



NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ANIMAL SCIENCE

Established by Act No. 26 of 2007 as Amended 2015



NIAS *Newsletter*

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HIGHLIGHTS

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- ✓ *Harmonization of Livestock Trade in West Africa*
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- ✓ *Prices of Animal products*
- ✓ *Photo Stories*
- ✓ *Announcements*



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Registrar/CEO, NIAS

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NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ANIMAL SCIENCE

Act No. 26 of 2007 (as Amended 2015)



OUR VISION

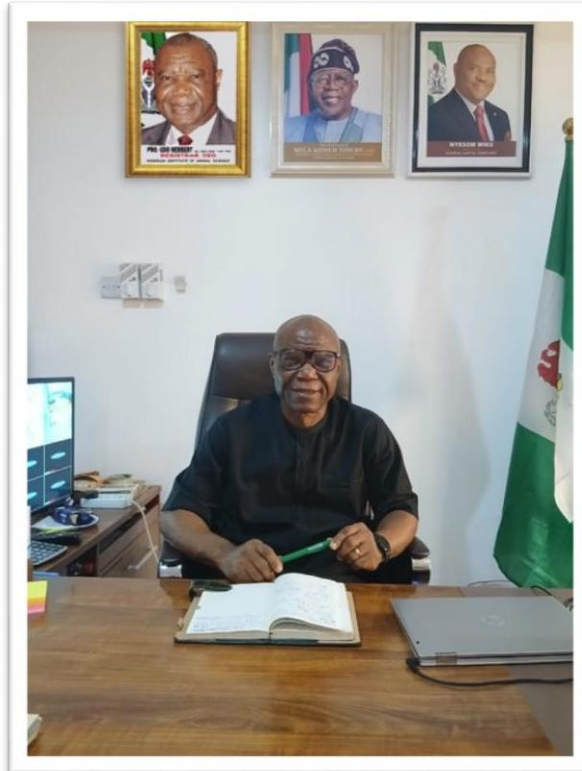
*To be the leading regulatory institution for
Animal Science and husbandry practice
in Africa; that will improve the
standard of living of it's
people.*

OUR MISSION

*To regulate the practice of animal husbandry for increased
profitability of all stakeholders, guarantee improved
animal husbandry and production systems that will
embrace environmental sustainability and
ensure high quality and quantity of
animal protein to
Nigerians.*

INTERACTION WITH THE REGISTRAR/CEO

The new Registrar/Chief Executive Officer of the Nigerian Institute of Animal Science (NIAS), **Prof. Udo Herbert** has said that part of his vision for the Institute is to make it a household name in Nigeria and the world. In this interview, he speaks on a wide range of issues relating to NIAS and livestock farming in Nigeria. Read details below:



HRE: Congratulations on your well-deserved appointment as Registrar/CEO of NIAS. Please, could you share your vision and mission for the Institute in the next four years?

Registrar: Thank you. You know the **Nigerian Institute of Animal Science** was established by the National Assembly Act No. 26 of 2007

(as Amended 2015) then under the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development as a regulatory agency for Animal Science practice with powers to regulate all matters pertaining to Animal husbandry in Nigeria. Now, we are under the new Federal Ministry of Livestock Development, and we thank Mr. President, Commander-in-Chief of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for this development. I must also thank the Council of NIAS for my appointment which I consider a privilege to serve the Institute and our nation.

Now, with regards to my vision for the Institute, I can say that as important as NIAS is, not so much has been heard or known about the critical roles it plays in the livestock industry. So, my vision is to make NIAS a household name in the Livestock Industry in Nigeria. In other words, I want NIAS to be as popular as agencies like NAFDAC which everyone associates with the fight against illicit drugs, EFCC which everyone associates

with the fight against financial crimes, etc.

I have a clear-cut strategy to actualize this vision, and this includes leading the top Management of the Institute to keep NIAS in the consciousness of the society by indicating what we stand for and what we can offer. In this regard, I will drive the Institute to have robust media engagement for education and sensitization. I consider the media as veritable channels to public enlightenment and knowledge-sharing. By engaging the services of various media channels, Nigerians will get to know more about NIAS and what we do.

