

ABSTRACT

Risk Mitigation Strategies are critical in the agricultural sector and the impacts of these strategies not being effective, has lead to the loss of considerable quantities of agricultural output and hence the loss of capital. The risk mitigation strategies implemented in the Central area have been successful in some cases and partially successful in other cases. Of the twenty-one farmers interviewed, a high percentage of them did not try any as they were of the opinion that it would not make a difference.

The events that affected the farmers were heavy rains (flooding), drought, fire, epidemics, praedial larceny and soil erosion. They were all affected in some way and have incurred some quantity of losses. Flooding was the most prominent and this could be related to, as the survey was done in the Central area. The Central has a topography of generally flat land, hence with extensive rainfall, or other related activities that can affect drainage it is flood-prone.

Some statistical tests were done to determine the relationships of different variables. A Pearson Chi- Square was done on the relationship between the following:

- Number of years lived in household and form of land ownership – the test concluded no relationship
- Methods used to reduce the effects of natural disasters and the success of the methods used to reduce the effects – the test concluded that there was a relationship
- Success of methods used to reduce the effects and the difficulty encountered to implement them – the test concluded that there was a relationship

The conclusion of the tests and the results of other variables indicated that with more support from Government, the risk mitigation strategies can be more effective.