INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING,
OBAFEMI AWOLOWO UNIVERSITY, MOOR PLANTATION, IBADAN
Monthly News....October, 2026

IAR&T.....Improving Farmers' Productivity and Livelihood

Science in Service of Humanity:

FRUITY TOWN, FRUITY YOU!

Building healthier families and communities through the colour, flavour and nutritional power of fruits

By

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A Town that Eats Well, Lives Well:

Imagine a community where colourful fruit stores are as common as roadside shops, where children reach for mangoes, oranges, garden eggs, guavas, pawpaw, pineapple and watermelon before the sugary snacks, and where families understand that good health begins with everyday food choices. That is the idea behind this phrase "**Fruity Town, Fruity You**"- a simple but powerful vision of communities in which fruits become integral parts of daily life.

Fruits are more than attractive additions to a meal. They provide water, dietary fibre, vitamins, minerals and a wide range of naturally occurring phytochemicals. Regular consumption of a variety of fruits can contribute to healthy diets and support normal body functions. Despite the abundance of tropical fruits across Nigeria, fruit consumption can be inconsistent, particularly when cost, seasonality, poor storage, lack of awareness and competition from highly processed foods influence household choices.

A fruity town is therefore not simply a place with many fruit sellers. It is a community or family that makes healthier choices easier, more affordable, culturally acceptable and sustainable. It is a place where farmers, traders, schools, families, health professionals, researchers, food processors and policymakers work together to move fruits from farms to tables with less waste and add greater value.

Eat the Rainbow:

One of the easiest ways to make fruit consumption interesting is to "eat the rainbow". Different fruits contain different combinations of nutrients and bioactive compounds, so variety matters. Orange and yellow fruits such as mango, carrot, pawpaw and citrus fruits are notable sources of carotenoids and vitamin C. Red and purple fruits may contain anthocyanins and other polyphenols, while green fruits can contribute folate, vitamin C, fibre and other micronutrients. The objective of this article is not to prompt you to identify one "**superfruit**" that solves every nutritional problem. Rather, it is to encourage you and your household to enjoy a diverse selection of fruits according to season, availability and individual needs. A bowl containing several fruits can be both visually appealing and nutritionally diverse in function. Fresh fruits can also be incorporated into breakfast, snacks, salads, smoothies and other meals without requiring complicated preparation.

Nigeria's Fruit-basket: Opportunity on our Doorstep:

Nigeria has a rich diversity of fruits and fruit-growing environments. Mango, pineapple, orange, tangerine, guava, banana, plantain, pawpaw, watermelon, avocado, coconut and many other indigenous or underutilised fruits contribute to this diversity. However, in many communities, substantial quantities of fruits are lost between harvest and consumption because of bruising, inadequate packaging, poor temperature control, delayed transportation and limited processing capacity. Reducing these post-harvest losses can transform the Fruit Sector. The author is hereby suggesting that better harvesting practices, hygienic handling, appropriate packaging, improved storage and small-scale processing can extend fruits availability and create income opportunities. Fruits that are not suitable for the fresh market may sometimes be converted into safe products such as dried fruits, purees, jams, minimally processed fruit portions or other value-added foods, provided appropriate food-safety and quality standards are followed.

From Farm to Family: Making Fruits Accessible

The journey to a fruity town begins with production, but it does not end at the Farm gate. Farmers need access to quality planting materials, agronomic information, markets and appropriate post-harvest technologies. Traders need clean handling environments and packaging that protects delicate fruit-produce. Consumers need reliable information about quality, storage and preparation. Food processors need modern technologies that preserve the nutritional quality while meeting safety requirements.

Markets can play a particularly important role. A clean, well-organised fruit market can make healthy food more visible and attractive. Schools, workplaces, hospitals and community centres can also create opportunities for fruit promotion. Simple measures—such as providing fruit options at meetings, encouraging fruit breaks in schools and supporting local fruit vendors—can gradually change the food environment.

Affordability matters as well. Healthy eating messages are unlikely to succeed if they ignore household realities. **The purchasing power of individual matters**! Seasonal purchasing, buying locally available fruits, reducing waste and choosing whole fruits when appropriate can help households obtain nutritional value at a reasonable cost. Community initiatives can also link local farmers directly with schools, institutions and consumers.

