Ps. Prof. William Otoo Ellis

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PROFILE

Prof. William Otoo Ellis is a Professor of Food Science at the Department of Food Science and Technology and a former Vice Chancellor of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (NKUNST). He served as the Pro-Vice Chancellor of the same University between 2007 and 2010. Professor Ellis is a Food Scientist; Researcher and a Consultant, rendered consultancy services to many small and medium scale food processing companies in Ghana. He has and continue to serve on several boards and councils of national and international institutions. Some of the positions include membership of the Distinguished Trustees of the Accra Institute of Technology, Board Chairman of the Kumasi Compost and Recycling Plant (KCARP), Board Chairman of the Executive Advisory Board (EAB) for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program at KNUST and the former Director, Children Ministry of the Church of Pentecost. His research areas and interests include Applied Food Microbiology and Quality Assurance, Food Product Development and Food Toxicology and Epidemiology (Mycotoxin and Health). He is an accomplished researcher and academic with experience in Higher Education Institutional Management spanning more than a decade. He has served in various academic (national and international) positions including as a visiting Professor at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) and an adjunct Professor at the University of Alabama, Birmingham in the USA. He had his academic training from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, Ghana and McGill University, Montreal, Canada. He has several scholarly publications to his credit, mounted several exhibitions with research colleagues and being a speaker at many national and international conferences.

RESEARCH

Interests	Applied Microbiology and Quality Assurance · Food Toxicology · Mycotoxin and Epidemiology · Food Product Development and Packaging
Areas	Plant Science · Food Science · Nutrition and Dietetics · Cancer Research · Forestry · Pharmacology

RESEARCH SUMMARY

170	4,698	36	87	2.08	20%
Publications	Citations	h-index	i10-index	Field-weighted impact	World top 10%

Counted from the 170 publications listed below, 1991–2026. Field-weighted impact is the mean over the 81 works scored for it; 1.00 is the world average for works of the same field, type and year. 16 of the 81 papers scored for it are among the world's most cited tenth for their field, type and year.

POSITIONS

Professor 1993–present
Food Science and Technology, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

PhD Food Science 1989–1993
Department of Food Science and Agricultural Chemistry, McGill University, Montreal, Canada

BSc (Hons) Biochemistry 1982–1987
Department of Biochemistry, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana

PUBLICATIONS

Journal articles 160

1. Charles C. Dapuliga, Nana Baah Pepra-Ameyaw, Abena Boakye, Faustina Dufie Wireko-Manu, Henrietta N. Ene-Obong, Ibok N. Oduro, **William Otoo Ellis** (2026). Effect of high-quality cassava flour (HQCF) substitution on the in vivo glycemic response of two bread types. *Journal of Food Measurement & Characterization*. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11694-026-04152-w
2. Florence Adwoa Ayirezang, **William Otoo Ellis**, Ibok Nsa Oduro, Matilda Dzomeku, Gideon Adotey (2026). Environmental Drivers of Ganoderma resinaceum and Ganoderma enigmaticum Mycelial Growth on Malted Sorghum and Associated Changes in Antioxidant Activity and Mineral Composition: Implications for Pito Bio-Enrichment. *Food Science & Nutrition*. https://doi.org/10.1002/fsn3.72276
3. M. N. Adam, C. O. Essumang, N. K.-A. Quartey, C. A. Ofosu, F. K. Saalia, **W. O. Ellis**, I. W. Ofosu (2026). Systematic quantitative data synthesis of dietary aflatoxin-induced hepatocellular carcinoma in Ghana and Nigeria. *Food Safety and Risk*. https://doi.org/10.1186/s40550-026-00145-1
4. Joel Cox Menka Banahene, Isaac Williams Ofosu, Herman Erick Lutterodt, **William Otoo Ellis** (2025). Assessing the fungal contamination and potential impact of ochratoxigenic Aspergillus species on cocoa beans from cocoa-growing regions of Ghana. *Science Progress*. https://doi.org/10.1177/00368504241311963
5. Abena Boakye, Kanaan Selasie Doe-Addo, Beulah Pretorius, John-Lewis Zinia Zaukuu, Agnes Mwangwela, Redeemer Agbolegbe, Elizabeth Ama Mensah, Heather Legodi, **William Otoo Ellis**, Andrew John Dougill (2025). Chemical and physical characterization of 'egusi' melon seeds and prediction of fat content by NIR Spectroscopy. *Food, Nutrition and Health.*. https://doi.org/10.1007/s44403-025-00035-y
6. Joel Cox Menka Banahene, Isaac Williams Ofosu, Herman Erick Lutterodt, **William Otoo Ellis** (2025). Exploring essential oils from Piper guineense and Aframomum melegueta as natural biocontrol agents against cocoa fungal isolates towards the safety of cocoa beans. *Food and Humanity*. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foohum.2025.100601
7. Abena Boakye, Mary Sefa Boampong, Andrew John Dougill, David Akyen, Theophilus Kwabla Tengey, Charles Naapoal, Addobea Addow Koranteng, Agnes Mwangwela, Heather Legodi, **William Otoo Ellis** (2025). Potential of egusi for food and nutrition security in northern Ghana: gender perspectives and social constructs underpinning cultivation and use. *Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems*. https://doi.org/10.3389/fsufs.2025.1446681
8. Florence Adwoa Ayirezang, **William Otoo Ellis**, Gideon Adotey, Matilda Dzomeku, Paul Yirenkyi, Abraham Quarcoo, Emmanuel Dompeh (2025). The Effect of Varied Thermal Methods on Sorghum Malt for Mycelial Growth in Pito Production. *Journal of Food Quality*. https://doi.org/10.1155/jfq/8361300
9. Yi Zhang, Jiayu Xie, **William O. Ellis**, Jilong Li, William Ofori Appaw, Benjamin K. Simpson (2024). Bioplastic films from cassava peels: Enzymatic transformation and film properties. *Industrial Crops and Products*. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.indcrop.2024.118427
10. Mercia Lionel Adjei, Abena Boakye, Godwin Deku, Nana Baah Pepra-Ameyaw, AS Anim-Jnr, Ibok Nsa Oduro, **William Otoo Ellis** (2024). Development of yoghurt incorporated with beetroot puree and its effect on the physicochemical properties and consumer acceptance. *Heliyon*. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2024.e25492

