

A Comparative Analysis of Crop Production Intensification and its Determinants among Kwara and Niger States Maize-Based Farming Households

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ABSTRACT Nigeria has been faced with food supply deficit in the past decades. Continuous increase in population density and the consequent pressures from competing demands for land over time have the tendency of worsening the Nigerian arable land situation in the foreseeable future, if unaddressed. Thus, this study compared crop production intensification and its determinants among Kwara and Niger States maize-based households. A total of two-hundred and fifty-two maize-based households were interviewed using structured questionnaire. Data collected were analysed using crop intensification index and Tobit regression model. Analysis revealed that Niger state households have higher crop intensity scores than those of Kwara state households. The estimated Tobit model revealed that market access, farm income and adoption of land management practices; and extension contact, farm income and adoption of land management practices are the significant variables among Kwara and Niger State maize-based households respectively. For sustainability of maize based production, there is the need for a policy option that addresses the provision of qualitative extension education and farming households' access to market in the study areas.