

DOMESTICATION AS A TOOL IN SUSTAINABLE UTILIZATION AND CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY IN PROTECTED AREAS

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The need to understand the domestication of all indigenous Nigerian plant and animal biodiversity has been of great concern following the current rate of habitat destruction in land use options as such as agricultural plantation, logging, mining and urbanization."

Domestication involves an understanding of the regeneration and reproductive potentials of plant and animal species in an environment or site other than that in which they have always grown or lived. This understanding will ensure the preparedness to rear animals or raise plants at short notice either to take advantage of an economic gain that may accrue in the sale of the animal or use of the plant. It could also be to prevent a threat to extinction of any of the indigenous animals and plants as a result of over exploitation.

Multi-disciplinary approach is envisaged in these domestication procedures involving basic, applied and social scientists.