

Rural Dwellers' Involvement in Livestock Farming in Egbeda Local Government Area of Oyo State

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Abstract— This study investigated the involvement in livestock farming as a mean of livelihood among rural dwellers in Egbeda Local Government Area of Oyo State, Nigeria. Purposive sampling technique was employed to sample 120 rural dwellers while 120 questionnaires were administered and retrieved. The data collected were subjected to descriptive (percentage, mean, mode, std deviation) and inferential (chi-square and correlation) statistics. The result revealed that majority (63.3%) of the respondent were involved in livestock rearing and most of the respondent were highly involved in livestock farming in which goat (58.4%) and poultry (78.9%) were mostly reared. Most of the respondents (70.8%) engage in livestock farming as their primary source of income and livelihood. Inadequate capital (87.5%) and infrastructural (38.3%) were the major constraints facing the respondents in the study area. Chi-square analysis revealed that there is a significant ($p < 0.05$) relationship between the constraint and involvement in livestock farming as a means of livelihood. The study therefore concluded that the majority of the rural dwellers were involved in livestock farming for their livelihood. Rural development activities should always be made to encourage getting involved in livestock farming and ensure availability of loan facilities, ensure adult education for the farmers in livestock farming in the study area.

Keywords— Involvement, rural dwellers, livestock.

I. INTRODUCTION

In Nigeria, before the discovery of oil, rural dweller with farming as occupation contribute significantly to the economy of the nation through the export of cash crop like cocoa, groundnut, kola-nut and rubber. Laah *et al.*, (2013) opined that rural dwellers are less vocal characteristic by a culture of poverty as most people lets barely above subsistence level.

Livestock farming represents the only way by which the large parts of natural vegetation can be converted into economic products and plays an important role in export earnings. Animal husbandry mostly provides subsidiary means of livelihood to the farmer as livestock rearing is an integral part of agriculture. Its share in gross state domestic product of agriculture sector during 2009-10 was about 7.8 percent.

The importance of livestock goes beyond it's food production (Birthal *et al.*, 2002) it provide draught power and organic manure to crops sector and hide, skin, blood and fiber to the industrial sector. Livestock sector also make significant contribution towards supplement income from crop production and other sources and absorb financial stress due to crop failure. It generates a continuous stream of income and employment and reduces seasonality in livehood pattern (Birthal and Ali, 2005).

Rural poverty is largely concentrated among the landless and marginal households comprising about 70 percent of rural population (kozel and parker 200). In India over of 70 percent of the rural household are small, marginal and landless household small animal like sheep, goat, pig and poultry are largely kept by the

land sources poor household for commercial purpose. Because of their low initial investment and operational cost (Birthal *et al.*, 2002) these analyze the development of livestock sector in term of population production, trade and employment on one hand and note of livestock sectoring reducing rural poverty on the other.

II. METHODOLOGY

The study was purposively carried out in Egbeda Local Government Area of Oyo State with its Administrative Headquarters situated at Egbeda town because the area consists of people which are predominantly farmers. It comprises of eleven wards and covers a landmass of 185.508 square kilometer with a population density of 1,722 persons per square kilometer. The study targeted the livestock farmer in the local government.

Random sampling technique was used to select four wards out of all the 11 wards in the local government area with three villages randomly selected from each wards for the study. The sampled wards and villages include Ajiwogbo, Aloba and Ataari in ward 1, Olode, Efunwole and Apaso in Ward 2, Ogunbade, Mosefejo

and Koroboto in Ward 9 and Osegere, Awowo and Olumakun in Ward 8.

A well-structured questionnaire and interview schedule methods were employed to obtain needed information from the respondents. The questionnaires was grouped into five section which was used to collect information on the following socio-economic characteristics of the household head such as gender, age, educational background, marital status, family size, mean of livelihood of the respondents, type of livestock involved in as well as the level of their involvement in livestock farming.

Data collected were analyzed using both descriptive and inferential statistical tools like mean, mode, percentages, standard deviation and chi-square.

