



**GENDER INVOLVEMENT OF SEDENTARY FULANI IN DAIRY FARMING
PRACTICES IN OSUN STATE, NIGERIA**

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B. ED. (AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE) ADEYEMI COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

A THESIS SUBMITTED TO

**THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION AND RURAL
DEVELOPMENT,
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE,
OBAFEMI AWOLOWO UNIVERSITY, ILE-IFE,
NIGERIA**

**IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF THE
DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION AND
RURAL SOCIOLOGY**

2016

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FARMING PRACTICES IN OSUN STATE, NIGERIA

DEGREE: M.Sc. (AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION AND RURAL SOCIOLOGY)

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CERTIFICATION

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DEDICATION

This project is dedicated to God Almighty for the grace to complete this programme, also to the memory of my Late Father, Engr., R. O. Ojo.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I give all glory to the Lord God for His abundant grace, love, provision, and wisdom as regards this project. I wish to express my profound and sincere gratitude to my supervisor Dr. A. F. Agboola for his fatherly interaction, enormous assistance, encouragement and constructive criticism towards the success of this project. My sincere appreciation also goes to the Head of Department, Prof. (Mrs.) O. F. Deji for her moral support. Special thanks go to all the lecturers in the Department, Prof A. J. Farinde, Prof. D. O. Torimiro, Prof. A. O. Ajayi, Dr. S. A. Adesoji, Dr. F. O. Adereti, Dr. B. O. Adisa, Dr. J. O. Ayinde, Dr. T. F. Ojo Dr. (Mrs.) H. F. B. Faborode, Dr. V. O. Okorie, Dr. K.O. Soyebbo for their kind gesture towards this thesis also Dr. (Mrs.) D. L. Alabi for reading through my thesis. I also wish to thank the non-academics staff of the Department, Mrs. F. A. Asebiode and Mr. R. A. Rasaq for their assistance and love during the programme towards the success story of this thesis.

Millions of words are not enough to appreciate all friends and colleagues whom God has used for the success of this project. Special thanks to Dr. S. Alabi, Mrs. K. Olanrewaju, and Mr. G. Koledoye who read through the thesis and made corrections. Also I specially thank my colleagues, Akinmolafe Abiodun, Faleye Tomilola, Olayode Funmilola, Ola Lateef, Ogundeji Olajumoke, Fabiyi Esther, Falude, Dayo, Suberu Suleiman for their contributions towards this project. I also specially want to show appreciation to my crew members that helped me with my data collection, starting with the Fulani woman leader, who took the pain to take me to all the Fulani settlements (Gaa), Odegbenle Iyanuoluwa and Francis.

Finally, my endless gratitude goes to my wonderful husband and understanding son for their prayers and support during this project work.

God bless you all.

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ABSTRACT

The study specifically gender disaggregated the socio-economic characteristics; identified and determined gender specific roles in dairy farming practices; determined the level of gender involvement in dairy farming practices with a view to determining gender specific factors influencing gender involvement in dairy farming practices.

Multistage sampling procedure was used to select the respondents. At the first stage, seventy percent of the 12 Local Government Areas (LGAs) occupied by the sedentary Fulani were randomly selected for the study. At the second stage, twenty percent of the Fulani settlements were proportionately selected from each of the LGAs. At the third stage, four households were randomly selected from each of the Fulani settlements. At the fourth and final stage, four respondents, (comprising adult male, adult female, youth male and youth female) were randomly selected from each of the households. In all, two hundred and fifty six respondents were selected for the study. Structured interview schedule was used to elicit quantitative data from the respondents. Data collected were analysed using descriptive statistics such as frequency count, percentages, mean, standard deviation and inferential statistics: Pearson Product Moment Correlation, factor analysis and one way ANOVA.

The results showed that the mean age of male and female respondents were 34.05 ± 12.49 and 33.33 ± 13.14 respectively, and 85.9 percent and 89.8 percent of male and female respondents were illiterates, while 80.5 percent of male and 78.1 percent of female respondent were married. The mean herd size of male and female respondent was 19.98 ± 12 and 5.30 ± 4 respectively. The results of the hypotheses showed there was a significant relationship between the male and female marital status ($\chi^2 = 47.53$ and 40.50), place of birth ($\chi^2 = 45.13$ and 38.22) were

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significant at $P \leq 0.01$ with the respondents' level of involvement in dairy farming practices. Also, it was revealed that there was a negative but significant relationship between the age of respondents ($r = -0.499$); length of stay in the community ($r = -0.464$); years of experience in dairy production ($r = -0.500$) at $P \leq 0.01$; while years of formal education ($r = 0.195$) has positive significant relationship at $P \leq 0.01$ with respondents level of involvement in dairy farming practices. The findings showed that at $P \leq 0.01$, significant differences ($F = 312.80$) was found between sedentary Fulani male and female involvement in dairy farming practices. The factors influencing the involvement of male and female respondent were shown in the study as exposure factor, socio-economic factor, family related factor and personal factor.

