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## Challenges Affecting the Use of Information Resources and Services by Postgraduate Students in Agriculture University Libraries in Nigeria in (FUAM, MOUA and FUAA)

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# **AN ASSESSMENT ON THE CHALLENGES AFFECTING THE UTILIZATION OF INFORMATION RESOURCES AND SERVICES BY POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS IN AGRICULTURE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN NIGERIA IN (FUAM, MOUA AND FUAA)**

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## ***Abstract***

*The study an appraisal of information resources and services in Agriculture University Libraries in Nigeria; the respondents are postgraduate in, Federal University Agriculture Makurdi, Federal Michael Okpara University Agriculture Abia, Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta, sampled by the researcher. The main objective of the study is to assess the information resources and services in Agriculture University Libraries in Nigeria with view to examine the types of information resources and services available, extent of utilization and the constraints associated with the use of information resources and services by Library postgraduate students in Agriculture University Libraries under study. Simple random sampling was used in selecting the Agriculture University Libraries from the six geopolitical zones; while questionnaires were administered to users. The researcher has been taken 1.1% of the entire population of respondents=6933 = 78. Seventy eight (78) copies of the questionnaires were administered to the respondents, however, seventy three (73) of questionnaires were retrieved and analyzed from the different Agriculture University Libraries sampled representing (93.6%),. Major findings testify that the current agricultural information resources available, accessible and utilized are insufficient in agriculture University libraries in Nigeria. constraints confronted the postgraduate students, includes internet connectivity, power failure, attitudes of the staff, current information resources particularly e-journals, e-books and loans periods, information resources related to agricultural information such as databases, e-journals, e-books were the information needs identified are not much available. Due to inadequate numbers of library staff, there was scanty access to appropriate information services to the users. 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, AGORA, HINARI, AJOL, JSTORE and E-Granary to access agricultural information offline with millions of information resources on text books journals available and continue to be added in each seconds. To overcome these constraints library management should look in to the possible area of income sources and funding the library beyond annual budget and dependency on TETFund*

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

## **Introduction**

This study an assessment of the challenges affecting the utilization of information resources and services in Agriculture University Libraries in Nigeria in relation to the availability, accessibility, utilization of information resources and services and challenges by postgraduate students in Agriculture University Libraries in the country. The Agriculture University Libraries were selected because of their existence and spread across the six geopolitical zone in the country

The rationale behind this study is to evaluate the information resources, services and facilities in Agriculture University Libraries in Nigeria with a view to taking into consideration the benefits of the users

## **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). This view was corroborated by Ilogho (2020), Swaminathan (2020) and Babarinde.(2020). Interm of accessibility scholars have diversion views on accessing information resources

### **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).

### **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.

### **Constraints Associated with the Use of Information Resources in Agriculture University Libraries**

However, Mohammed (2015) analyzed the factors militating against utilization of information resources for research by users in Agriculture University Libraries in Nigeria. The findings reveal that the Librarians agreed that lack of enough qualified Librarians to provide, process and make available Library information resources and services, infrastructural facilities, electricity, inadequate funding of the libraries, lack of adequate information resources in their areas of research, lack of adequate modern information technologies to acquire, process and access

current information elsewhere nationally and internationally and available information resources in their areas of research are mostly outdated and major militating factors against utilization of information resources for research. The other factors include short period of material loan inconvenience of the opening hours in the Library and the number of books loaned out at a time is inadequate for their research purpose. These among others were factors militating against their utilization of information resources for research lack of trained Library staff; poor cataloguing and classification method constitute problems to student utilization of Library services. Olubanke (2015) shares this opinion in his study on Use of Electronic Information Resources by Undergraduates of Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria likewise Igwebuike(2017) on Strategies for Effective Utilization of Library Resources and Services by Distance Education Students in National Teachers Institute in Enugu State, Nigeria

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 assessment provides the opportunity to Agriculture University Libraries in Nigeria to assess how well they contributes 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 postgraduate students is by appraising the challenges affecting the utilization of information resources and services. To identify the gap in the provision of information resources and services and find out the challenges facing the

postgraduate students in accessing and utilization of the information in the Agriculture University Libraries in Nigeria

