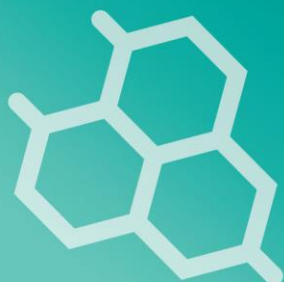


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ISOLATION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF MICROBES FROM EGG SHELLS AND POULTRY DUNGS SAMPLED FROM SELECTED POULTRY FARMS IN LAGOS, SOUTH WEST, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

Microorganisms associated with egg shells and poultry dung sampled from selected poultry farms were studied. A total of thirty-four (34) isolates were obtained from both samples using standard microbiological methods. This consists of twenty-five (25) bacteria and nine (9) fungi. The percentage occurrence of bacteria isolated from the samples indicates 64% of Gram-negative rods and 24% of Gram-positive cocci. Findings from the study revealed that these organisms were mostly of human and terrestrial origin which implies that eggs were exposed to contaminants from a wide variety of sources, the primary being faeces, manure and soil. Moreover, it was observed that enteric bacteria such as *Enterobacter* spp. and coliforms were more prevalent in the samples investigated. Some pathogenic bacteria that pose diseases in humans and poultry such as *Clostridium* and *Staphylococcus* species were also isolated from the samples. It is imperative to have a great understanding of the microbial community of poultry product (egg shell) and waste (poultry dung) which is contingent to the control of animal disease that occurs as a result of contamination of poultry product and the management of the adverse effect that poultry waste poses on the environment, human and animal health. Hence, the need for this research to create awareness and proffer suitable measures in the control of animal diseases that occurs as a result of contamination of its products and management of animal wastes.



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