

1 **Yield and Nutritional Value Of *Abelmoschus esculentus* L. (Okra) and *Telfairia***
2 ***occidentalis* Hook, F. (Fluted pumpkin) As Influence By Beauty Salon Wastewater.**

3
4 **Abstract**

5 The effect of beauty salon wastewater on yield and nutritional quality of *Abelmoschus esculentus* L.
6 and *Telfairia occidentalis* F. was investigated. Plants were grown in perforated polythene bags filled
7 with 3kg of top soil and irrigated with 0 (control), 25, 50, 75 and 100% of the wastewater. Plants
8 were laid out in a completely randomized design (CRD) consisting of 5 treatments with 6 replicates
9 per treatment. Results showed that the yield parameters of *Abelmoschus esculentus* including number
10 of fruits/plant, fruit fresh weight and dry weight increased at 25-75% concentrations but decreased at
11 highest concentration of 100% wastewater in comparison with the control. Similarly, the total
12 biomass of *Telfairia occidentalis* and *Abelmoschus esculentus* increased at 25-75% concentrations of
13 wastewater. The N, K, Ca and Na composition of the leaf of *T. occidentalis* and fruits of *A. esculentus*
14 increased at all wastewater treatment levels. The percentage ash and protein increased in both plants
15 treated with the wastewater. Lipid content increased while the fibre content decreased in *T.*
16 *occidentalis* whereas in *A. esculentus* fibre content increased while the lipid content decreased in
17 comparison to the control. Percentage carbohydrate increased in both plants treated with the
18 wastewater. The use of beauty salon wastewater in irrigation of vegetables would not only reduce
19 environmental pollution but also serve as an alternative source of fertilizer for vegetable production.

20
21 **Keywords:** Beauty Salon wastewater, *Telfairia occidentalis*, *Abelmoschus esculentus*, pollution,
22 fertilizer.

23
24 **1. Introduction**

25 The use of wastewater for irrigation is widely seen in many cities of developing countries
26 where urban wastewater becomes the irrigation source for farmers in urban and semi-urban areas
27 (Raschid-Sally and Jayakody, 2008). Wastewater use for agriculture is an important management
28 strategy in areas with limited freshwater resources, yielding potential economic and environmental
29 benefits. The practice has manifold benefits in the form of water conservation, nutrient recycling and
30 prevention of surface and ground water pollution (Farahat and Linderholm, 2015). The reuse of
31 wastewaters for purposes such as agricultural irrigation can reduce the amount of water that needs to
32 be extracted from environmental water sources (Heidarpour *et al.*, 2007). The reuse of wastewater for
33 irrigation purposes gives it a different fate as agricultural crops can make use of the extra water and
34 nutrients.

35 Wastewater has a potential to supply carbon nutrients (NPK) and micro nutrients to support
36 crop/plant growth (Singh *et al.*, 2011). It serves as a valuable source of plant nutrients and organic
37 matter needed for maintaining fertility and productivity levels of the soil (Rusan *et al.*, 2007).
38 Wastewater can have a positive effect on soil and eventually plant growth, due to its being rich in
39 organic matter and nutrients (Ghanbari *et al.*, 2007; Mohammad and Ayadi, 2004). Application of
40 wastewater to cropland and forested lands is an attractive option for disposal because it can improve
41 physical properties and nutrient contents of soils (Kiziloglu *et al.*, 2007). Wastewater irrigation not
42 only provides water, N, and P but also organic matter (OM) to the soils (Siebe, 1998). The results of
43 Aghtape *et al.* (2011) and Tavassoli *et al.* (2010) experiments showed that irrigation with wastewater
44 significantly increased the fresh and dry forage yield of corn than that of irrigation with well water.
45 Abu Nada (2009) undertook study to assess the long term impacts of wastewater irrigation on
46 different parameters of soil and crop. Long term wastewater irrigation increased salt, organic matter
47 and plant nutrients in both soil layers. Khurana and Singh (2012) summarized the available data on
48 chemical composition of different wastewaters and their effects on soil fertility, soil heavy-metal
49 content, crop yield and quality. Field application of all types of wastewaters significantly increased
50 soil OC percentage and cation exchange capacity (CEC). Nadav *et al.* (2013) indicated that the

51 physico-chemical properties of soils were altered by wastewater irrigation, as a result of long-term
52 accumulation of organic matter in the soil profiles. High level of organic matter in wastewater acts as
53 cement for the building up of soil aggregates.

54 However, apart from plant nutrients contained in wastewater, it may contain various
55 potentially toxic elements and organic matters with highly harmful effects on human and animal
56 health. Municipal wastewater contains relatively high amounts of sodium, which can be accumulated
57 in the soil during irrigation with this wastewater and display toxic effects on the plants. If this
58 wastewater is not disinfected or treated in stabilization ponds, it is highly contaminated with
59 microorganisms. Therefore, the utilization of municipal wastewater for the irrigation of crops is
60 associated with a number of risks. Very serious risks are those of crop yields reduction, crops
61 contamination with pathogens and intestinal helminthes (Zavadil, 2009).

