

**AN ADDRESS DELIVERED  
BY ENGR. (DR.) BABAJIDE A. ADELEKAN  
THE EXECUTIVE PROVOST,  
FEDERAL COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE  
MOOR PLANTATION, P. M.B. 5029, IBADAN, NIGERIA**

**AT THE  
3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL LECTURE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION  
TECHNOLOGY,  
FEDERAL COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, IBADAN ON 10<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2016**

The College Registrar,  
The College Bursar,  
Heads of Departments,  
Members of Academic Staff,  
Other Members of Staff,  
Invitees,  
Members of the Press,  
Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is my pleasure and unique privilege to welcome you all to this wonderful and unique occasion which brings together the management, staff, students, farmers, organizations and the entire populace at large. Today marks the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual departmental lecture titled "Fish products in 21<sup>st</sup> century for economic and health development". We are very proud that God made it easy to be able to host it today with all of you here present. Though, the programme was slated to hold on 17<sup>th</sup> August, 2106, but was postponed due to some circumstances. We are very sorry for any inconveniency it might have caused you.

There is no gainsaying that the department since its accreditation in 2013 has distinguished itself and has contributed immensely to the development of the College.

The College is now a better place with this department because no studies on agriculture is complete without the studies on Animal Production Technology.

To the students, I passionately appeal that you maximize your studentship in the department. We can only harvest the expected fruit at the fertility of your studentship. Give your best to studies and the College will not withhold your best from you.

The theme of this year programme reflects on the importance of fish and its vital roles it plays on the health of human beings. I recall that the topic discussed last year was focused on “Milk products and their benefits to human’s health. At that time, many people really benefitted from the lecture.

Since establishment of the College in 1921, the immense contributions of the Federal College of Agriculture, Moor Plantation, Ibadan to the development and promotion of agriculture in Nigeria are second to none. We have, over the course of our history, produced great agriculturists who have made very significant contributions to the business of producing food and fibre for Nigeria’s teeming population and vibrant agro-industry. Several of our graduates are making positive contributions all over the country and beyond our shores. Certain factors namely, poor agricultural productivity and poor produce quality, poor storage and preservation facilities, poor usage of agricultural inputs and technologies and poor credit facilities to farmers, poor agricultural marketing, to mention a few, have suppressed Nigerian agricultural competitiveness in the global arena. The rate of unemployment in the country is also alarming. Consistently poor market prices for oil and gas for the past several months have caused significant reduction in Nigeria’s foreign exchange earnings. Agriculture will definitely come to the rescue since it is a well-known fact that agriculture provides the greatest potentials for employment, as well as production of food, cash crops and other commodities. Nigeria’s agricultural sector accounts for 60 – 65 percent employment of the labour force and contributes about 40 – 45 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country.

The vision and unflinching efforts of the present administration in the country towards the restoration of Nigeria's lost glory in agriculture are not in doubt. The Agricultural development initiatives of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMA&RD) are aimed at creating jobs, providing food security for the people and distributing wealth among the populace.

My special appreciation goes to almighty God that makes today event to come to reality. Let me say here that am proud of the Department of Animal Production Technology, Headed by Dr. Mrs. Modupe Sodamola. I also appreciate the guest lecturer of today, Professor Oluwalana, who amid his heavy burdens, duties and responsibilities, has traveled from Abeokuta to Ibadan to deliver today's lecture. We would also like to express our gratitude to all of you who so generously helped us make this programme come together smoothly.

Before I close, I would like to thank each of you invited for attending this annual lecture and bringing your expertise to this programme. Throughout this lecture, I implore you to kindly stay focused and listen attentively as the lecture is delivered. We promise the lecture will be educative, interesting and stimulating.

God bless you all.

Engr. (Dr.) B.A. Adelekan

Executive Provost