



Impact of Agricultural Extension Services on Potato Yields in Western Kenyan Villages: A Comparative Study

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Abstract

Potato cultivation is a significant agricultural activity in Western Kenya, contributing to food security and income generation. However, yield variability exists due to varying farming practices. A mixed-methods approach was employed, including surveys and interviews with farmers to gather quantitative and qualitative data. AES was operationalized as a set of training sessions and resource provision provided by non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Post-intervention potato yields increased by an average of 25% in the villages where AES was implemented, compared to a 10% increase in control areas. AES significantly enhanced potato productivity and farmers' incomes, indicating its potential as a key strategy for agricultural development in Western Kenya. Governments and NGOs should prioritise scaling up AES initiatives across the region to maximise yield improvements. Agricultural Extension Services, Potato Yields, Food Security, Agricultural Development

Keywords: *Kenyan, Agricultural Extension, Farming Practices, Yield Variability, Potato Cultivation, Comparative Analysis, Smallholder Farmers*

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