



Genetically Modified Cassava Varieties and Farmer Income in Northeastern Nigeria: Health Implications

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Abstract

Genetically modified (GM) crops have been introduced to address food security challenges in developing countries like Nigeria. Cassava is a crucial staple crop in northeastern Nigeria, but its productivity and health impacts are not well understood. The research employed a mixed-methods approach including surveys ($n=200$) *^* *focus groups with local farmers*. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics and thematic analysis. Farmers adopting GM cassava varieties reported an average increase in monthly income of \$150 compared to those not using the technology, though this varied by region. The adoption of GM cassava has led to significant improvements in farmer incomes but further research is needed on its long-term health impacts and wider socioeconomic effects. Further studies should be conducted to monitor the health implications of GM cassava consumption over time, particularly in vulnerable populations like children and pregnant women. Genetically Modified Cassava, Farmer Income, Health Outcomes, Northeastern Nigeria

Keywords: *African agroecology, cassava nutrition, genetically modified organisms (GMOs), income inequality, public health effects, smallholder farmers, sustainable agriculture*

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