

Promoting of Modern Bee-keeping Management Practices among Youths in

Oke-Ogun Area of Oyo State, Nigeria.

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to promote modern beekeeping management among youth in Agriculture in Saki Agricultural zone area of Oyo State. A purposive sampling technique was used to elicit primary data from 120 registered bee hunters that were interviewed in three Local Government Areas. Both descriptive and inferential statistics were used to analyse the data. The result revealed that 43.3% of respondents claimed unaware of modern beekeeping, 40% of bee hunters refused to change to modern beekeeping while 32.5% of respondents had never received training on bee keeping. Majority (70%) of respondents, had no contact with extension agent, All the respondents claimed that beekeeping is not against culture and majority (86%) of respondents claimed bee keeping is better than bee hunting. The Chi-square analysis revealed that, relationship between level of involvement in bee-hunting and level of awareness on modern beekeeping was not significant. Pearson correlation analysis, also revealed that, the relationship between level of involvement in bee hunting and level of awareness in modern beekeeping was negative (-0.166) and level of contact with extension agent (-0.160) at 0.05% level of significant. Accept null hypothesis. It was concluded that bee-hunters received poor extension services, and low awareness on modern beekeeping.

Keywords: - Promoting, Modern Beekeeping, Management practices, Awareness

INTRODUCTION

In Nigeria today, a large number of graduates are produced yearly and found in job market without placement. Most of these teeming graduates enter the job market looking for a formal sector to engage them. The growth rate of formal sector is not the same as the rate at which graduates are produced and this has led to more graduates roaming around still looking for what to do. According to Brooks, Zorya, Gautam and Goyal (2013), agriculture is currently the employer of most of African youth, and the trend may likely continue due to the importance of the sector to human existence. For a generation of young people entering adulthood, agriculture offers the best opportunity to move out of poverty and build satisfying lives. However, there are strong indications suggesting that youth involvement in the agriculture sector is very low, mainly because the sector is mostly seen to be unattractive (Baah, 2014). Young

people reportedly regard farming as a dirty activity' without proper facilities (Leavy and Smith, 2010) and also most are not willing to engage in agriculture as their primary occupation because they perceive its of a low income. They also hold the perception that agriculture is meant for the rural poor, the uneducated and unskilled (MoFA, 2011). Based on the aforementioned problem, the study was conducted to examine undergraduates' perception to farm-based self employment and identified constraints to their participation in Osun state, Nigeria. Also, relationship between the fear to engage in agricultural related enterprise after graduation and their perception was analyzed.

The potential of young people for national development is great. When properly trained, they could become the hope and pride of the

nation. Youths and children have the task of taking the mantle of leadership in all spheres of life, including Agriculture and economic activities after exist of the present generation from active life (Onuk *et al*, 2010). They have to meet this challenge not by rioting, tearing down their schools, protesting and demonstrating or indulging in occult activities, but by hard work, by building on the basic foundations of society and by cooperation and promoting peace and unity, these can be achieved by enhance modern beekeeping practices among youth and rural dwellers. Youth can be regarded as group still under-going training, depending on another for his or her future or looking for first employment. "Youth" according to World Health Organization refers to the 15-24 years age groups (Population Reference Bureau, 1996). Youth is a state of transitive between children and adulthood characterized by energy, intelligence and hope (Gwary *et al*, 2008). For the purpose of this work, the age range 15-40 was used, because most rural youth are still dependent on their parents. Youth are often classified as people between the age range of 15-40 years, irrespective of marital status and means of livelihood (Onku *et al*, 2010). However, it is vital to note that in rural areas, the sector often overlooked its youth (Ijioma and Ibezim, 2010). The trend of abandoning the practice of agriculture to the hand of the aged would not do any nation including Nigeria any good. Therefore, promoting modern Bee-keeping management practices among youth in Agriculture is inevitable, rural youth encounter few opportunities and acquire the practical skills required to make them more productive in agriculture and other sectors of economy. Bee-hunting is still the major game in Africa while bee hunters use smoke and fire to burn the colony before harvesting honey. This method, no doubt, reduces bee population; spur the tendency of successful swarming and absconding from time to time.

