

GRAZING VIOLENCE AND AFFECTED FARM OPERATIONS IN PARTS OF SOUTH EASTERN NIGERIA

BY

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INTRODUCTION

- Nigerian physical variability.
- Nigerian occupational variability.
- Pastoral movement cycle.
- Climate change-effects – greater pressures, resistance, violence, adjustments.
- What has become of farm operation in the contested space?
- What has become of traditional resilience building mechanism?

AIM AND OBJECTIVES

- **AIM:** - To ascertain the dimensions of on-farm and off-farm damage done to agricultural resilience by grazing violence in South Eastern Nigeria
- **OBJECTIVES:-** To ascertain or establish
 - Aspects of grazing violence
 - affected farm operations
 - Consequences of grazing violence
 - Ways grazing violence modify farm operations

METHODS

- Surveying of five South East states-
areas of significant pastoral activity
- 0.1 percent of the Local Government
Population (840 respondents)
- Systematic random sampling

RESULTS

- Grazing violence is comprehensive (water, forest resources, exotic weed, soil, socio-economic)
- Crop losses – substantial only 3.9 percent reporting no loss experience
- Women's vulnerability (economic exposure and physical assaults)
- Vulnerable stages of farmland development – land preparation is modal (40.4%)
- Post-harvest fields affected – implications
- Farmland abandonment
- Production woes – cassava producing 9bags (50kg) per capita from 69.6% of farmers 12years ago to 3.3% 2years ago.
- Cultivated space reduced for 52.8% in 10year period

- Farmer drop out syndrome. Only 7.5% are unaware of any persons that dropped out.
- Demise of farmsteads -26.8% reduced time; 18.3% stopped. Only 1.3percent increased time.
- Post-harvest fields now off-limits (86.4% will not allow pastoralists access)
- 43.4% attain 12hour mark on a farm day in the traditional setting. 2.06% attain it in the present.
- 84.9% have to mobilize farm bound teams of at least 7 persons.
- Value of crops lost, not matched by compensation value.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Constructive engagement
- Ranching
- Legislations and enforcement
- Special taskforces for claims/compensation matters

CONCLUSION

- Farm work is/has been modified in resonance to grazing violence
- Grazing violence has affected resilience of agriculture
- Ranching to the rescue. Externalities should be internalized in pastoral activities.

THANKS