Second, we will leverage on the goodwill of Government to initiate policies that will enhance livestock production and enforce NIAS regulations. It is not going to be an easy task, but I assure you, we are determined to push through with policies that enhance livestock production and enforce regulations in that regard.

Third, I will tackle major threats that have challenged the Institute over the years including funding. I will strengthen the funding base of the

Institute by ensuring that more firms and members meet their financial responsibilities to the Institute. I will also work out a strategy between the Institute and other professional bodies to forge respectful and productive collaboration.

Fourth, you may have noticed that many members of the Institute have lost interest in the Institute. There could be many reasons for this, anyway, but I will stimulate members' interest in the Institute's activities and make them see the value they can get from the Institute by constantly engaging with and carrying them along.

Fifth, you may be aware that NIAS has 6 Zonal and 12 State offices across the country, and a number of them are weak. I will work towards strengthening them and making them more productive while the proposed Animal Husbandry Research and Innovation Centers will be made operational, by the grace of God.

HRE: Would you say that NIAS is playing its role in livestock development in Nigeria?

Registrar: Absolutely, NIAS is playing its role with regards to its mandate in Livestock development in Nigeria. There is no doubt about this. As a matter of fact, our activities include the development, gazetting and publishing of Livestock industry standards through regulations and guidelines to check quackery. In this regard, we have developed regulations for the feed milling industry in Nigeria, for breeder farms, hatcheries operation and day-old chick quality in Nigeria.

In addition, we have developed regulations for animal husbandry, meat processing and distribution in abattoirs. We have also developed regulations for listing of approved feed ingredients for the feed-milling industry. We have over 25 major feed mills spread across Nigeria that have been registered by the Institute. The list is available on the NIAS website www.nias.gov.ng

“We will make NIAS a household name in Nigeria” – Prof. Herbert

Let me also inform you that the Institute carries out enforcement exercise at Livestock business premises to ensure compliance to laid-down standards. We organize trainings, workshops, and seminars for the purpose of educating stakeholders on the Institutes Regulations in Livestock development.

More so, the Institute carries out resource verification exercises on

Nigeria Higher Institutions offering Animal Science courses to ensure that the quality of Animal Scientists graduated from them can move the Livestock Industry forward when they are deployed to work there. Furthermore, the Institute internship Program enables Graduates of Animal Science courses to have practical exposure in Livestock Industry practices.

I can go on and on. In fact, the Institute is partnering and collaborating with stakeholders in the Livestock Industry, research institutions and other relevant government agencies to

ensure the development of the industry. We have opened more State Offices to ensure that the benefits of the activities of the Institute get to the grass root.

Despite low funding, it may interest you to know that the Institute has been organizing empowerment trainings and workshops for youths, women and unemployed to ensure increase Livestock production at reduced prices.

So, in all sincerity, I think NIAS is doing well within the resources available to it. I can only add, that if we have more resources, we will do more in the livestock industry

HRE: Most professional bodies in Nigeria grapple with the challenge of ability to enforce their regulations. Does NIAS have this challenge?

Registrar: The Act of National Assembly of Nigeria No. 26 (as Amended 2015) confers on NIAS with sufficient powers to enforce its regulations. However, the constraints to enforcement remain the security and other logistics required to make enforcement effective. I think we must revisit this, because we should be able to bite and not only to bark.

HRE: Is NIAS fully maximizing the benefits of the Department of Inspectorate and Compliance in relation to adherence to its regulations?

Registrar: Yes, NIAS is fully maximizing the opportunities afforded it by the creation of the Department of Inspectorate Compliance. As you may be aware, the Department is responsible for certification and compliance of Livestock firms or farms to the regulation of the Institute.

HRE: What effort is NIAS putting in place to encourage Graduate Animal Scientists to engage in Livestock production?

Registrar: As I said earlier. NIAS has been organizing empowerment training programmes for its Graduate Animal Scientists (GAS). In addition, our Internship Programme exposes GAS to the nitty-gritties of the Livestock Industry thereby making it easier for them to go into livestock production in the future.

