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EFFECTIVENESS OF EXTENSION COMMUNICATION TECHNIQUES AMONG COCOYAM FARMERS PRODUCTIVITY IN GOKANA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, RIVERS STATE, NIGERIA.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined the influence of extension communication techniques on cocoyam farmer's productivity in the study area. The objectives of this study were to describe the socio-economic characteristics of cocoyam farmers, ascertain type of extension communication techniques accessed by cocoyam farmers, examine the perception of farmers on the effectiveness of extension communication techniques and identify the factors that militate against effective use of extension communication techniques in the study area. Using a multi-stage sampling procedure, data were collected from 88 respondents drawn from the total population of 112 registered cocoyam farmers in Gokana LGA (Rivers State Ministry of Agriculture, 2023). A set of structured questionnaire were used for data collection for the study. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics tools such as means, percentages, frequency and multiple regression analysis. The findings of the study showed that 45.5% of the sampled respondents are within the economically active age bracket of 41-50 years. About 54.5% of respondents were male while 45.5% were female, which shows that male is more involved in cocoyam production in the study area. About 45.5% of the respondents were married, household size is about 45.5% which has a range of 1 - 5 (5 persons) the majority respondents were literate with at least primary education of about 40.9%, though 27.3% had a tertiary education. Average levels of experience is about 11– 15yrs at (54.5%) years indicating the most of the respondents have been in cocoyam farming for a long time and are therefore conversant with the problems cocoyam production and how to access extension communication techniques in the study area and how to manage the risk involved in the business. The results reveal that the respondents had access to the following extension communication techniques such as radio, newspaper, television, home training, town crier, demonstration farm, leaflet/handbill, village drum and traditional technique. The findings of the study also shows that use of journal/magazine, organization of demonstration farm, use of audio aid such as radio and organization of home training were effective in the study area as shown in table 4.3 in chapter four(4). The major factors militating against effective use of extension communication techniques were irregular training/visit by extension agent, lack of cooperation from local leaders, illiteracy level of farmers, inadequacy of existing programs, lack of credit facilities, ineffective extension delivery system, poor access to credit and low income of farmers. From the result gotten, male are more involved in cocoyam productivity than female in the study area. Radio, television, home training, town crier, demonstration farmer, leaflet/handbill, agricultural show, village drum and traditional technique were the extension communication techniques that were accessible to the respondents in the study area. Also, Use of journal/magazine, organization of demonstration farm project, use of audio aid such as radio and organization of home training were the extension communication techniques that were effective while organization of agricultural show and organization of workshop/seminar were not effective in the study area. This study is recommending that ministry of Agriculture should promote regular studies; workshops/seminar as to create knowledge on new innovations or ideas from the research station.

Keywords: Effectiveness, Extension Communication Techniques Cocoyam Farmers Productivity:

INTRODUCTION

Agriculture is a field of study that is concerned with the activities of rearing animals, cultivation of soil to grow crops, and improvement of the quality of agricultural produce, products and by products for utilization by man, animals and industries. Agriculture takes a key position in the Nigerian economy judging by its critical role of providing food security, provision of employment, revenue generation and provision of raw materials for industrial development. The word "extension" simply means the process of making something (knowledge) cover a large group of people. Therefore, agriculture extension in its simplest definition is, making agricultural knowledge to reach wider but targeted clientele. Information, in a broad context refers to as an organized data recorded in various forms (Yahaya, 2003). Information could also be messages that are perceivable and recognizable value to the receiver. Information is therefore a raw resource for knowledge. In the agricultural sector, farmers need information about their farming activities.

Cocoyam has the following uses; fresh corms and cormels of cocoyam can be consumed after boiled, baked or roasted or fried in oil, boiled corms and cormels are pounded into a paste(fufu), similarly, to pounded yam eaten with stew or soup, cocoyam ,leaves are used for human food, eaten as vegetables in the various part of the world, including several countries in the tropics as it is very nutritious with 20% protein in a dry wet basis, with appreciable amounts of vitamins and minerals, leaves must not be eaten raw but boiled before consumption as it is irritating if eaten raw, corms and leaves of cocoyam can be used as animal feeds, the leaves should be converted to silage before using as a top prevent irritation to the animal; the corms of tannia are reserved as planting materials as the corms tends to be woody, cocoyam, used as flour after processing by peeling, slicing, (fresh or cooked),drying and milling to flour. The peel of cocoyam can be utilized as feed for ruminants rather than been discarded. Taro is used specially for the potentially allegic persons for the treatment of gastro-intestinal disorder.