### **Research Objectives**

1. To examine the types of Information Resources, and Services that is available in Agriculture University Libraries in 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 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

3. To identify the constraints associated with the use of information resources and services by postgraduate students in Agriculture University Libraries under study. Specifically, this objective is intends to:

- a. Examine the constraints of utilization of Information resources in Libraries
- b. Identify the constraints affecting the utilization of the services in Libraries

### **Hypotheses**

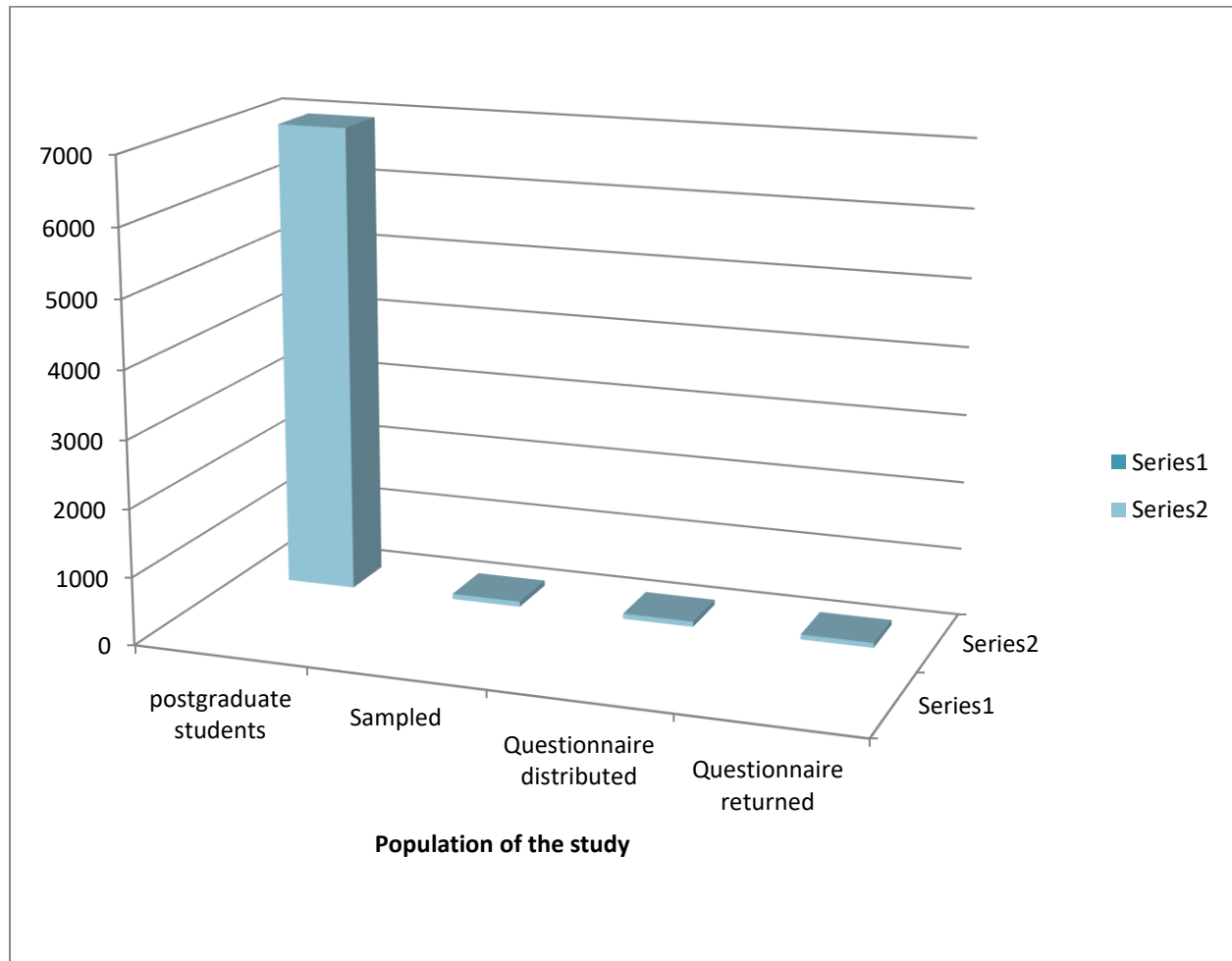
**H<sub>01</sub>**. There is no correlation between availability and utilization of information resources and services and the research productivity of postgraduate students in the agriculture university libraries under study