Chi-square model used is expressed below:

Model specification:

$$X^2 = \sum \frac{(O - E)^2}{E}$$

Where: X^2 = chi-square

\sum = summation of the frequencies

O = Observed value

E = Expected value

III. RESULT AND CONCLUSION

Table.1: Socio-economic characteristics of respondents.

Variable	Frequency (n=120)	Percentage	Mode	Std. Deviation
GENDER				
Male	81	67.50	Male	0.470
Female	39	32.50		
RELIGION				
Christian	58	48.33	Christian	0.603
Muslim	55	45.83		
Traditional	7	5.83		
AGE				
20-30	11	9.17		
31-40	35	29.17		0.923
41-50	45	37.50	41-50	
51 and above	29	24.17		
MARITAL STATUS				
Single	11	9.17		
Married	92	76.67	Married	0.748
Divorce	3	2.50		

Widow/ Widower	14	11.67		
FAMILY SIZE				
2	9	7.50		
3	14	11.67		
4	46	38.33	5 And above	0.907
5 and above	51	42.50		
EDUCATIONAL LEVEL				
No Formal Education	49	40.83	No Formal	0.102
Primary Education	35	29.17		
Secondary Education	16	13.33		
Tertiary Education	20	16.67		

Sources: Field survey 2017

Figure in parentheses are percentages.

Table 1 shows that majority (67.5%) of the respondent are male while 32.5% were female. This is in line with the findings of Elzaki *et al.*, 2010, who reported that livestock farming is actually managed by the head of the household (Male) and also supported by Grenada, (2000) which says male are committed to agricultural farming than female because livestock farming demand physical energy application especially in area of feeding, castrating, debeaking, culling, vaccinating, other activities. While most (37.5%) of the respondents fall within the age range of 41-50years, followed by 29.17% belonging to the range of 31-40years, 24.17% with the age range of 51years and above and 9.17% for age 20-30years. This implies that most of the respondents were in their productive years which correspond with the research of Oyelami *et al.*, (2017) which stated that the younger the farmer, the more active he would be.

The result also show that majority (76.67%) of the respondenst were married, followed by 11.67% (Widowed) and only 9.17% were Single. This agrees with Aluko (2011) who submitted that married people involving in farming needs to diversify in order to cater for their families. Hence, married respondents,

especially male find it easier to run livestock farm with the assistance of their wives because women play important role in livestock farming. This corroborates with Singh and Hazell (1993) who said women play significant supportive roles in livestock farm activities like feeding, livestock for marketing, processing, cleaning etc. In respect to educational level 40.83% had no formal education, 29.17% had primary education, 16.67% had tertiary education and 13.33% had secondary education. The result shows that the majority of the respondent in the study area lacked formal education This is an indication that the majority of the livestock farmer in the study area will found difficult to access agricultural innovations and high breed of livestock animals which confirms the report of Aphumu and Akpobasa (2010).

Table 2 shows the mean of the livelihood of the respondent in the study area. The result shows that 61.66% of them were livestock farmers as their primary sources of livelihood while 9.17% and 8.33% were civil servants and crop producers respectively, the rest of the respondent were involved in either trading, artisan, food selling and cassava processing.

Table.2: Respondents on Sources of Primary Means of Livelihood.

Variable	Frequency n=120	Percentage	Mode	Std. Deviation
Crop production	10	8.33	livestock farmer	1.404
Trading	13	10.83		
Civil Servant	11	9.17		

Livestock farmer	74	61.67
Meat and milk seller	1	0.83
Artisan	6	5.00
Palm tapper	1	0.83
Cassava processor	1	0.83
Food seller	1	0.83
Other	1	0.83
None	1	0.83

Sources: Field Survey, 2017

The result show that the respondents in the study area were involved much in livestock farming than crop production. Perceived higher income per square meter of land and less environmental challenges as observed in earlier studies (Ekong, 1999, Kolawole and Torimiro, 2006 and Oyelami *et al.*, 2017).

Table.3: Respondent on Means of Livelihood as a Secondary Source of Income.

