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Food Crops Productivity by Tobacco and Non-tobacco Farmers in Iseyin and Atisbo Local Government Areas of Oyo State, Nigeria.

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ABSTRACT

The paper focused on the comparison of the productivity level in food crops production by farmers who cultivate food crops as well as tobacco (tobacco farmers) and farmers who are not cultivating tobacco at all (non-tobacco farmers) in Iseyin and Atisbo L.G.As of Oyo State, Nigeria. The study examined and compared the size of land allocated to food crops and tobacco production as well as their output. The sample of study consists of 148 farmers comprising both tobacco and non-tobacco farmers sampled randomly from the study areas.The study found out that majority of both tobacco and non-tobacco farmers are males while few females were involved. The age distribution of the majority of respondents was between the age range of 51 and 60 years. More than half of both tobacco and non-tobacco farmers were polygamists. The literacy level of the respondents were found to be very low .The religion distribution of the respondents in the study area is almost equal between Christianity and Islam with very little number in traditional religion . The food crops grown in the study area were cassava, maize, millet, yam, groundnut, melon, pigeon pea and sorghum. The land allocation for these crops ranged from little less than 1 acre to a little above 3 acres for each crop. Also the yield for cassava was the highest followed by maize and yam and this ranged from 500kg to about 3500kg annually. Among the prominent problems common to all farmers in the study area was the lack of labour. There was significant difference in the level of productivity of food crops by tobacco farmers ($\bar{X}_{Cassava}$ = 750.01kg/acre) and non-tobacco $\bar{X}_{Cassava}$ = 1160.35kg/acre) farmers while no significa difference was found in the case of tobacco productivity in Iseyin ($\bar{X}_{tobacco}$ = 499.41kg/acre) and Atisbo ($\bar{X}_{tobacco}$ = 500.02kg/acre). The study revealed that non-tobacco farmers thus achieve higher productivity in food crops and thus contribute more to food security.

Key word: Productivity, food crops, literate farmers and tobacco

Introduction

Agriculture has been the main source of food and raw materials for the ever-increasing population in Nigeria and this employs about 70% of the labour force (Adegboye, 2004). In Nigeria, agriculture is characterized majorly by small holdings of an average of less than 2 hectares of cultivated lands and account for over 90% of Nigeria's total food production (Adewole, 1988; Okuneye and Okuneye, 1988;Helleiner, 1996). The cultivation of particular crop in a particular region of the country depends on the climatic condition, soil condition and environmental condition of the area (Ojeleye, 2004). For

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instance,the common food crops which thrive well in Oyo State are maize, yam, cowpea, melon, cassava, sweet potato and okro e.t.c while tobacco is one of the commercial nonfood crops grown. (Ojeleye, 2004). The Northern part of the state where the study areas are located is usually referred to as "Oke Ogun" that is the area around upper Ogun River and has been known over the years as the food basket of the state.

Recently, the industrial site of the British American Tobacco (BAT) was established in Ibadan, Oyo State. It was re-organised to take over the operation of the closed down Nigeria Tobacco Company (NTC) and also to boost the economic status of the farmers in the area. Part of the BAT strategies to get farmers involved in the cultivation of tobacco includes provision of production inputs like chemicals, fertilizers etc and other supporting services to farmers cultivating tobacco to boost food crops production. As a result of this, many farmers that have been known for cultivating only yam, cassava, maize, cowpea, melon e.t.c. have also been cultivating tobacco which they sell to the curing and buying centres of BAT. These farmers enter into contract farming with BAT which has been able to do this through its mandate to develop the run down leaf growing sector of the tobacco industry and its agronomic support to develop different types of agricultural produce, re-aforestation programmes, and aggressive enlistment of tobacco growing farmers (BAT, 2003).

The type of production and marketing used by BAT is called contract farming. Brown et al (1999) defined contract farming as a type of agricultural production system which is carried out according to an agreement between farmers and a buyer which places conditions on the production and marketing of commodities. In the same vein, Adewole (1988) stated that the farmers are assured of the market for his produce and in addition, the buyer supplies the necessary technical assistance, the production inputs, extension services and credit facilities. On the sale of tobacco leaves, the company deducts the cost of the inputs given to farmers from the farmer's revenue from tobacco and the balance is given to the farmers at the end of each cropping season.

