F	Utilisation of IRS&F in Research Productivity
Availability of IRS&F	Pearson Correlation	1	.807**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	66	66
Utilisation of IRS&F in Research Productivity	Pearson Correlation	.807**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	66	66

Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

From the table 6 above, the relationship between availability of information resources and facilities and utilisation in research productivity of faculty members in Agriculture University Libraries under study is $r = .807$, $N = 66$, and $P = .000$. Thus since the p-value (.000) is less than the alpha value (.05), the null hypothesis has been rejected and the alternate hypothesis has been adopted in the analysis. So, the researcher has concluded that there is a correlation between availability of information resources and facilities and utilisation in research productivity of

faculty members in Agriculture University Libraries studied. It is, therefore, concluded that, the type of information resources and facilities available and used in Agriculture University Libraries in Nigerian studied have significant difference Therefore there is a need for Agriculture University Libraries to provide more information resources and improvement of consortium in Agriculture University Libraries in the country.

H₀₂. There is no difference between the area of specialization and the provision of information resources, and services to undergraduate students in Agriculture University Libraries in Northern Nigeria

Table :7 Difference between area of specialization and provision of information resources, services and facilities to academic staff and students in Agriculture University Libraries under study

Source	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	44316.213	17	2606.836	6.709	.000
Within Groups	291800.507	51	388.549		
Total	336116.720	66			

From the table 7 above, the difference between area of specialization and the provision of information resources, services and facilities to academic staff and students in Agriculture University Libraries under study is $F = 6.709$, and $p = .000$. Thus, since the p-value (.000) is less than the alpha value (.05), the null hypothesis has been rejected and the alternate hypothesis has been adopted. So, the researcher has concluded that there is a difference between area of specialization and provision of information resources, services and facilities to academic staff and students in Agriculture University Libraries under study.

Since significant difference was observed, there is need to conduct the Scheffe's test to find out which pairs of means are significant. The test was conducted and it was found that the mean difference is significant among Agronomy, Agricultural Economics and Animal Science Husbandry, Management Science and Agricultural Extension, as shown in the table below:

Table 8: Post Hoc Scheffe Test for Multiple Comparisons of Group Means

Area of Specialisation (I)	Area of Specialisation (J)	Mean Difference (I-J)	Std. Error	Sig.
Agronomy	Agricultural Economics	-25.57893*	3.04608	.000
Agricultural Economics	Animal Science Husbandry	18.06422*	3.04608	.007
	Management Science	19.61422*	3.16867	.003
	Agricultural Extension	21.42271*	3.30088	.001

From the table 8 above there is a difference between area of specialization and the provision of information resources, services and facilities to academic staff and students in Agriculture University Libraries under study ($F = 6.709$, and $p = .000$). Post-hoc test (Scheffe's test) was undertaken to find out which pairs of means are significant. It was found that the mean difference is significant among Agronomy and Agricultural Economics (.000), Agricultural Economics and Animal Science Husbandry (.007), Agricultural Economics and Management Science (.003), and Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Extension (.001). It is, therefore, concluded that, there is a difference between area of specialization and provision of information resources, services and facilities to academic staff and students in Agriculture University Libraries in Nigeria Therefore, there is a need for Agriculture University Libraries to co-opt the undergraduate students in selection of information resources in Agriculture University Libraries in the country.

Findings of the study

The following section provides the summary of the major findings of the study based on the objectives formulated in chapter 1.

Types of Information Resources and Facilities those are available in Agriculture University Libraries

The finding of the study revealed that journals, text books, thesis /dissertations/projects, news papers, conf proceedings & technical reports, e-books, and e- thesis /dissertations/projects,

dominate the available information resources in Agriculture University Libraries sampled, followed by tables, fans, CDROM and computers as the most available furniture and equipment available in the library. The study indicates that none of the libraries has Microfilms and Microfiche.

These findings aligned with that of Vijayakumar, (2017) who notes that newspapers, project reports, subject books, CD-ROM databases; reference books are mainly available in Libraries.

Therefore, the Agriculture University Libraries studied have all types of information resources in both print and non-print forms to assist their faculty members in meeting the University Library goals and objectives of supporting teaching, learning and research.