Our Children: Growing a Fruity Generation

Children learn food habits early. When fruits are regularly available at home and presented positively, they can become familiar and enjoyable foods rather than occasional treats. Parents, teachers and caregivers can encourage children to try different fruits, involve them in simple food preparation and explain—without fear or exaggerations — that fruits are **part of a balanced diet.**

Schools have a unique opportunity to turn nutrition education into practice. A school fruit garden, fruit-themed nutrition lessons, regular days, tasting sessions and healthy snack policies can make learning practical. Such initiatives should respect local culture and affordability while maintaining good hygiene and food-safety practices.

The clear message here is that **fruit is not a punishment for eating unhealthy foods**; it is an enjoyable component of a healthy lifestyle. The goal is to build preferences and habits that children can carry into adulthood.

Fruity does not mean fruit juice all day:

Fruits and fruit-juice are not nutritionally identical. Whole fruits generally provide dietary fibre and require chewing, while many fruit juices contain less fibre and can deliver substantial amounts of naturally occurring sugars in a smaller volume. Sweetened fruit drinks are different because they may contain added sugars and should not be confused with whole fruit. For most people, whole fruits are an excellent every day choice. When fruit is processed into juice, smoothies or other products, portion size, preparation method, added ingredients and overall dietary pattern become important. Clean water should remain the principal beverage for hydration, while whole fruits can contribute both fluid and nutrients.

A Fruity Town is a Sustainable Town:

Fruit production and consumption can contribute to local and productive livelihoods when value chains are well managed. Farmers earn income, vendors create businesses, processors add value, and consumers gain access to nutritious foods. But then sustainability pays attention to food waste, responsible production, packaging and efficient transport. Let us strengthen the connection between fruit and food-system resilience. Diverse crops can provide communities with multiple sources of food and income. Promoting indigenous and underutilised fruits can expand this diversity, preserve traditional knowledge and stimulate new research into nutritional and functional properties.

How many fruits have you eaten today?

IAR&T DON Elected President of the Soil Science Society of Nigeria (SSSN)



The newly elected President of SSSN, Prof. O. T. Ande



Cross section of the newly sworn-in Executives, led by Prof. O. T. Ande (Front L) during the Society's Golden Jubilee Conference

Professor Olufumilayo Ande, a renowned Soil Science expert from the Institute of Agricultural Research and Training (IAR&T), Ibadan, has been elected as the President of the Soil Science Society of Nigeria (SSSN) for an initial term of two years.

The election took place on Wednesday, October 7, 2026, during the Society's Golden Jubilee Conference held at the University of Ilorin, Ilorin, Kwara State. With this victory, Prof. Ande recorded a trailblazing moment as the first female President of the Society since its inception.

In her acceptance speech, Prof. Ande expressed profound gratitude to Almighty God for His grace and unending support that guided her to this momentous landmark. She extended her heartfelt appreciation to all members for the trust and confidence reposed in her and the newly elected Executive members. She also appreciated the past Executives and promised to consolidate on their achievements to drive the Society forward.

Prof. Ande emphasized her commitment to the growth of the Society, noting that the SSSN will be firmly positioned as the premier advisory body to government platforms, industry leaders, and international partners, ensuring that science leads conversations on food security, environmental sustainability, and climate-resilient land management.

She also pledged to equip the next generation of Soil Scientists, especially the young scholars with the cutting-edge knowledge in digital soil mapping, geospatial analysis, and data science to lead the ongoing technological transformation of soil science in Nigeria. She appreciated the gathering once again and pledged a deep sense of commitment while seeking the utmost support of all members for the task ahead. The ceremony was commemorated with a scrumptious cake.

On behalf of the Executive Director, Management and Staff of IAR&T, we heartily celebrate Prof. Ande on this historic feat, which reflects her long-standing dedication to soil science research and development and exemplary leadership in academia.

The Institute wishes her a successful and impactful tenure.