With the current development in the tobacco business, it is envisaged that, food crop production is being affected because more farmers are getting involved in the production of cured tobacco leaves and this could lead to reduction in food crops production which has a very high tendency of resulting in food shortage. Although Adewole (1988) stated that some critics of the tobacco industry have specifically pointed out that tobacco production competes with food crops for land. This is sometimes controversial as it is true that the cultivation of tobacco requires the use of land which could possibly have been devoted to the cultivation of much required food and other foreign exchange earners crops. This is however needed to be supported by scientific research.

The fact that BAT allows its contract farmers to cultivate food crops along with tobacco makes it imperative to analyze how well these tobacco farmers' fare, when compared with non-tobacco farmers in terms of their food crops productivity. This will bring to focus the social and economic advantage of each form of enterprise and the extent to which BAT assists her farmers in their food crop production. It is therefore important to find out whether tobacco farmers are better off than other farmers when the social and economic benefits of food crop production are considered.

This paper is therefore examining the personal characteristics of tobacco and non-tobacco farmers in the study areas; identify the food crops produced by tobacco and non-tobacco farmers in the areas; find out the size of land allocated to various food crops by tobacco and non- tobacco farmers in the study areas and hence determine the fraction of land allocated to tobacco production by the tobacco farmers; assess the level of productivity of food crops by tobacco farmers and non tobacco farmers in the study areas; and identify the various constraints to food crop production in the areas.

Materials and methods

The study was carried out in Iseyin and Atisbo Local Government areas of Oyo State, Nigeria. Iseyin Local Government is located between latitudes 7^0 $58^/$N and 8^0N and longitude $3^0 31^/$E and $3^0 36^/$E with her headquarter at Iseyin town. While Atisbo Local Government is located between latitudes 8^0 $48^/$N and 8^0 $53^/$ and longitude 2^0 $48^/$ E and 3^0 $32^/$E.The study focused on the farmers cultivating food crops as well as tobacco (tobacco farmers) and farmers cultivating food crops alone(non tobacco farmers) in the study areas. Stratified random sampling technique was used in selecting localities for this research in the study area. Two localities were randomly selected using BAT farmers' list for tobacco farmers and ADP list for non -tobacco farmers from each Local Government Area under study. Thus a total of seventy four respondents were selected from each local government comprising of 37 tobacco and 37 non-tobacco farmers. In all, a total of 148 respondents were involved in the study.

The data for the study were collected through interview schedule using structured and unstructured

questions which was developed and administered to the respondents. The level of productivity was measured as the average annual yield of food crop per unit farm size. The data collected for the study were subjected to both inferential and descriptive statistical analysis. Descriptive statistical tools such as frequency, mean and percentages were used to describe and determine the number of proportion of respondents to a particular response. While t-test was used to test for the significant difference in the level of productivity of the two groups using SPSS Statistical Package.

Results and Discussion

Personal Characteristics of the Farmers

The socio-economic characteristics of the farmers that were examined in this study include sex, age, and number of wives, educational attainment and religion as shown on Table 1. The sex distribution of the respondents showed that about 81.1% of the respondents who were non-tobacco farmers from Iseyin L.G.A. were males while their male counterparts involved in tobacco farming from the same location was about 86.5% with the remaining percentage being females. Similar values in Atisbo L.G.A. were 75.7% for non-tobacco male farmers and 86.8% tobacco male farmers. The least women participation was about 13.2% for tobacco farmers in Atisbo area, which showed that the women were less involved in tobacco production. The tedious exercises that are involved in tobacco curing may be responsible for this. It may also be a function of the fact that many women that were involved do so for their husbands and not as personal farm enterprises as reported by Onemolease (2002) on women involvement in cassava production.

Table 1: Distribution of Respondents according to their Personal Characteristics.

