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Determinants and Uses of Farm Income from the Cassava Enterprise in Ondo State, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT The on-going campaign for increased production of cassava rests on peasant farmers for its success. One obstacle is the unavailability of credit for farm expansion and the need for farmers to prudently utilize income from the farm firm. The study therefore examines the determinants and uses of income generated from cassava cultivation. Descriptive statistics, budgetary analysis and multiple regression models were the tools utilized for data analysis. Empirical results show that cassava cultivation is profitable in the study area with gross revenue (GR), gross margin (GM) and net farm income (NFI) per hectare of ₦95,700.00, ₦90,133.74 and ₦88,319.18 respectively. NFI was determined by size of cassava farm, quantity of hired labour used, amount of capital invested on farm and the variety of cassava cultivated. These factors were significant at either 5% or 1% level and positively influenced income. Income generated was put to a variety of uses with family food consumption, children's school needs and purchase and maintenance of household assets accounting for about 40.0%, 28.2% and 7.7% respectively. Only 13.2% of income, considered insufficient for a reasonable farm expansion bid, was re-invested into the cassava enterprise. It is recommended that a special credit window be opened for cassava farmers if the desired boost in cassava production is to be achieved and sustained.