



INTRODUCTION

In Zambia, smallholder farmers are the major food producers and highly dependent on rain fed agriculture. Amidst the environmental challenges, sustainable land practices are imperative to attaining better agricultural productivity and food security status.

OBJECTIVES

- ❖ To quantify the differential impacts of land tenure regimes on incidence of land practices in agricultural productivity
- ❖ To establish the prevalence of food insecurity and to determine factors that influence food security

METHODOLOGY

- ❖ The study used a semi structured questionnaire survey from 400 household heads randomly sampled in 4 districts across 12 communities from state and customary land tenure systems in Southern Zambia.
- ❖ The food security indicator employed is food consumption score.
- ❖ Chi square is used to examine adoptions of practices, the Man Whitney U test for differences in the two land tenure systems. Regression analysis for determinants of food security and other statistical methods were done in the IBM SPSS and STATA software.

RESULTS

- ❖ The results showed that land practices measured as adopting levels was significantly different in state land with activities of crop diversification, fertilizer tree planting and use of organic manure.

Land and Agricultural practices

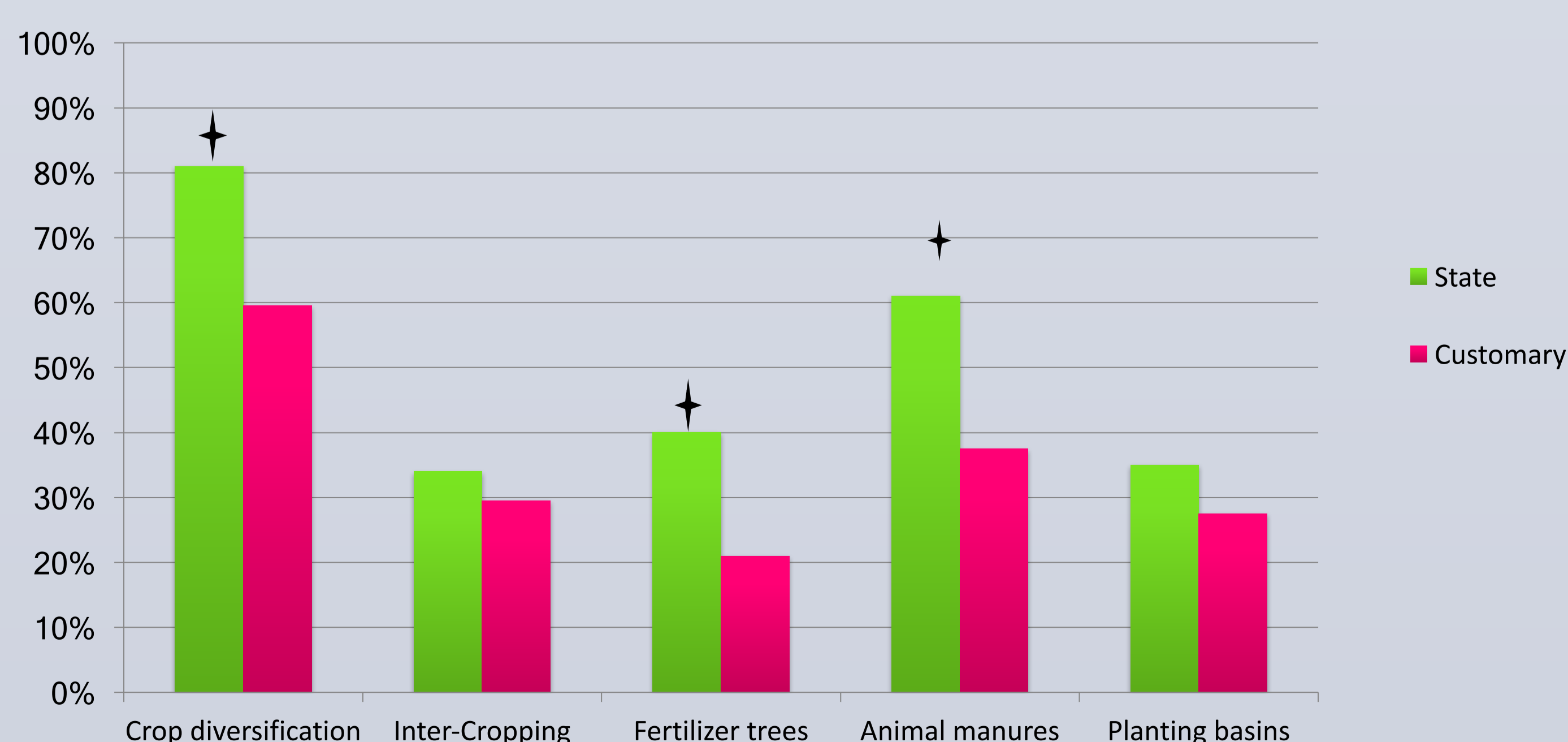


Figure 1. Adoption of practices

- ❖ Similarly, food security status revealed better results for state land compared to customary land with 40 % and 68 % poor status indicating significant statistical differences χ^2 (40.592) and $P = 0.001^*$