Personal Characteristics	Categories	ISEYIN L.G.A.				ATISBO L.G.A			
		Non tobacco Farmers		Tobacco Farmers		Non Tobacco Farmers		Tobacco Farmers	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
Sex	Male	30	81.1	32	86.5	28	75.7	32	86.8
	Female	7	18.9	5	13.5	9	24.3	5	13.2
	Total	37	100.0	37	100.0	37	100.0	37	100.0
Age	<40	6	16.2	6	16.2	6	16.2	6	15.8
	41-50	7	18.9	6	16.2	7	18.9	8	21.1
	51-60	15	40.5	16	43.2	15	40.5	15	42.1
	>60	9	24.3	9	2403	9	24.3	8	21.1
	Total	37	100.0	37	100.0	37	100.0	37	100.0
Number of Wives	Monogamy	13	35.1	16	43.2	11	29.7	13	34.2
	Polygamy	24	64.9	21	56.8	26	70.3	3	65.8
	Total	37	100.0	37	100.0	37	100.0	37	100.0
Education	No Formal	26	70.3	23	62.2	25	67.6	25	68.4
	Adult	6	16.2	6	16.2	5	13.5	6	15.8
	Primary	5	13.5	6	16.2	7	18.9	6	15.8
	Secondary	0	0	2	5.4	0	0	0	0
	Post Sec.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	37	100.0	37	100.0	37	100.0	37	100.0
Religion	Islam	19	51.4	17	45.9	19	51.4	12	34.2
	Christianity	15	40.5	17	45.9	15	40.5	21	55.3
	Traditional	3	8.1	3	8.1	3	8.1	4	10.5
	Total	37	100.0	37	100.0	37	100.0	37	100.0

100.0 *Source: Field survey, 2004.*

The highest number of non-tobacco farmers in both Iseyin and Atisbo were people between the ages of 51 and 60 years (40.5%). This may be a very serious contributing factor to their productivity since it is believed that productivity at old age is very low. Likewise, almost half (43.2%) of the tobacco farmers in Iseyin area fell within this age range while the highest frequency for tobacco farmers in Atisbo area fell within this age limit (i.e. 51 and 60 years). Older people greater than 60 years were still involved in farming activities whether tobacco or non-tobacco as shown on the age distribution of respondents. This may be due to problem of migration of the younger generation out of the rural communities to urban centres.

Number of wives affects family size, as this may be directly proportional to the number of children. Questions were asked on whether they are operating polygamous or monogamous home. More than half of the respondents are polygamists as shown on Table 1, about 64.9% of non tobacco farmers and 56.8% of tobacco farmers in Iseyin were polygamists and this was also the case for Atisbo where 70.3% non-tobacco and 65.8% of tobacco farmers were polygamists. About 31.5% of non-tobacco and 43.2% of non-tobacco farmers in Iseyin were not having more than one wife while that of monogamist in Atisbo were 29.7% and 34.2% for non-tobacco and tobacco farmers respectively. The family types have the tendency of affecting the number of family labour that was available for respondents' use.

The level of educational attainment of the respondents may affect some of their activities. The result showed that 70.3% of non-tobacco and 62.2% of tobacco farmers in Iseyin were non literate, while 16.2% had adult education, 13.5% had primary education among the non tobacco farmers. About 2% of the tobacco farmers in Iseyin had secondary school education. Likewise for Atisbo L.G.A more than half of both non tobacco and tobacco farmers were non literate (67.6% and 68.4% respectively).The highest level of education of the respondents was primary education with 18.9 % and 15.8% for non- tobacco and tobacco farmers respectively. Though, most of the farmers were non literate but the tobacco farmers in both areas appeared to be better than the non-tobacco farmers in terms of educational attainment. This may affect their reception of extension education as previous studies have expressed the relationship between respondents' level of education and their adoption of innovation (NSTDA, 1978; Williams *et al*,1984).

On religious affiliation, about 51.4% and 45.9% were Muslims for non-tobacco and tobacco farmers respectively in Iseyin while that of Christian distribution were 40.5% and 45.9% respectively. About 8.1 % of the respondents from this area were traditional worshipers. The case was not too different in Atisbo with 51.4% and 34.2% being Muslims for non-tobacco and tobacco farmers. In addition, 40.5 % of non-tobacco and 55.3% of tobacco farmers in Atisbo were Christians with 10.5% involved in traditional worship. In comparison from the table, more Muslim were non- tobacco farmers in Iseyin and Atisbo while more Christians were involved in tobacco farming in Atisbo.

Major Types of Food Crops Grown and their corresponding Land Allocations

It was one of the objectives of this work to know the types of food crops grown in the study area by all the farmers. The percentage distribution of each category of farmers involved in different types of food crops production are as shown on Table 2. It is worthy to know that the food crops grown in the area were cassava, maize, millet, yam, groundnut, melon, pigeon pea and sorghum and each category of farmers were involved in growing at least one or more of these crops.