11. Josephine Akuba Timtey, Francis Alemawor, **William Otoo Ellis**, Jacob K. Agbenorhevi, Nana Baah Pepra-Ameyaw (2024). Evaluation of Yield and Physicochemical Quality of Pentadesma butyracea Butter Obtained by Different Traditional Extraction Methods in Ghana. *International Journal of Food Science*. https://doi.org/10.1155/2024/5282230

12. Joel Cox Menka Banahene, Isaac Williams Ofosu, Bernard Tawiah Odai, Herman Erick Lutterodt, Paul Ayiku Agyemang, **Williams Otoo Ellis** (2024). Ochratoxin A in food commodities: A review of occurrence, toxicity, and management strategies. *Heliyon*. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2024.e39313

13. K. S. Doe-Addo, T. K. Tengey, A. Boakye, J-L. Z. Zaukuu, I. N. Oduro, **W. O. Ellis** (2024). Physico-mechanical measurements, functional properties, proximate composition of newly developed climate-resilient cowpea (Vigna unguiculata) varieties and their classification with near-infrared spectroscopy. *Food, Nutrition and Health.*. https://doi.org/10.1007/s44403-024-00004-x

14. Naa Kwarley-Aba Quartey, Isaac Williams Ofosu, Gloria Mathanda Ankar-Brewoo, Herman Erick Lutterodt, **William Otoo Ellis** (2024). Zearalenone-Contaminated Cereals in African Communities, Probabilistic Exposures and Adverse-Health Outcomes: A Meta-Analysis. *Journal of Science and Technology (Ghana)*. https://doi.org/10.4314/just.v42i1.4

15. Kofi Owusu-Akyaw Oduro, Abena Boakye, Ibok Nsa Oduro, **William Otoo Ellis**, Nana Baah Pepra-Ameyaw (2023). Efficiency of Edible Coating from Locally Sourced Materials in Maintaining the Postharvest Quality of Belfast Tomatoes. *Journal of Science and Technology (Ghana)*. https://doi.org/10.4314/just.v41i3.5

16. Shadrach Yankey, Eric Owusu Mensah, Gloria M. Ankar-Brewoo, **William Otto Ellis** (2023). Optimized fermentation conditions for dragon fruit yogurt. *Food and Humanity*. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foohum.2023.06.012

17. Josephine Akuba Timtey, Francis Alemawor, **William Otoo Ellis**, Nana Baah Pepra-Ameyaw, Jacob K. Agbenorhevi (2023). Pentadesma butyracea in Ghana – indigenous knowledge, uses, and seed characterization. *Scientific African*. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sciaf.2023.e01747

18. Roseline Esi Amoah, Faustina Dufie Wireko-Manu, Ibok Oduro, Firibu Kwesi Saalia, **William Otoo Ellis**, Ebenezer Owusu (2022). Application of spices in foods: consumer preferences, knowledge of health benefits, and quality of dried ginger. *Cogent Food & Agriculture*. https://doi.org/10.1080/23311932.2022.2123766

19. **William Otoo Ellis**, G Darko, RC Abaidoo (2022). Dietary risk assessment due to the consumption of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon in two commonly consumed street vended foods. *Polycyclic Aromatic Compounds*.