Variable	Frequency n=120	Percentage	Mode	Std. Deviation
Crop production	15	12.50	livestock farmer	2.054
Trading	17	14.17		
Civil Servant	3	2.50		
Livestock farmer	72	60.00		
Meat and milk seller	1	0.83		
Artisan	4	3.33		
Palm tapper	1	0.83		
Cassava processor	1	0.83		
Food seller	4	3.33		
Other	1	0.83		
None	1	0.83		

Survey: Field Survey, 2017

Table 3 shows the secondary means of the livelihood of the respondent in the study area. The result show that 60% of them were into livestock farming as their secondary sources of livelihood while 14.17% and 12.5% were trading and crop producer respectively. This agrees with Sodiya (2005) and Oyelami *et al.*, (2017). The rest of the respondents were involved in either, artisan, food selling, and cassava processing. The result also shows that majority of the respondents depend on livestock farming as secondary sources of income.

Table.4: Respondents on kind of livestock kept.

VARIABLE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE	MODE	STD DEVAITION
POULTRY				
Yes	94	78.33	Yes	0.442
No	24	20.0		
Never	2	1.67		
PIG				
Yes	29	24.17	No	0.553
No	81	67.50		
Never	10	8.70		

CATTLE				
Yes	41	34.17	No	0.555
No	74	61.67		
Never	5	4.17		
GOAT				
Yes	75	62.50		
No	34	28.33	Yes	0.642
Never	11	9.17		
SHEEP				
Yes	63	52.5	Yes	0.704
No	42	35.0		
Never	15	12.5		
RABBIT				
Yes	13	10.83	No	0.5562
No	77	64.17		
Never	30	25.00		
OTHERS				
Yes	22	18.33		
No	76	63.33	No	0.620
Never	22	18.33		

Survey: Field Survey, 2017.

Table 4 shows that majority (78.33%) of the respondents engage in poultry more than any other aspect of livestock. This was closely followed by those that rear goats (62.5%). This is very close to the findings of Oyelami *et al.*, (2017) who reported highest involvement in goat and poultry production in a rural setting. It was also revealed that most of the respondents do not engage in rabbit production as only 10.83% were involved in it in the study area.

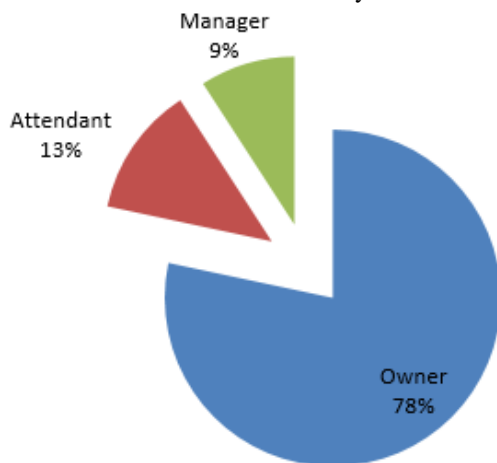


Fig.1: Respondents' Level of Involvement

Figure 1 reveals the respondents' level involvement in livestock farming. It was noted that a good portion of the respondents engage in livestock farming (78.3%) as the owner, working on livestock farm at the management level while those that work at the attendance level were only 12.5% as only 9.16% of the respondents work as the farm managers. This agrees with the report of Ogbosuka *et al.*, (2003) who reported that farmer are actively involved in livestock farming at significant levels and that of Oyelami *et al.*, (2017) who submitted that rural farmers that involve in livestock are usually highly involved. This implies that most of the rural livestock farmers manage their farms by themselves and are fully involved though they still engage in other work.

Table.5: Perceived constraints faced by respondents involved in livestock farming in the study area.

Variables	Frequency n=120	Percentage	Mode	Std Deviation
Inadequate of capital				
SEVERE	105	87.5	Severe	0.449
MILD	11	9.2		
NOT A CONSTRAINT	4	3.3		
Time of return in the business is long				
SEVERE	14	11.7		
MILD	82	68.3	Mild	0.559
NOT A CONSTRAINT	24	20.0		
High risk involved in the business				
SEVERE	53	44.2	Severe	0.724
MILD	48	40.0		
NOT A CONSTRAINT	19	15.8		
Seasonality of the business				
SEVERE	25	20.8		
MILD	56	46.7	Mild	0.724
NOT A CONSTRAINT	39	32.5		
Inadequacy of necessary infrastructures				
SEVERE	46	38.3		
MILD	36	30.0	Severe	0.838
NOT A CONSTRAINT	38	31.7		
Poor market structure				
SEVERE	37	30.8		
MILD	70	58.3	Mild	0.616
NOT A CONSTRAINT	13	10.8		
Poor government policies				
SEVERE	100	83.3	Severe	0.455
MILD	17	14.2		
NOT A CONSTRAINT	3	2.5		
Disease outbreak				
SEVERE	94	78.3	Severe	0.527
MILD	21	17.5		
NOT A CONSTRAINT	5	4.2		

