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| Table 1. World Health Organization (WHO) permissible limits for heavy metals in plant and soil comparable to Awka Etiti Anambra State mean concentrations | | | | |
| Metals | WHO Acceptable Limits(Soil) | Imiringi  Soil | Plantain  WHO Acceptable Limits | Plantain  (Imiringi) |
| Cadmium (mg/kg) | 0.80 | 1.95 | 0.02 | 0.22 |
| Chromium (mg/kg) | 100.00 | 3.185 | 1.30 | 0.49 |
| Arsenic (mg/kg) | 5.00 | 0.98 | 1.46 | 0.65 |
| Lead (mg/kg) | 85.00 | 0.93 | 2.00 | 0.47 |
| Mercury (mg/kg) | 2.00 | 0.0075 | 0.02 | >0.0001 |
| Source: WHO (1996) | | | | |