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Need Assessment of Crop-Livestock Production Systems in Ibarapa East, Oyo State

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Abstract

Intervention to local farmers by governments and non-government organisations (NGO) in recent past had not produced the desired result. Information on the need for target farmers has been very scanty. Hence, the paper aimed at using the bottom-top approach as against the norm of top-bottom approach in assessing farmers need in Ibarapa East, Local Government of Oyo state.

A three-stage sampling technique was used to purposively select about 220 respondents, with high intensity of crop/livestock production system in the study area. Farmers needs were assessed using participatory rural appraisal approach comprising of focus group discussion (FGD) and structured questionnaire. Data were analyzed descriptively and the need assessed using the pair-wise ranking and simple matrix.

Of challenges listed in FDG among crop-livestock farmers, only five (5) were prioritized as follows; wastage of agricultural products (Pb1), bad road network (Pb2), the high cost of agricultural inputs (Pb3), lack of potable water (Pb4) and animal invasion (Pb5). While the proffered solutions (to each of the prioritized problems 1-5) were; value addition and processing techniques of agriculture products into other uses, involvement of local authorities in road rehabilitation, subsidy to farm input by the government, construction of deep wells and sinking of boreholes in affected rural communities as well as adoption of crop-livestock production system, respectively. The animal invasion was ranked highest as farmers need for possible intervention.

The need assessed for crop-livestock farmers in Ibarapa East was the animal invasion, hence funding by governments and NGO must be geared towards addressing animal invasion for project impact assessment.

Keywords: Approach, crop-livestock, donor agencies, production system, project implementation