HRE: What are the benefits of being a Registered Animal Scientist?

Registrar: Well, there are many benefits of being a Registered Animal

Scientist (RAS). For example, a RAS will have the opportunity of associating with fellow professionals and by so doing learn a lot that could help one rise to the peak of one's career without any hindrances.

Of course, it is only a RAS that has the power and privilege to vote and be voted for in an election organized by the Institute. It is also only a RAS that can fill up job vacancies meant for Animal Scientists.

I hope you know that a RAS in Nigeria can practice Animal Science profession outside the shores of Nigeria, especially in countries such as USA, Canada and Ghana where the Institute has collaboration with similar organizations.

Permit me to add that NIAS is not unaware of matters of injustice meted out to its Registered members. I want to assure our Registered members that we will go extra miles to ensure that their welfare and well-being are attended to within the law.

HRE: The Corporate Affairs Commission requires a certificate of proficiency from individuals who register businesses on its portal. For instance, to register a School as

business you must provide the Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN) Certificate, COREN Certificate if it is a Construction Company, etc. Is it possible for NIAS to ensure that Individuals or corporate bodies that want to register their businesses provide the Registered Animal Scientist (RAS) or Graduate Animal Scientist (GAS), Associate Animal Scientist (AAS) and/or Annual Practice License (APL) Certificates before being able to register Animal Science related businesses in Nigeria?

Registrar: Yes. NIAS is already working on this.

HRE: What channels are in place to get feedback from members, stakeholders or the general public as regards NIAS activities or as the case may be?

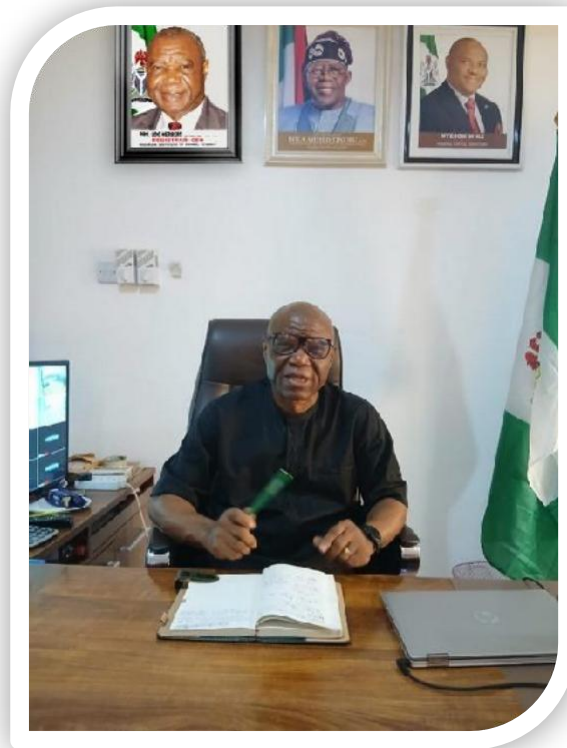
Registrar: We have very active channels of communication, including face-to-face meeting during the Institute's Annual General Meetings, Stakeholders Meetings, or via electronic media and various social media platforms.

HRE: How does NIAS generate and maintain the database of Livestock Farms in Nigeria, if there's any such database?

Registrar: NIAS generates and maintains database of Livestock Farms in Nigeria through its staff at the Zonal and State Offices nationwide. Periodic farm survey questionnaires are issued out, retrieved and analyzed.

HRE: The Mandatory Continuing Professional Education (MCPE) is Mandatory for Professional Animal Scientists, but is the MCPE really achieving its purpose(s)?

Registrar: I can say yes, that the MCPE is achieving its purpose. You know the MCPE ensures that Animal Scientists are up-to-date with the latest innovations and technology developments in the Livestock Industry in Nigeria and around the world. The



credit points from its attendance enables members to renew their Annual Practicing License which empowers members to practice the profession. So, I think the MCPE is achieving its purpose.

