

ABSTRACT

This research paper, Farm/Rural Households and Community Food Security (meat) shows the affordability and availability of meat and what consumers do in times of shortage or increased prices. There were 14 livestock farmers who participated in the survey and they did livestock farming both to sell and for personal consumption. These farmers encountered some difficulties when rearing livestock such as water shortage, pests and diseases, flooding, little/limited infrastructure and larceny. The majority of livestock farmers used out of their livestock for personal consumption and did not have to buy meat but they bought meat products such as eggs, milk and cheese. The remaining 36 respondents who were neither farmers nor livestock farmers purchased meat and meat products. Chicken, pork, eggs, milk and cheese was mostly bought.

In times of meat shortage, some respondents bought canned meat or did not buy any meat while others reduced the amount of food prepared to reduce wastage. Salaries, budgeting, pension and savings were used to allocate funds for purchasing meat/dairy products. There were many factors influencing the meat consumers bought and they were price, taste, quality and economic standing.

In the end, 45 of the respondents believed that they were food secure with respect to meat while 5 respondents believed that they were not meat secure enough.