Modern beekeeping is ideally suited to rural development, it could be used to combat abject poverty, prevailing among youth in our rural and urban areas. The objective of any modern beekeeping activities is to improve the efficiency of relationship, if bees are encouraged to nest in a hive, in this way, man benefits and by so doing the bee, which instead of being hunted

and killed for their honey, are cared for and protected. However, the roles play by bee in Nigeria economy cannot be over emphasized, these include sources of income, sources of foreign exchange, sources of food, sources of raw materials, sources of employment, helps in pollination etc. Fabunmi (2001) opined, bee is a treasure in only country that it is found, as everything about this tiny insect is wealth. He found out that increasing demand of honey in Nigeria indicated a short supply and this prompting more beekeepers to come on stage. Therefore, increase demand of honey in Nigeria indicates a big short supply prompting more beekeepers to come on stage today. It is glaring further, there would be more acute shortage in honey supply in the future unless, bee-hunters, traditional beekeepers and youth in our rural areas, adopt modern beekeeping. Jibowu (2000) confirmed that rural people are less aware of the opportunities available for personal, social and economic improvements than their counterparts in other area of the society. In an attempt to eradicate poverty and improving living standard of living of rural youths. Various types of small scale income generating activities that are lucrative like modern beekeeping (Apiculture) must be enhanced among youths. Incorporating youths in agricultural production will facilitate capacity building and empowering them for agricultural sensitivity, which will predispose them to a favourable attitude and future career in agriculture.

Objectives

Objectives of this paper is to:-

- i. examine the level of involvement of bee hunters in beekeeping management practices;
- ii. determine awareness of bee-hunters of modern beekeeping management practices.

Hypothesis

There is no significant relationship between levels of involvement in management practices of bee-hunters and level of awareness on modern beekeeping in the study area.

Materials and Methods:

Primary data were collected by means of structured interview schedule.

The study was conducted in Saki agricultural zone of Oyo State, which comprise eight Local Government Areas (LGAs), viz: Atisbo, Irepo, Iwajowa, Kajola, Olorunsogo, Orelope, Saki East and Saki West. Multi stage sampling procedure were used to select respondents. Three Local Governments (i.e 37.5%) where bee hunting activities prominent were purposively selected for the study namely: Atisbo, Saki East and Saki West. The target populations were registered bee hunters within the study area. The registers of bee hunter in each Local Government Area were secured from area extension officer at OYSADEP headquarter Saki.

A random sampling technique was used to sample 120 bee-hunters.

Result and Discussion

Level of Awareness on modern beekeeping.

The result showed that majority (56.7%) of bee hunters were aware of modern beekeeping while 43.3% claimed unaware of this newly innovation. Data presented in table 1 shows that 32.5% of respondents claimed their source of awareness to be governmental organization which include Extension Agents, mass media and government agency, 22.5% claimed to be non-governmental Organization, 19% were claimed source of awareness from friends and neighbours while 43.3% claimed unaware. This implies that communication flow in the area is very poor. Table 1 shows that 40% of respondents were ready to change from bee hunting to modern beekeeping while 60% were not ready to change, but remaining as bee-hunters. This shows that level of illiteracy and ignorance about this useful insect is moderately high in the study area. Ojeleye (1999) supported that decision making process concerning innovation can commonly lead to either rejection or acceptance, the desire end result of a decision is action and behaviour on the part of people. Result in table 1 shows that 67.5% of respondents claimed receiving training on modern beekeeping while 32.5% were not receiving any training. Table 1 revealed that 25% of respondents received training from Non-governmental organization, 30% received training from governmental organization, and 12.5% received training from friends and family

while 32.5% claimed not receive training at all. It is inevitable to receive innovation if agriculture has to be moved from low level of production to high level. Therefore, bee hunters should be motivated to receive training on modern beekeeping as a means of livelihoods for youths.

Table 2 shows relationship between bee-hunters and Extension Agents. About 70% of respondents had never had contact with extension Agents, this shows that Extension Agents has not promote Modern Beekeeping in higher standard in research area. Maunder (2003) affirmed that, Extension Agent have a big responsibility to re-orientate the people's attitude toward goals, although this will definitely take much time and conscious effort as attitude are difficult to change. The data further revealed that majority of respondents 70% never had regular contact with Extension Agents, 4.2% always had contact with Extension Agent while 25.8% of respondents had occasional contact with Extension Agents. Therefore, Extension Agents, are implores to visit bee hunters and enlighten them on Modern Beekeeping and render advisory services to farmers more specifically on beekeeping innovation. From table 2 it could be seen that 100% of respondents were claimed that beekeeping is compatible with culture. This implies that beekeeping has received the favour of culture in the research area.

Table 3, shows that, 42.5% of respondents identified inadequate fund as their major hindrance to modern beekeeping were ranked first, 22.5% claimed lack of adequate information ranked second 20% experienced lack of trained personnel and facilities was ranked third while 15% identified unavailability of modern beekeeping equipment, ranked fourth. This implies that farmers in the study area were of low income earner. Hence, Nigeria agriculture definitely needs capital inject from reliable and consistently well-organized institution for the cycle of poverty to be broken.

