

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NIGERIA (ASN)

57TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

THEME:

**STRENGTHENING AGRICULTURE FOR FOOD AND NUTRITION
SECURITY, MARKET DEVELOPMENT AND EXPORT IN A CLIMATE
CHANGE ENVIRONMENT**

"LAFIA 2023"

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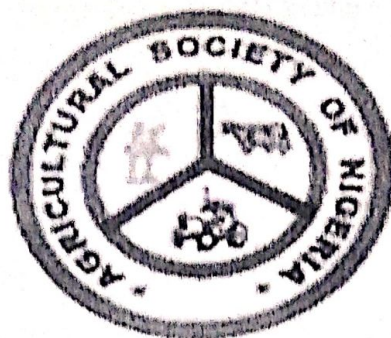
23rd – 27th October, 2023.

VENUE:

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NASARAWA STATE, NIGERIA**

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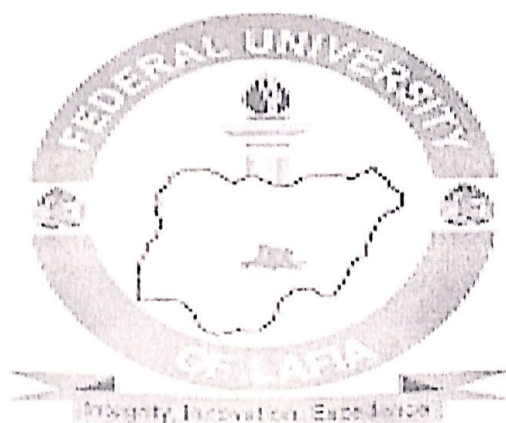


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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Content	Page
Cover	i
Title Page	ii
Table of Content	iii
Copyright and Citation	iv
NEC Members	v
Past and Present Presidents	vii
List of Fellows	viii
List of Reviewers	ix
Local Organizing Committee	xi
Welcome Address by the Chief Host	xii
President's Address	xiii
Keynote Address	xv
Lead Paper Presentations	
Lead Paper 1: Engr. Bukar Bindir Ph.D.	xxii
Lead Paper 2: Dr. Ibitoye Oyewale	lxiii
Lead Paper 3: Prof. Olumuyiwa James Jayeoba	lxxv
List of Articles and Authors	lxxxiii

STRENGTHENING AGRICULTURE FOR FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY, MARKET DEVELOPMENT AND EXPORT IN A CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENT

