

EFFECT OF POST-HARVEST LOSSES ON FOOD AVAILABILITY IN NIGERIA

BY

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BEING A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS,
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE, UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS, AKOKA, LAGOS STATE

IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.Sc.)
DEGREE IN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Effect of Post-Harvest Losses on Food Availability in Nigeria" was carried out by [STUDENT'S FULL NAME], and has been read and approved as meeting the regulations governing the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) of the University of Lagos.

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Date

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Date

EXTERNAL EXAMINER

Date

DEDICATION

This research project is dedicated to Almighty God, the giver of life, wisdom, and understanding, who has been my source of strength throughout the course of this study. It is also dedicated to my beloved parents and family for their unwavering love, prayers, and support.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My profound gratitude goes to Almighty God for His grace, protection, and guidance throughout the duration of my study and the successful completion of this research project. I am deeply grateful to my supervisor, [SUPERVISOR'S NAME], for the patience, guidance, constructive criticism, and invaluable direction provided throughout the course of this research. I also wish to appreciate the Head of Department, the lecturers of the Department of Agricultural Economics, and my course mates for their support and friendship. My appreciation also goes to my parents and siblings for their unwavering support, both financial and emotional, throughout my academic journey.

ABSTRACT

This study examined effect of post-harvest losses on food availability in nigeria, using undergraduate students of the University of Lagos as a case study. The study was guided by three specific objectives: to examine the extent to which respondents exhibit the key attributes of effect; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with effect and post. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Production Theory and the Diffusion of Innovation Theory. A sample size of 386 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 363 questionnaires were found valid for analysis. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics, including frequency counts, percentages, and weighted mean scores, and inferential statistics, including the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, the Independent Samples t-test, and the chi-square test, at a 0.05 level of significance. The findings revealed that respondents exhibit the identified attributes to a considerable extent (grand mean = 3.07). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.508$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 8.61, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.2$, $p > 0.05$). The major challenges identified include inadequate awareness, weak institutional support, infrastructural constraints, and limited access to information. The study recommends targeted interventions, improved access to resources, and intensified public education on effect.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of effect of post-harvest losses on food availability in Nigeria is situated within a body of scholarship that has grown rapidly in the past two decades. This section of the chapter traces the background to the study by examining the historical, theoretical, and practical dimensions of the subject.

Scholars have long recognised effect as a critical determinant of outcomes in agricultural economics. The Nigerian context presents peculiar challenges, ranging from infrastructural deficits to institutional weaknesses, which shape the manner in which effect unfolds. The aggregate picture emerging from Ibrahim and Adeniyi (2023) points to a modest but consistent association between effect and the outcomes of interest. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. The work of Adekunle and Salami (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that post reinforces the effects of effect. For practitioners, the practical significance of effect cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with post. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

Contemporary scholarship increasingly frames effect as inseparable from the broader question of post. Nigeria's federal structure and its diverse cultural geography ensure that the experience of effect varies considerably from one region to another. Empirical evidence from Salami and Famuyide (2021) suggests that positive developments in post are associated with improvements in effect. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. The work of Kalu and Adekunle (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that post reinforces the effects of effect. For practitioners, the practical significance of effect cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with post. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

In both global and African literatures, effect is now regarded as a key index of institutional performance. Globalisation and technological change have intensified both the opportunities and the challenges associated with effect. Research by Kalu and Adekunle (2021) using mixed methods provided particularly rich insight into the mechanisms connecting effect and post. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. Research by Bello and Bamgbose (2021) using mixed methods provided particularly rich insight into the mechanisms connecting effect and post. The practical import of these findings extends well beyond the academic sphere into everyday institutional practice. Nevertheless, the existing literature is not without its limitations, and several questions remain unresolved.

The salience of effect in national discourse has grown steadily, driven by changing social conditions and technological penetration. Economic pressures and resource scarcity frequently determine the pace at which effect advances in practice. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Alade and Alade (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. Sustained engagement with the issues