IAR&T Holds Seminar on Financial Planning, Expert Charges Staff on Financial Discipline and Wealth Accumulation



L-R: Chairperson, Seminar Committee, Prof. O. T. Ande; Mr. Okon (Wealth Advisor, Meristem); Head, Crop and Livestock Production Unit, Prof. J. A. Adetumbi; Guest Speaker, Mrs. Yewande Bawa-Allah; Deputy Director, Prof. D. J. Ogunniyan; and Miss Eniola Ogundele (Meristem) in a group photograph during the Seminar



The Institute Management and Delegation of Meristem on the high table during the Seminar



Cross section of participants during the Seminar

The Institute of Agricultural Research and Training (IAR&T), Ibadan, through its Seminar Committee organized a one-day Seminar, titled 'Financial Planning: Grow Your Wealth with Meristem' held at the Prof. E. A. Adebowale Training Hall, Moor Plantation, Ibadan on Wednesday, October 14, 2026. The Seminar had the Regional Manager of Meristem, Mrs. Yewande Bawa-Allah as the Guest Speaker.

The Seminar was aimed at educating staff on financial planning, investments, wealth creation, accumulation and management to secure a better life upon retirement from service.

In her welcome address, the Chairperson of the Seminar Committee, Prof. O. T. Ande, appreciated staff for their presence and urged them to be attentive, noting that the Seminar was organized to improve their financial decisions and choices.

The Executive Director, Prof. Gabriel Oluwatosin, delivered the Chairman's address. In his remarks, he encouraged participants to be engaging and interactive. He commended the Seminar Committee for organizing the timely and important programme. He reiterated the essence of the Seminar, which includes education on wealth creation and financial discipline, especially for the younger generation, adding that lessons from the training would help shape participants' future financial decisions.

Following the address, the Guest Speaker, Mrs. Bawa-Allah, delivered her presentation. During her presentation, she briefed the gathering on the objectives and services of Meristem, particularly in wealth creation and management. She stressed the importance of financial discipline as a pathway to financial freedom and wealth accumulation.

She highlighted risks associated with lack of financial planning, including longevity, inflation, liquidity, market, political and health risks. She also educated participants on Meristem's user-friendly digital platforms designed to assist individuals in achieving their financial plans.

Mrs. Bawa-Allah strongly encouraged financial investment and explained the associated risks ranging from high to low. She charged participants to imbibe financial discipline and invest wisely, emphasizing the nitty-gritty of financial planning. She further encouraged consistency, focus and long-term commitment to wealth creation.

The presentation was followed by an interactive session where relevant questions were asked and accurate responses were provided by the team of experts from Meristem.

The Vote of Thanks was delivered by the Head of the Crop and Livestock Production Unit, on behalf of the IAR&T Seminar Committee.

The Seminar was concluded with a group photograph and the rendition of the National Pledge.

Other members of the Meristem delegation included, Wealth Advisor, Mr. John Okon and Miss Eniola Ogundele.

IAR&T Registry Staff Attend Registry Lecture at OAU, Improve Knowledge of Administrative Skills and Competence





The Institute's Administrators at the historic event led by Secretary to the Institute, Mr. 'Boye Popoola (M in L picture)





Cross sections of participants during the event

On Wednesday, October 14, 2026, the Registry Staff of the Institute of Agricultural Research and Training (IAR&T), Ibadan, led by the Secretary to the Institute, Mr. Boye Popoola, participated in the Registry Lecture held at Oduduwa Hall, Obafemi Awolowo University (OAU), Ile-Ife.

The Lecture, themed "Matching Administrative Competence with Today's Digital Reality in University Governance", was a major highlight of the 2026 Registry Week Celebration of the great Ife.

The Lecture provided an opportunity for the Institute's Registry staff to enhance their administrative knowledge and skills aimed at improving service delivery within the University/Institute system.

The event, attended by the Principal Officers of the University led by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. A. S. Bamire, and the Chairman and members of the Governing Council, had the Director-General of the Nigerian Law School, Dr. Olugbemisola Titilayo Odusote, as Guest Speaker.
The welcome address was delivered by the Host and University Registrar, Mr. K. A. Bakare, followed by an address by the Chief Host, the Vice-Chancellor.