62 Vegetables play important role in meeting the food requirements of people world-wide,
63 because they are important source of various essential components i.e. minerals, dietary fibers and
64 vitamins (Ogle *et al.*, 2001). They are also potential sources of essential nutrients, constitutes
65 functional food components by providing protein, iron and calcium which have noticeable health
66 effects (Arai, 2002). The continuous demand for vegetables has increased the need to cultivate these
67 crops all year round. This in effect leads to the dependence on wastewater during the dry seasons or
68 during periods of drought. Also, due to the light water requirement of some crops, the use of
69 wastewater to supplement the freshwater, if any, becomes inevitable.

70 Okra and fluted pumpkin constitute a major part of the commonly consumed vegetables
71 which are widely grown on the field and in home gardens where there is high tendency of contact
72 with beauty salon wastewater. The study is therefore aimed at investigating the impact of beauty salon
73 wastewater on okra and fluted pumpkin growth.

75 **2. Materials and Methods**

76 **2.1 Experimental Location**

77 The experiment was conducted in the screen house of the Plant Science and Biotechnology
78 Department, Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba Akoko, Ondo State, Nigeria with latitude 7° 28'N
79 and longitude 5°44'E.

80 **2.2 Planting Materials**

81 Matured seeds of *Abelmoschus esculentus* were obtained from the Premier Seed Company
82 Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria, while that of *Telfairia occidentalis* were obtained from a local market at
83 Oka-Akoko, Ondo State, Nigeria.

84 **2.3 Experimental Set up**

85 Top soil used for the experiment was collected from the experimental farm of Plant Science
86 and Biotechnology Department, Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba Akoko. The soil was air-dried
87 and sieved through to remove stones. The beauty salon wastewater was collected from a septic
88 wastewater tank from a beauty salon in Akungba Akoko, Ondo State. Concentrations of 25, 50, 75,
89 and 100% of the wastewater were prepared in a plastic keg just before each treatment by dilution with
90 tap water to make the desired concentrations. Four viable seeds of *Abelmoschus esculentus* and three
91 viable seeds of *Telfairia occidentalis* were sown in perforated polythene bags containing 3kg of top
92 soil. Seedlings were allowed to establish for three weeks and thinned to one seedling per pot. Plants
93 were irrigated with the wastewater at 0 (control), 25%, 50%, 75% and 100% concentrations. Each pot
94 was treated with 250mL (volume enough to keep the soil moist) 2 times in a week; thus each pot
95 received 500mL of wastewater treatment per week. The treatment lasted for 8 weeks. The experiment
96 was carried out from July to October, 2016. Pots were laid in a completely randomized design, with 6
97 replicates per treatments. The experiment ended in October 2016 by harvesting the fruits of
98 *Abelmoschus esculentus* with the seeds and leaves of *Telfairia occidentalis*. Their fresh weight was
99 determined after which they were oven-dried at 80°C for the dry weight measurement.

100

101

102 **2.4 Measurement of Yield**

103 Measurement of yield of *Abelmoschus esculentus* and of *Telfairia occidentalis* irrigated with
104 different concentrations of beauty salon wastewater was done. The parameters studied include:
105 Number of fruits/plant, total fresh weight of fruits/plant, total dry weight of fruits/plant.
106

107 **2.5 Chlorophyll content analysis**

108 The total chlorophyll content of leaves of *Abelmoschus esculentus* and *Telfairia occidentalis* was
109 determined using the (Arnon, 1949) method. One gram of fresh leaves was ground with acid leached
110 sand, (sand washed with concentrated sulphuric acid (H₂SO₄) and thoroughly rinsed with distilled
111 water to remove all nutrients). The chlorophyll content was extracted using 10ml of 80% acetone and
112 centrifuged at 2000rpm for 15minutes. The clear supernatant liquid was decanted and the absorbance
113 read with photo spectrophotometer at 663nm and 645nm respectively. The 80% acetone served as
114 reference blank. The total chlorophyll content was calculated using the formula:

115 Total chlorophyll content= {20.2 x D₆₄₅ + 8.02 x D₆₆₃} x {(50/100 x (100/5) x 1/2}

116
117 **2.6 Fresh and dry weight determination**

118 Plants were carefully uprooted at the end of experiment by soaking the soil with water for
119 easy uprooting without any damage to the root. The roots were washed and each plant was separated
120 into stems, roots and leaves. The parts were taken to the laboratory for weighing to determine the
121 fresh weight. Dry weight was also determined after drying in an oven at 80°C to constant weight. The
122 weight was measured using sensitive weighing balance. Also, fruits of plant were harvested and
123 weighed in the laboratory to determine the fresh weight. The fruits dry weight was determined after
124 drying in an oven at 80°C.
125

