



Adoption Rates and Yield Gains of Sustainable Agriculture Practices in Rainfed Maize Farming in Northern Nigeria: A Qualitative Study from 2001 to 2001

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Abstract

This study examines the adoption rates and yield gains of sustainable agriculture practices in rainfed maize farming among smallholder farmers in northern Nigeria. A qualitative study employing semi-structured interviews with 50 maize farmers in northern Nigeria was conducted from 2001 to 2001. Data were analysed using thematic analysis methods. Farmers showed a gradual increase in adoption rates over the three-year period, particularly for water conservation techniques such as mulching and crop rotation. Sustainable practices led to significant yield gains of up to 30% in some farms despite initial skepticism among farmers regarding long-term benefits. Government policies should incentivize sustainable agriculture through subsidies and extension services, while farmers need training on best management practices.

Keywords: *African Geography, Sustainable Agriculture, Smallholder Farmers, Qualitative Research, Maize Farming, Yield Analysis, Case Study*

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