In delivering her lecture, Dr. Odusote described administration as the engine of academic excellence, noting that Registry must be the pipeline of institutional leadership. She emphasized that administrative competence is a combination of knowledge, skill and conduct.

She charged administrators and other administrative staff to embrace digitalization, stressing it goes beyond computer literacy and is key to maintaining official secrecy. On capacity-building, she enjoined employers to invest in human capacity development through regular training, while also urging staff to invest in personal self-development. She concluded that matching administrative competence with today's digital reality is essential for institutional growth and effective University governance.

Following her presentation, participants engaged the Speaker through relevant questions and comments, with adequate responses provided.

The event featured Award presentations and the official launch of the e-Registry software aimed at digitizing the University's official records and data.

The programme recorded over 2000 participants both physically and virtually, including Registry staff from Universities across the Country.

The IAR&T delegation comprised Senior Administrative Staff, including Deputy Registrars, Mr. T. A. Sule and Mr. Jide Oladipo; Principal Assistant Registrars, Mr. Jimi Awogbile and Mrs. Mafolasire (Liaison Office, OAU); Assistant Registrars, Mr. Paschal Adesanya and Mr. Akin Adebowale; as well as Administrative Officers I, Executive Officers, the Confidential Secretary and others.

IAR&T Organises and Hosts 2026 Fertilizer Summit, Exhibits Research Technologies and Innovations



The Director, Prof. Gabriel Oluwatosin (2nd L - sitting) in a group photograph with other dignitaries during the Summit



Group photograph of the Institute's delegation at the Summit



The Institute's P.R.O. Mr. Ridwan Yusuff attending to guests visiting the exhibition stand on the sideline of the Summit

The Institute of Agricultural Research and Training (IAR&T), Ibadan, in collaboration with the Fertilizer Producers and Suppliers Association of Nigeria (FEPSAN) and the Farm Input Support Services of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (FISS-FMAFS), organised and hosted the Nigeria Fertilizer Summit 2026 at the Wells Carlton Hotel & Apartments, Asokoro, Abuja from October 19 to 20, 2026.

The two-day Summit, themed "Phosphorus and Food Security: Challenges in Food Production Systems in Nigeria", was attended by high-powered government officials, NARIs, Researchers/Scientists, policymakers, fertilizer industry and development partners, as well as farmers' groups. It was premised on deliberating on phosphorus challenges as they affect food production and soil fertility management in Nigeria, while also serving as a strategic platform for advancing scientific dialogue, fostering collaboration, and developing an actionable policy and investment framework for strengthening national food security.

The Summit gave the Institute opportunity to exhibit its research innovations and developed technologies across Soil, Crop, Value Addition, and Livestock-based commodities/products. IAR&T showcased its research breakthroughs to the external public, especially given the International context of the event. New technologies and patented products such as Popcorn Maize Varieties, MoorBeta Chicken, Precooked Lima Bean Boost, Lima Custard Powder and other commodities/products were on display, adding colour to the Summit.

In his welcome address, the Host and Executive Director of IAR&T, Prof. Gabriel Oluwatosin emphasized the importance of phosphorus to food security, reiterating the call to get phosphorus to the soils that need it the most, aimed at improved agricultural productivity and sustainable phosphorus management in Nigeria. He urged the participants to be engaging and wished them productive deliberation.

Delivering his keynote address, the Chief Host and Vice-Chancellor, Obafemi Awolowo University (OAU), Ile-Ife, Prof. A. S. Bamire, ably represented by the Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Prof. Femi Ajayi, called for continuity in Government's effort to create enabling policies that support farmers and encourage investment in the agricultural sector. He stated that major lands in Nigeria face the challenge of declining soil fertility owing to continuous cultivation, soil degradation, unguided nutrition mining, deforestation, limited nutrient replenishment and poor farming practice, "all of which contribute to low crop yield, lower farm profitability and food insecurity", he added.

