

Constraints to Sawah Rice Production System in Nigeria

C. I. Alarima^{1*}, C. O. Adamu², T. Masunaga¹ and T. Wakatsuki³

¹*Faculty of Life and Environmental Sciences, Shimane University, Matsue, Japan*

²*Department of Agricultural Extension and Rural Development, University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Nigeria* ³*Faculty of Agriculture, Kinki University, Nara, Japan*

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ABSTRACT This study identified the constraints to adoption of sawah system of rice production in Nigeria. Data were collected from 124 randomly selected sawah-rice farmers. Data were analysed using correlation and regression analyses to determine the relationships between the study variables. The results showed that respondents were predominantly male (98.80%), married (98.80%) and had Quranic education (62.70%). Farm size ranged from 0.03 to 10 hectares ($\chi = 0.5$ ha), mean yield was 4.65 tonnes/ha, and mean income was \$1,041.38 (\$1 = ₦145.00). Production and on-farm constraints affecting sawah development were water management and flood. Major economic constraints faced by sawah farmers were lack of viable financial agencies to support production, poor capital base and non-availability of loan. Regression analysis showed that the yield of sawah was negatively related to land acquisition constraints ($\beta = -0.34$, $p < 0.05$) and technological constraints ($\beta = -0.43$, $p < 0.01$). This study concluded that problems faced by farmers were interwoven in which existence of one relates with the other. Addressing these problems will lead to increase in the rate of adoption of sawah rice production technology and ultimately rice productivity in Nigeria.