20. Roseline Esi Amoah, Sureshkumar Kalakandan, Faustina Dufie Wireko-Manu, Ibok Oduro, Firibu Kwesi Saalia, **William Otoo Ellis**, Srinivasan Krishnamoorrthy (2022). Effect of Solar Drying and Vinegar Pretreatment on the Antioxidant Properties and Bioactive Compounds of Sliced Ginger. *Journal of Food Quality*. https://doi.org/10.1155/2022/3675626

21. Roseline Esi Amoah, Faustina Dufie Wireko-Manu, Ibok Oduro, Firibu Kwesi Saalia, **William Otoo Ellis**, Alexander Dodoo, Charles Dermont, Maame Ekua Manful (2022). Effects of Pretreatment and Drying on the Volatile Compounds of Sliced Solar-Dried Ginger (Zingiber officinale Roscoe) Rhizome. *Journal of Food Quality*. https://doi.org/10.1155/2022/1274679

22. **William Otoo Ellis**, B Abena*, S Etuah, C Antwi, W Appaw, I Oduro (2022). Handling, safety and hygienic practices of frozen meat and fish during vending in the Kumasi metropolis. *Journal of Science and Technology*. https://journal.knust.edu.gh/index.php/just/article/view/1270

23. Raphael Aidoo, Ibok N. Oduro, Jacob K. Agbenorhevi, **William O. Ellis**, Nana B. Pepra-Ameyaw (2022). Physicochemical and pasting properties of flour and starch from two new cassava accessions. *International Journal of Food Properties*. https://doi.org/10.1080/10942912.2022.2052087

24. GA Komlaga, I Oduro, **WO Ellis**, NT Dziedzoave, D Awunyo Vitor, C Djameh, Inland Breweries Limited (2022). Profitability of bioethanol production using cassava (Manihot esculantus crantz) and sweet potato (Ipomea batatas) as raw material. *African Journal of Food Agriculture Nutrition and Development*. https://doi.org/10.18697/ajfand.108.20720

25. I Oduro, **WO Ellis** (2021). Alcohol yield from various combinations of cassava and sweet potato flours. *African Journal of Food Science*. https://academicjournals.org/journal/AJFS/article-full-text/BA826C065796

26. G. A. Komlaga, I. Oduro, **W. O. Ellis**, N. T. Dziedzoave (2021). Effect of harvest age of cassava roots and sweet potato tubers on alcohol yield. *African Journal of Food Science*. https://doi.org/10.5897/ajfs2021.2077

27. Grace Adzo Motey, James Owusu-Kwarteng, Kwasi Obiri-Danso, Linda Aurelia Ofori, **William Otoo Ellis**, Lene Jespersen (2021). In vitro properties of potential probiotic lactic acid bacteria originating from Ghanaian indigenous fermented milk products. *World Journal of Microbiology and Biotechnology*. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11274-021-03013-6

28. Gloria Mathanda Ankar-Brewoo, Godfred Darko, Robert Clement Abaidoo, Anders Dalsgaard, Paa-Nii Johnson, **William Otoo Ellis**, Leon Brimer (2020). Dietary Risk Assessment Due to the Consumption of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbon in Two Commonly Consumed Street Vended Foods. *Polycyclic aromatic compounds*. https://doi.org/10.1080/10406638.2020.1830128

29. Roseline Esi Amoah, Faustina Dufie Wireko-Manu, Ibok Oduro, Firibu Kwesi Saalia, **William Otoo Ellis** (2020). Effect of pretreatment on physicochemical, microbiological, and aflatoxin quality of solar sliced dried ginger (Zingiber officinale Roscoe) rhizome. *Food Science & Nutrition*. https://doi.org/10.1002/fsn3.1878

30. John Owusu, J. H. Oldham, **W. O. Ellis**, G. Owusu-Boateng (2020). Emulsifying ability of exudate gums obtained from three plant species in Ghana. *International Journal of Technology and Management Research*. https://doi.org/10.47127/ijtmr.v2i2.54