126 **2.7 Plant Analysis**

127 Dried seeds of *Abelmoschus esculentus* and dried leaves and stems of *Telfairia occidentalis*
128 were ashed and dissolved with 10ml of 20% sulphuric acid. The Solution was placed on a hot plate
129 preset at 30°C to facilitate its dissolution. It was removed from hot plate, filtered into 10ml capacity
130 volumetric flask and marked to volume with distilled water. This filtrate was used for Ca²⁺, Mg²⁺,
131 Na⁺, K⁺. Na⁺ and K⁺ analysis by flame photometer, and Mg²⁺ and Ca²⁺ analysis by EDTA. Seeds
132 and leaves were also assayed for proximate compositions: crude protein, fat and carbohydrate, crude
133 fiber and total ash following the method of AOAC.
134

135 **2.7.1 Sodium and potassium determination**

136 A 2.54g and 1.9067g of pure oven dried NaCl and KCl respectively were dissolved in water
137 to make 1litre. 10ml each of the reagent was then pipette to make 100ml with ammonia acetate to
138 have 100ppm solution from the 100ppm, 0,2,4,6,8 and 10ml were pipette into 100ml flask and made
139 each to mark, to have 0,2,4,6,8,10ppm working standard for two stocks. The ammonium acetate
140 extract was employed for the determination. The flame photometer was adjusted according its
141 instruction manual. The standards were aspirated to obtain reliable curves before aspirating the
142 samples. The blank (ppm) is the ammonium acetate.
143

144
145 **2.7.2 Calcium and Magnesium determination**

146 A 10ml aliquot of the plant samples was carefully transferred in duplicate into 150ml conical
147 flask capacity. A drop of potassium cyanide and hydrochloride were introduced to both beakers. To
148 one set of the beaker, 5ml of ammonium buffer, three drops of erichrome black, and indicator were
149 added and titrated against 0.05M EDTA solution. The titre value obtained gave a combine result for
150 calcium and magnesium while to the second set of beaker; 5ml of 8M of NaOH and a pinch of cal-red
151 indicator were added and titrated against 0.05M EDTA solution. The titre value obtained gave directly

152 the result of calcium concentration. The difference between the first and the second value obtained
153 gave the amount of magnesium.

154

155 **2.7.3 Determination of crude protein**

156 The estimation of crude protein involves the determination of total nitrogen usually by
157 kjedahl procedure. The amount of crude protein is obtained by multiplying the nitrogen content by
158 6.25. This factor is based on the assumption that all the nitrogen in the tissue is present as protein.

159

160 **2.7.4 Crude fibre determination**

161 About 0.50-2.0g of the milled sample was measured into 1 litre conical flask (W_0). 200ml of
162 boiling 1.25% H_2SO_4 was added and boiled gently for 30 minutes using cooling fingers to maintain a
163 constant volume, This was filtered through muslin cloth or poplin material stretched over 9cm
164 Buchner funnel. It was rinse well with hot distilled water added and the material was scraped back
165 into flask with spatula. About 20ml of boiling 1.25% NaOH was added and boiled gently for 30
166 minutes using cooling fingers to maintain a constant volume. This was filtered through poplin cloth
167 and residues washes with 10% HCl and twice with industrial methylated spirit, acetone or ethanol.
168 This was allowed to drain, dry and the residue scraped into a crucible or silica dish. This was dried
169 overnight at $105^{\circ}C$ in the oven and then cooled in a desiccator. The sample was weighed (W_1), ashed at
170 $550^{\circ}C$ for 90 minutes in a muffle furnace, cooled in a desiccators and weighed again (W_2).

171

172 Calculation

$$173 \quad \% \text{ crude fibre} = \frac{W_1 - W_2}{W_0} \times 100$$

174

175 **2.7.5 Determination of soluble carbohydrate (nitrogen free extract)**

176 The nitrogen- free extractive (NFE) referred to as soluble carbohydrate is not determined
177 directly but obtained as a difference between crude protein and the sum of ash, protein, crude fat and
178 crude fibre.

$$179 \quad \text{NFE} = 100 - (\% \text{ash} + \% \text{ crude fibre} + \% \text{ crude fat} + \% \text{ crude protein})$$

180

181 **2.8 Statistical analysis**

182 The data obtained were subjected to one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) and means were
183 separated with Tukey HSD Multiple Range tests at 5% level of probability using SPSS 21.0.

184

185 **3. Results**

186 Table 1. shows the effect of beauty salon wastewater on the yield of *Abelmoschus esculentus*.
187 Beauty salon wastewater at 25-75% concentrations increased the yield of *Abelmoschus esculentus*.
188 But the yield reduced at 100% concentration in comparison with the control. Plants irrigated with
189 75% concentration of the wastewater yielded an average of 4.00 fruits per plant compared to average
190 of 3.85 fruits per plant in control and average of 3.67 fruits per plant in higher concentration of 100%
191 of the wastewater. Similarly, the fruits fresh and dry weight increased at 75% concentration and
192 reduced at 100% concentration of the wastewater in comparison with the control.