**H<sub>02</sub>**. There is no correlation between information resources and services provision and the areas of specialization of postgraduate students in the agriculture university libraries under study

## Population of the Study

**Table 1: Population of the respondents**

| S/N | postgraduate students | Sampled | Questionnaire distributed | Questionnaire returned |
|-----|-----------------------|---------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1   | 6933                  | 78      | 78                        | 73                     |



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   | 22        | 30.14%       |
| Female | 51        | 69.86%       |

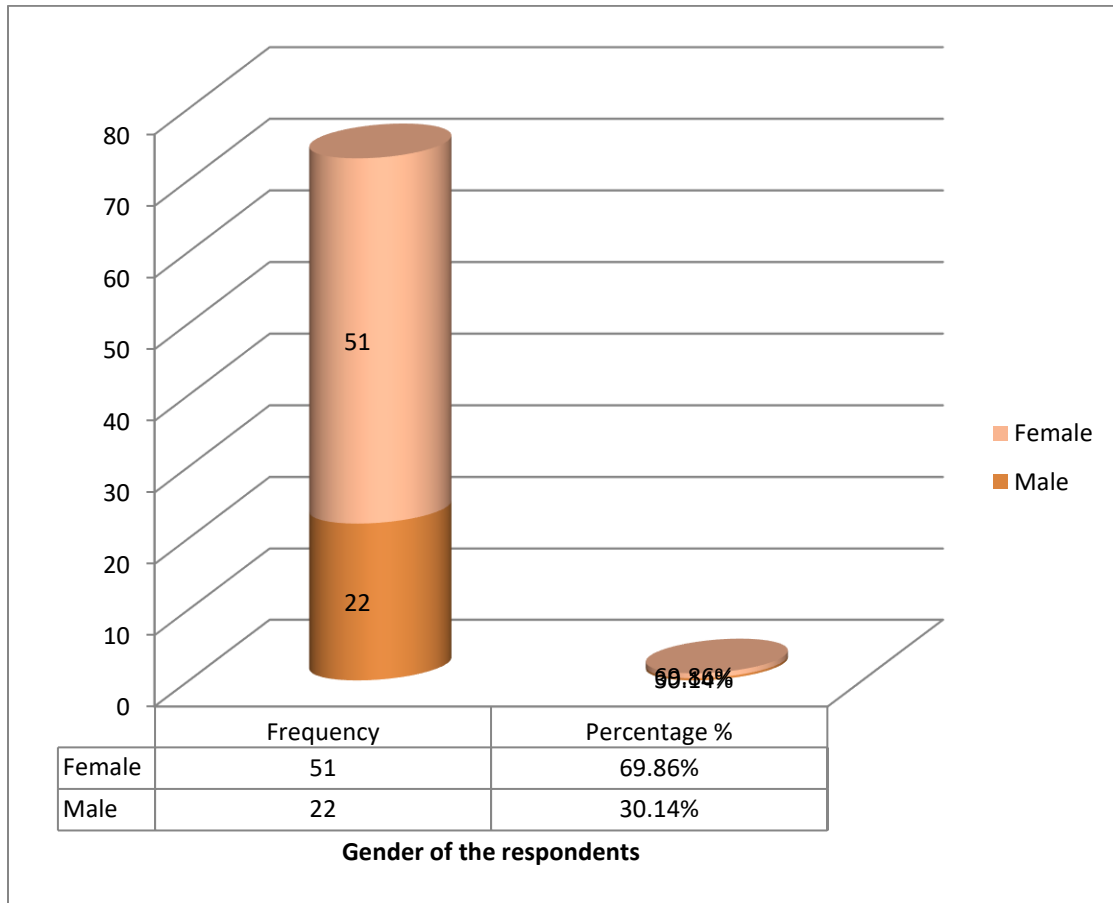


Table 2 revealed that Out of 73 respondents, about 51 (69.86%) were male while the remaining 22 (30.14%) were female. In general, it's obvious that many of the Agriculture University in Nigeria Nigerian, we find that the male students are more comparing to that of females. There are many reasons for the less number of females in Agriculture universities. One of the main reason is that female usually have no interest in the sector. The government always encourages the female to go for higher study particularly agriculture sector to help their female counter parts by reducing the Joint Admission Matriculation Board (JAMB) marks to 5% for female as required entry in the universities.

**Table 3: Highest Educational Qualification of the Respondents**





|      |       |       |       |       |       |      |       |     |       |    |       |       |      |     |      |     |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|-----|-------|----|-------|-------|------|-----|------|-----|
| UAM  | 5300  | 43000 | 20000 | 10418 | 30000 | 2000 | 43200 | 200 | 3000  | 7  | 30000 | 23000 | 1200 | 17  | 8000 | NIL |
| MOUA | 30000 | 24000 | 500   | 1200  | 1600  | 4580 | 5000  | 17  | 12000 | 57 | 3451  | 2350  | 120  | 250 | 3000 | NIL |
| FUAA | 48542 | 25550 | 1271  | 348   | 17421 | 1200 | 1800  | 70  | 27381 | 67 | 237   | 15471 | 672  | 79  | 861  | NIL |

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 4 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 FUAM, MOUA AND FUAA**

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

|                                |           |  |      |  |        |  |     |  |          |  |