For Iseyin, the percentage of farmers participation in cassava, maize, and yam were 100%, 96.4% and 100%, respectively for non- tobacco farmers while that of tobacco farmers were 78.4%, 91.9%,and 89.2% respectively. But in Atisbo, the percentage of farmers participation in cassava, maize, and yam were 94.6%,97.3%, and 94.6% respectively for non tobacco farmers while that of tobacco producing farmers were 89.2%,91.9% and 78.4% respectively .The number of farmers involved in the millet production was the lowest . Both non tobacco and tobacco farmers were involved in the food crops production as shown on the Table 2 but the involvement of tobacco farmers from Atisbo and Iseyin were almost the same.. The effect of the presence of the Oyo State Agricultural Development programme (OYSADEP) that is saddled with agricultural extension services in the region. may be responsible for this.

Table 2: Percentage Distribution of Respondents on the types of food crops grown.

Food Crops	ISEYIN L.G.A.				ATISBO L.G.A			
	Non tobaccoFarmers		TobaccoFarmers		Non TobaccoFarmers		TobaccoFarmers	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
Cassava	37	100.0	29	78.4	35	94.6	33	89.2
Maize	35	96.4	34	91.9	36	97.3	34	91.9
Millet	9	24.3	9	24.3	8	21.6	12	32.4
Yam	37	100.0	33	89.2	35	94.6	29	78.4
Groundnut	16	43.2	10	27.0	15	40.5	13	35.1
Melon	10	27.0	13	35.1	13	35.1	14	37.8
Pigeon pea	13	35.1	14	37.8	15	40.5	17	45.9
Sorghum	16	43.2	11	29.7	17	45.9	13	35.1

Source: Field survey ,2004.

The distribution of land allocation to each crop is as shown on Table 3.The land allocation were grouped as those with less than 1 acre,1-2 acre,2.1-3.0 acres and those greater than 3 acres. The greater percentage of the non tobacco farmers in Iseyin L.G.A.(51.4%) allocated up to 2.1 to 3.0 acres of farm land to cassava production while that of tobacco farmers was between 1-2acres (63%) in Iseyin. For Atisbo the modal class was 1-2 acres for non-tobacco farmers and 1-2 acres for tobacco farmers. Thus the non-tobacco farmers in Iseyin L.G.A allocated more land to cassava production than those from Atisbo. The modal class was 1-2 acres with 64.8% for non-tobacco while that of tobacco farmers was 81% in Iseyin for land allocation to maize. In Atisbo, the modal class was 1-2 acres

for non-tobacco farmers(70.3%) and 84.2% for tobacco producing farmers. More farmers allocated between 1 and 2 acres of land to yam production in the study area. This is followed by those that allocated less than 1 acre of farm land to yam production. Most tobacco farmers in Iseyin allocated 1-2 acres to tobacco farming while that of Atisbo were those less than 1acre. However, about 45.9 % of farmers in Iseyin operate below 1acre while 36.9% of those in Atisbo operated 1-2 acres. Few farmers still operated up to 3 acres .Generally, land allocation to each crops as one part of this study as shown, has not been a strong constraints to farmers in these areas.

Table 3: Percentage Distribution of Respondents according to Landsize Allocation for cropping.