As part of extension delivery, the Rivers State Agricultural Development Authority (ADP) on its own has extended its communication services to farmers in some villages now practiced or carry out other crops. However, Gokan LGA, success has been found within the cocoyam farmers, as they now used it particularly for major cover crops for plants like, yam, three-leaves yam, plantain etc. hence they have added values leaves of cocoyam helps in absorbing thunder lighting and acts as shade and smodar of weeds and shade for tree crops thereby assisting them in minimizing used of land, labour and capital (maintenance cultural practices in crop production.

Communication in agricultural extension leads to improve agricultural production of crops and livestocks through giving relevant information about pest and diseases, also given relevant into about proven agricultural technologies according to Fliese (2004), Communication is a vital issue in agriculture, conveying, improved and recommended agricultural practices through extension workers to clients in order to improve on their agricultural production and in marketing of their produce (Williams, 2009). On the other hand, agricultural extension is an out of school education for rural people. An extension agent is responsible for providing knowledge and information on particular innovations and through communication he passes such, to farmers. (Ajayi and Gunn 2009)

The term "extension" tends to be associated with agriculture and rural development, cooperative extension, advisory services, technology transfer, as well as the transfer and exchange of practical information (Ahmed, et.al 2015). The effectiveness of extension is related to communication strategies or techniques developed and their applications to bring about social transformation. Extension communication methods are devices, modes or channels used to create situations in which new information can pass freely from the source (extension worker or research institutes) to the farming communities (Ayanda, 2019). There are various extension communication techniques used as tools by the extension workers to effect desirable changes in the behaviour of farmers which include; group training, demonstration plot, adopted villages, On -Farm Adaptive Research and mass media (Nwaekpe, et.al 2014).

Extension communication is important because it assists the farmers to be aware of the problems and defining the problems for them and messages on extension communication are always based

on farmers experience or agricultural research findings. Usually, there are government information departments responsible for the communication of information between government and the farmers and the public regarding agricultural policies. The success of extension service delivery or techniques depends on the expertise and technical know-how of the extension personnel, which could be achieved by providing adequate and relevant information to wide range of farmers who live significantly in the rural areas (Tambari, et.al, 2014).

Objective of the study

The broad objective of the study is to examine the influence of extension communication techniques on cocoyam farmers' productivity in Gokana Local Government Area, Rivers State, and specifically, the study were to:

i. describe the socio-economic characteristics of cocoyam farmers' in the study area.
ii. ascertain the type of extension communication techniques accessed by cocoyam farmers.
iii. examine the perception of the effectiveness of extension communication techniques among cocoyam farmers in the study area.
iv. identify the factors that militate against effective use of extension communication techniques in the study area.

Hypotheses

The socio-economic characteristic of cocoyam farmers does not significantly affect the type of extension communication techniques accessed.

METHODOLOGY

This research work was carried out in Gokana Local Government Area in Rivers State Nigeria. Its headquarters is in the town of Kpor. Gokana is in the Ogoni area of rivers state. its covers an area of 126km square and a population of 228,828 at the (2006 census). The LGA is bounded by Khana, Tai, Ogu/Bolo and the Bonny river. The local language is the Gokana language. The major occupation of the people is farming, though its subsistent with kind of activities like hunting, fishing and trading. Yam is the predominant crop grown in the study area. Gokana Local Government is bounded by Tai, Khana, Ogu/Bolo and Andoni Local Governemnt Area. Gokana is divided into seventeen (17) towns, each headed by a king. Communities includes B.Dere, Barako, Bera, Biara, Bodo, Boghor, Bomu, Deken, Deeyor, Gbe, Goi, Goko, K.Dere, Kibangha, Kpor, Lewe, Mogho, Nugbelo, Nwebiara, Nweol, Nwuigra and Yeghe.

RESULT

This chapter covered the presentation of results from data analysis.

Socio-economic characteristics of cocoyam farmers forms an important aspects of the study as it captured respondents; sex, age, marital status, level of education, household size, occupation and farming experience in the study area.

The analytical results of socioeconomic characteristics of cocoyam farmers in the study area are presented in Table 1.

