



Adoption Dynamics of Drought-Resistant Rice Varieties among Smallholder Farmers in Central Sudanese Villages: A Three-Year Impact Assessment in Algeria

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Abstract

Drought conditions in Central Sudanese villages have significantly impacted rice cultivation, leading to reduced yields and food insecurity among smallholder farmers. A qualitative study employing semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions with farmers, government officials, and extension service providers to explore factors influencing DRR adoption. Findings indicate that while initial interest was high (70% of respondents showed interest), only 35% adopted the varieties due to perceived yield limitations and lack of local adaptation strategies. Despite initial enthusiasm, farmers' reluctance towards adopting DRR is attributed primarily to concerns about yield performance and insufficient farmer training programmes. Extension services should prioritise training on both technical aspects (e.g., proper planting techniques) and socio-economic factors (e.g., market access) related to DRR adoption.

Keywords: *Geographical Indicators, Rural Development, Smallholder Agriculture, Food Security, Agricultural Adaptation, Community Participation, Ethnographic Inquiry*

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