

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Report for final decision for manuscript number 2013_BJAST_6969

Manuscript Title: "FARMERS' KNOWLEDGE AND CULTIVATION OF COWPEA (*Vigna unguiculata* (L.) Verdc.) IN THREE COMMUNITIES OF BOLGATANGA MUNICIPALITY, UPPER EAST REGION, GHANA"

In the study has been used appropriate scientific methods and obtained significant results. The study is original and contributes to the scientific literature. The study includes an important issue. Authors have fulfilled reviewers' suggestions and made all corrections on the manuscript. However, manuscript can be published after corrections following.

However, the biggest shortcoming in the study is insufficient the number of observations. Chi-square analysis should be explained in the materials and methods section. However, the data in Table 14 also is not suitable for Chi-square analysis. The prerequisite for the chi-square analysis, if the number of observations is less than 5, the number of cells cannot be more than 25% of the total cell count. Whereas, in the table 14, cell number ratio that less than 5 is about 66%.

Nevertheless, the study includes important results and provides contribution in practice. Therefore, the manuscript can be considered for publication.

AUTHORS' COMMENTS

1. Table 14 has now been split into 2 (14a and b), simple enough to make the results much more meaningful and the explanations much clearer.
2. The Chi-square analysis has been included and explained in the 'Materials and Methods' column, as proposed.
3. The idea of the insufficiency of the number of observations for the chi-square analysis in the table 14 has been taken care of.

The authors hold the view that, the total sample size was pegged at 60 respondents, because data sources carefully included very relevant institutions such as internationally accredited NGOs, and most importantly the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA); which has Information, Research, Monitoring and Evaluation Department mandated by the government of Ghana to collect and manage

important/relevant information or data regarding agriculture in the various communities, districts and Regions.

Comparative analysis (informal/not reported) was done, with regard to data collected for the current study, and other baseline surveys already conducted by these relevant organisations.

Authors were therefore succinct - direct, straightforward and at point with questions required and needed to be asked and the responses needed to be elicited in the current study. Authors therefore did not deem it relevant to increase the sample size or number of observations larger than what was used in the study..