HRE: Thank you for your time, Registrar.

Registrar: You are welcome.

Upcoming Event



GAS INDUCTION 2025



Nigeran Institute of Animal Science (NIAS)

HARMONIZATION OF LIVESTOCK TRADE IN WEST AFRICA WITHIN THE ECOWAS SUB-REGIONS

Nigeria having the highest number of trans human movements and having benefited from CILSS support for the development of national

The Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), through the Project Regional d' Appui au Pastoralisme au Sahe, Phase 2 (PRAPS-2), launched a comparative study on national regulations and legislature related to Animal Health, Animal Welfare, and Zoo sanitary rules governing livestock trade between the Sahelian and Coastal Countries, aiming to harmonize regulations to facilitate livestock trade, and



strategic plans for the control of PPR and CBPP, is selected for the pilot study and in furtherance to the above, CILSS has engaged Prof Walter Ossebi, Prof Simplicie B. Ayessiwede and

Prof Emmanuel Oke Oyegunle as consultants from the Bureau d'etudes et Conseils de l'ecole inter-Etats des Sciences et Medecine Veterinaires (BEC-EISMV) to carry out the study through the field missions including Nigeria from 11th - 17th March, 2025.

Consequently, as a key stakeholder in the livestock industry in Nigeria, the team visited The Nigerian Institute of Animal Science on Thursday 13th March 2025 to discuss Harmonization of Livestock Trade in West Africa within the ECOWAS Sub-regions. The program was originally centred on the Sahelian regions of Africa encompassing Senegal, Mali, Niger, and Sudan however, an initiative was introduced to extend it to the Coastal regions of West African capturing Benin Republic, Ghana and Togo particularly Nigeria, hence their presence at the Institute.

The team were received by the Registrar/CEO Prof Udo Herbert ably represented by Head of Accreditation and Curriculum, Dr Mrs Akinfolarin .

Dr. (Mrs) B.O. Akinfolarin welcomed the visitors while highlighting the Activities and mandates of the Nigerian Institute of Animal Science as an agency of the Federal Government established by the

act of 2007 as amended in 2015. She further highlighted the categories of membership of the institute viz; The Graduate Animal Scientists, Registered Animal Scientists, and Associate Animal Scientists.

Also present at the meeting were the Head of Training and Internship Department, Mr Ekpo U. Fitzgibon, Head of Inspectorate and Compliance Department, Mr Olufemi Atunbi, Head of Education and Liaison Department, Dr Adebayo Fola, Head of Research and Extension Department, Mr Dauda M. Pela, Head of Regulatory Affairs Department, Mr Galadima D. Audu, Head of Legal Unit, Barrister (Mrs) B.N Wogu and other senior staff of the Institute.

The BEC-EISMV Representatives presented a questionnaire to the institute which was responded to accordingly by all the staff present,

some of the sections listed on the questionnaire are;

- ✓ *International Movement of livestock for commercial purposes*
- ✓ *Legal texts and additional materials governing zoo-sanitary measures associated with the international trade of livestock applied within Nigeria.*
- ✓ *Animal welfare regulations and additional materials associated with the international trade of livestock*
- ✓ *Execution of legal Texts.*

Questions relating to national and supranational laws and other legal frameworks were attended to by Barrister (Mrs) B.N Wogu, the institute's Chief Legal Officer.

After the meeting, a compilation of all responses to the questionnaire was made and submitted to the Consultants / BEC-EISMV Representatives.



Participants during the meeting.



Dr (Mrs) B.O Akinfolarin, The BEC-EISMV Representatives and NIAS Staff after the meeting.