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		Stalk Meal (MSM) in Aliero LGA of Kebbi State, Nigeria	
228	066	Growth Performance of Finisher Broilers Fed Graded Levels of Vegetable Refuse as Dietary Supplement	¹ *G.A. Nkwocha., ² K.U. Anukam and ² A.C. Marcus 1039-1042
229	069	Effect of Feeding Graded Levels of Soybean Cheese Waste on Growth Performance and Haematological Parameters of Grower Rabbits	*H. R. Abdullahi ¹ , M. G. Yilsu ² , U. Alhassan ¹ , C. S. Agbu ³ , and A. T. Rahab ⁴ 1043-1046
230	100	Evaluation of Haematological and Growth Performance of Wister Rats Fed Corn Meal Combined with Antibiotics	*Hafeez M. Tairu, Kehinde A. Adaramola, Tunde A. Kolawole and Naimat O. Sulaimon 1047-1051
231	108	Effects of Genotype, Varying Dietary Energy and Protein on Growth Performance of Local and Improved Nigerian Indigenous Guinea Fowl	H. L. Mundi ¹ *, A. Yakubu ^{2,3} , D. Gambo ² , S. T. Vincent ⁴ , A. J. Shoyombo ⁵ , A. O. Adebambo ⁶ , O. A. Adebambo ⁶ , J. I. Itodo ¹ , H. R. Abdullahi ¹ and U. M. Dogara ¹ 1052-1056
232	110	Effects of Farmers-Herders Conflicts on Arable Crop Production in Oke-Ogun Area of Oyo State, Nigeria	M. M. Sadiq, G. O. Oyelere and I. A. Azeez 1057-1059
233	127	Effect of Age on Body Weight and Cumulative Egg Production of Lohmann Brown Layers in Lafia, Nasarawa State, Nigeria	I. A. Yakubu ¹ , A. Yakubu ¹ *, Y.I. Hussaini ¹ and A.O. Owoeye ² 1060-1063
234	141	Carcass and Organ Weights Characteristics of Finisher Broiler Chickens Fed Pro-Vitamin A (UMUCASS 36) Cassava Meal.	C., Okiyi, and B. C. Chukwu 1064-1066
235	142	Effect of Feeding Varying Levels Tigernut (<i>Cyperus esculenta</i> var. <i>sativus</i>) Meal on Nutrient Digestibility of Female Weaner Rabbit.	P.C. Okiyi, and B. C. Chukwu 1067-1069
236	170	Analysis of Farmers and Pastoralists Willingness to use Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Strategies in Conflict Resolution in Nasarawa State, Nigeria	¹ Omaku, M. I., ² Salisu, O. U., ³ Yakubu, S. ³ Abubakar, U. A., ⁴ Yisah, L.J. and ⁴ Aliyu, K. A 1070-1074
237	199	Effects of Farmer -Pastoralist Conflicts on Extension Service Delivery in Niger State, Nigeria	S. Jibrin ¹ , A. Abdullahi ¹ , Y. Mohammed ¹ , A. Umaru ² and M. Mustapha ¹ 1075-1078
238	203	Effect of Sire on Biometric Characteristics of Japanese Quails Reared in Tropical Environment	*D. Gambo ¹ , S. I. Musa ¹ , C. S. Agbu ² , I. D. Alhassan ¹ , I. Mundi ¹ and J. Abdullahi ³ 1079-1082
239	204	Effect of Batch per Hatch on Hatch Weight and Weekly Body Weight of Fulani Chicken Ecotype	*D. Gambo ¹ , S. I. Musa ¹ , and C. S. Agbu ² and E. A. Faith ³ 1083-1086
240	206	Assessment of the Breeding Objectives and Reproductive Performance of Fulani Ecotype Chickens in Nasarawa State	I. A. Agbu ¹ , A. Yakubu ^{1,2} , U. M. Dogara ³ *, Y. I. Hussaini ¹ , H. R. Abdullahi ³ , H. L. Mundi ³ , J. I. Itodo ³ , K. P. Ogbuagu ³ and M. M. Musa ³ 1087-1090
241	219	Analysis of Profitability of Broiler Production in Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State, Nigeria.	* ¹ G. Binuyo, S. S. ² Mailumo, Y. S. ³ Madi, G. C. ¹ Onuwa, A. H. ¹ Omolukare, C. ² Akure, M. O. ⁴ Yakubu and P. K. ⁴ Tanko 1091-1094
242	239	Assessment of Consumer Behavior in Purchasing Rice in Minna Metropolis of Niger state, Nigeria	Lawal A.T. ¹ , Agbaje ² , A.O, Gaya, A.Y ¹ , Suleiman, I ¹ , James, D ³ , Umar, J ⁴ , Mustapha, A.L ² , Dambazau, 1095-1100

EFFECTS OF FARMER -PASTORALIST CONFLICTS ON EXTENSION SERVICE DELIVERY IN NIGER STATE, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

The study investigated the effects of farmer-Pastoralist conflict on agricultural extension service delivery in the study area. Data were collected primarily by administering questionnaires to 50 respondents. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics. Results of the study shows that average age and years spent in school were 35 years and 10years while the major perceived causes of conflicts include increased pressure on land (\bar{X} =4.56), Search for water and pastures (\bar{X} =4.10) and population growth. More so, results from the study also showed that the effects of farmer-Pastoralist make extension work difficult (\bar{X} =4.42, delay in completion of extension work (\bar{X} =4.38) and monitoring farmers progress becomes difficult (\bar{X} =3.32). Constraints faced by extension agent were bad road (\bar{X} =4.34), Re-occurrences of farmers-Pastoralist conflicts (\bar{X} =4.1) high cost of transportation (\bar{X} =3.86) and inadequate cooperation from community leaders (\bar{X} =3.22). The study recommends that government should adopt policies that would tackle the causes of farmer-pastoralist conflict in the study area especially in the case of land control measures, provision of basic infrastructural facilities such as roads, water points and ranches in the study area in other to facilitate effective communication, implementation and functioning of extension workers. There is also need to set up reconciliation committees in the communities.