|--------------------------------|-----------|--|------|--|--------|--|-----|--|----------|--|
| FUAM                           |           |  |      |  |        |  |     |  |          |  |
| Library resources and services | Very high |  | High |  | Medium |  | Low |  | Very low |  |

| frequency/%                          | F  | %     | F | %     | F | %     | F | %     | F | %     |
|--------------------------------------|----|-------|---|-------|---|-------|---|-------|---|-------|
| Journals                             | 10 | 55.56 | 7 | 38.89 | 1 | 5.56  | 0 | 0.00  | 0 | 0.00  |
| Text books & Ref books               | 8  | 44.44 | 2 | 11.11 | 0 | 0.00  | 0 | 0.00  | 1 | 5.56  |
| Conf proceedings & Technical reports | 3  | 16.67 | 2 | 11.11 | 2 | 11.11 | 7 | 38.89 | 3 | 16.67 |
| Government publications              | 4  | 22.22 | 3 | 16.67 | 3 | 16.67 | 5 | 27.78 | 3 | 16.67 |
| Thesis /Dissertations/ projects      | 4  | 22.22 | 3 | 16.67 | 5 | 27.78 | 3 | 16.67 | 2 | 11.11 |
| Magazines                            | 3  | 16.67 | 5 | 27.78 | 6 | 33.33 | 3 | 16.67 | 1 | 5.56  |
| News papers                          | 2  | 11.11 | 6 | 33.33 | 5 | 27.78 | 4 | 22.22 | 1 | 5.56  |
| Atlas, Maps&Posters                  | 4  | 22.22 | 5 | 27.78 | 3 | 16.67 | 5 | 27.78 | 1 | 5.56  |
| Manuscripts                          | 3  | 16.67 | 2 | 11.11 | 8 | 44.44 | 3 | 16.67 | 2 | 11.11 |
| E-databases                          | 2  | 11.11 | 4 | 22.22 | 5 | 27.78 | 4 | 22.22 | 3 | 16.67 |
| E-Books                              | 4  | 22.22 | 3 | 16.67 | 5 | 27.78 | 3 | 16.67 | 2 | 11.11 |
| E-Journals                           | 4  | 22.22 | 4 | 22.22 | 5 | 27.78 | 4 | 22.22 | 1 | 5.56  |
| E-thesis/projects                    | 4  | 22.22 | 4 | 22.22 | 4 | 22.22 | 3 | 16.67 | 2 | 11.11 |
| E-Newspapers&E-Zines                 | 2  | 11.11 | 5 | 27.78 | 5 | 27.78 | 2 | 11.11 | 4 | 22.22 |
| CDROM                                | 4  | 22.22 | 4 | 22.22 | 4 | 22.22 | 3 | 16.67 | 2 | 11.11 |
| Microfilms&Microfiche                | 6  | 33.33 | 3 | 16.67 | 6 | 33.33 | 2 | 11.11 | 1 | 5.56  |
| Radio                                | 9  | 50.00 | 2 | 11.11 | 5 | 27.78 | 2 | 11.11 | 0 | 0.00  |
| Television                           | 14 | 77.78 | 4 | 22.22 | 0 | 0.00  | 0 | 0.00  | 0 | 0.00  |

