

# IMPROVING BENEFITS FROM MARGINAL LANDS: CONTRIBUTION OF HOME GARDENS TO HOUSEHOLD INCOME GENERATION

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## Problem

Rapid population growth leads to land fragmentation, low soil fertility and hence low farm productivity. Despite the value of Home gardens in cash and food provision, there is lack of quantified information on them.

## Objective

To assess the contribution of home gardens to household income generation

## Hypothesis

If the number of species grown in a Home garden is high, the income generated is also high.

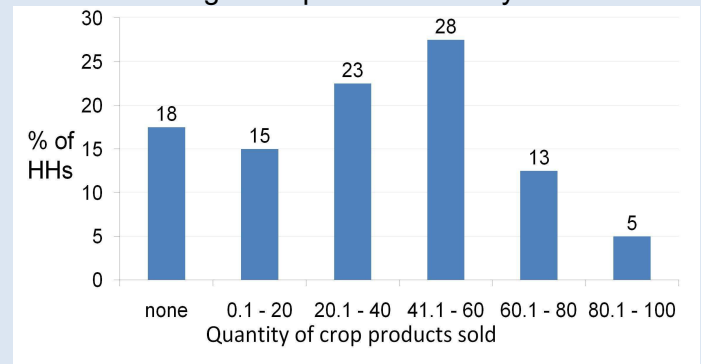
## Methodology

1. Rapid Rural Appraisal
2. Household and market survey.

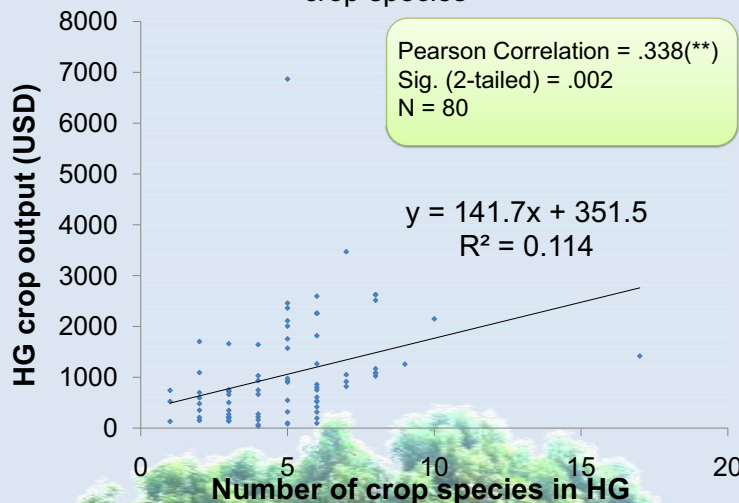
## Results

| Sources and percentage contribution to household incomes - based on total incomes (calculated) |                  |                   |                     |                 |                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Size category                                                                                  | No of households | HG crop value (%) | HG animal value (%) | Farm income (%) | Business income (%) |
| Small                                                                                          | 34 (43%)         | 7                 | 68                  | 23              | 2                   |
| Medium                                                                                         | 28 (35%)         | 17                | 48                  | 30              | 5                   |
| Commercial                                                                                     | 18 (22%)         | 45                | 30                  | 21              | 4                   |

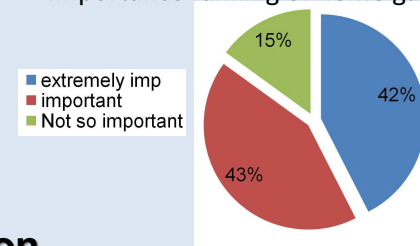
Percent of home garden products sold by all households



Relationship between home garden crop value and no of crop species



Importance ranking of home gardens



## Conclusion

- Home gardens are important for household income generation
- Livestock husbandry plays a key role in income generation especially for small land owners
- There is over reliance on crops for both food and income generation which is risky
- Mixed cropping is preferred to single crop cultivation
- There is high external inputs and this could make home gardens unsustainable
- Trees can play an important role in income generation if integrated