



Impact of Agricultural Innovation on Food Security in Nigeria: A Study of Small-Scale Farm holders in Yewa South Local Government

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Introduction

Agricultural innovation plays a great role in increasing agricultural productivity. The rising food inflation resulting from food scarcity in the midst of abundant agricultural resources has become an important issue of debate in Nigeria. Most farmers in the country have limited access to modern farm inputs which contribute to low productivity and food scarcity. This work is designed to investigate the impact of agricultural innovation on food security in Nigeria. The study used modern farm inputs such as fertilizer, insecticides and farm machines (tractors and harvesters) as proxies for agricultural innovation, while agricultural productivity was used as a measure of food security.

Methodology

The research employed survey method using purposive sampling technique to collect data from small scale farmers via structured questionnaire distributed to 250 small scale farmers across communities in Yewa South Local government area of Ogun State. The study also use descriptive statistics and logit regression for data analysis.

Results and discussion

The findings from the results of the descriptive statistics revealed that most of the farmers agreed that adoption of modern farm inputs will increase their farm productivity while the result from the logit regression analysis revealed that agricultural innovation have a positive but insignificant effect on food security in Nigeria. This indicates that agricultural innovation is an important factor to achieving food security in Nigeria.

Conclusion

In conclusion, agricultural innovation has the potential of increasing agricultural productivity which will enable the country to achieve food security and therefore the study suggested that the government should partner with private individuals to make modern farm inputs available and accessible to small scale farmers in order to increase food productivity as means to ensure food security in Nigeria.

Keywords: Food security, Agricultural innovation, small scale farmers, Modern farm inputs