| MOUA                                 | Postgraduates |       |      |       |        |       |     |       |          |       |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|-------|------|-------|--------|-------|-----|-------|----------|-------|
| Library resources and services       | Very high     |       | High |       | Medium |       | Low |       | Very low |       |
| frequency/%                          | F             | %     | F    | %     | F      | %     | F   | %     | F        | %     |
| Journals                             | 17            | 80.95 | 4    | 19.05 | 0      | 0.00  | 0   | 0.00  | 0        | 0.00  |
| Text books & Ref books               | 17            | 80.95 | 10   | 47.62 | 0      | 0.00  | 1   | 4.76  | 3        | 14.29 |
| Conf proceedings & Technical reports | 11            | 52.38 | 3    | 14.29 | 1      | 4.76  | 4   | 19.05 | 2        | 9.52  |
| Government publications              | 11            | 52.38 | 1    | 4.76  | 3      | 14.29 | 4   | 19.05 | 2        | 9.52  |
| Thesis /Dissertations/ projects      | 6             | 28.57 | 4    | 19.05 | 3      | 14.29 | 2   | 9.52  | 0        | 0.00  |
| Magazines                            | 5             | 23.81 | 4    | 19.05 | 4      | 19.05 | 6   | 28.57 | 2        | 9.52  |
| News papers                          | 3             | 14.29 | 5    | 23.81 | 8      | 38.10 | 2   | 9.52  | 2        | 9.52  |
| Atlas, Maps&Posters                  | 6             | 28.57 | 2    | 9.52  | 8      | 38.10 | 3   | 14.29 | 2        | 9.52  |
| Manuscripts                          | 5             | 23.81 | 3    | 14.29 | 9      | 42.86 | 1   | 4.76  | 3        | 14.29 |
| E-databases                          | 4             | 19.05 | 4    | 19.05 | 7      | 33.33 | 6   | 28.57 | 0        | 0.00  |
| E-Books                              | 2             | 9.52  | 3    | 14.29 | 8      | 38.10 | 6   | 28.57 | 2        | 9.52  |
| E-Journals                           | 2             | 9.52  | 3    | 14.29 | 8      | 38.10 | 6   | 28.57 | 2        | 9.52  |
| E-thesis/projects                    | 2             | 9.52  | 3    | 14.29 | 10     | 47.62 | 6   | 28.57 | 1        | 4.76  |
| E-Newspapers&E-Zines                 | 2             | 9.52  | 5    | 23.81 | 5      | 23.81 | 7   | 33.33 | 0        | 0.00  |
| CDROM                                | 5             | 23.81 | 6    | 28.57 | 2      | 9.52  | 8   | 38.10 | 1        | 4.76  |
| Microfilms&Microfiche                | 6             | 28.57 | 4    | 19.05 | 2      | 9.52  | 9   | 42.86 | 0        | 0.00  |
| Radio                                | 9             | 42.86 | 3    | 14.29 | 1      | 4.76  | 6   | 28.57 | 2        | 9.52  |
| Television                           | 10            | 47.62 | 0    | 0.00  | 5      | 23.81 | 4   | 19.05 | 2        | 9.52  |