Frequency Distribution of Respondents according to their socioeconomic characteristics (n=88)

Variables	Categories	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Mean
Sex	Male	48	54.5	
	Female	40	45.5	
Age	21-30	8	9.1	
	31-40	16	18.2	
	41-50	40	45.5	41yrs
	51 and above	24	27.3	
Level of Education	Primary	36	40.9	
	Secondary	4	4.5	
	Tertiary	24	27.3	
	No formal education	24	27.3	
Marital status	Married	40	45.5	
	Single	8	9.1	
	Divorced	8	9.1	
	Widowed	32	36.4	
Occupation	Farmer	48	54.5	
	Trading	24	27.3	
	Civil Servant	4	4.5	
	Artisan	12	13.6	
Household size	1-5	40	45.5	
	6-10	36	40.9	8
	11-15	12	13.6	
Level of Experience	1-5yrs	8	9.1	
	6-10yrs	16	18.2	
	11-15yrs	16	18.2	11yrs
	16yrs and above	48	54.5	

Source: Field survey, 2023.

This section covers the summary of the extension communication techniques accessible the respondents by using frequency and percentage Table 2.

Table 2 Extension communication techniques accessible to cocoyam farmers (n=88)

Variables	Categories	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Remark
Radio	Yes	72	81.8	Accessible
	No	16	18.2	
	Total	**88**	**100**	
Newspaper	Yes	56	63.6	Accessible
	No	32	36.4	
	Total	**88**	**100**	
Television	Yes	68	77.3	Accessible
	No	20	22.7	
	Total	**88**	**100**	
Home Training	Yes	84	95.5	Accessible
	No	4	4.5	
	Total	**88**	**100**	

Seminar/Workshop	Yes	4	4.5	Not accessible
	No	84	95.5	
	Total	**88**	**100**	
Town crier	Yes	84	95.5	Accessible
	No	4	4.5	
	Total	**88**	**100**	
Journal/magazine	Yes	40	45.5	Not accessible
	No	48	54.5	
	Total	**88**	**100**	
Demonstration farm	Yes	48	54.5	Accessible
	No	40	45	
	Total	**88**	**100**	
Leaflet/handbill	Yes	56	63.4	Accessible
	No	32	36.4	
	Total	**88**	**100**	
Agricultural show	Yes	28	31.8	Not accessible
	No	60	68.2	
	Total	**88**	**100**	
Village drum	Yes	72	81.8	Accessible
	No	16	18.2	
	Total	**88**	**100**	
Traditional techniques	Yes	88	100	Accessible
	No	-	-	
	Total	**88**	**100**	

Source: Field Survey, 2023
Criterion: ≥50 %accessible while <50% Not accessible
Extension communication techniques accessible to cocoyam farmers in the study area.

This section present the summary of the perception of cocoyam farmers on the effectiveness of extension communication techniques by using the mean score, sum and standard deviation Table 3.

Table 3 Perception of cocoyam farmers on the effectiveness of extension communication techniques (n=88)

S/N.	Items	4 V.E	3 E	2 N.E	N	Sum	Mean	Std	Remark
1.	Organization of home training	56	32	-	88	320	3.20	0.484	Effective
2.	Use of journal/magazine	-	56	32	88	232	2.64	0.484	Effective
3.	Organization of demonstration farm project	16	32	40	88	240	2.73	0.754	Effective
4.	Use of audio aid such as radio	12	56	20	88	256	2.91	0.600	Effective
5.	Organization of workshop/seminar	4	20	64	88	204	2.32	0.558	Not effective
6.	Organization of agricultural show	4	32	52	88	216	2.16	0.585	Not effective
	Grand mean						**2.78**		

Criterions mean ≥ 2.50
Source: Field survey, 2023

Shows the summary statistics of the factors militating against effective use of extension communication techniques by using mean score, sum, standard deviation and remark Table 4.

