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“Global food security and food safety:  
The role of universities”

## Duck — An Unexploited Potential Contributor to Promotion of Food Security in Nigeria

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### Abstract

Nigeria a leading population in Africa is hungry and urgently need a boost in food production in order to contribute to development of a productive human society. Nigeria population reportedly grew from 33 million in 1950 to 192.3 million as of 2018 while it was recently projected to grow more in the coming years to 364 million by 2030 and 480 million by 2050; which is one of the most astronomical population growth in Africa. This growth is not only a challenge to Nigeria but a bigger challenge to Africa as a whole and the world at large because of socio-political status of the country and potential migration problems other countries may face as results of migrants from Nigeria due to man natural tendencies of emigrating from a hungry population in search of greener pasture. Alarming hunger, poverty and food insecurity in developing countries such as Nigeria calls for exploitation of under-utilised sources of meat and egg for production of foods for human consumption — a reason why duck production is important. Duck production can increase food supply for human consumption in this part of the world but its commercial production for provision of meat and egg has not been explored to fight food insecurity where duck production can be regarded to be at primitive stage. Therefore this paper present the need for scientific collaborations towards production and improvement of duck in specific areas of production management practices, identification of biomarkers for improved productivity, genetic improvement and nutritional management for the purpose of increasing food production, promotion of income generation and conservation of genetic resources.

**Keywords:** Biomarkers for improved productivity, duck production, Food Security, Genetic Improvement