To him, solving the challenges require more than just increased fertilizer use, rather a comprehensive commitment to sustainable soil management and responsible nutrient stewardship, thus necessitating the timeliness and essence of the Summit. He therefore charged stakeholders to build stronger partnerships, work collaboratively, invest in research and innovation, and adopt sustainable soil management practices towards ensuring Nigeria's agricultural sector becomes more resilient, productive and globally competitive. The Vice-Chancellor encouraged all participants to engage constructively and share ideas openly in a bid to secure food security and national development.

While offering goodwill messages, the representatives of development partners and sponsors, including the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA), FEPSAN, OCP Africa, Africa Fertilizer Industry Development Association (AFIDA), Universal Speciality Chemicals Private Limited (USCPL, India), Organic Fertilizer Producers and Suppliers Association of Nigeria (OFPSAN), Nigeria Institute of Oil Palm Research (NIFOR, Benin), and Regional Hub for Fertilizer and Soil Health for West Africa and the Sahel, IITA, pledged their support for improved collaboration among relevant agricultural stakeholders to strengthen phosphorus use efficiency and food security objectives in Nigeria.

The Hon. Minister of State for Agriculture, FMAFS, Abuja, Dr. Aliyu Sabi Abdullahi, CON, who was represented by Dr. Osadiya Olanipekun, delivered the opening address of the Summit. In his remarks, the Minister reiterated the effectiveness of fertilizer to soil, describing it as a critical agricultural input, especially as it made the framework of Nigerian Farmers' Soil Health Scheme (NFSHS) gain national significance.

According to him, the journey towards initiating NFSHS was propelled by a fundamental recognition that productive agriculture depends largely on soil health, hence its creation. The Minister shared with the gathering some of the notable milestones of the Scheme, ranging from development of soil health card and Nigeria soil information system, strengthening of soil testing capacity to building strategic partnerships.

Despite acknowledging the challenges impeding the effective implementation of the Scheme, the Minister called for stronger collaboration between Government, Research Institutions and Private Sector, stressing that Fertilizer and soils constitute the bedrock of agricultural productivity and comprehensive soil health management practices remain essential to Nigeria's food security mandate of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR. The Minister proceeded to declare the Summit open.

The Summit featured a Panel Discussion and six Technical Sessions aimed at promoting sustainable phosphorus management and good farm practices, with the interaction between the presenters and participants intellectually engaging.

The Summit Coordinator and Team Lead of the Technical Committee of NFSHS, Prof. Vincent Aduramigba-Modupe (from IAR&T), extended appreciation to all participants for their invaluable contributions and support. He believed the Summit offered practical solutions to challenges of food production in Nigeria that will enhance national phosphorus security and agricultural resilience.

The two-day Summit concluded with a review and release of a One-Year Fertilizer Utilization (2026-2027) Action Plan and Communique calling for improved phosphorus use, recycling and management practices, investment in local phosphate resources, and stronger public-private partnerships for soil health in Nigeria. The Executive Director of IAR&T delivered the Closing Remarks and Vote of Thanks. He expressed his appreciation to the participants for their constructive and intellectual contributions and prayed for safe travel as they return to their respective destinations.

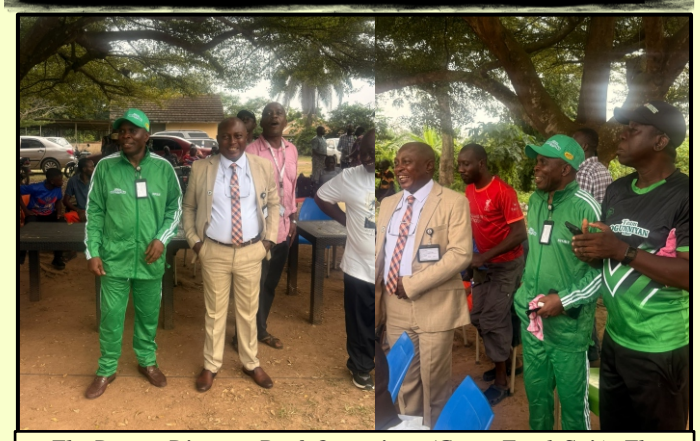
The event recorded over 280 physical participants across academia, MDAs, private sector, and farmers' association, with huge virtual participation.

The Institute's delegation included the Deputy Director, Prof. D. J. Ogunniyan; Prof. K. S. Are, Prof. O. A. Ojo; and Dr. Ayodele Adelana.

