



FUTA NEWS

FUTA TAKES STEPS AGAINST LASSA FEVER

The Federal University of Technology Akure has taken decisive steps to prevent the spread of the Lassa fever on its campus. As part of the measures, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Adebisi Daramola has approved the deployment of baits and other mechanisms that will lead to the extermination of rats and other rodents. The extermination procedures are already being carried out in all offices and residential quarters including students' hostels by the Parks and Garden Unit under the supervision of Alhaji Alli Ahmed. Lassa fever is a hemorrhagic viral disease caused by Lassa virus which is transmitted from rats of the family Mastomys. The symptoms of the disease include severe illness with high fever and at least one of the following signs: Bloody stool, vomiting blood or unexplained bleeding from the gums, nose, vagina, skin or eyes. To this end, members of the University community should desist from setting fire on bushes so that rats are not driven into Halls of residence, offices and homes. However, good sanitary measure and proper storage of foods in covered containers will break the chain of transmission of the disease.

The need for an intensified surveillance and preventive measures against the outbreak of Lassa fever need not to be over emphasized on FUTA campus, even when cases had been reported in contiguous states.