31. David Jordan, William Appaw, **William O. Ellis**, Richard Akromah, Moses B. Mochiah, Mumuni Abudulai, Rick L. Brandenburg, Jeremy Jelliffe, Boris Bravo-Ureta, Kenneth Boote (2020). Evaluating Improved Management Practices to Minimize Aflatoxin Contamination in the Field, During Drying, and in Storage in Ghana. *Peanut Science*. https://doi.org/10.3146/ps20-3.1

32. **William Otoo Ellis** (2020). Evaluation of agricultural practices to increase yield and financial return and minimize aflatoxin contamination in peanut in northern Ghana. *Peanut Science*. https://meridian.allenpress.com/peanut-science/article-abstract/47/3/156/447909

33. Gloria Mathanda Ankar-Brewoo, Godfred Darko, Robert Clement Abaidoo, Anders Dalsgaard, Paa-Nii Johnson, **William Otoo Ellis**, Leon Brimer (2020). Health risks of toxic metals (Al, Fe and Pb) in two common street vended foods, fufu and fried-rice, in Kumasi, Ghana. *Scientific African*. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sciaf.2020.e00289

34. William Appaw, **William O. Ellis**, Richard Akromah, Moses B. Mochiah, Awere Dankyi, Mumuni Abudulai, David L. Jordan, Rick L. Brandenburg, Jeremy Jelliffe, Boris E. Bravo-Ureta, Kenneth Boote, Greg MacDonald, Jinru Chen, Robert D. Phillips, Kumar Mallikarjunan, Maria Balota, David Hoisington, Jamie Rhoads (2020). Minimizing Aflatoxin Contamination in the Field, During Drying, and in Storage in Ghana. *Peanut Science*. https://doi.org/10.3146/0095-3679-47.2.72

35. Evelyn Adu- Kwarteng, Ibok Oduro, **William Otoo Ellis**, Jacob K. Agbenorhevi (2020). Rapid Assessment of Compositional Stability in Improved Sweet Potato Varieties: Relevance in Breeding and Utilization. *International Journal of Innovative Research and Development*. https://doi.org/10.24940/ijird/2020/v9/i7/153749-379071-1-sm

36. **William Otoo Ellis**, B Arko-Boham, Elvis O Ameyaw, A Banunle, Robert P Biney, Evans Asenso, Isaac T Henneh, Ama K Thomford, Madison Adanusa (2020). Scientific African. *Carbon*. https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Hamza-Zine/publication/346551011_Guidelines_for_a_phytomanagement_plan_by_the_phytostabilization_of_mining_wastes/links/5fcfd13392851c00f85f0f28/Guidelines-for-a-phytomanagement-plan-by-the-phytostabilization-of-mining-wastes.pdf

37. **William Otoo Ellis**, AA Boakye (2019). Value Addition Interventions along the Root and Tuber Food Supply Chain. *Roots and Tubers in Ghana: Overview and Selected Research Papers*. https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Felix-Frimpong-2/publication/337494062_INFLUENCE_OF_FERTILIZER_APPLICATION_ON_PO

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38. C. Djameh, **W.O. Ellis**, I. Oduro, F.K. Saalia, K. Haslbeck, G.A. Komlaga (2019). West African sorghum beer fermented with Lactobacillus delbrueckii and Saccharomyces cerevisiae : fermentation by-products. *Journal of the Institute of Brewing*. https://doi.org/10.1002/jib.562

39. C. Djameh, **W. O. Ellis**, I. Oduro, F. K. Saalia, Y. M. Blay, G. A. Komlaga (2019). West African sorghum beer fermented with Lactobacillus delbrueckii and Saccharomyces cerevisiae: shelf-life and consumer acceptance. *Journal of the Institute of Brewing*. https://doi.org/10.1002/jib.563

40. W Appaw, **W Ellis** (2018). Preventing mycotoxin contamination in groundnut cultivation USA; David Hoisington, Nick Magnan and James Rhoads, The University of Georgia, USA; Mumuni Abudulai, Savanna …. *Achieving sustainable cultivation of grain legumes Volume 2*. https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Nelson-Opoku/publication/322579678_Preventing_mycotoxin_contamination_in_groundnut_cultivation/links/5ae95fd2a6fdcc03cd8fa3a7/Preventing-mycotoxin-contamination-in-groundnut-cultivation.pdf