Table 4 Factors militating against effective use of extension communication techniques (n=8)

S/N.	Items	4 SA	3 A	2 D	1 SD	Mean	Remark
1.	Irregular training/visit by extension agent	72	16	-	-	3.82	Agree
2.	Inadequacy of existing programs	72	16	-	-	3.82	Agree
3.	Poor access to credit	72	12	4	-	3.77	Agree
4	Ineffective extension delivery system	68	20	-	-	3.77	Agree
5.	Low income of farmers	64	20	4	-	3.64	Agree
6.	Lack of credit facilities	60	24	4	-	3.64	Agree
7.	Lack of cooperation from local leaders	36	40	12	-	3.27	Agree
8.	Illiteracy level of farmers	32	32	20	4	3.05	Agree
	Grand mean					**3.60**	**Agree**

Criterions mean ≥ 2.50
Source: Field survey, 2023

Table 5 Multiple Regression analysis on Socio-economic characteristics of cocoyam farmers does not significantly affect the types of extension communication techniques accessed.

Variables	B	Std.error	Beta	t.statistics	Sig.
Constant	4.023	.215		18.698	.050
Sex	.102	.058	.244	1.758	.083
Age	-.098	.050	-.424	-1.970	.052
Level of education	-.046	.016	-.362	-2.937	.004
Marital status	.016	.023	.073	.480	.633
Occupation	.010	.026	.048	.372	.711
Household size	.036	.035	.122	1.037	.303
Level of experience	.059	.043	.289	1.371	.174
R	.447[a]				
R^2	.199				
F-probability	2.848				

Dependent Variable: Access to extension comm. tech.
Source: Field survey, 2023

DICUSSION

From the table 1, the result reveals that 54.5% of the respondents were male, while 45.5% were female. This implies that the cocoyam production involves more male producers than female in cocoyam productivity because only the household head in each household was the respondent implying that female were respondent only in female headed households. Therefore there are more male headed households than female headed households.

This result also indicated that ages 21-30 (9.8%), 31 - 40 (18.2%), 41-50(45.5% and 50 and above (27.3%). This implies that age of the respondents plays a critical role in cocoyam production in the study area. The age of the respondents (as well as experience) is an important factor that can affect their level of efficiency and overall coping ability within the business (Oputa, 2005).

The respondents' educational levels indicated that (40.9%) had primary education, (4.5%) of the respondents had secondary education and (27.3%) of the respondents had tertiary education while (27.3%) had no formal education. This finding is showing that majority of the cocoyam producers

are educated but at primary level and do not have the resources to get to higher/tertiary level of education. It also determines the degree of excellences of individuals when performing business activities and knowledge of getting access to extension communication techniques. Higher level of literacy and experience often translates to better marketing strategies leading to higher profits (FAO, 2006).

From table 1, for the respondents' marital status, (45.5%) of the cocoyam farmers are married. This implies how married persons have committed to the business and can survive their families within. This result indicates that about (9.1%) of the respondents were single, producers (9.1%) were divorced while (36.4%) are divorced. This is a good development because the family members of the married farmers will always join and assist in cultivation and accessing extension communication techniques. Their availability reduces cost of labour during production (Teklewold *et.al*. 2006). This will eventually lead to increase in production in the study area.

The respondent's occupation (54.5%) are into farming, (27.3%) are into trading, (4.5%) of the respondents are civil servant and (13.6%) are artisan. The result indicates that the respondents are more into farming than other occupation in the in the study area.

For household size, the results further indicated that (45.5%) of the respondents had ranges of 1 - 5 persons as their household size followed by (40.9%) of the respondents which indicated that 6-10 persons are their household size, (13.6%) had a household size of 11 – 15 persons. (Babalola, 2014; NBS, 2007). It has been observed that large family size may imply more supply of labour hence reducing money spent to hire labour (Nwaru, 2006; Okolo, 2007). However, Babalola and Babalola (2013); Gebremedehin and Swinton (2003), opined that with increasing household size, respondents tend to divert funds originally meant for enterprise expansion to cater for domestic household needs According to Olukosi *et al*, 2007, processing adds form utility to a product by holding it from production and distributing it to the market overtime as at when needed the storage function occurs at all levels in the marketing channel of garri. Large family size may help in labour supply hence reducing money spent on hired labour and can be channel to extension communication techniques.

Experience refers to the act of gaining knowledge through practices of skill which brings about specialization. Those involved in the cultivation of cocoyam have enough experience on the challenges of cocoyam farming and how to access the extension communication techniques in the study area. From the distribution of the respondents according to their years of experience in cocoyam farming, the results further indicated the following 1-5 years (9.1%), followed by the ranges of 6-10 years (18.2%) while 11- 15yrs (18.2%) and 16yrs and above has percentage of (54.5%). This is an indication that majority of the respondents has taken in to cocoyam farming for quite a while in the study area. This is also in consonance with the findings of Oladeebo and Oluwaranti (2012) who reported 13years farming experience for cassava farming is an average in the production.