Food security status

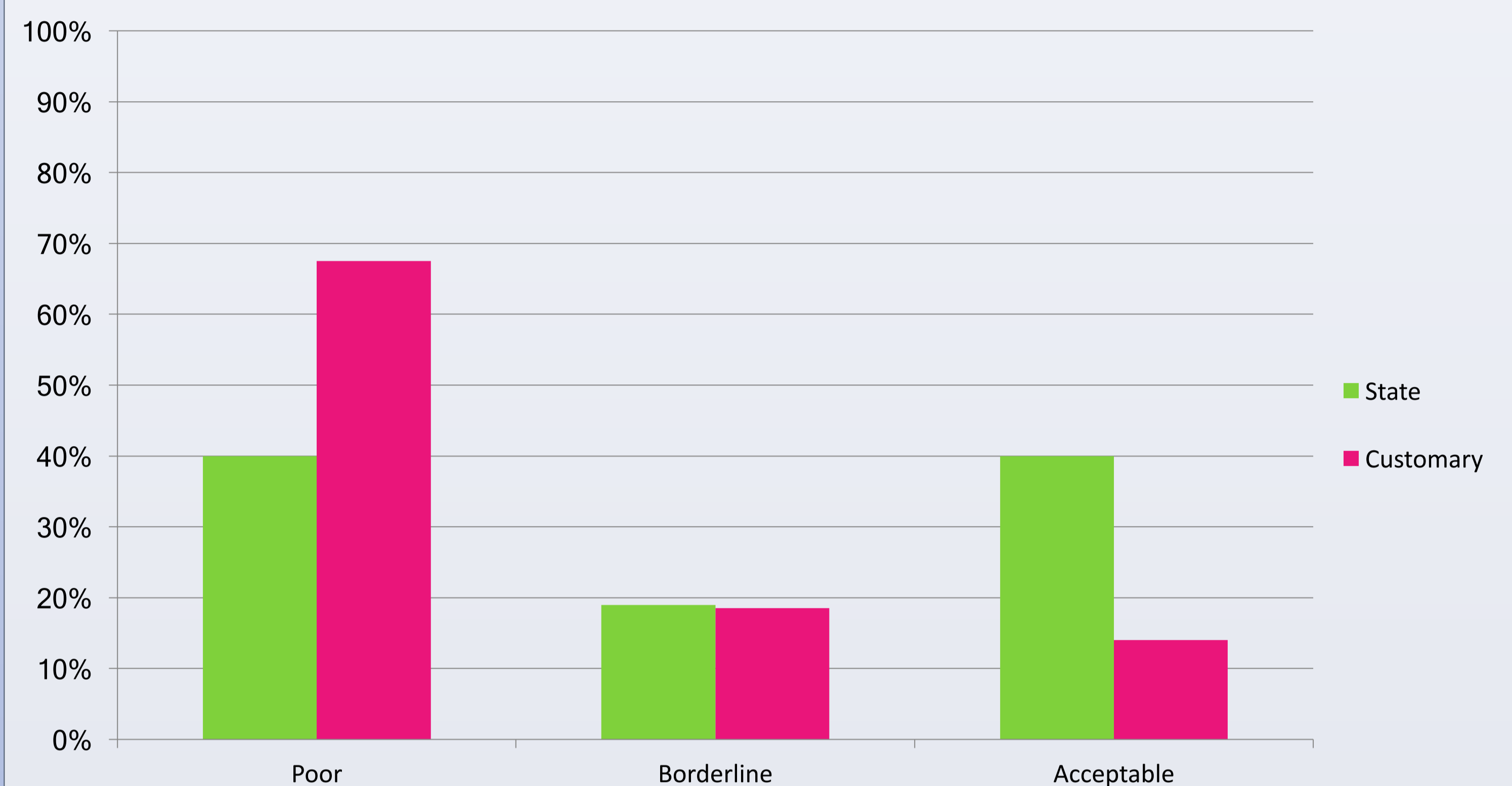


Figure 2. Prevalence of household food insecurity

- ❖ Significant determinants of food security were age, education, marital status, household size, access to credit, number of crops, number of livestock species and household income ($P < 0.05$)

CONCLUSION

- ❖ The study suggests that implementation of sustainable land practices play a vital role in improvement of agricultural productivity and food security status.
- ❖ Land tenure system has a huge influence in investments of land conservation and this calls for concrete supportive land and agricultural policies such as land rights, title deeds to address possible threats of land use and food security especially in customary tenure system.