Survey: Field Survey, 2017

The result in table 5 shows that perceived constraints to livestock farming as affecting the respondents' involvement in livestock farming in the study area are always noticeable ones such as lack of capital to start a business (finance) which has always been the major problem and 87.5% of the population (respondent) attested to this, so as Inadequacy of necessary infrastructure like communication which receives majority of 38.3% population of the respondent which

has also be a serious and major constraints faced by farmers in the study area from the early report (Arowolo *et al.*, 2013). Poor government policies on livestock farming is also one of the serious problem notable constraints, as 83.3% believes in that whereas 85.0%, 78.3%, 70.8% believe that Inadequate loan facilities for livestock farming, disease outbreak as well as inadequacy of modern equipment for the business respective are also a serious constraints.

Table.6: Chi- square test on Perceived constraints.

Constraints	Value	Df	Asymp Sig.
Inadequate capital to start or expand	159.05	2	0.000 ^{xxx}
Low return from business	8.60	2	0.014 ^x
Time of return in the business is long	67.40	2	0.000 ^{xxx}
High risk is involved in the business	16.85	2	0.000 ^{xxx}
Seasonality of the business	12.05	2	0.002 ^{xxx}
Nature of the business, not like office setting	51.65	2	0.000 ^{xxx}
Rural location of the business	30.05	2	0.000 ^{xxx}
Inadequacy of necessary infrastructures like communication and good roads	1.40	2	0.497 ^{ns}
Marketing of the farm products	40.95	2	0.000 ^{xxx}
Poor government policies on livestock farming	137.45	2	0.000 ^{xxx}
Inadequate loan facilities for livestock farming	145.40	2	0.000 ^{xxx}
Fear of disease outbreak	112.50	2	0.000 ^{xxx}
Inadequacy of modern equipment for the business	83.75	2	0.000 ^{xxx}
Inadequacy of adequate /necessary government policy	23.45	2	0.000 ^{xxx}

The table above shows the correlation between involvement of farmers in livestock farming and constraints to livestock farming. This show that the constraints affect the involvement of farmers in livestock farming activities. They are all significantly affect the involvement of farmers in livestock farming in the study area. Except in the constraint of inadequacy of necessary infrastructure like communication and good roads. This agree with the submission of Umeh and Odom (2011).

IV. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

The finding of this study shows that the rural dwellers in Egbeda local government area are well involved in livestock farming as either primary or secondary means of livelihood. The study also revealed that all of livestock farming, poultry farming, is well embraced in the study area. Moreover, most of the respondents are involved in most of the activities in the livestock industry as a number of them occupied position of manager and ownership. On the other hand it was discover that lack of capital. Inadequate Infrastructures as well as inadequate loan facilities constitute the major constraints to rural dwellers involvement in livestock farming in Egbeda local government area of Oyo state.

The government should therefore endeavor to establish policies which are in favour of rural farmers participation in livestock farming in Egbeda local government.

Government should ensure the availability of enough input and capital for rural farmers involving in livestock farming in the study area.

Rural farmers should organize themselves into groups in order to share knowledge and experience for the improvement of livestock farming. This will also help them to secure loan from micro and macro credit institutions.

The government and other stake holders should organize regular sensitization programme on livestock farming for rural farmer in Egbeda local government area as this will increase their awareness of new innovations in livestock farming.

Livestock farming should be encouraged by giving out loans to livestock farmers so as to practice the modern methods of farming system which of course will increase the benefits derived from livestock farming.

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