



Comparative Marketable Leaf Yield of Staked and Unstaked Pumpkin (*Telfaria occidentalis*) in a Tropical Utisoils

A. C. Egun

Department of Vocational Education (Agric), Delta State University, Abraka, Nigeria
Telephone: 08035066143, E-mail: drchrisegun@yahoo.com

KEYWORDS Stakes; Orogodo; *Telfaria occidentalis*; urbanization

ABSTRACT Availability of stakes for staking tendering/climbing vines are diminishing at an alarming rate as a result of urbanization, road construction, industrialization and bush fire. Fluted pumpkin (*Telfaria Occidentalis*) is one of the crops that are staked. This study examined the relative marketable leaf yield of fluted pumpkin on staked and unstaked bases using 4 x 4 randomized complete block design for three planting seasons (2003 – 2005). The result revealed no significant difference (t – test: $p > 0.05$) in marketable leaf yield between the staked (500.0 – 500.5g) and unstaked (498.3 – 499.5g) plants and better economic return on revenue to farmers with the elimination of cost of stakes and staking operation.