41. Enoch Aryeetey, Faustina D. Wireko-Manu, Jemima O. Asante, Damian Laryea, **William O. Ellis**, Ibok Oduro, Micheal Ngadi (2018). Recipe standardization of bread using cassava-wheat composite flour. *Journal of Culinary Science & Technology*. https://doi.org/10.1080/15428052.2018.1429972

42. Abena A. Boakye, Faustina Dufie Wireko-Manu, Ibok Oduro, **William O. Ellis**, María Gudjónsdóttir, Ioannis S. Chronakis (2018). Utilizing cocoyam (Xanthosoma sagittifolium) for food and nutrition security: A review. *Food Science & Nutrition*. https://doi.org/10.1002/fsn3.602

43. Abena A. Boakye, María Gudjónsdóttir, Faustina Dufie Wireko-Manu, Ibok Oduro, **William Otoo Ellis**, Ioannis S. Chronakis (2018). Water-Starch Interactions of Red and White Cocoyam (Xanthosoma sagittifolium). *Starch - Stärke*. https://doi.org/10.1002/star.201800128

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45. **WO Ellis** (2017). Emulsifying ability of exudate gums obtained from three plant species in Ghana. *International Journal of Technology and Management Research*.

46. I.W. Ofosu, **W.O. Ellis**, K. Nsiah, I.N. Oduro (2017). Neglected and Underutilized Legumes (NULs): Exposure Assessment, Habitual Cooking and Eating Habits and Consumers' Characteristics. *Journal of food security*. https://doi.org/10.12691/jfs-5-5-3

47. IW Ofosu, **WO Ellis**, K Nsiah, IN Oduro (2017). Neglected and underutilized legumes (NULs) hazards and probabilistic risks associated with some selected dietary lectins. *Journal of Food Security*. https://scholar.google.com/scholar?cluster=9858039682575696742&hl=en&oi=scholarr

48. I Oduro, **WO Ellis**, JK Agbenorhevi (2017). Quality Characteristics of Native Starch from Selected Improved Varieties of Sweetpotato (Ipomoea batatas). *Agricultural and Food Science Journal of Ghana*. https://www.ajol.info/index.php/afsjg/article/view/162907

49. John-Lewis Zinia Zaukuu, Ibok Oduro, **William Otoo Ellis** (2016). Processing methods and microbial assessment of pito (an African indigenous beer), at selected production sites in Ghana. *Journal of the Institute of Brewing*. https://doi.org/10.1002/jib.373

50. EO Mensah, O Ibok, **WO Ellis** (2016). Thermal stability of β-amylase activity and sugar profile of sweet-potato varieties during processing. *J Nutr Food Sci*. https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Ibok-Oduro/publication/306006346_Thermal_Stability_of_b-Amylase_Activity_and_Sugar_Profile_of_Sweet_Potato_Varieties_during_Processing/links/597782800f7e9b277721cb07/Thermal-Stability-of-b-Amylase-Activity-and-Sugar-Profile-of-Sweet-Potato-Varieties-during-Processing.pdf

51. A Addo, I Oduro, **WO Ellis** (2015). Air drying characteristics of aerial yam (Dioscorea bulbifera). *Scholars Journal of Engineering and Technology (SJET)*. https://www.academia.edu/download/50186142/Sanful_et_al_2015_Air_Drying_Characteristics_of_Aerial_Yam_Dioscorea_bulbifera.pdf

52. Frank A. Asante, **William O. Ellis**, Ibok Oduro, Firibu K. Saalia (2014). Effect of Soaking and Cooking Methods on Extraction of Solids and Acceptability of Tiger Nut (Cyperus Esculentus L) Milk. *Journal of*

Agricultural Studies. https://doi.org/10.5296/jas.v2i2.5991

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54. FK Saalia, I Oduro, **WO Ellis** (2014). Modelling of Milk Solids Extraction from Tigernut (Cyperus esculentus L.) Tubers Using Response Surface Methodology. *International Journal of Food Science an Nutrition Engineering*. https://www.academia.edu/download/50632779/Asante_et_al_2014_Modelling_of_Milk_Solids_Extraction_from_Tigernut_Tubers_Using_Response_Surface_Methodol.pdf
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56. P.E. Jolly, S. Inusah, B. Lu, **W.O. Ellis**, A. Nyarko, T.D. Phillips, J.H. Williams (2013). Association between high aflatoxin B1 levels and high viral load in HIV-positive people. *World Mycotoxin Journal*. https://doi.org/10.3920/wmj2013.1585
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Book chapters 1

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