



RESEARCH PAPER

An empirical assessment of the constraints affecting farmers' livelihood security in the North-Eastern region of Nigeria

O. Gwandi*, K. A. Adewuyi and Samuel John

Department of Agricultural Technology, Federal Polytechnic, Mubi, Adamawa State, Nigeria

(Email: godoffer2010@gmail.com)

Abstract : Any government interested in the welfare state of its citizen, the subject of improving livelihood security for the people of the North-Eastern part of Nigeria is an issue of great importance. Food and livelihood security is an important need, as it is indispensable for the maintenance of human life. This research focuses on the empirical assessment of farmers' livelihood security in the north-eastern region of Nigeria. The objectives of the study were to identify the socio-economic characteristics of farmers and identify the constraints militating against livelihood security among farmers in the study area. Data were collected from 435 randomly selected farmers in three states of the North-Eastern region with the aid of structured questionnaires. Data analyses were carried out using descriptive statistics involving the use of frequency distribution, percentages, mean and standard deviation, and inferential statistics involving the use Garret ranking technique. The results revealed that male farmers constituted the majority (73.17%) of the respondents, married with a mean age of 41 years. Most of them (78%) had formal education. The respondents were mostly small-scale farmers, and they cultivated an average of 3.5 hectares of farmland using personal savings. The results of the garret ranking technique revealed that a wide range of constraints militates against the livelihood security of the farmers in the study area. These include variability of rainfall, shortage of labour, and inadequate farm credit facilities as the first three production constraints. Lack of good roads, poor storage facilities, and lack of mobility were rated the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd as the infrastructural constraints. Inadequate access to credit and high-interest rate charge on the loan and high rate of tax were rated the highest among the financial constraints. The study recommended that farmers should be aided with sound irrigation facilities and the formation of cooperative organization that will ease the accessibility of infrastructural, financial and production facilities.

Key Words : Empirical assessment, Farmers, Livelihood security

View Point Article : Gwandi, O., Adewuyi, K. A. and John, Samuel (2023). An empirical assessment of the constraints affecting farmers' livelihood security in the North-Eastern region of Nigeria. *Internat. J. agric. Sci.*, 19 (1) : 66-74, DOI:10.15740/HAS/IJAS/19.1/66-74. Copyright@2023: Hind Agri-Horticultural Society.

Article History : Received : 23.06.2022; Revised : 13.10.2022; Accepted : 15.11.2022