

*Original research paper

DETERMINANTS OF FOOD CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE AMONG AGRO BASED FIRMS WORKERS IN SOUTHERN NIGERIA: SIMULTANEOUS EQUATION APPROACH

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ABSTRACT

The study determines factors that affect food consumption expenditure of agro based firm workers in Cross River State, southern Nigeria. *The present study fills a significant in the literature* Cross-sectional data were collected from 250 randomly selected workers of five rubber estates in the region. Descriptive statistics and two-stage least squares method of simultaneous equation model was used in the analysis. Analyses of the socio-economic characteristics of respondents reveal that, the rubber sub- sector was dominated by middle age workers who are predominantly males. More than 70% of the workers had some years of formal education while majority of the workers have moderate family size. In addition about 97% of the workers invested more than one year in the various estates sampled. Also, 76.8% of respondents belong to the local cooperative society; while only 6% depended solely on their salaries. Furthermore, the results of the analysis revealed that salary, tax, family size, non-food consumption expenditure and farm income determine the food consumption expenditure of rubber plantation estates workers in cross River State. *To improve workers food consumption expenditures, increase in salary in line with changes in the macro-economic variables in the country was advocated. In addition, policies targeted towards reducing household size and tax including provision of amenities and infrastructures in the rural areas were recommended, as these would upsurge the agro-based workers food consumption expenditure and increase productivity in the rubber sub-sector.*

Comment [M1]: It is very important to show the contribution of your research to the existing literature

Comment [M2]: The results reported do not reflect the methodology used. At present the results read very descriptively rather than on the basis of a particular equation approach. There is no evidence of simultaneous equation model.

Comment [M3]: Before these suggestions, briefly state the main research conclusion that drawn from the results obtained (one or two sentences)

Comment [M4]: Are these help in reducing household size and tax ... HOW???