Keywords: Conflicts, Farmer-pastoralist, Extension services, Extension agents and Farmers

INTRODUCTION

Agricultural extension is a science of social change with the basic purpose of increasing farmer's productivity through efficient production. It therefore emphasized among other things like the use of fertilizer, improved seed and chemicals. Agricultural extension services assist farm people through educational procedures, improving farming methods and technique increasing production, efficiency and income satisfying their levels of living and lifting the social and educational standard of living a rural life. Pastoralism often has mobile aspects but can take many forms and be at different scales. The increase in pressure resulting from resource degradation and scarcity natural resources has aggravate the situation of competition between farmers and pastoralists. In the area where the two-production system interacts, both communities are increasingly considering the option of expansion to each other's holding. As a result, conflicts are getting recurrent and intensified in many parts of the country, this is supported by Blench (2003) that farmer pastoralist conflicts are increasing both in terms of recurrent and intensity. The farmer- Pastoralist conflict is one of the most complex social problems affecting Nigeria's survival as it has direct impact on the survival of those involved who the country depends heavily on, in terms of provision food and raw materials for industry and export in order to meet ever-growing demands.

Table 1: Socio-economic characteristics of respondents

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Mean
Age(years)			35
31years and below	9	18.0	
31-40years	33	66.0	
41-50years	8	16.0	
Gender			
Female	14	28.0	

Male	36	72.0	
Marital status			
Married	40	80.0	
Single	7	14.0	
Widowed	3	6.0	
Household size			
6 and below	37	74.0	
6-10people	11	22.0	4
11-15people	2	4.0	
Educational status			
Non formal	8	16.0	
Primary	3	6.0	11.70
Secondary	10	20.0	
Tertiary	29	58.0	

Source; Field survey, 2019.

Socio-economic characteristics of respondents

The mean age was 35years. This agrees with the findings of Ezech (2013) who reported that age range of extension agents is between 40-60 years. Table 1 further revealed that, male respondents accounted for 72% and 28% were female. The involvement of more male as extension workers may probably be due to the cultural and religious belief of the rural people (especially in Northern Nigeria) which tends to restrict women to household domestic chores. The findings also shows that 58% of respondents had attained tertiary level education, 20% had attained secondary level education, while 16% attained non-formal and very few 6% attained primary level education. The level of education of extension agents agrees with the findings of Ezech (2013) who found out that the majority of extension agents completed post-secondary education.

Table 2: Extension service rendered by the respondent

Extension services rendered	SA	A	UD	DA	SD	WS	WM	Position
Educating the farmer	33(165)	15(60)	2(6)	0(0)	0(0)	231	4.62	1 st
Training farmers on new practices	31(155)	17(68)	1(3)	0(0)	1(1)	227	4.54	2 nd
Teach farmers to improve productivity	26(130)	23(92)	1(3)	0(0)	0(0)	225	4.50	3 rd
Creating awareness on possible new techniques	25(125)	24(96)	1(3)	0(0)	0(0)	224	4.48	4 th
Provision of advisory services	23(115)	27(108)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	223	4.46	5 th
Promotion of environmentally friendly management methods	26(130)	22(88)	1(3)	1(2)	0(0)	218	4.39	5 th

Source; Field survey, 2019 Note SA= Strongly Agree, A=Agree, UD=Undecided, DA= Disagree SD=Strongly Disagree WS= Weighted Sum WM= Weighted Mean Cut-off mean=3.0

Extension service rendered by the respondent

Results on Table 2, shows that services rendered by the extension officers among other are education of farmers (\bar{X} = 4.62), Training of farmers on new practices (\bar{X} = 4.54), teaching farmers to improve productivity (\bar{X} = 4.50), creating awareness on possible new techniques (\bar{X} = 4.48), Provision of advisory services (\bar{X} = 4.46) and promotion of environmentally friendly (\bar{X} = 4.39).

Table 3: Respondent perceived causes of conflicts

Perceived causes	SA	A	UD	DA	SD	WS	MS	Rank
Increased pressure on land	35(175)	12(48)	0(0)	2(4)	1(1)	228	4.56	1 st
Search for water and pastures	20(100)	22(88)	3(9)	3(6)	2(2)	205	4.1	2 nd
Population growth	19(95)	12(48)	11(33)	6(12)	2(2)	198	3.96	3 rd
Extortion by community leaders	14(70)	23(92)	6(18)	7(14)	0(0)	194	3.88	4 th
Inadequate grazing reserves	16(80)	12(48)	11(33)	11(22)	0(0)	183	3.66	5 th
Blocking water sources	7(35)	19(76)	14(42)	7(14)	3(3)	170	3.4	6 th

