



Adoption Dynamics of Agroforestry Practices by Central Mali Maize Farmers Over Five Years

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Abstract

Agroforestry practices combine trees with crops or livestock, enhancing soil health and biodiversity in agricultural landscapes. Qualitative data from semi-structured interviews and focus groups were analysed using thematic analysis for depth insights into farmer perspectives and practices. Farmers showed a significant shift towards integrating trees with crops, particularly in improving soil fertility and reducing water stress. Agroforestry adoption by Central Mali maize farmers has been driven by environmental concerns and improved livelihood outcomes, though faced challenges related to initial investment costs and market access. Government support for agroforestry extension services and capacity building programmes is recommended to facilitate wider farmer participation.

Keywords: *African, Maize, Agroforestry, Methodology, Sustainability, Biodiversity, Community Engagement*

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