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200 **Table 1.** Yield of *Abelmoschus esculentus* (Okra) grown in soil irrigated with water
 201 containing different proportions of beauty salon wastewater under screen house condition

Yield parameters	Quantity of beauty salon wastewater applied (%)				
	0	25	50	75	100
Number of fruits/plant	3.85 ^a	4.00 ^a	3.87 ^a	4.00 ^a	3.67 ^a
Fruit fresh weight/plant (g)	31.64 ^a	36.41 ^a	34.04 ^a	41.48 ^a	31.56 ^a
Fruit dry weight/plant (g)	4.31 ^a	4.76 ^a	4.66 ^a	6.36 ^a	3.81 ^a

202 Each value is a mean± S.E of 6 replicates. For each value, means with the same letter(s) in superscript
 203 on the same row are not significantly different at P≥0.05 (Tukey HSD test)

204 This present experiment shows significant effects of beauty salon wastewater on fresh and dry
 205 weight of Plants parts. Table 2 and 3. illustrate the impact of beauty salon wastewater on the fresh and
 206 dry weights of roots, stems and leaves of *Abelmoschus esculentus* and *Telfairia occidentalis* irrigated
 207 with beauty salon wastewater. Fresh and dry weights parts of *Abelmoschus esculentus* increased with
 208 a significant different (p>0.05) at 25-75% concentrations of the beauty salon wastewater but
 209 decreased at highest concentrations of 100% when compared with the control(Table 2). Similarly, the
 210 fresh weights of the different parts of *Telfairia occidentalis* increased at 25-75% concentrations of
 211 beauty salon wastewater compared with the control (Table 3).

212 **Table 2.** Effect of beauty salon wastewater on the fresh and dry weight (g) of plant parts in
 213 *Abelmoschus esculentus*.

214

Parameter	Plant part	Concentration of beauty salon wastewater applied(%)				
		0	25	50	75	100
Fresh weight (g)	Root fresh weight	12.53 ^a	15.10 ^b	13.63 ^b	13.85 ^b	11.41 ^a
	Leaf fresh weight	5.62 ^{ab}	5.56 ^{ab}	9.08 ^b	5.82 ^{ab}	3.56 ^a
	Stem fresh weight	11.67 ^a	14.90 ^a	13.23 ^a	15.85 ^a	8.72 ^a
Dry weight (g)	Root dry weight	2.49 ^{ab}	3.29 ^c	2.70 ^{abc}	2.88 ^{bc}	2.03 ^a
	Leaf dry weight	1.38 ^a	1.41 ^a	2.49 ^b	1.44 ^a	0.98 ^a
	Stem dry weight	2.26 ^a	2.60 ^a	2.58 ^a	2.99 ^a	1.59 ^a

Comment [ASP1]: Table format is differs.....

215 Each value is a mean± S.E of 6 replicates. For each value, means with the same letter(s) in superscript
 216 on the same row are not significantly different at P≥0.05 (Tukey HSD test)

217
 218 **Table 3.** Effect of beauty salon wastewater on the fresh and dry weight (g) of plant parts in *Telfairia*
 219 *occidentalis*

Parameter	Plant part	Concentration of beauty salon wastewater applied (%)				
		0	25	50	75	100
Fresh weight (g)	Root fresh weight	18.80 ^{ab}	18.96 ^{ab}	19.91 ^b	26.55 ^c	14.83 ^a
	Leaf fresh weight	13.75 ^a	13.85 ^a	13.97 ^a	13.32 ^a	12.73 ^a
	Stem fresh weight	14.20 ^a	16.93 ^a	15.27 ^a	19.68 ^b	13.53 ^a
Dry weight (g)	Root dry weight	2.92 ^a	4.17 ^a	3.52 ^a	5.68 ^b	2.69 ^a
	Leaf dry weight	2.20 ^a	2.45 ^a	2.46 ^a	2.42 ^a	1.88 ^a
	Stem dry weight	2.41 ^a	3.23 ^{ab}	2.73 ^{ab}	3.75 ^b	2.22 ^a

Comment [ASP2]: Table format is different

221 Each value is a mean± S.E of 6 replicates. For each value, means with the same letter(s) in superscript
 222 on the same row are not significantly different at P≥0.05 (Tukey HSD test)

223
 224 Table 4. shows the effect of beauty salon wastewater on the total biomass of the two
 225 vegetables. The total biomass is the total sum of the root and shoot dry mass. The total biomass
 226 increased upon irrigation with beauty salon waste water in comparison with the control. (Also see
 227 Figures 1 and 2).

