

© Kamla-Raj 2005

PRINT: ISSN 0971-8923 ONLINE: ISSN 2456-6756

J. Soc. Sci., 11(2): 165-171 (2005)

DOI: 10.31901/24566756.2005/11.02.11

## **Profitability of Fungicide Use Decisions Among Cocoa Farmers in Southwestern Nigeria**

**A. A. Tijani**

*Department of Agricultural Economics, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria*

**KEYWORDS** Profitability; fungicide use rate; decision theoretic model; cocoa

**ABSTRACT** This study examined the compatibility of the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) recommended fungicide use rate with profit maximization objective of Nigerian cocoa farmers. To achieve this research objective, a cross-sectional survey of cocoa farmers in four Local Government areas (LGAs) each in Osun and Ondo states was carried out. A three stage sampling procedure was adopted in selecting the respondents. A decision theoretic approach and the OLS regression method were used to analyze the data collected. The results indicated that (i) expected crop loss should be taken into account when deciding on the amount of fungicides to apply in the study area and (ii) the use rate recommended by CRIN could not be used in all situations – it is better used when the probability of large expected crop loss is extremely high (80%)