NIAS PROFESSIONAL RESOURCE VERIFICATION

The Nigerian Institute of Animal Science, established by Act No. 26 of 2007 (as amended in 2015), has the statutory mandate for the professional resource verification and professional accreditation of Animal Science programmes in all Nigerian universities. Pursuant to this mandate, the Institute recently organized the Professional Resource Verification of the Animal Science programme at the following Universities to verify their resources in the area of equipment, poultry, livestock, infrastructure and human capacity and the extent to which they conform to the Minimum Professional Academic Standards for the Animal Science programme as stipulated by NIAS, **Federal University of Technology, Minna, Niger State, Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, Abia State, Rivers State University, Port Harcourt, Rivers State , Osun State University,**

Osogbo Osun State, and Ladoke Akintola University of Technology Ogbomoso, Oyo State,

A team of experts from the Academia, the industry and the policy sectors were appointed by the institute to conduct the Resource Verification and the respective team thoroughly verify each and every of the institution on Curriculum, Student Projects and Practical Work, External Examination System, Teaching Staff, Staff Development, Farm Structures, Cattle Section, Sheep and Goat Unit, Poultry Housing, Feed mill, micro livestock Unit, Pasture and Forage Preservation, and Funding.

The exercise will improve the quality of Animal Science graduates since areas that need improvement was highlighted.

RAS AND GAS EXAMINATIONS '2025



NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ANIMAL SCIENCE

Visit www.nias.gov.ng

Prices of Raw Milk in Selected States as at March 28, 2025



Abuja: ₦700 to ₦1500 per litre

Adamawa: ₦500 -

₦700 per litre Bauchi:

₦700 to ₦800

per litre Gombe: ₦750 to

900 per litre Jigawa:

₦550 per litre



Kaduna: N700 to N800

per litre Kano: N640 to

N700 per litre

Kwara: N500 to N700 per litre

Nasarawa: N1000 per litre

Niger: ₦1000 per

Ogun: ₦500 to ₦700

Osun: ₦500 to ₦700

Plateau: ₦650 to ₦750 per litre

Taraba: ₦500 to ₦1000 per litre

Milk prices are influenced by various factors specific to the region, including (but not restricted to):

a) Milk delivery method to the processor: Prices may be higher when milk is directly delivered to the processor's facility, as opposed to milk collected by the processor at farms or collection centers.

b) Milk availability: Higher prices may result from low milk supply in the area, while prices may decrease when there is abundant supply.

c) Seasonal variations: Prices can be affected by the time of the year, such as during the rainy or dry seasons.

d) Insecurity: The persistent security breaches especially in the Northern and North-Central

States, has resulted in a spike in milk prices within the affected areas.

Source: Commercial and Dairy Ranchers Association of Nigeria (CODARAN)

Day Old Chicks Prices for April 21, 2025.

Agrited - ₦630

Agricare -	₦590
Amo -	₦590
Sayed -	₦610
Valentine -	₦610
Dahmas-	₦590
Daddy's Farm -	₦590
ZARTECH -	₦580
CHI -	₦610
Nastech -	₦590
Supreme -	₦590
Fidan -	₦600
Farm Support –	₦580
Cascada-	₦590
Vertex -	₦590
Topchicks-	₦590
Dayntee-	₦590
Black Cockerel -	₦600
White Cockerel -	₦200
Pullets-	₦1400 - ₦1500 (Depends on brand)
Black Pullets:	₦1000
Noilers -	₦700
Turkey poult (Local) =	₦3700



P



Turkey poults (imported) = NA

Foreign ducklings- ₦3500

Local ducklings - ₦3000

4 weeks Broiler: ₦4400

12 weeks point of cage: ₦5300.

14 weeks Point of Lay - ₦5800.

16 weeks P.O.L - NA



NIAS PROFESSIONAL RESOURCE VERIFICATION IN PICTURES



Federal University of Technology Minna,

Niger State



**Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Ogbomosho
Oyo State.**



Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, Abia State



Rivers State University Port Harcourt, Rivers State



Osun State University, Oshogbo

Osun State

The Registrar/CEO's work Visit to University of Port Harcourt and River State University in March 2025.