Results as gotten from the table above, it shows that (81.8%) of the respondents had access to radio which they got information from. This could either be that the respondents that do had access to radio maybe because of financial constraint. This indicates that radio is the extension communication technique that majority of the respondents had access to in the study area. From the table above, the results shows that (63.6%) of the respondents were able to access the newspaper. This implies that most of the respondents in the study area get access to newspaper and those that did not are few. From the above table, (77.3%) of the respondents in the study area easily access television which is one of the extension communication techniques and they got their information from television. This is implying that television is accessible to the respondents in the study area. The results as shown on the table show that (95.5%) of the respondents got access to home training from extension officers which is one of the extension communication techniques. This indicates that majority of the respondents got access to home training in the study area. Results as shown on the table above reveals that (4.5%) of the respondents got involve in seminar/workshop. This is an indication that majority of the respondents were not able to access seminar/workshop

due some financial demands. From the table above, the result shows that (95.5%) of the respondents access information from the town crier. This implies that almost all the respondents in the study area easily access information from the town crier mostly because it's the most common extension communication techniques in the rural area. Results as shown on the table above reveals that (45.5%) of the respondents access communication through journal/magazine in the study area. This is an indication that majority of the respondents were not able to access journal/magazine due some financial demands. The results as shown on the table show that (54.5%) of the respondents got access to demonstration farm which is one of the extension communication techniques. This indicates that majority of the respondents got access to demonstration farm in the study area. From the table above, the result shows that (63.4%) of the respondents access information from the leaflet/handbill. This implies that most of the respondents in the study area easily access information from the leaflet/handbill mostly because it's one of the most common extension communication techniques in the rural area. The results as shown on the table, show that (68.2%) of the respondents got access to agricultural show which is one of the extension communication techniques and. This indicates that majority of the respondents got access to agricultural show in the study area. The results on the table show that, (81.8%) of the respondents got access to village drum which is one of the extension communication techniques. This indicates that majority of the respondents got access to village drum for information in the study area. From the table above, the result shows that (100%) of the respondents access information from the traditional technique. This implies that all the respondents in the study area easily access information from the traditional technique mostly because it's the most common extension communication techniques in the rural area.

The perception of cocoyam farmers on the effectiveness of extension communication techniques in the study area were ranked as shown on Table 4.3 above. 6 items on the questionnaire were used to address the perception. Items number 2, 3, 4 and 6 were effective by respondent (as they all had criterion mean scores greater than 2.50) indicated use of journal/magazine, organization of demonstration farm, use of audio aid such as radio and organization of home training were effective in the study area. However, items numbered 1 and 5 which had a mean score of 2.45 and 2.32 (lower than the criterion mean) respectively; indicated organization of agricultural show and organization of workshop/seminar were not effective in the study area. The table also reveals that item (6) has the highest mean score of (3.64) while item (5) has the lowest mean score of (2.32). Again, a grand mean of (2.78) was obtained which indicates that the items were effective in the study are.

The factors that militate cocoyam farmers against effective use of extension communication techniques in the study area were ranked as shown on table 4.4 above. 8 items on the questionnaire were used to address the factors. All the items that is number 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 were agreed by the respondents (as they all had criterion mean scores greater than 2.50) indicated that irregular training/visit by the extension agents, lack of cooperation from local leaders, illiteracy level of farmers, inadequacy of existing programs, lack of credit facilities, ineffective extension delivery system, poor access to credit and low income of farmers were the major factors that militate against effective use of extension communication techniques in the study area. The table also reveals that item (1 and 4) has the highest mean score of (3.82) while item (2) has the lowest mean score of (3.27). Again, a grand mean of (3.60) was obtained which indicates that the items were factors that that militate cocoyam farmers against extension communication techniques in the study are.

From the result in Table 4.5 the $R^2 = 0.199$ which is greater than the (p-value=0.05) shows a good fit. The resultant R^2 of 0.199 implies that 19.9% of the variations are explained by variations in the explanatory variables used in the model.

