



ANALYSIS OF SUSTAINABILITY OF SUGARCANE FARMING IN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

The study was conducted to analyze sustainability of sugarcane farming in Nigeria. Kano State was purposively selected with a sample size of 54 sugarcane farmers using randomized sampling procedure. The data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, farm budgeting and regression analysis. The result showed that 94% of the respondents were male, with an average age of 39 years. The mean household of the farmers was 8 persons. The average farm size was 2.3ha; it cost ₦33,224.22 to produce sugarcane per hectare with revenue of ₦36,706.17; the gross margin was ₦3,481.95 and the investment rate of return was 0.10. The findings further disclosed that age, household size, education and labour were significant ($P < 0.05$) and influenced the output of sugarcane farming in Nigeria. The results also reveal that land, sugarcane setts, fertilizer, insecticide and labour had ratios of 2.57, 33.44, 6.55, 1.630, and 0.27, respectively. The study revealed the constraints to sugarcane production in Nigeria to include, small farm holdings, high cost of inputs, inadequate credit, land tenure problem and poor extension services. It was concluded that even though sugarcane production is profitable, land, sugar cane sett, fertilizer and insecticide were underutilized and labour was over utilized. The study recommended that the farmers should increase the use of the underutilized factors and reduce the over utilized inputs; and also, the Government should review land ownership policies and subsidize farming inputs.

Key words: Elasticity, Flood areas, Inputs, Sugarcane, Sustainability.