FUAA

Postgraduates

| Library resources and services       | Very high |       | High |       | Medium |       | Low |       | Very low |       |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-------|------|-------|--------|-------|-----|-------|----------|-------|
|                                      | F         | %     | F    | %     | F      | %     | F   | %     | F        | %     |
| Journals                             | 13        | 65.00 | 2    | 10.00 | 3      | 15.00 | 1   | 5.00  | 1        | 5.00  |
| Text books & Ref books               | 11        | 55.00 | 1    | 5.00  | 6      | 30.00 | 1   | 5.00  | 1        | 5.00  |
| Conf proceedings & Technical reports | 5         | 25.00 | 2    | 10.00 | 7      | 35.00 | 3   | 15.00 | 3        | 15.00 |
| Government publications              | 3         | 15.00 | 4    | 20.00 | 6      | 30.00 | 5   | 25.00 | 2        | 10.00 |
| Thesis /Dissertations/ projects      | 6         | 30.00 | 2    | 10.00 | 4      | 20.00 | 5   | 25.00 | 3        | 15.00 |
| Magazines                            | 4         | 20.00 | 4    | 20.00 | 6      | 30.00 | 4   | 20.00 | 2        | 10.00 |
| News papers                          | 4         | 20.00 | 5    | 25.00 | 8      | 40.00 | 2   | 10.00 | 1        | 5.00  |
| Atlas, Maps&Posters                  | 5         | 25.00 | 4    | 20.00 | 7      | 35.00 | 3   | 15.00 | 1        | 5.00  |
| Manuscripts                          | 3         | 15.00 | 4    | 20.00 | 9      | 45.00 | 4   | 20.00 | 0        | 0.00  |
| E-databases                          | 7         | 35.00 | 0    | 0.00  | 8      | 40.00 | 4   | 20.00 | 1        | 5.00  |
| E-Books                              | 8         | 40.00 | 2    | 10.00 | 5      | 25.00 | 4   | 20.00 | 1        | 5.00  |
| E-Journals                           | 11        | 55.00 | 0    | 0.00  | 3      | 15.00 | 3   | 15.00 | 3        | 15.00 |
| E-thesis/projects                    | 7         | 35.00 | 3    | 15.00 | 3      | 15.00 | 5   | 25.00 | 2        | 10.00 |
| E-Newspapers&E-Zines                 | 4         | 20.00 | 5    | 25.00 | 3      | 15.00 | 4   | 20.00 | 4        | 20.00 |
| CDROM                                | 5         | 25.00 | 4    | 20.00 | 4      | 20.00 | 3   | 15.00 | 4        | 20.00 |
| Microfilms&Microfiche                | 7         | 35.00 | 5    | 25.00 | 4      | 20.00 | 2   | 10.00 | 2        | 10.00 |
| Radio                                | 8         | 40.00 | 8    | 40.00 | 3      | 15.00 | 0   | 0.00  | 1        | 5.00  |
| Television                           | 11        | 55.00 | 4    | 20.00 | 2      | 10.00 | 0   | 0.00  | 3        | 15.00 |