228 **Table 4.** Dry mass, Root: shoot ratio of *Abelmoschus esculentus* and *Telfairiaoccidentalis* grown in
 229 soil irrigated with beauty salon wastewater.

	Vegetable species	Concentration of beauty salon wastewater applied (%)				
		0	25	50	75	100
Root dry mass (g)	<i>Telfairiaoccidentalis</i>	2.92 ^a	4.17 ^a	3.52 ^a	5.68 ^a	2.69 ^a
	<i>Abelmoschusesculentus</i>	2.49 ^{ab}	3.29 ^c	2.70 ^{abc}	2.88 ^{bc}	2.03 ^a
Shoot dry mass (g)	<i>Telfairiaoccidentalis</i>	4.3 ^b	5.06 ^a	5.75 ^a	6.17 ^a	6.63 ^a
	<i>Abelmoschusesculentus</i>	3.3 ^{bc}	4.13 ^b	5.86 ^b	7.86 ^a	7.73 ^a
Total biomass (g)	<i>Telfairiaoccidentalis</i>	6.43 ^b	7.29 ^{ab}	8.08 ^{ab}	8.53 ^a	9.19 ^a
	<i>Abelmoschusesculentus</i>	5.8 ^c	7.03 ^{ab}	8.89 ^{ab}	10.99 ^a	9.59 ^a

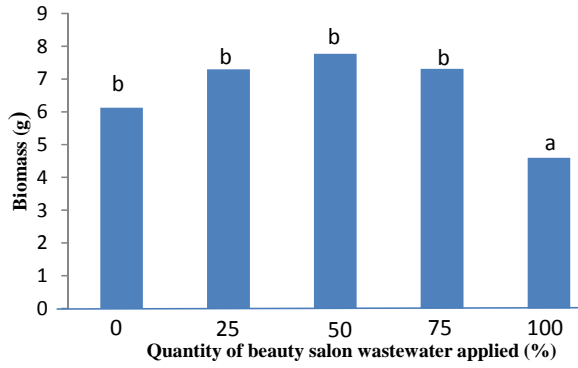
230 Each value is a mean± S.E of 6 replicates. For each value, means with the same letter(s) in superscript
 231 on the same row are not significantly different at P≥0.05 (Tukey HSD test)

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234 **FIGURE 1.** Effect of beauty salon wastewater on biomass of *Abelmoschus esculentus*.

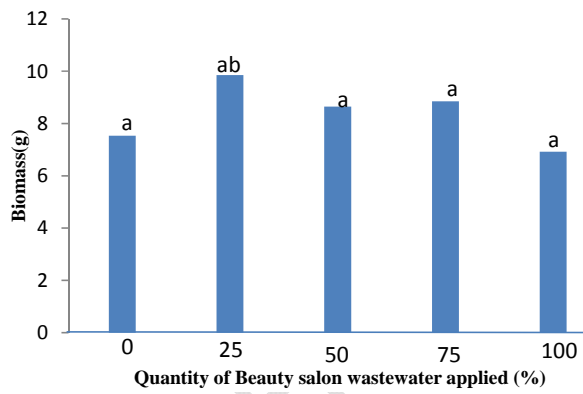
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238 **FIGURE 2.** Effect of beauty salon wastewater on the biomass of *Telfairia occidentalis*.

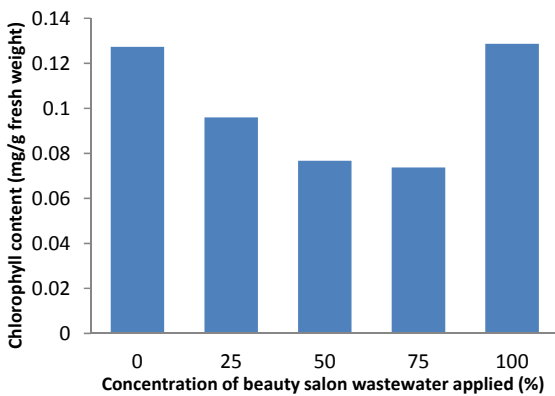
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241 **Figure 3.** Effect of beauty salon wastewater on the chlorophyll content of *Telfairia occidentalis*

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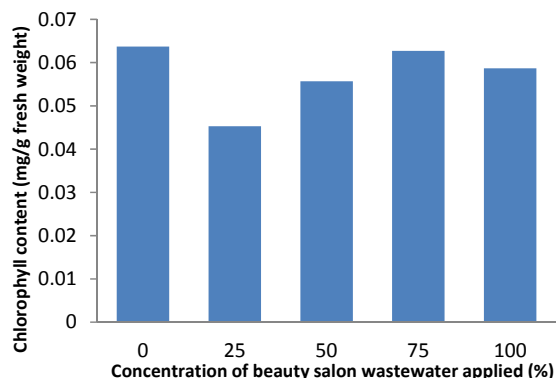


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Figure 4. Effect of beauty salon wastewater on the chlorophyll content of *Abelmoschus esculentus*.

