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## Assessment of Socioeconomic Characteristics of Participant Farmers in Commercial Agriculture Development Project (C.A.D.P) in Kaduna State, Nigeria

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### Abstract

This study is an empirical evaluation of the impact of socioeconomic characteristics of participant farmers of Commercial Agriculture Development Project (C.A.D.P) in Kaduna State on yield, output and income. The data used for this study was obtained primarily by administering a questionnaire to 297 randomly selected farmers that participated in the C.A.D.P project in 22 Local Government Areas of the State. Our findings revealed that the z-test for paired samples shows that there exists a significant difference in the farmers' performance before and after joining C.A.D.P, likewise the total annual sales before and after joining C.A.D.P as well as the number of hectares of land cultivated by the participant farmers before and after joining C.A.D.P. The regression analysis revealed that a respondent's age and family size directly affect annual total production, annual total sales and number of hectares of land cultivated by the participant farmers. In conclusion, participant farmers are more likely to get more yields with more time spent with C.A.D.P and with increase in age. We recommend that further assessment and evaluation of the success or failure of the C.A.D.P using different techniques by various professionals as the use of lessons learnt will go a long way in improving the design and implementation of similar programs in the future. Also, more programs like the C.A.D.P that will help small and medium scale commercial farmers to access improved technology, infrastructure, finance and output markets as well as strengthen agricultural production systems, supporting the dissemination and adoption of new technologies for targeted value chains among small and medium scale commercial farmers should be introduced by government at all levels

**Keywords:** Before and after, commercial Agriculture Development Project, hectares of land, income, total production, total sales, yield