Land size /Food Crops	ISEYIN L.G.A.				ATISBO L.G.A			
	Non tobacco Farmers		Tobacco Farmers		Non Tobacco Farmers		Tobacco Farmers	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Cassava: 0 acre	-	-	8	21.6	2	5.4	4	10.5
< 1 acre	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 – 2 acres	17	45.9	27	63.0	19	51.3	32	84.2
2.1 – 3.0 acres	19	51.4	2	5.4	16	43.3	2	5.3
> 3.0 acres	1	2.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maize: 0 acre	2	5.4	3	8.1	1	2.7	3	7.9
< 1 acre	2	5.4	1	2.7	3	8.1	1	2.6
1 – 2 acres	24	64.8	30	81.0	26	70.3	32	84.2
2.1 – 3.0 acres	9	24.4	3	8.1	7	18.9	2	5.3
> 3.0 acres	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Millet: 0 acre	28	75.7	28	75.7	29	78.4	25	65.8
< 1 acre	7	18.9	4	10.8	7	18.9	8	21.1
1 – 2 acres	1	2.7	5	13.5	1	2.7	5	13.2
2.1 – 3.0 acres	1	2.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
> 3.0 acres	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yam: 0 acre	-	-	28	75.7	29	78.4	25	65.8
< 1 acre	6	16.2	-	-	6	16.2	-	-
1 – 2 acres	26	70.3	28	75.7	26	70.3	26	68.4
2.1 – 3.0 acres	5	13.5	5	13.5	3	8.1	4	10.5
> 3.0 acres	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Groundnut: 0 acre	21	56.8	27	73.0	22	59.5	25	65.7
< 1 acre	8	21.6	3	8.1	7	18.9	5	13.2
1 – 2 acres	8	21.6	7	18.9	8	21.6	8	21.1
2.1 – 3.0 acres	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
> 3.0 acres	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Melon: 0 acre	27	73.0	24	64.9	24	64.9	23	60.6
< 1 acre	4	10.9	12	32.4	6	16.2	14	36.8
1 – 2 acres	5	13.4	1	2.7	6	16.2	1	2.6
.1 – 3.0 acres	1	2.7	-	-	1	2.7	-	-
> 3.0 acres	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pigeon pea : 0 acre	24	64.9	23	62.2	22	59.5	20	52.6
< 1 acre	9	24.3	7	18.9	12	32.4	10	26.3
1 – 2 acres	4	10.8	7	18.9	3	8.1	8	21.1
2.1 – 3.0 acres	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
> 3.0 acres	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sorghum: 0 acre	21	56.8	26	70.3	20	54.1	24	63.2
< 1 acre	5	13.5	5	13.5	9	24.3	7	18.4
1 – 2 acres	10	27.0	6	16.2	8	21.6	7	18.4
2.1 – 3.0 acres	1	2.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
> 3.0 acres	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tobacco 0 acre	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
< 1 acre	-	-	17	45.9	-	-	23	60.5
1 – 2 acres	-	-	19	51.4	-	-	14	36.9
2.1 – 3.0 acres	-	-	1	2.7	-	-	1	2.6
> 3.0 acres								

Source: Field survey ,2004.

Annual Yields of Various Food Crops

The annual yields of crops obtained are given in Table 4. Majority of the farmers had yield of cassava of between 1001-1500Kg for non-tobacco farmers (51.4%) and tobacco farmers (5.4%) in Iseyin. In Atisbo the case was similar with 51.3% for non-tobacco farmers and 5.3% for tobacco farmers. Most of the farmers had yield of maize between 501 and 1000Kg annually. The distribution of these among categories of farmers were 64.8% ,81%, 70.3% and 84.2 % for non tobacco (Iseyin), tobacco

(Iseyin),non tobacco (Atisbo) and tobacco (Atisbo) producing farmers respectively. Yam was another crop that all the farmers were deeply involved in. Majority of the yields of farmers here were between 501 and 1000Kg with the highest occurrence from tobacco farmers in Iseyin (75.5%) and the least from tobacco farmers in Atisbo(70.3). In Iseyin, majority of the farmers had the yield of between 2001Kg and 3000kg while majority in Atisbo had less than 1000Kg.However, less than half of farmers in Iseyin operated less than 2000Kg while those in Atisbo had little less than half operating above 2000Kg.

Table 4: Percentage Distribution of Respondents according to Crops and Tobacco Yields