Sex: t-value=1.758 and p-value=0.086 >0.05 which does not significantly affect the extension communication techniques accessed. Age: t-value=-1.970 and p-value=0.052 >0.05 which does not significantly influenced the accessibility of extension communication techniques. Marital status has a t-value=0.480 and p-value=0.633 >0.05 which does not significantly affect the accessibility of

extension communication techniques. Educational level; t-value=-2.937 and p-value=0.004 <0.05 which significantly influenced their accessibility to extension communication techniques in the study area, due to the fact that majority of the respondents where educated only to primary level and maybe due to some financial demands. Household size; t-value=0.372 and p-value=0.711 >.05 and it does not significantly affect the extension communication techniques accessed. Occupation t-value=1.037 and p-value=0.303 which does not significantly affect the extension communication techniques. And level of experience t-value=-1.371 and p-value=0.174 >0.05 and is therefore concluded that it does not significantly influenced their accessibility of extension communication techniques in the study area.

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Summary

This research work on influence of extension communication techniques on cocoyam farmers' productivity in Gokana Local Government Area, Rivers State, Nigeria was carried out to examine the influence of extension communication techniques on cocoyam farmers productivity in the study area. The objectives of this study were to describe the socio-economic characteristics of cocoyam farmers, ascertain type of extension communication techniques accessed by cocoyam farmers, examine the perception of farmers on the effectiveness of extension communication techniques and identify the factors that militate against effective use of extension communication techniques in the study area. Using a multi-stage sampling technique, data were collected from 88 respondents drawn from the total population of 112 registered cocoyam farmers in Gokana LGA (Rivers State Ministry of Agriculture, 2021). A set of structured questionnaires were used for data collection for the study.
Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics such as means score, percentages, graph, frequency and multiple regression analysis. The findings of the study showed that 45.5% of the sampled respondents are within the economically active age bracket of 41-50 years. About 54.5% of respondents were male while 45.5% were female, which shows that male are more involved in cocoyam production in the study area. About 45.5% of the respondents were married, household size is about 45.5% which has a range of 1 - 5 (5 persons) the majority respondents were literate with at least primary education of about 40.9%, though 27.3% had a tertiary education. Average levels of experience is about 11– 15yrs at (54.5%) years indicating the most of the respondents have been in cocoyam farming for a long time and are therefore conversant with the problems cocoyam production and how to access extension communication techniques in the study area and how to manage the risk involved in the business.
The results reveal that the respondents had access to the following extension communication techniques such as radio, newspaper, television, home training, town crier, demonstration farm, leaflet/handbill, village drum and traditional technique. The findings of the study also shows that use of journal/magazine, organization of demonstration farm, use of audio aid such as radio and organization of home training were effective in the study area as shown in table 4.3 in chapter four(4). The major identified factors militating against effective use of extension communication techniques were irregular training/visit by extension agent, lack of cooperation from local leaders, illiteracy level of farmers, inadequacy of existing programs, lack of credit facilities, ineffective extension delivery system, poor access to credit and low income of farmers.

Conclusion

From the result, male are more involved in cocoyam productivity than female in the study area. Radio, television, home training, town crier, demonstration farmer, leaflet/handbill, agricultural show, village drum and traditional technique were the extension communication techniques that were accessible to the respondents in the study area. Also, Use pf journal/magazine, organization of demonstration farm project, use of audio aid such as radio and organization of home training were the extension communication techniques that were effective while organization of agricultural show and organization of workshop/seminar were not effective in the study area.

Recommendations

i. Promotion of collaboration on development of methodologies and indicators for measuring the outcomes of enhancing access to and use of extension communication techniques by the respondents.
ii. The ministry of Agriculture should develop more sustainable ways and means of enabling farmers with unlimited access to and use of extension communication techniques. This should be done alongside, motivating all extension agents to be effective in their service delivery.
iii. The ministry of Agriculture should promote regular studies; workshops/seminar as to create knowledge on new innovations or ideas from the research station.
iv. Government should provide access to credit so that the farmers can acquire more extension communication techniques and can be able to access the ones that required training.

Suggestion for Further Studies

This research focused on influence of extension communication techniques. Future research can also be conducted separately on extension service delivery. Moreover, the field survey concentrated on one local government area in Rivers State. However, there is a need for area-specific research to present a more robust view of the extension communication techniques and how accessible by the farmers.

Contributions to Knowledge

The study indicated that, most of the extension communication techniques were effective in the study area.

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