In conclusion, female respondents were actively involved in dairy farming. It was also realized that the factors identified should be taken into consideration when dealing with involvement of male and female in dairy farming practices.

CHAPTER ONE

1.0

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background information

In Nigeria, agriculture contributed 22.07 per cent to nominal Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the fourth quarter of year 2014 and livestock production grew by 12.7 percent (National Bureau of Statistics, 2014). Lombin (2011) stated that Nigeria has a livestock population of about 16.3 million cattle, 40.8 million goats, 2.7 million sheep and 151 million poultry, the supply of cattle, due to environmental hazards, has been declining over the past two decades, while demand has been increasing due to increase in population, more urbanization, and social activities. In Nigeria, ruminant livestock provide substantial quantities of animal protein. Livestock is mostly owned by pastoralists.

Pastoralism which is the grazing of animals was described by Nuru (1988), as an age old system of livestock husbandry that entails grazing of animals as being practiced in the ecological stratification of West Africa. Pastoral system of production still remains an important feature in cattle production in the country. The traditional pattern of Pastoralism has been affected in recent years by a number of factors such as drought in the northern part of the country. This encouraged the nomadic method of raising livestock which is the movement of the Fulani and their livestock to the humid and sub-humid zones of the country where they get pastures, water and crop residues. Over time, nomadic grazing is gradually disappearing and paving way to the sedentary method of grazing which allows the Fulani to settle down in a particular location. Sedentary Fulani moves and settle in places, and their livestock forage is mainly natural as

opposed to cultivated fodders and pastures. According to Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA, 1999) who reported that sedentary Fulani are found in 31 out of 36 states in Nigeria while the other pastoralists are mainly in Borno plains and shores of Lake Chad.

More than eighty percent of Nigerians depend on the pastoral Fulani, the custodians of the nation's herds, for meat, milk, ghee, cheese, hair, honey, butter, manure, incense, animal blood, poultry products, and hides and skins (Iro, 2004). In the villages, the Fulani provide the bulls used for carting, plowing, and hauling. Thousands of Nigerians wholly or partly make a living from selling, milking, butchering, or transporting herds. Cattle marketing have played a vital role in Nigeria. The importance includes: economic, social and cultural contribution to the people involved in rearing and marketing of cattle. (Mubi *et al*, 2013).

In recent past, dairy farming has increasingly become an important source of livelihood for sedentary Fulani found in the urban and peri-urban areas of Nigeria. Dairy farming is an agrobusiness enterprise established for the harvesting of animal milk mostly from cows or goats, but also from buffalo, sheep, horses or camels for human consumptions. Dairy farming has been proven to generate employment directly and indirectly in terms of people employed in dairy products. It also generates income for all categories of people involved in dairy farming and thus, contributes to the national income. Major constraints to dairy farming were identified to be insufficient water, inadequate supply of feeds and fodders, inadequate technology and feed supply, lack of skill in milk production, lack of micro credit, inadequate processing equipment, poor storage facilities, high cost of veterinary input, lack of electricity in settlements, lack of

preservation equipment, low milk output of cows, poor grass quality that leads to low milk yield and inadequate access to extension information and services. Unsanitary methods of milk handling and inefficient milk collection also impede the overall output of the dairy production in Nigeria. Also lack of economic incentives from the government hamper the expansion of Nigeria's dairy farmers.

These constraints may affect male and female dairy farmers differently depending on various factors such as attitude and access to productive resources. Gender is particularly important when considering the socio-economic and marketing aspects of dairy farming. In many dairy farming scenarios, women customarily are involved in milk processing while men are involved in grazing and milking, therefore, gender role is differentiated in dairy farming practices. Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO, 1998), defines gender as the relation between men and women, both perceptual and material. Gender roles are considered as the social definition of women and men in a society, so these roles can vary among different societies with regards to religion, culture, classes, values and beliefs. Hence, gender should not be seen as the promotion of women, rather it should be seen as a means of improvement of women position.

Gender analysis is a method of clarifying gender roles within a community and how they affect the lives of women and men as well as their influence on development (Gender Training Manual, 2004). Gender differences matter in agricultural production and in various farming systems all over the world, where the ownership and management of farms and natural resources by men and women are often defined by culturally specific gender roles. These gender specific

roles have created a gender gap which hinders agricultural productivity and poverty reduction. However, female contribute positively to economic development of many countries since they are involved in many agricultural activities. Looking at the trend of things in Nigeria, underinvestment in women's knowledge and skill is a common drawback for agricultural development.

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