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Technical efficiency and value addition of hybrid tomato under urban homestead farming in southwest Nigeria

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Abstract

Food production, processing, distribution and consumption are inevitable activities embarked upon in reversing the upward trend of hunger and poverty globally through profit to producers and utility to consumers. The study measured the technical efficiency and value addition of hybrid tomato under urban homestead in southwest Nigeria. Multistage sampling procedure was used in the selection of 275 respondents which comprised input dealers (50), farmers (100), wholesalers (50) and retailers (75) using copies of well structured and pretested questionnaires administered by trained enumerators. Results of the socioeconomic characteristics for age were average of 51, 64, 49 and 64 years for input dealers, farmers, wholesalers and retailers, respectively, while the mean monthly income for input dealers, farmers, wholesalers and retailers were N66, 843, N40, 556, N73, 061 and N86, 554 respectively. Profit ratio showed the financial performances of the operators in the value addition with input dealer (2.59), farmer (1.22), wholesaler (1.46) and retailer (2.31) suggesting that input dealers had highest financial gain while farmers recorded the least. The mean technical efficiency ratio for the input dealers, farmers, wholesalers and retailers were 0.95, 0.96, 0.53 and 0.75 respectively, which negate the direction of profit ratio. Inaccessibility to farm credit was ranked first among all the constraints identified revealing the acute effect on the activities of all operators along the tomato value chain. It is therefore recommended that government, non-governmental and stakeholder in the business should make funds available to operators in the tomato business to invigorate activities in the food network.

Keywords: Hybrid tomato, urban homestead, value addition