

INFLUENCE OF RAINFALL VARIABILITY ON CROP PRODUCTION IN NIGERIA

BY

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BEING A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY, FACULTY OF
SOCIAL SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS, AKOKA, LAGOS STATE

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

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Influence of Rainfall Variability on Crop Production 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.

PROJECT SUPERVISOR

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 Geography, 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 influence of rainfall variability on crop production 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 influence; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with influence and rainfall. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Systems Theory and the Sustainable Development Theory. A sample size of 388 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 355 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 = 3.14). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.506$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 8.64, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.24$, $p > 0.05$). 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 influence.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of influence of rainfall variability on crop production 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.

A growing corpus of literature draws attention to the pivotal role of influence in shaping developmental trajectories. Globalisation and technological change have intensified both the opportunities and the challenges associated with influence. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Bamgbose and Ekwueme (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. Aderemi and Alade (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of influence are unevenly distributed across groups. The practical import of these findings extends well beyond the academic sphere into everyday institutional practice. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

In both global and African literatures, influence is now regarded as a key index of institutional performance. Federal and state governments have initiated several reforms, yet implementation gaps continue to constrain progress in matters of influence. Studies by Alade and Musa (2019) largely support the view that influence exerts a measurable influence on outcomes of interest. The practical import of these findings extends well beyond the academic sphere into everyday institutional practice. Ibrahim and Eze (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of influence are unevenly distributed across groups. For practitioners, the practical significance of influence cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with rainfall. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

In recent years, influence has emerged as a central theme in scholarly discourse on geography. Economic pressures and resource scarcity frequently determine the pace at which influence advances in practice. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Ibrahim and Eze (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Bamgbose and Umeh (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. Such findings reinforce the argument that influence deserves a place of priority on the development agenda. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

Scholars have long recognised influence as a critical determinant of outcomes in geography. Public institutions at the federal, state, and local levels have developed programmes that seek to mainstream influence into routine governance. An examination by Salami and Ibrahim (2019) attributed much of the observed variation in outcomes to institutional capacity and policy continuity. Accordingly, there is a growing