

LEVEL OF USE OF EXTENSION TRAINING RECOMMENDATIONS AMONG MAIZE FARMERS IN SURULERE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF OYO STATE, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

The application and utilization of extension recommendations would reflect the effectiveness of learning on the part of beneficiaries. Hence, the study assessed the level of use of extension training recommendations among maize farmers in Surulere Local Government Area of Oyo State, Nigeria. The study employed multistage sampling techniques to select 113 respondents. Validated instrument was used to collect data and analyzed with descriptive tools such as frequency counts, distribution, mean and rank, while Pearson product moment correlation and Chi-square inferential tools were used to make inference between variables.

*The mean age of respondents was 49 years, vast majority of the respondents were married with different educational background. The mean household size was 6 while and majority operate on small scale level with mean farm size of 2 acres. The result further revealed that pesticide application had the highest WMS of 3.32 and was rated first on the level of use of extension training recommendations, closely followed by herbicide application (WMS=3.30; 2nd), fertilizer application (WMS=3.17; 3rd), cultivation of improved seed variety (WMS=2.70; 4th). The age ($r=0.724^{**}$; $p < 0.000$), level of education ($r=0.316^{**}$; $p < 0.000$), household size ($r=0.276^{***}$; $p < 0.000$), farming experience ($r=0.840$; $p < 0.000$), marital status ($X^2=14.0357$; $p < 0.001$), extension contact ($X^2=7.442$; $p < 0.006$) and primary occupation ($X^2=59.566$; $p < 0.000$) recorded a significant relationship with the level of use of extension training recommendations.*

The study recommends the need to encourage effective use of extension training recommendations through the provision of necessary supports to village extension agents inform of incentives and materials supports required for extension training; and the government at all levels should encourage maize production through subsidy support services to ease procurement of required maize production inputs and provision of soft loan to local farmers through the Bank of Agriculture and other related financial institutions.

KEYWORDS: *Extension Training/Recommendations, Level of Use, Maize Farmers*