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The Effect of Onset and Cessation of Raining Season on Crops Yield in Lafia

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ABSTRACT The study was aimed at analysing the effect of rainfall onset and cessation trends on crop yields in Lafia town of Nasarawa State from 1980 to 2010. The data was collected from the Nigerian Meteorological Agency Abuja for the said period. Data for crops yield were obtained from Nasarawa Agricultural Development project (NADP) Lafia from 1997 to 2010 for which data were available. The crop yields were used to examine the effect of onset and cessation on crops yield. Regression analysis revealed that that cessation of raining season has more effect on crops yield as compared to onset of raining season. Farmers and others interested in agro allied services should therefore ensure early planting of crops in order to avoid been caught up by the rainfall cessation.