

ABSTRACT

The study conducted on factors affecting the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices was carried out in the two communities of Tableland and Poole in the Victoria District of Trinidad. Unsustainable practices is currently the norm in Trinidad and measures are needed to alleviate this problem as it can have a devastating effect on the economy as the food production bill decreases and import food bill increases. This can occur if farmers at the rate they are going in using unsustainable practices continues, if it continues the resources for producing food will be depleted and thus we will suffer a food security threat.

The study surveyed thirty farmers using a questionnaire and face to face interviews. Both secondary and primary data was collected to analyze the reasons why farmers do not adopt sustainable techniques. The obtained results when compared to other studies carried out by Ganpat et al, showed not only the factor he established but an array of others. This study showed the major factors, land constraints affecting sustainable agriculture along with the sustainable practices being too difficult and expensive to implement as well as a lack of government incentives in land preparation and the farmer's education also played a role in adopting the practices. The farmers highlighted the poor extension services as a factor affecting the adoption of sustainable agriculture, this factor was subjected to the farmers' opinion, and on conducting interviews with the extension officers it was found that the service was very efficient. Apart from the reluctance of farmers to give proper documents of land ownership and show financial records of the past year, the research and result findings had a smooth flow.