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Resource Allocation for Cocoyam and Coffee Production in Momo, North West Region of Cameroon

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ABSTRACT In the North West Region of Cameroon, cocoyam and coffee crops are simultaneously cultivated on the same piece of land creating an allocation problem of labour and capital resources. Hence, this study aims to determine the intensities and productivity in the usage of labour and capital for cultivating the two crops. Using a multistage random sampling design, 120 farmers were selected for the study. Data was collected on family size, age of respondent, level of education, farming experience, output of coffee and cocoyam, farm size and labour used in terms of mandays. The field data were analysed using descriptive statistics and Cobb-Douglas production function. Descriptive field results showed that, there was no significant difference in usage of labour and capital for cocoyam production, while coffee production was capital intensive. Output for cocoyam was dependent on labour and capital. Results from Cobb-Douglas production function showed an increasing return to scale for cocoyam and a decreasing return to scale for coffee with respect to both the labour and capital inputs. One percent increase in the intensities of labour and capital led to only 0.33% increase in coffee yield. Hence, the study recommends that labour and capital should firstly be allocated to cocoyam production where they are more productive.