

Farmers' Attitude to Nigerian Guinea Worm Eradication Health Education Programmes in Orire Local Government Area of Oyo State, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT This study focused on farmers attitude towards Nigerian Guinea Worm Eradication Health Education Programmes (NIGEP) in Orire Local Government Area of Oyo State, Nigeria. One hundred and twenty farmers were selected by simple random sampling through an interview schedule and data was collected using a set of pre-determined questions. Findings revealed that 95.8 percent farmers perceived that guinea worm disease had effect on the level of agricultural production. About 71.7% had positive attitude towards Nigerian Guinea Worm Eradication Health Education Programmes. The result further showed that 72.5 percent of the farmers had positive perception of the activities of health educator. Gender, age, education level, marital status and religion did not significantly influence farmers' attitude towards NIGEP'S health education programmes. Also, there was a significant and positive correlation between farmers' perception on health educator activities and farmers' attitude towards NIGEP health education. On the basis of these findings, it was recommended that health education should be intensified to stem the spread of guinea worm. Besides, people living in the rural communities should be encouraged to make contributions towards solving known problems. Finally, government and Non-governmental organizations should provide financial assistance towards provision of more boreholes and hand-dug wells since safe source of water is universally acknowledged as the final panacea to water-borne diseases, including guinea worm.