

RESEARCH INTEREST

BY

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Anthony J. D'Angelo once said, "Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow". Ever since this quote became my watchword, it has kept me making giant strides in my educational pursuit. I obtained my Bachelor of Engineering Degree in Agricultural and Bio-Resources Engineering from one of the reputable universities in Nigeria, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, in Sept. 2018. During my undergraduate days, I was an active member of the class and participated in all curricular and most extra-curricular activities. Due to my managerial skill, effective communication skills, and excellent academic performance, I was appointed as the class representative in my second year of study. A position I retained until my graduation. As a result of my diligence and hard work towards my studies, I eventually graduated as the best student in my department, and as such, I was given the award of the Best Graduating Student in my department. During my internship at the National Center for Agricultural Mechanization, Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria, I was part of a team of engineers that worked on some projects which include; the development of tractor-drawn double-feeder-two-row cassava stem planter, tractor-drawn cassava uprooting machine, and tractor-drawn four-row seed planter with fertilizer applicator. With my competence in the use of Autodesk Inventor software, I was able to produce Computer Aided Drawing (CAD) of some agricultural machines in my department. Some of the machines include; a solar dryer for agricultural products, a screw conveyor for agricultural granular materials, a citrus fruit juice extracting machine, a continuous process palm fruit digester, etc. I also designed an irrigation system outline. My final year project was on the "Development of a manually operated single-row seed planter with fertilizer applicator." The problem of the high cost of agricultural machines and implements and the drudgery involved in using human labor in farming activities confronting rural farmers necessitated the need to embark on this project. The fabricated device is affordable to rural farmers. It has also reduced the drudgery involved in using manual methods of planting seeds. The machine was designed to plant a maximum of two seeds per stand. Also, fertilizer can be applied simultaneously during planting. A device that prevents contact of the seeds with the fertilizer was incorporated into the machine to prevent the death of the seeds which may result from the heat emitted from the fertilizer.

I have a friendly personality which is why I'm able to receive people with an open mind and also ready to render assistance that is within my capacity. I am highly focused and dedicated to achieving any set goal within the specified time frame. Friends and colleagues have always complimented me for my honesty in my dealings with them. I get adapted to new environments, cultures, and traditions easily and quickly. With this, I believe I will have no problems associating with my Indian friends and colleagues and also, adapting to the weather conditions, culture, and traditions of the Indian citizens when I eventually get admitted.

The exposure to the practical application of engineering in the design and fabrication of agricultural machines and implements during my final year project and internship period gave me an insight into the vast demand of engineering in the practice of agriculture. These experiences ignited the passion and desire for more knowledge in the field of agricultural mechanization engineering, which led to my decision to pursue my master's degree. With innovative abilities, I strive to contribute my best to researches and humanity at large by exploring the field of agricultural mechanization engineering. I do not doubt that this master's degree, will provide me with the requisite knowledge in agricultural mechanization and the capability to achieve my career and professional goals.

Now, the question comes, "why did I choose India as my study destination." It is a known fact that India is a developing nation, with an economy that is to a large extent dependent on agriculture. As a result of this, technological innovations are being employed to increase the production of agricultural resources to feed the populace and also for export to other countries. These and more positive reasons are why I chose India as my study destination. Furthermore, India's diverse cultural norms and values, the welcoming hospitality of its people, and the Nigeria-India relationship which has enhanced bilateral trade, education, and peace to both sides make me see India as my best choice for graduate studies. My country has not yet attained self-sufficiency in food production to feed its growing population. A lot of money is being spent on the importation of food products, which is not appropriate. I firmly believe that the theoretical and practical knowledge and experience I will gain after my master's program in India will enable me to contribute my quota to the realization of my country's dream of becoming self-sufficient in food production to feed its geometrically growing population, which also applies to India.

In conclusion, with high hopes, I strongly believe that this application will receive your favorable consideration. I am also ready to provide any additional information you may need. I eagerly look forward to receiving your positive reply.

Yours faithfully,

Ezealaji Lucky Damian.