ISSN 0970-9274
JOURNAL OF HUMAN ECOLOGY
International Interdisciplinary Journal of Man-Environment Relationship

 J Hum Ecol, 44(2): 189-194 (2013)

Effect of Malaria on Farming Households' Welfare in Ido Local Government Area of Oyo State, Nigeria

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KEYWORDS Malaria. Welfare. Morbidity. Mortality. Nigeria

ABSTRACT This study examined the effect of malaria morbidity and associated incapacitation on the welfare of farming households. Multi-stage random sampling procedure was used for sampling 120 farming households and data were analyzed using both descriptive and multiple regression techniques. The findings show that 33.33% used mosquito nets to prevent malaria, while 79.17% visited medical practitioners when sick of malaria. Morbidity due to malaria infection affected farmers' welfare through days of incapacitation with average of 12 days per annum and estimated average annual per capita income loss of ₦ 26,694.17. The regression results showed that increase in age of farmers and food expenditure significantly reduced households' income, while farm size, non-food expenditure, total income lost due to malaria and travelling time increased it ($p<0.10$). It was recommended that more efforts at reducing malaria morbidity can be addressed through awareness creation and initiatives to provide subsidized malaria treatments to the poor should be considered.