

STATUS OF LOCAL FISH FEED MILLS IN NIGERIA: THE CASE OF AKURE METROPOLIS

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Introduction

- Fish requires high quality nutritionally balanced diet for growth and attainment of market size within the shortest possible time.
- Therefore, local production of fish feed is very essential to the development and sustainability of aquaculture in Nigeria.
- Sustainable aquaculture can bridge the already existing wide gap between fish demand and supply.
- Hence, the vital role of locally produced fish feed in reducing production cost, thereby making fish farming sustainable and attractive to both private and commercial investors and eventually boost fish production cannot be overemphasized.
- This research looks at the status of local fish feed mills in Akure metropolis in enhancing aquaculture development, and expansion in Akure metropolis and Nigeria as a whole

Materials and Methods

- Both primary and secondary data were used in the study.
- Socioeconomic and Demographic characteristics of the respondents were analysed descriptively.
- Snowball method was used to locate the Fish Feeds Mills in Akure Metropolis



List of Feed mills Visited in Akure Metropolis



- Freshen Animal Concept located at Odufa State industrial park, Stage 01 Akure, 76GX+GW Akure (7.2703034,5.1999606).
- T.F Farms & Feeds located at plot 3A Oyeoshoon Family Layout, Akure, 75XN+P9 Akure (7.2811706,5.1964905).
- Farm Support located Off Akure-Ilesha Road, Akure (7.575N+4P Akure (348110).
- Rajay Feedmill located at Orita Oshojun Road Akure, 75XN+EH Akure (34110).
- Loudway Feedmill Systems located at 18 Oyeoshoon Road, Akure, 75AP+8R Akure (7.258972,5.1964919).
- FUTA Feed Mill located at Main Road, P.O. Box 42, 348110, FUTA, Fish Farm located Awosadun Baga Street, 74VV+WF (348110).
- Warren Animal Ventures located Opp. Ajegunle Centre, No. 75 Egbu Road, 755M+45, Akure
- Shoof Farm located at Abo Quarters plot 3 behind quarter 72AMP+0F (348271), Akure
- ALIMAFASHI Animal Feedmill located at Olo pad, Akure CG2V+J6
- Intekoo Feeds Limited located at 157 Oyeoshoon Road, 348110, 75M+9W
- 2 Times Better Hybrid Feed located at Olo Aro M, 348283, 6P9+J6, Akure

Results and Discussion

- Results revealed that:
 - 69 percent of the respondents were male while 31 percent were females;
 - 61 percent were between the active age of 30 and 49 years; also,
 - 70 percent had formal education.

ABSTRACT
The study was conducted to determine the status of local fish feed mills in Akure metropolis. A total of 10 fish feed mills were visited and interviewed. The results revealed that 69 percent of the respondents were male while 31 percent were females. 61 percent of the respondents were between the active age of 30 and 49 years, and 70 percent had formal education. The study also revealed that the status of fish feed mill industry in Akure is experiencing low growth due to high cost of fish feed ingredients which constitute about 60 percent of the total cost of fish production. Other fundamental challenges observed in this study were: lack of funds to acquire the extruding machine to help produce locally floating feeds rather than sinking pellets; technical know-how on the part of the feed millers; poor nutritional value of the locally produced fish feeds; and provision of storage facilities to prevent spoilage of fish feeds. The study therefore recommends quick intervention from both the private and public sectors on the observed challenges impeding the development of fish feed mills in the Metropolis and the Nation at large.

Results of the Socio-economic Characteristics of the Respondents

Gender	Frequency	Percent	Age	Frequency	Percent	Education	Frequency	Percent
Male	61	69.0	10-29	28	32.0	No Education	4	4.5
Female	31	35.0	30-49	42	50.0	Primary	2	2.3
Total	92	100.0	50-59	15	17.5	Secondary	32	37.0
			60-69	8	9.3	Tertiary	12	14.0
			Total	92	100.0	Total	58	66.3

Source: Field survey, 2021.

Results and Discussion/ Ctd

Currently, the status of Fish Feed Mill industry in Akure is experiencing low growth due to high cost of fish feed ingredients which constituting about 60 percent of the total cost of fish production.



Pelleting machine
Source: Field survey, 2021
Picture by Omotosho Kehinde Jubril 2021.

Other fundamental challenges:

Other fundamental challenges observed in this study were:

- lack of funds to acquire the extruding machine to help produce locally floating feeds rather than sinking pellets;
- technical know-how on the part of the feed millers;
- poor nutritional value of the locally produced fish feeds; and
- provision of storage facilities to prevent spoilage of fish feeds.



Pelletizer machine at FUTA Fish Farm
Source: Field survey, 2021.

Summary and Conclusion

The study also revealed that, amid the ten (10) feed mills visited in Akure Metropolis,

none of the mills produces solely fish feed: only four (4) combined livestock and fish feeds while the remaining six (6) produces only livestock feeds.

There was high concentration in the production of livestock feeds compared to Local Fish Feed production in Akure Metropolis. Hence, the need to depend more on imported fish feeds.

Recommendation/s

The study therefore recommends, quick intervention from both the private and public sectors on the observed challenges impeding the development of fish feed mills in the Metropolis and the Nation at large.



Fish feed mixing process
Source: Field survey, 2021.

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