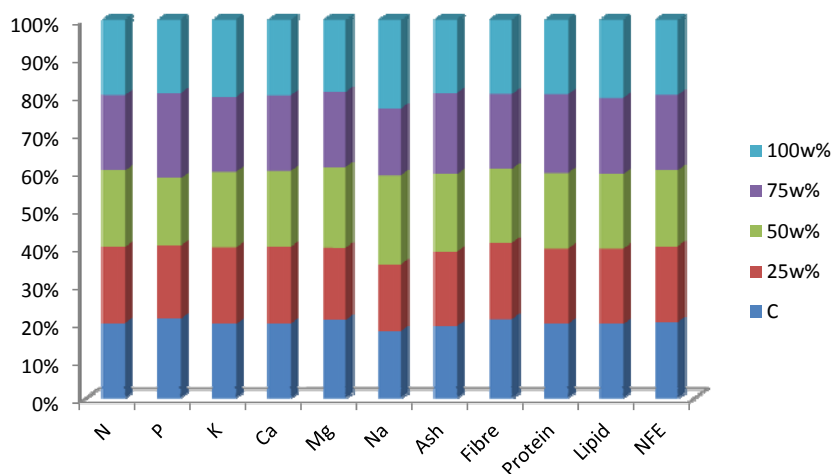


247

248 Beauty salon wastewater at all treatment levels (25-100%) caused an increase in the nutrient
249 composition of the fruits of *Abelmoschus esculentus* and leaves of *Telfairia occidentalis* when
250 compared with the control. N, K, Ca and Na composition of the two vegetables increased in
251 comparison with the control. The result also shows increase in the percentage ash and protein content
252 of the plants. Lipid content increased while the fibre content decreased in *T. occidentalis* whereas in
253 *A. esculentus* fibre content increased while the lipid content decreased in comparison to the control.

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255 **Figure 5:** Nutritional and proximate composition of leaves produced by *Telfairia occidentalis* (Fluted
256 pumpkin) grown in soil irrigated with water containing different proportions of beauty salon
257 wastewater under screen house condition



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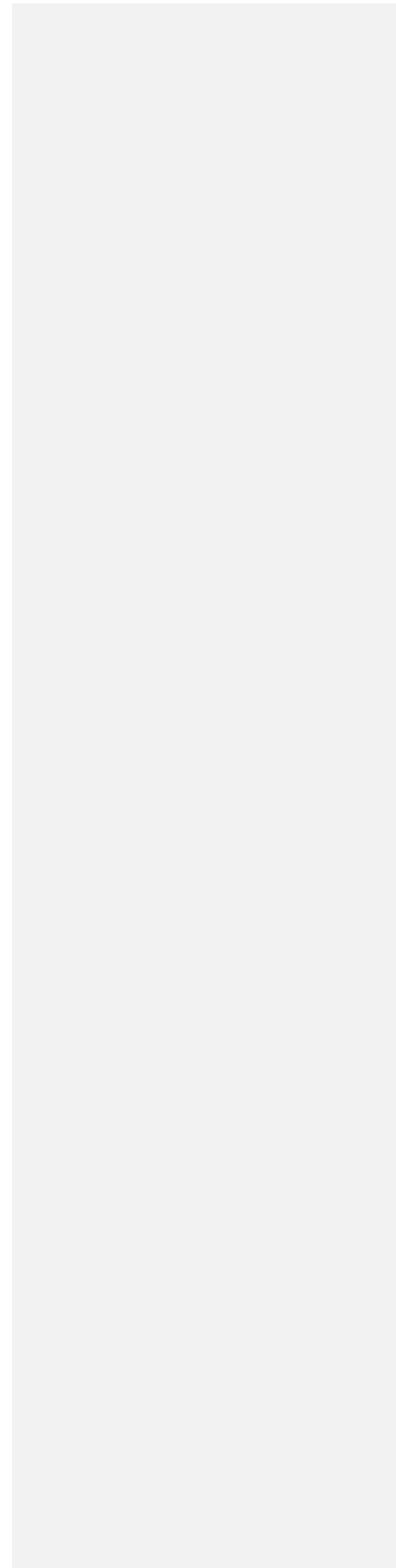
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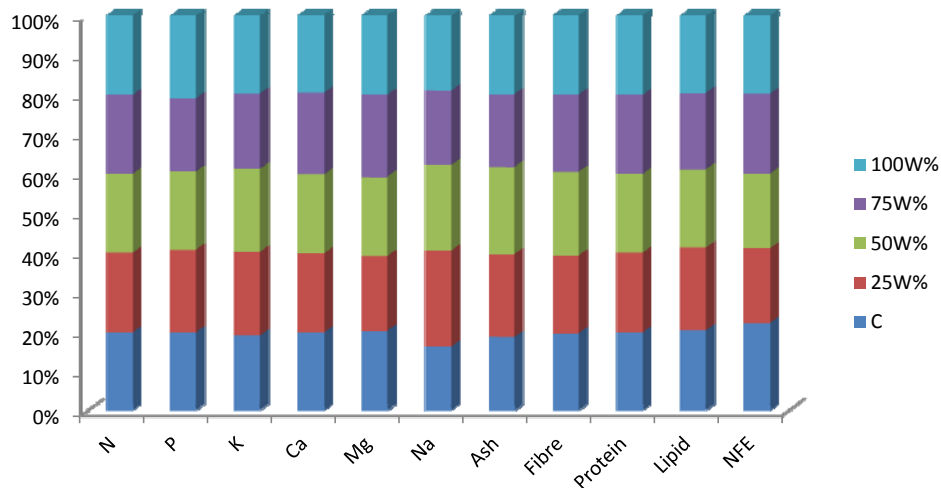
Table 5: proximate and nutritional composition of *Telfairia occidentalis*

