The Impact of HIV/AIDS on Agricultural Productivity in Ukum Local Government Area of Benue State, Nigeria

G. A. Abu*, I. D. Ekpebu** and S.A. Okpachu***

*Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Agriculture, Makurdi, Nigeria
E-mail: goddy_master@yahoo.co.uk

**Department of Agricultural Economics, Niger Delta University, Wilberforce Island, Bayelsa State, Nigeria

***Federal College of Education (Technical), Potiskum, Yobe State, Nigeria
E-mail: steve_okpachu@yahoo.com

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ABSTRACT The study aimed at determining and comparing the socio-demographic characteristics between HIV/AIDS victims and non-HIV/AIDS victims and the effects of HIV/AIDS on Agricultural productivity. The study tested the hypothesis that there is no difference in income from farming between HIV/AIDS and non-HIV/AIDS victims in the study area. Methodologically, the study used 40 questionnaires administered to each of the group and Focused Group Discussion (FGD). Data collected were analyzed using simple descriptive statistics and t-test. The results of the study showed that the majority of the respondents were between the ages of 15-49 years. This range of age is considered to be the productive age of active farmers and also, constituted most sexually active age range. Both the infected and non-infected Farm families received more of their sources of labour from their families but the infected families received much more. The t-test at 5% level of probability showed that there was a significant difference between the farm size and annual income of the HIV/AIDS infected farm families and the non-infected farm families. The study recommended that government and faith-based organizations should mount campaign against pre-marital sex, promiscuity and infidelity.