Land size /Food Crops	ISEYIN L.G.A.				ATISBO L.G.A			
	Non tobacco Farmers		Tobacco Farmers		Non Tobacco Farmers		Tobacco Farmers	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Cassava: 0 Kg	-	-	8	21.6	2	5.4	4	10.5
< 500Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
501 – 1000Kg	17	45.9	27	63.0	19	51.3	32	84.2
1001 – 1500Kg	19	51.4	2	5.4	16	43.3	2	5.3
> 1500Kg	1	2.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maize: 0 Kg	2	5.4	3	8.1	1	2.7	3	7.9
< 500Kg	2	5.4	1	2.7	3	8.1	1	2.6
501 – 1000Kg	24	64.8	30	81.0	26	70.3	32	84.2
1001 – 1500Kg	9	24.4	3	8.1	7	18.9	2	5.3
> 1500Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Millet 0 Kg	28	75.7	28	75.7	29	78.4	25	65.8
< 500Kg	7	18.9	4	10.8	7	18.9	8	21.1
501 – 1000Kg	1	2.7	5	13.5	1	2.7	5	13.2
1001 – 1500Kg	1	2.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
> 1500Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yam : 0 Kg	-	-	4	10.8	2	5.4	8	21.1
< 500Kg	6	16.2	-	-	6	16.2	-	-
501 – 1000Kg	26	70.3	28	75.7	26	70.3	26	68.4
1001 – 1500Kg	5	13.5	5	13.5	3	8.1	4	10.5
> 1500Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Groundnut 0 Kg	21	56.8	27	73.0	22	59.5	25	65.7
< 500Kg	8	21.6	3	8.1	7	18.9	5	13.2
501 – 1000Kg	8	21.6	7	18.9	8	21.6	8	21.1
1001 – 1500Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
> 1500Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Melon: 0 Kg	27	73.0	24	64.9	24	64.9	23	60.6
< 500Kg	4	10.9	12	32.4	6	16.2	14	36.8
501 – 1000Kg	5	13.4	1	2.7	6	16.2	1	2.6
1001 – 1500Kg	1	2.7	-	-	1	2.7	-	-
> 1500Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pigeon pea : 0 Kg	24	64.9	23	62.2	22	59.5	20	52.6
< 500Kg	9	24.3	7	18.9	12	32.4	10	26.3
501 – 1000Kg	4	10.8	7	18.9	3	8.1	8	21.1
1001 – 1500Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
> 1500Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sorghum: 0 Kg	21	56.8	26	70.3	20	54.1	24	63.2
< 500Kg	5	13.5	5	13.5	9	24.3	7	18.9
501 – 1000Kg	10	27.0	6	16.2	8	21.6	7	18.4
1001 – 1500Kg	1	2.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
> 1500Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tobacco 0 Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
< 1000Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	60.5
1001 – 2000Kg	-	-	17	45.9	-	-	14	36.9
2001 – 3000Kg	-	-	19	51.4	-	-	1	2.6
> 3000Kg	-	-	1	2.7	-	-	-	-

Test of Differences on Level of Productivity of the Crops

The test of significant difference on the level of productivity of food crops by the two groups of respondents was examined. As earlier discussed in the methodology, productivity is taken as unit kg of crop per unit acre of land. As shown in Table 5, there was significant difference between the level of productivity of cassava by tobacco and non tobacco farmers in each of Iseyin and Atisbo. This was also true for the level of productivity between non tobacco farmers in Iseyin and Atisbo

for cassava. Meanwhile, there was no significant difference in the level of productivity of cassava for both tobacco farmers in the two areas. Level of productivity in maize had no significant difference among tobacco and non tobacco farmers both in Iseyin and Atisbo L.G.A. as indicated on Table 5, but this differed in the case of tobacco farmers from Iseyin and Atisbo on maize production. Also, there was a significant difference in the level of productivity of maize by the two groups of non tobacco farmers.The level of productivity of farmers in yam production was almost the same through out (not significantly different) as all the different pairings yielded no significant difference. This suggests that the tobacco and non tobacco farmers had equal level of production on yam across the two study sites. One could conclude then within 95% confidence limit that the level of productivity of tobacco farmers and non tobacco farmers in both Iseyin and Atisbo on yam production were the same but differs on cassava and maize. Test of significant difference was also carried out on the level of productivity of tobacco production in Iseyin and Atisbo and the result obtained showed no significance difference in the production.