Source; Field survey, 2019. Note SA= Strongly Agree, A=Agree, UD=Undecided, DA= Disagree SD=Strongly Disagree WS= Weighted Sum WM= Weighted Mean Cut-off mean=3.0

Respondent perceived causes of conflicts

The farmer- Pastoralist conflict is one of the most complex social problems affecting Nigeria's survival as it has direct impact on the survival of those involved who the country depend heavily on, in terms of provision food and raw materials for industry and export in order to meet ever-growing demands. In the study area, the causes of conflicts are increased pressure on land ($\bar{X}=4.56$), Search for water and pastures ($\bar{X}=4.1$), Population growth ($\bar{X}=3.96$). Audu (2013) who opined that about half of the land conflicts are over boundaries that occur mainly with neighbors or relatives who live close by, decrease in water availability as a result of changes in global climatic conditions and migration of herdsmen. In the past five years, it appears that there are more conflicts related to land sales. As the value of land increases due to population pressure, agricultural commercialization, and urbanization, it is expected that the land sales market will develop over time. However, if property rights are not clearly defined, there could be more cases of land conflicts related to land sales.

Table 4: Effect of farmer-pastoralist conflict on Extension service delivery

Effects of conflicts	SA	A	UD	DA	SD	WS	WM	Rank
Extension work becomes difficult	26(130)	21(84)	2(6)	0(0)	1(1)	221	4.42	1 st
Completion of extension work are delayed	23(115)	26(104)	1(3)	0(0)	0(0)	219	4.38	2 nd
Monitoring farmers progress becomes difficult	21(105)	27(108)	0(0)	1(2)	1(1)	216	4.32	3 rd
Destruction of mutual trust between farmer and pastoralist	29(145)	15(60)	2(6)	3(6)	1(1)	212	4.24	4 th
Programme evaluation becomes difficult	17(85)	30(120)	0(0)	2(4)	1(1)	210	4.2	5 th
Reduces turnover of extension work	13(65)	32(128)	4(12)	0(0)	1(1)	206	4.06	6 th

Source; Field survey, 2019. Note SA= Strongly Agree, A=Agree, UD=Undecided, DA= Disagree SD=Strongly Disagree WS= Weighted Sum WM= Weighted Mean Cut-off mean=3.0

The Effects of Conflicts on Extension Services Delivery

Table 4 shows that conflicts affect extension services delivery ($\bar{X}=4.42$), causes delay in completion of extension work ($\bar{X}=4.38$), difficulty in monitoring farmer ($\bar{X}=4.32$), destruction of mutual trust between farmer and pastoralist ($\bar{X}=4.24$), Programme evaluation becomes difficult($\bar{X}=4.2$), reduce turn-over of extension worker ($\bar{X}=4.06$), extension agent abandon work ($\bar{X}=3.98$), and hampers cooperative activities(mean=3.96),

Table 5: Socioeconomic losses among respondents as a result of conflict

Variables	Frequency*	Percentages (%)
Loss of lives	20	14.59
Loss of animals	33	24.08
Loss of properties	33	24.08
Migration	13	10.21
Reduction in crop production	37	27.00

Source; Field survey, 2019 *Multiple Responses Recorded

Socioeconomic losses among respondents as a result of conflict

The result shows that 14.49% of the respondents agreed that there was loss of lives during conflict, while 24.08% accepted that there was loss of animals and properties during the conflict. Finding of this study is in line with the studies of Aliyu (2015): Burton (2016). who reported that loss of lives and properties are some of the characteristic features of farmer-herders conflict. Also, Adeoye, (2017) reported that herders-farmers clashes over cattle destruction of crops; farmers' encroachment on grazing reserves and indiscriminate bush burning by nomads usually leads to loss of crops

Table 6: Constraint face by the respondent in delivering extension service in the study area

Constraints	SA	A	UD	DA	SD	WS	WM	Rank
Bad road	23(115)	23(92)	2(6)	2(4)	0(0)	217	4.34	1 st
Reoccurrences of conflicts	27(135)	9(36)	8(24)	4(8)	2(2)	205	4.1	2 nd
High cost of transportation	14(70)	24(96)	5(15)	5(10)	2(2)	193	3.86	3 rd
Inadequate cooperation from community leaders	10(50)	25(100)	2(6)	2(4)	1(1)	161	3.22	4 th
Migration and displacement of farmer	0(0)	11(44)	17(51)	2(4)	14(14)	113	2.26	5 th