BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY
Pursuing Excellence

P.O. Box 236, Tororo, Uganda
Gen: +256 - 45 444 8838
Fax: +256 - 45 4436517
Email: info@adm.busitema.ac.ug

www.busitema.ac.ug

BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY ARAPAI CAMPUS

FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRIBUSINESS AND EXTENSION

PERCEPTION OF MAIZE GRAIN DEALERS AND NON MAIZE GRAIN DEALERS ON MAIZE GRAIN BUSINESS: A CASE STUDY OF LEFORI SUB-COUNTY MOYO DISTRICT.

By

LALOYO RONNY MATHEW

REG NO: BU/UP/2020/1335

Email: lra.babstar@gmail.com

COURSE: BACHELOR OF AGRIBUSINESS

SUPERVISOR: DR .KABBIRI RONALD

A SPECIAL PROJECT REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRIBUSINESS AND EXTENSION IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF AGRIBUSINESS OF BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY

MARCH, 2024

DECLARATION

This study is original and has not been published or submitted for any other degree award to any other university before.

Signature ..... Date.....27/03/24.....

LALOYO RONNY MATHEW

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APPROVAL

This special project Report has been submitted to the department of Agribusiness and Extension with approval of the university supervisor.

Signature ..... Date..... 4/4/2024

DR.KABBIRI RONALD

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DEDICATION

I would like to dedicate this research report to my dear beloved parents, William Pashi and Peace Florence for laying a strong foundation of my education.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ANOVA: Analysis of Variance

SPSS: Statistical package of social sciences

OPV: Open-pollinated variety

EMAD: Enhance Market Access and Dynamics

NURI: Northern Uganda Resilience Initiative

IPM: Integrated Pest Management

ABSTRACT

This study was conducted to explore the Perception of maize grain dealers and non-maize grain dealers in Lefori sub county Moyo district. A total of 80 respondents were selected using simple random selection where a semi structured questionnaire was used to collect data. The specific objectives of this study were to assess the socio demographic characteristics of maize grain dealers and non-maize grain dealers, to determine the perception about maize grain business by maize grain dealers and to determine the perceptions about maize grain business by non-maize grain dealers.This study adopted a cross sectional study research design where a quantitative approach was used to come up with the the perceived views about maize grain business from the perspectives of maize grain dealers and non-maize grain dealers. The data was analyzed using SPSS where Descriptive statistics were used to analyze and interpret results. Further, the study indicates that majority of the sample population of the respondents from both the maize grain dealers and non-maize grain dealers were the female gender who were more than male gender due to their active participation and availability when conducting the study Majority of the respondents had between 1-2 and 3-4 children and adults in their households and many of them were married, a few owned transport means inform of bicycles or other means, very small number had bank accounts and majority were located less than 5km from the nearest market.. The majority of respondents identify as maize grain dealers, indicating the economic importance of maize as a cash crop in the community. The diverse perception and categorization of maize as a cash crop, food crop, or both making it to serve both commercial and subsistence purposes. The preference for Open-Pollinated Variety (OPV) maize varieties suggests an over view perception of their productivity among dealers hence influencing the choice of maize varieties in the region. Overall, these views contribute to an important understanding of the maize grain trade in Lefori Sub County. This recommends that as the perception of maize grain dealers improves, their household income tends to increase and vice versa. Stakeholders, including policymakers should collaborate with maize grain dealers to come up with strategies for improving market conditions.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Maize (Zea mays L.) is one of the world's three dominant cereal crops which is important in Uganda as a household food and income security crop (R. Ajambo ,2017).

The world's consumption of maize is more than 116 million metric tons, to the fact that there is a high consumption of maize globally with United States producing 40% of world's harvest. In Sub-Saharan Africa, 50% of the population consumes maize while the entire African continent accounts for 30% of global Maize consumption and 6.5% production where Nigeria leads with 10 metric tons (Shamim ,2019), Maize is the mostly cultivated crop with about 86 per cent of agricultural households in Uganda and the number-one staple food for the poor in urban areas, in institutions like schools, hospitals and military.

In Uganda, It is mainly grown on subsistence level, and so it has large significance for food security with 55% of households reporting food self-sufficiency as main reason for maize production representing important opportunities for export, with 14 percent to 20 percent of the total production going to Kenya, South-Sudan, and Rwanda (Barriga ,2018).

It is the source of income for most farmers or growers in Eastern, Northern and North Western Uganda between 0.2 and 0.5 hectares on average with eastern region leading with 1,108,556 metric tons and it is sold in most cases grain form with profit margins of the village agents at 5–10 Uganda shillings (UGX) per kilogram while urban traders may earn as much as UGX 60 per kg despite losses and risks (Maku ,2022).

Maize, a staple crop plays a crucial role in food security and economic stability (Mastenbroek & Ntare ,2021). In the relation to Lefori Sub county Moyo District, maize cultivation and trading form a significant part of the local economy. The maize grain business, in particular, serves as a purpose of influencing the livelihoods of both maize grain dealers and non-maize grain dealers alike. This research looks into the perceived views on maize grain business within the local community, examining the perspectives of those directly involved in the trade as well as those who are not directly engaged in maize grain dealings.

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