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

## Challenges affecting the utilization of information resources in Agriculture University Libraries in Nigeria

**Table 6 Challenges affecting the utilization of information resources**

| Name of the University | Challenges            |       |                                     |       |                                       |       |                           |       |                              |       |                            |       |  |       |                                       |       |   |       |                                     |       |                                  |       |  |       |                      |       |        |       |   |       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------|-------------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|-------|---------------------------|-------|------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|-------|--|-------|---------------------------------------|-------|---|-------|-------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|-------|--|-------|----------------------|-------|--------|-------|---|-------|
|                        | Academic              |       |                                     |       |                                       |       |                           |       |                              |       |                            |       |  |       |                                       |       |   |       |                                     |       |                                  |       |  |       |                      |       |        |       |   |       |
|                        | Lack of awareness     | %     | Inaccessibility of some information | %     | Problems in locating appropriate info | %     | Lack of adequate info res | %     | Lack of current info sources | %     | Poor internet connectivity | %     | Lack of knowledge of search techniques | %     | No information about the new arrivals | %     | Lack of library space for conducive reading | %     | Lack of enough qualified librarians | %     | There is shortage of loan period | %     | The numbers of books I can borrow at a time are inadequate | %     | Erratic power supply | %     | Others | %     |   |       |
|                        | postgraduate students |       |                                     |       |                                       |       |                           |       |                              |       |                            |       |  |       |                                       |       |   |       |                                     |       |                                  |       |  |       |                      |       |        |       |   |       |
| UAM                    | 8                     | 44.44 | 6                                   | 33.33 | 6                                     | 33.33 | 4                         | 22.22 | 5                            | 27.78 | 9                          | 50.00 | 8                                      | 44.44 | 4                                     | 22.22 | 2   | 11.11 | 6                                   | 33.33 | 5                                | 27.78 | 5  | 27.78 | 6                    | 33.33 | 3      | 16.67 | 2 | 11.11 |
| MOUA                   | 2                     | 9.52  | 3                                   | 14.29 | 8                                     | 38.10 | 8                         | 38.10 | 4                            | 19.05 | 9                          | 42.86 | 0                                      | 0.00  | 2                                     | 9.52  | 4   | 19.05 | 2                                   | 9.52  | 3                                | 14.29 | 4  | 19.05 | 7                    | 33.33 | 3      | 14.29 | 4 | 19.05 |
| FUAA                   | 7                     | 35.00 | 7                                   | 35.00 | 3                                     | 15.00 | 7                         | 35.00 | 8                            | 40.00 | 12                         | 60.00 | 7                                      | 35.00 | 4                                     | 20.00 | 0   | 0.00  | 6                                   | 30.00 | 4                                | 20.00 | 6  | 30.00 | 13                   | 65.00 | 0      | 0.00  | 0 | 0.00  |

In order to find out the constraints affecting the utilization of information resources in Agriculture University Libraries sampled, the researcher provided a list of possible constraints facing Agriculture University Libraries in Nigeria for the respondents to choose from. Table 6 above indicates that Poor internet work services (Speed and other technical problems) and Erratic power supply are the major constraints that hinder the easy access and utilization of information resources as well as information about the new arrivals of both print and digital and lack of library space for conducive reading respectively

## Hypotheses tested

**H<sub>01</sub>** 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 |
|--|---------------------|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Availability of IRS&amp;F</b>                         | Pearson Correlation | 1                     | .807**  |
|  | Sig. (2-tailed)     |                       | .000  |
|  | N                   | 66                    | 66  |
| <b>Utilisation of IRS&amp;F in Research Productivity</b> | Pearson Correlation | .807**                | 1   |
|  | Sig. (2-tailed)     | .000                  |   |
|  | N                   | 66                    | 66  |

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

From the table 7 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.

**H<sub>02</sub>.** 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 :8 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 8 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. |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------|------|
| <b>Agronomy</b>            | Agricultural Economics     | -25.57893*            | 3.04608    | .000 |
|                            | 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.

### **Identify the constraints associated with the use of information resources, services and facilities by Library users in Agriculture University Libraries under study.**

In the context of this research question three major findings were established the constraints affecting the utilization of information resources, services and facilities. the study revealed the major constraints that hinder the easy access and utilization of information resources as well as information about the new arrivals of both print and digital and lack of library space for conducive reading and erratic power supply

### **Recommendations**

An assessment 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 and challenges. 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 hassle 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
5. The Provision of comfortable physical environment by separate reading space and sitting among male and females. Creation of a separate section called “Research Section” Provision of facilities like separate rest room and internet enable computers and printers with trained staff to assist them

## **Conclusion**

This study has explored the degree at which specific information resources and services are provided to Agriculture University Libraries in 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 Nigeria 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 and provide constant power supply

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