

## **ROOSTING SITES AND ABUNDANCE OF VILLAGE WEAVER BIRDS (*Ploceus cucullatus*, *cucullatus*) IN ABEOKUTA AND ENVIRONS**

INAH, E.I., ONADEKO, S.A., AND UMOH, G.O.

Department Forestry And Wildlife Management University Of Agriculture

.P.M.B.1140, Abeokuta, Nigeria.

### Abstract

The roosting sites and abundance of village weaver birds were assessed through observation and data collection at four study site in Abeokuta North and South Local Government Areas of Ogun State namely Ibara, Lafenwa, Iberekodo and Adatan axes. Mean heights  $\pm$  S. E. of trees on which nests were built ranged from  $4.8 \pm 0.2$  metres to  $17.6 \pm 0.7$  metres. Fourteen tree species were used for roosting. They include *Elaeis guineensis*, *Cocos nucifera*, *Gmelina arborea*, *Ficus exasperata* and *Casuarina equisetifolia*. Number of of nets per tree species at the various study locations varied from 12 to 101. About five juveniles, 1,002 adult males and 521 adult females of breeding village weaver birds (via roosting, nesting and feeding habits). The significance of the result for biodiversity conservation and crop production is discussed.