	Quantity of Beauty Salon wastewater applied (%)				270
Nutritional and 100 Proximate Composition	0	25	50	75	271
					272
					273
N (%)	1.64	1.66	1.67	1.65	1.65 274
P (%)	0.13	0.12	0.11	0.14	0.12 275
K (%)	0.85	0.88	0.87	0.86	0.89 276
Ca (%)	0.67	0.69	0.68	0.68	0.68 277
Mg (%)	0.28	0.26	0.29	0.27	0.27 278
Na (%)	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.04 279
Ash (%)	4.43	4.57	4.75	5.00	4.50 280
Fibre (%)	9.37	9.10	8.78	8.88	8.86 281
Protein (%)	10.25	10.38	10.44	10.86	10.86 282
Lipid (%)	1.56	1.59	1.57	1.61	1.61 283
NFE (%)	74.39	74.36	74.35	73.95	73.98 284
					285
					286

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297 **Figure 6.** Nutritional and proximate composition of fruits produced by *Abelmoschus esculentus*
 298 (Okra) grown in soil irrigated with water containing different proportions of beauty salon wastewater
 299 under screen house condition



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Table 6: Proximate and nutritional composition of *Abelmoschus esculentus*

Nutritional and Proximate Composition	Concentration of Beauty Salon wastewater applied (%)					
	0	25	50	75	100	
N (%)	2.46	2.52	2.49	2.50	2.51	306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314
P (%)	0.17	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.18	315
K (%)	0.91	1.02	1.01	0.92	0.95	316 317
Ca (%)	0.86	0.87	0.87	0.90	0.85	318 319
Mg (%)	0.33	0.31	0.33	0.34	0.33	320
Na (%)	0.06	0.09	0.08	0.07	0.07	321 322
Ash (%)	7.90	8.96	9.45	7.86	8.50	323 324
Fibre (%)	17.74	17.94	19.27	17.86	18.19	325
Protein (%)	15.38	15.75	15.56	15.63	15.69	326 327
Lipid (%)	11.33	11.74	11.07	10.85	10.97	328
NFE (%)	52.35	44.61	44.65	47.80	46.65	329 330 331 332

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337 4. Discussion

338 The effect of wastewater on yield and nutritional value of crops has been demonstrated and
339 discussed extensively by many authors. (Day *et al.*, 1981) reported that using municipal wastewater
340 diluted with groundwater at 50:50 mixtures improved *Gossypium spp* yield when compared to
341 groundwater alone from wells in Arizona. Kiziloglu *et al.* (2008) showed that wastewater irrigation
342 treatments increased the availability of N, P, K, Ca, Mg, Na, Fe, Mn, Zn and Cu, to plant which led
343 to increase of red cabbage yields. Gatta *et al.* (2015) observed that the source of irrigation water did
344 not affect significantly tomato yield traits except tomato quality. Results of this experiment show the
345 effect of beauty salon wastewater on the yield and nutritional value of *Telfairia occidentalis*(Fluted
346 Pumpkin)and *Abelmoschus esculentus* (Okra).

347 Table 1. shows that plant irrigated with 25-75% concentrations of beauty salon wastewater
348 had higher yield than the control. This concur with the previous finding of Bedbabis *et al.* (2015) that
349 found that wastewater irrigation of olive trees resulted in significant yield increase when compared to
350 yields from plot using well water. Qaryouti *et al.* (2015) concluded that, raw wastewater irrigation
351 increased significantly tomato crop parameters, cucumber plant height and fruit yield and average
352 fruit weight, and tomato leaf area and plant dry weight. Day *et al.* (1974) also compared the effect of
353 irrigation with wastewater and pump water on wheat. They concluded that wastewater irrigation
354 produced taller plants, heavier seeds and higher grain yields than pump water. Wastewater has the
355 potential to increase plant yield than the control. Similar results were also recorded by Juwarkar *et al.*
356 (1990) in *Arachis hypogea*. Nissim *et al.* (2015), showed that, irrigation with wastewater had a
357 positive effect on willow growth and biomass yield. Jiménez *et al.* (1999) concluded that, reuse
358 wastewater increased significantly crop productivity to five crops/year of alfalfa, fodder oats, tomato,
359 barley and maize and the yield was higher than those obtained with rain. Golchin *et al.* (2013)
360 indicated that use of wastewater could improve morphological characters, yield and yield components
361 of alfalfa as compared to control treatment. Increasing wastewater concentration more than 45 %
362 caused poisoning effects on plants which decreased biological yield.