Among other dignitaries in attendance were the Executive Secretary of the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria (ARCN), Dr. Adamu Abubakar Dabban; the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), OAU, Ile-Ife, Prof. G. A. Aderounmu; the Permanent Secretary, FMAFS, Dr. Marcus Ogunbiyi, rep. by the Director, Department of Agricultural Extension Services, Dr. Samaila Taiye Tehinse, FNSE, FNIAE, CFPM; Executive Secretary of FEPSAN, Mr. Gideon Negedu; and Prof. Jibrin M. Jibrin (Vice Chairman, Nigeria National Technical Team) and Dr. Bello Shehu of the Regional Hub.

In addition, the Director, Technical Services, National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC), Office of the National Security Adviser, Brigadier (Gen.) Eke Odoemele; Ag. Director of Research & Innovation, FARA, Professor Oluwole Fatunbi; Head of Science, Research & Development, OCP Africa, Dr. Donald Kelechi Madukwe; Representative of the Director, FISS-FMAFS, Dr. Isa Umar; President of NISS, rep. by the Vice President, Prof. James Jaiyeoba; Group Head, Chemical Technology, Standards Development Department, Standard Organisation of Nigeria (SON), Mr. Pankes Clement Paul; and Deputy National President 1, All Farmers' Association of Nigeria (AFAN), Chief Daniel Obiora Okafo, were equally present.

IAR&T Organizes Games Festival, Fosters Unity and Camaderie among Staff Members



The Deputy Director, Prof. Ogunniyan (Green Track Suit); The Secretary to the Institute, Mr. 'Boye Popoola (in Corporate Suit); and Prof. J. A. Adetumbi, during the Opening Ceremony of the Festival



Group photograph of the participants during the novelty football match between IAR&T Veteran Male and Female (U picture), and fixtures among the competing teams











Staff participating in different Indoor games during the Festival









Staff participating in the Volleyball and Athletics games during the Festival

The Institute of Agricultural Research and Training (IAR&T), Ibadan, organized the Games Festival 2026 for its staff, aimed at fostering unity, sportmanship and teamwork, while also helping staff to unwind from work stress.

The Opening Ceremony, held at the Recreation Centre of the Institute on Monday, October 26, 2026, had College of Professors and a large turnout of staff in attendance.

The Director, Prof. Gabriel Oluwatosin, who was represented by Prof. A. J. Omole delivered the opening remarks. He prayed for the successful completion of the festival and wished all participants smooth and injury-free participation in the course of the tournaments.

The Deputy Director, Prof. D. J. Ogunniyan, and the Secretary to the Institute, Mr. 'Boye Popoola, later joined the Opening Ceremony in solidarity with the participants. They cheered them on and pledged their support for the Games.

The Opening Ceremony was marked by an exciting novelty match, which commenced at 2.00 p.m. between the IAR&T Veteran Male and Female. In a pulsating and intriguing encounter, normal time ended in a 3 - 3 stalemate, following a pair of Hat-tricks from Prof. Omole and Miss Yemi Olubaju. A penalty shootout decided the winner, with the Veteran Male emerging victorious 5 - 3.

The Games Festival continued through to Monday, November 2, 2026, featuring Football, Volleyball, Chess, Ayò, Dart, Draughts, Tennis, Athletics and lots more.

The Games Festival is a testament to the Institute's commitment to fostering unity, teamwork spirit among its members and a vibrant workplace culture for them.

Note: Further updates on the results across competitions will feature in the next e-newsletter. Stay tuned!!!

IAR&T ACTU Holds Seminar for Staff, Charges them on Improved Efficiency, Professionalism and Integrity in Service Delivery





Group photographs of the Institute Management with the Presenters and Senior Administrators in the Institute (U picture), and with participants across the concerned Cadres of Staff (D picture)



Cross section of the participants during the Seminar

The Anti-Corruption and Transparency Unit (ACTU) of the Institute of Agricultural Research and Training (IAR&T), Ibadan, in collaboration with the Seminar Committee, organised a Workshop/Training on Staff Core Responsibilities.

