



# Eco-Friendly Inputs Adoption Rates among Maize Farmers in Zimbabwe: A Methodological Framework

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### Abstract

Eco-friendly agricultural inputs are crucial for sustainable farming practices in Zimbabwe's maize production sector. A mixed-methods approach combining surveys with focus group discussions was employed. The survey included 150 randomly selected maize farmers, while focus groups involved ten representatives from farmer associations. Focus group themes identified key barriers and facilitators to eco-friendly input adoption, such as lack of awareness (42%) and cost (10–20 per unit). *The methodological framework provides insights for policymakers and researchers aiming to increase*  $\hat{\theta} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta} \sum_i \ell(y_i, f_{\theta}(x_i)) + \lambda \|\theta\|_2^2$ , with performance evaluated using out-of-sample error.

**Keywords:** Geography, Africa, Mixed-Methods, Survey, FocusGroup, Qualitative, Quantitative, IndigenousKnowledge

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