363 Higher concentration of beauty salon wastewater decreased the dry weight of the root, stem
364 and leaf of *A.esculentus* and *T. occidentalis*. The reduction in the dry weight might be due to the poor
365 growth of the seedlings under effluent stress. According to El Youssfi *et al.* (2012) studied the effect
366 of wastewater irrigation on three varieties of quinoa. The salinity caused the depression of plant's
367 height, and reduced fresh and dry weights of different parts of three varieties of plants tested. The
368 plant biomass of the two vegetables increased at 25-75% treatment levels of the wastewater. It was
369 reported by Misra *et al.* (2009) that *Solanum lycoperscum* irrigated with greywater obtained higher
370 nutrient uptake and biomass at the flowering stage when compared to tap water. Also, Gupta *et al.*
371 (2015) reported that plant irrigated with wastewater resulted in significant increase in plant height,
372 number of leaves per plant, leaf area index, leaf to stem (green and dry) biomass and green fodder
373 yield of fodder sorghum and significant decrease in dry matter content as compared to well water.
374 Zema *et al.* (2012) investigated the biomass yield of *T. latifolia* which increased by irrigation with
375 wastewater. Ntzala *et al.* (2015) found that the treated wastewater affected significantly the dry matter
376 yield and non-significantly the plant height on *Lactuca sativa* L. crop.

377 The proximate analysis of *Telfairia occidentalis* shows that Beauty salon wastewater
378 increased leaf N, K, and Ca while other nutrients were not affected. Similarly, percentage ash, lipid
379 and protein increased in the leaves of beauty salon waste treated plants (Figure 3). This finding is in
380 accordance with Babushakila *et al.*(2009) that biochemical content of lipid, ash and protein increased
381 at 50 and 75% concentrations of wastewater in the leaf samples of *Vigna radiate*. The Fibre and
382 carbohydrate contents decreased relative to the control. The proximate analysis of *Abelmoschus*
383 *esculentus* shows that Beauty salon wastewater increased the composition of N, K, Ca and Na at all
384 treatment levels in the fruits of *Abelmoschus esculentus* in comparison to the control (Figure 4). Al-
385 Jaloud *et al.*(1995) reported elevated concentration of N, Ca, Mg, and Na in leaves of Sorghum when
386 the crop was irrigated with wastewater. Moreover, Vazquez-Montieletal.(1996) found that irrigation

387 of maize (*Zea mays* L.) with treated wastewater resulted in increase in N, P, K and Mg concentration
388 in leaves. Fonseca *et al.*(2005a) also obtained similar results in a greenhouse experiment with maize.
389 Also, there was an increase in the percentage ash, fibre and protein at all treatment levels whereas the
390 lipid and carbohydrate contents decreased in comparison to the control.

391 Figure (3 and 4) show the effects of beauty salon wastewater on the chlorophyll content of *T.*
392 *occidentalis* and *A. esculentus*. Beauty salon wastewater treatments reduced the chlorophyll content of
393 *Abelmoschus esculentus* but at non-significant level when compared to the control. The Chlorophyll
394 content of *Telfairia occidentalis* reduced significantly with a significance difference at 25-75%
395 concentrations when compared to the control upon treatment with beauty salon wastewater. Sahai and
396 Singh (1977), Benergi and Kumar (1979) and Singh and Srivastava (1984) have reported adverse
397 effect of wastewater on chlorophyll content and metabolism. Agrawal *et al.* (1961), suggested that
398 heavy metals can inhibit chlorophyll formation by preventing magnesium uptake.
399

400 5. Conclusion

401 The use of beauty salon wastewater improved yields and nutritional values of *A. esculentus*
402 and *T. occidentalis* when diluted with water at 25-75%. Consequently, beauty salon wastewater can
403 serve as an alternative liquid fertilizer in the production of *A. esculentus* and *T. occidentalis* if applied
404 to soil at levels not above 75% concentration of the wastewater. This study confirms that high
405 concentration (>75% concentration) of beauty salon wastewater can have negative impact on soil
406 make it unfavourable for plant yields. Therefore, wastewater should not be used directly on crops
407 without sufficient treatment or dilution with water. There is however the need for further evaluation or
408 assessment of environmental health challenges associated with beauty salon waste disposal.
409

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