The Workshop, themed ***"Promoting Efficiency, Professionalism and Integrity in Administrative Service Delivery of the Executive, Data Processing and Confidential Secretaries, and Clerical Officers Cadre in the Institute",*** held at the Prof. E. A. Adebowale Training Hall, Moor Plantation, Ibadan, on Tuesday, October 27, 2026.

The Seminar, which had in attendance members of the Management and Senior Administrators of the Institute, aimed at providing an opportunity for the staff to improve their knowledge of administrative procedures, official document handling, data processing, as well as the nitty-gritty of prompt and effective service delivery.

Delivering the welcome address, the Chairman of ACTU, Prof. J. O. Saka, enjoined the participants to be attentive and make the most of the Workshop, especially as it was geared towards improving their professional career and skills.

A goodwill message was also delivered by the Secretary to the Institute, Mr. 'Boye Popoola, appreciating the timeliness of the Workshop and charging the participants to be active throughout the session.

Following the message, the Director, Prof. Gabriel Oluwatosin, who was represented by the Head of the Crop and Livestock Production Unit, Prof. J. A. Adetumbi, offered the Opening Remarks. In his address, he reiterated the purpose of the Workshop and assured the participants of quality presentation, given

the array of experts lined up for the Workshop. He therefore, encouraged the participants to be fully involved, through attentiveness and contributions. He also implored them to be free and express their opinions and/or concerns as the case may be. He went ahead to declare the Workshop open.

The Presenters were carefully drawn from the expertise of the Institute's human resources, comprising representatives of ACTU, Administrative and Data Processing staff.

Presentations began with the ACTU Chairman, who enlightened participants on the functions of the Anti-Corruption and Transparency Unit (ACTU). He emphasised the importance of accountability, transparency, professionalism and integrity in promoting effective administrative service delivery within the Institute. He stressed the need for staff to uphold ethical standards and demonstrate commitment to their official responsibilities, while noting that efficiency and dedication to duty were essential to the growth and development of the Institute.

The Presenter also highlighted the importance of staff capacity building and improving professional skills to meet the demands of modern administrative practice. He encouraged participants to discharge their duties effectively and contribute to the overall objectives and success of the Institute.

The second Presenter, Mrs. 'Kemi Mafikuyomi, an Assistant Chief Confidential Secretary, intimated the gathering on the importance of proper handling of official documents, especially in this Digital age. She also highlighted core duties of Data Processing and Clerical Officers, reiterating their valuable contributions to effective administrative service delivery.

She emphasised the need for accuracy, confidentiality, proper record-keeping and efficiency in handling official documents and processing information. She further encouraged staff to improve their work habits and ensure the prompt completion and delivery of assigned tasks. Mrs. Mafikuyomi stressed that professionalism, diligence and effective time management were essential to improving productivity and ensuring the smooth running of administrative activities in any organization, the Institute inclusive.

While delivering the final lecture, a Deputy Registrar and in the Institute and Secretary of ACTU, Mrs. Y. M. Bamiro, reinforced the key points raised by the previous Presenters. She highlighted the duties and responsibilities of the targeted staff. She harped on the importance of being well-informed and continuous improvement of knowledge and skills.

Mrs. Bamiro charged the staff to improve their computer literacy skills and embrace modern technology in carrying out their official responsibilities. She noted that upgrading their skills, particularly in computer use and data processing, would enhance efficiency, accuracy and productivity in the workplace. She further stressed the need for the staff to remain abreast of developments in their respective areas of responsibility to ensure effective performance and improved administrative service delivery.

Subsequently, the Workshop featured an interactive session with questions and comments offered by the participants and met with adequate responses delivered by the Presenters.

Shortly before the Closing, the Chairperson of the Seminar Committee, Prof. O. T. Ande, and the Secretary to the Institute, seized the medium to appreciate ACTU for the timely Workshop, and expressed their belief that the quality of training received will bear positive impact.

The Closing Remarks were delivered by the Deputy Director, Prof. D. J. Ogunniyan, who was also represented by Prof. Adetumbi. He extended his appreciation and gratitude to the Presenters for the wonderful and insightful presentations made, and for the valuable contributions of the participants. However, he charged the participants to put to effective use the knowledge gained from the Workshop in the discharge of their duties. He thereafter declared the Workshop closed.