Management and Staff joined the Registrar/CEO NIAS to celebrate his Birthday on April 1st 2025





NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ANIMAL SCIENCE



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NOTICE OF THE 2025 PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATION FOR THE ADMISSION OF REGISTERED ANIMAL SCIENTISTS AND GRADUATE ANIMAL SCIENTISTS INTO THE NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ANIMAL SCIENCE AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS

The Nigerian Institute of Animal Science (NIAS) is an industry and professional regulatory agency established by Act No. 26 of 2007 (as Amended 2015). Among its mandates are powers to prescribe and regulate the standards of academic qualifications and practical skills to be attained by persons seeking to be registered as Members, Associates or Fellows of the Institute as the case may be, and the regulation of all issues pertaining to Animal Husbandry in Nigeria.

Notice is hereby given that the 2025 Professional Examinations for the admission of Registered Animal Scientists (RAS) and Graduate Animal Scientists (GAS) into the Nigerian Institute of Animal Science is scheduled to take place as follows:

1. REGISTRATION FOR RAS AND GAS EXAMINATION

All candidates must **first complete** the specified (RAS or GAS) Examination application form online via the Institute website: www.nias.gov.ng

2. PAYMENT FOR THE EXAMINATION

All prospective candidates must first complete the online RAS or GAS Examination registration form. On submission of the form, the app redirects candidates to the Federal Government Treasury Single Account (TSA) payment platform. Complete the payment procedure as prompted.

Note: Payment must **NOT** be made directly to the **Treasury Single Account (TSA)**, but as specified above.

RAS ~~₦~~30,000.00

GAS ~~₦~~20,000.00

Payments made for the Examinations are **NON-REFUNDABLE**

SCHEDULE OF EXAMINATIONS

TYPE OF EXAMINATION		ONLINE REGISTRATION PERIOD	DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION	DATE OF EXAMINATION
1	REGISTERED ANIMAL SCIENTIST	MARCH 17, - JUNE 2, 2025	JUNE 2, 2025	JUNE 21, 2025
2	GRADUATE ANIMAL SCIENTIST	MARCH 17, - OCTOBER 3, 2025	OCTOBER 3, 2025	NOVEMBER 1 & 8, 2025

RAS EXAMINATION CENTRES AND DATE

EXAMINATION CENTRES	EXAMINATION DATE
North – Central Centre: ABUJA	JUNE 21, 2025
North–East Centre: BAUCHI	
North – West Centre: KANO	
South – East Centre: UMUDIKE	
South-South Centre: PORT HARCOURT	
South–West Centre: IBADAN	

GAS EXAMINATION CENTRES AND DATES

EXAMINATION CENTRES	EXAMINATION DATE
North – Central Centre: ABUJA	NOVEMBER 1, 2025
North–East Centre: BAUCHI & MAIDUGURI	
North – West Centre: KANO	
South – East Centre: UMUDIKE & OWERRI	NOVEMBER 1, 2025
South-South Centre: PORT HARCOURT & BENIN CITY	
South – West Centre: IBADAN, OGBOMOSO & ADO-EKITI	NOVEMBER 8, 2025

Please Note:

- i. Prospective candidates should visit the NIAS website (www.nias.gov.ng) or click on the link <http://bit.ly/4hHGQK2> for information on the Guidelines for the Examinations before completing the online application form.
- ii. Prospective candidates for the 2025 GAS Examination should check the NIAS website to determine their University's eligibility to participate in the examination.
- iii. Any graduate of Animal Science who is not registered with the Institute and has spent five (5) years post-first-degree qualification must take the professional examination to become a Registered Animal Scientist.
- iv. All fresh Animal Science graduates must take the GAS Examination.
- v. Only candidates who pass the GAS examination will be inducted into the Institute as Graduate Animal Scientists. This is in addition to the clearance by the respective University-Senate.
- vi. Every inducted Graduate Animal Scientist must attend a minimum of 2 years of Mandatory Continuing Professional Education training within the five years of post-graduation to be able to register as a Registered Animal Scientist or else take the RAS qualifying examination to be eligible for registration for RAS membership.

To register for the RAS Examination, click on the following link: <https://nias.gov.ng/ras-registration/>

To register for the GAS Examination, click on the following link: <https://nias.gov.ng/gas-registration/>

For further Enquiries call: 09077277781, 07070404667