The commonly available furniture in the libraries that are being used in Agriculture University libraries studied to ease and promote quick and timely access to and utilization of information resources are table, chairs and computers, while radio and television are not many in stark contrast to the number of users

The provision of information resources and facilities in Agriculture University libraries context will ensure effective services and utilization of the library resources. Other benefits include justifying the library investment on its resources and the overall attainment of the library aims and objectives. The law said “Every Reader His or Her Book” library professionals must ensure that the library has an access policy that is appropriate ensure that adequate access to the collection was created to serve such as interlibrary loan, cooperative acquisitions, and consortia to which the library may used of easy access to the resources. Librarians must know their readers particularly the profiles of faculty members to know their area of specialization to provide them with the materials they need for their research and wish to read

Accessibility of Library resources, services and facilities in Agriculture University Libraries

The relevance of accessibility of Library resources, services and facilities was well perceived in terms of utilization of information resources in Agriculture University Libraries in Northern Nigeria. The study shows that there is a significant difference in the frequency of Library visit among undergraduate students. In this study, although the frequency, average and purpose of

using the library differ from university to university, however there is need to be improved for availability and accessibility of the information resources in the libraries by displaying of new arrivals, providing research guides and bibliographies to users at an information counter, newsletters, etc., as ways that a library can aggressively work to connect its resources with its users based on the fact the law said "Every Book Its Reader"

Determine the extent to which library resources and services are utilized in Agriculture University Libraries.

Determine the finding on the extent to which library resources, and services are utilized in Agriculture University Libraries in Northern Nigeria. The survey indicates that a good number of respondents ranked books,, journals, e-books and e-journals very higher. Government publications, atlas, maps and posters for instance are the type of library information resources ranked very lower

In this context therefore, training and re-training are necessary requirement for ensuring effective and efficient utilization of information resources. In addition, the digital information resources, funding, staff productivity and capabilities through education and training opportunities in line with the objectives of the library should be improved.

Recommendations

An appraisal in library means assessing or judging information resources and services the utility value in terms of quality and quantity, this work has evaluated the four aspects in Agriculture University Library on accessibility, utilization. Agriculture and research have drastically changed in their concept and character due to advancement in technologies and farm mechanization. Based on the above data analysis, and interpretation, the future course of action to increase the utilization of information resources, the researcher made the following recommendations

1. It is recommended that the library resources should be available in an organized passion and it should tailored to suit the demands of the Library users by regular shelving and shelf reading at least every two hours; better cataloguing, classification and stacking of the Library resources so that locating the information resources becomes hassles free.
2. It is recommended that the library should create an institutional repository to enlighten

the services available in the digital Library, and at the same time displays the new arrival edition in the library

3. Formulate sound “collection development policy,” particularly, for online information resources. The preferred information resources such as subject journals, reference books, back volumes of journals, theses/dissertation, and research reports, bibliographies and reviews need to be updated regularly.
4. Inter-library loan and document delivery services: Even though the online journals and databases are on the verge of becoming a reality, the traditional library services like inter-library loan and document delivery services still retain their identity. The study recommends to expansion of the document delivery service and inter-library loan services at the international level, so that the undergraduate students can save their time and money

Conclusion

This study has explored the degree at which specific information resources and services are provided to Agriculture University Libraries in Northern Nigeria. The study has also found that both print and electronic information resources play essential roles in the academic pursuits of the undergraduate students of Agriculture University Libraries under study. The respondents of Agriculture University Libraries indicate that they have inadequate information resources, shortage of library staff to provide the services. There are gaps in preference of information resources and its delivery from one Library to another. The respondents face some problems in using the library resources and services. So, they need some training to be able use the resources, particularly the electronic resources appropriately

The study has attempted to understand the level of utilization of users of Agriculture University Libraries. Furthermore, the research has attempted to identify the gap between accessibility of information resources and the services of delivery. Clearly, there is a mismatch between the priorities as expressed by the respondents and the level of provision of Library resources, and services provided; regardless of their area of specialization, held consistently low level of utilization of the library resources and services. The gaps are thus significant.

The study suggests that Agriculture University Libraries in Northern should maintain the needed based print and electronic resources. Well qualified and adequate staff should be recruited in the

Agriculture University Libraries in the country The important services like circulation, current awareness services, user-education/ orientation, inter library loan, Translation services/ Language laboratory service, Indexing and abstracting services, Selective and dissemination of information are to be improved.

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