Table 5: Significant Difference for Level of Productivity of Food Crops

Variables	t-value	Level of Significance	Remark
Cassava			
Iseyin(Non-Tobacco) and Iseyin(Tobacco)	6.593*	0.462	Significant
Atisbo (Non-Tobacco) and Atisbo(Tobacco)	4.582*	0.412	Significant
Iseyin(Non-Tobacco) and Atisbo(Non- Tobacco)	2.659*	0.168	Significant
Iseyin(Tobacco) and Atibo(Tobacco)	-0.122	0.003	Not Significant
Maize			
Iseyin(Non-Tobacco) and Iseyin(Tobacco)	0.932	0.004	Not Significant
Atisbo (Non-Tobacco) and Atisbo(Tobacco)	0.504	0.003	Not Significant
Iseyin(Non-Tobacco) and Atisbo(Non- Tobacco)	2.564*	0.158	Significant
Iseyin(Tobacco) and Atibo(Tobacco)	2.539*	0.151	Significant
Yam			
Iseyin(Non-Tobacco) and Iseyin(Tobacco)	0.825	0.004	Not Significant
Atisbo (Non-Tobacco) and Atisbo(Tobacco)	0.194	0.003	Not Significant
Iseyin(Non-Tobacco) and Atisbo(Non- Tobacco)	0.826	0.004	Not Significant
Iseyin(Tobacco) and Atibo(Tobacco)	1.152	0.012	Not Significant
Tobacco of Iseyin and Tobacco of Atisbo	0.729	0.004	Not Significant

About eight constraints that were believed to affect food crop production were listed for farmers to rank in the order of their severity so as to know their relevance to food crop production. The responses of all the respondents are as shown in Table 10.The constraints rated most severe by non tobacco farmers in Iseyin was the Lack of labour and capital while that of their tobacco counterpart was lack of labour. Also in Atisbo L.G.A, the one rated most severe by non tobacco farmers was lack of labour while that of tobacco farmers was also lack of labour. Capital is thus more of a constraint to non tobacco farmers. The contract nature of the farm enterprises of tobacco farmers assist them to overcome the problem of capital.

Generally, there was the problem of access to labour by all the farmers as this was being rated as their most severe constraint while lack of land and lack of production propagates was not a significant problem for all the farmers as this was rated least severe by all the categories. Ratings of other constraints is on Table 6

Conclusion

The study shows that both tobacco and non tobacco farmers were involved in the food crop production on various levels. And one could say that tobacco farmers were not doing badly at all in the production of food crops as compared with the non tobacco farmers. Comparison of the two revealed no appreciable significant difference in their performance. Among the problems generally encountered by all farmers in this area was lack of labour. Tobacco growing farmers seem to have more access to capital than the non tobacco farmers and this is likely to be connected with the support they received from BAT. Sex differences have been found not to restrict the performance of farmers in this area .Also, if age distribution in farming activity continued to follow the reported trend there is likely to be problems in future as only the aged will be in left farming. Effort should be made to keep on encouraging both tobacco and non tobacco farmers on the need to improve their productivity level as better intensification can be introduced into their farming.

Table 6: Percentage Distribution of Respondents on the Constraints that affects food crop production

Constraints	ISEYIN L.G.A.				ATISBO L.G.A			
	Non tobaccoFarmers		TobaccoFarmers		Non TobaccoFarmers		Tobacco Farmers	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
a Lack of production information								
- Most Severe	1	2.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Severe	1	2.7	3	8.1	3	8.1	5	13.2
- Least Severe	35	94.6	34	91.9	34	91.9	33	86.8
b Lack of production propagates								
- Most Severe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Severe	3	8.1	-	-	2	5.4	1	2.6
- Least Severe	34	91.9	37	100	35	94.4	37	97.4
c Lack of chemicals								
- Most Severe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Severe	5	13.5	3	8.1	2	5.4	5	13.2
- Least Severe	32	86.5	34	91.9	35	94.6	33	86.8
d Land unavailability								
- Most Severe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Severe	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2.6
- Least Severe	37	100	37	100	37	100	37	100
e Lack of capital								
- Most Severe	20	54.1	32	86.5	15	40.5	31	81.6
- Severe	12	32.4	3	8.1	14	37.8	5	13.2
- Least Severe	5	13.5	2	5.4	8	21.6	2	5.3
f Market								
- Most Severe	3	8.1	32	86.5	15	40.5	31	81.6
- Severe	1	2.7	-	-	1	2.7	1	2.6
- Least Severe	33	89.2	37	100	33	89.2	37	97.4
g Lack of fertilizer								
- Most Severe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Severe	2	5.4	-	-	1	2.7	2	5.3
- Least Severe	33	89.2	37	100	33	89.2	37	97.4
h Lack of adequate labour								
- Most Severe	24	64.9	19	51.4	23	62.2	19	50.0
- Severe	8	21.6	9	24.3	5	13.5	7	18.4
- Least Severe	5	13.5	9	24.3	9	24.3	12	31.6

Source: Field survey ,2004.

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