Mr. Fasisi, on behalf of ACTU, delivered the Vote of Thanks. He expressed heartfelt appreciation to the Management, Organisers, Presenters and participants for their contributions to the success of the Workshop.

Also in attendance for the Workshop were the Head of Accounts, Mr. Michael Fadipe, ably represented by Mrs. Famakinwa; Deputy Registrars, Mr. T. A. Sule and Mr. Jide Oladipo; Public Relations Officer, Mr. Ridwan Yusuff; Assistant Registrar, Mr. Paschal Adesanya and other Administrative Officers, as well as other members of staff.

Visitation:



The Director/Founder of the Group, Mr. Ayooluwa Okediji (L) and the Executive Director, Prof. Gabriel Oluwatosin (R) in a group photograph following the signing of agreements during the working visitation of the Group to the Institute, October 14, 2026



Group photograph of the Institute Management with the Officials of Agro-Infotech Africa Group after the signing of MoU

On Air and On Point: The Institute Broadcasts on Radio

IAR&T, being the Zonal Coordinating Institute of Research Extension Farmers Input Linkage System (REFILS) in the South West region, continues to sustain the Flagship Radio Programme "Agbe Asejere" (Profitable Farming) on five (5) stations spread across the South West geopolitical zone. Through this radio programme, Institute's innovations, research breakthroughs, newly developed and improved technologies are now better accessed by the end users, with positive feedback from listeners across the Zone since the programme's inception in 2019.

Currently, the weekly programme is being aired on the following radio stations:

FRCN-Amuludun F.M. 99.1Mhz	Ibadan (Thurs., 8.45pm)
OSBC Osun Radio F.M. 104.5Mhz	Osogbo (Tues., 7.15pm)
Paramount F.M. 94.5Mhz	Abeokuta (Thurs., 8.45pm)
BCOS Ajilete F.M. 92.1Mhz	Ogbomoso (Tues., 8.15pm)
BCOS Oke-Ogun F.M. 93.6Mhz	Alaga (Tues., 8.15pm)

Announcements:

IAR&T YouTube Initiative:

The Institute of Agricultural Research and Training (IAR&T), Ibadan through the Public Relations Unit, has commenced a weekly video content upload on its official YouTube channel. This Initiative is aimed at putting IAR&T on the global map by disseminating the Institute's technologies to relevant agricultural stakeholders.

The weekly series will connect researchers, farmers, the private sector, and government agencies with the mandate and services of the Institute, as Scientists across varying specializations addresses salient issues in agriculture, based on the Institute's mandate, to drive adoption and impact.

As a partner, you can connect with this Initiative by visiting the Institute's official YouTube channel via: https://www.youtube.com/@iartibadan.

Please like, comment, share and subscribe.

Together, let us build an inclusive and resilient agricultural sector in Nigeria.

Entrepreneurship Training:

The Institute of Agricultural Research and Training (IAR&T), through its Entrepreneurship Centre, is organizing a 2-day special training for Farm Managers, Supervisors and Attendants.

The training exercise, which is to be conducted within the Institute premises, is scheduled to hold November 24 – 25, 2026. Registration fee is twenty thousand naira only (#20, 000.00).

For further enquiries and/or sponsorship, kindly contact: 08033630017 or 08160177203



Job Advertisement:

This is to inform the general public of the vacancy for the **Head of School position** in IAR&T Staff School. Interested and suitably qualified candidates are invited to apply for the position.

Application letter and Up-to-date Curriculum Vitae (CV) of candidate(s) can be forwarded to the email address details provided in the attached flyer below.
Thank you.



For more information, enquiries and partnership, visit our website:

www.iart.gov.ng or reach us via email: director@iart.gov.ng

Also, kindly reach and follow us on all our social media handles below:

X (formerly Twitter) - @iartnigeria
Instagram - @iartibadan
Facebook - InstituteofAgriculturalResearchandTraining, Ibadan
LinkedIn - IAR&T Ibadan