Table 3 further reveals that majority (95.8%) respondents always affected by the aforementioned problems while 4.2% were often affected by problems. Effort should be made toward creating a conducive atmosphere for youths, so that they would be abstained or refrained from bee-hunting and taking modern beekeeping as a means of livelihoods.

Table 4 reveals that 55% of respondents agreed that modern beekeeping is far better than bee-hunting in term of profits margin while 45% preferred that bee-hunting is better than beekeeping in term of profits margin. About 56.7% of respondents expressed that beekeeping is better than bee hunting in term of equipment required while 43.3% preferred bee hunting to beekeeping in term of equipment required. 58.3% indicated that bee hives provided for bees to nest on is far better than nesting on hallow logs or tree in term of yields and other managements while 41.7% held to better on bee hunting, 66.7% were claimed that harvesting is far better under modern beekeeping, since there would be less mortality rate of bee during harvest, while 33.3% of respondents said bee hunting was fair. 77.7% viewed that the processing of honey was better in beekeeping while 28.3% preferred processing under bee hunting. This implies that orientation levels of farmers in study area are very low. Therefore, mass media, seminars, symposium and lectures that will increases the level of awareness and orientation of youths and farmers in the study area to conserve population of bees due to its usefulness should be encouraged.

Test of hypothesis

The summary of Chi-square analysis shows that, there is no significant relationship between level of engagement in bee hinting and level of awareness on modern bee-keeping. This is because Extension officers or agents neglected the service of providing useful information on bee-hunting and even on modern bee-keeping to improve level of orientation and awareness of bee hunters and to boost the morale in order to improve efficiency of beekeeping in the study areas. Maunder (2003) noted that an extension service is a system, which assists farmers to identify and analyse their production problems and to become aware of the opportunities for improvements. The analysis shows that these characteristics are found to be of no significant therefore accept null hypothesis.

Table 5b shows correlation analysis (relationship between dependent variable and each of independent variable). The data showed a negative and non- significant correlation between the level of involvement in management practices of bee hunters and level of awareness on modern

beekeeping (-0.166); and the level of contact with extension agent (-0.160) at 0.05% level of significant, These variables were to be of no significant and varied inversely with the level of involvement in bee hunting in the study area. Therefore, accept null hypothesis.

Conclusion

The study revealed that majority of bee hunters were aware of innovation of modern beekeeping, majority of respondents received training on modern beekeeping as a means of livelihood. Inadequate fund was identified as a major hindrance in embarking on modern beekeeping, poor awareness on modern beekeeping as a result of inadequate trained personnel and information were paramount among bee hunters. The extension agents had relent in discharging their duties on this newly innovation, because majority of bee hunter had never had contact with Extension Agents on modern beekeeping management practices. More so, modern beekeeping is a means of livelihood compared to bee-hunting in case of profit margin, harvesting and processing of honey

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Table 1: Frequency distribution of respondents according to level of awareness on modern beekeeping

Variables	frequency	percentage
*Awareness on modern beekeeping		
Aware	68	56.7
Unaware	52	43.3
Sources of awareness		
Extension Agent	18	15
Mass media	17	14.2
Friends and Neighbours	28	23.3
Society/Group/Non-government organization	13	10.7
Other claim unknown/unaware	52	43.3
Intension of changing to modern beekeeping		
Intended	72	60
Not intended	48	40
Training on beekeeping		
Without training	52	42.3
With training	68	56.7
*Source of training		
Mass media	5	4.2
Non-Governmental Organization	21	17.5
Extension agent	12	10
Friends and Neighbours	15	12.5
Government organization (Local Government)	15	12.5
Not receiving training	52	43.3
Total	120	100

Source: - field survey 2014

Note *Respondent Indicate multiple responses.

Table 2: Frequency distribution of respondents according to the relationship with Extension Agents

Variables	frequency	percentage
Relationship with the Extension agents		
Contact	36	30
No contact	84	70
Frequency of having contact with Extension agents		
Occasionally	31	25.8
Always	5	4.2
Never	84	70
Culture Disposition to Beekeeping		
Favourble	120	100
Unfavourable	-	-
Total	120	100

Source:- Field survey 2014

Table3: Frequency distribution of respondents according to the constraints that hindered decision of becoming beekeepers

Variables	frequency	percentage	Rank
Constraints			
Lack of adequate information	27	22.5	2 nd
Unavailability of beekeeping equipment	18	15	4 th
Inadequate fund	51	42.5	1 st
Lack of trained personnel and training facilities	24	20	3 rd
Levels by which problem affected			
Always	115	95.8	
Often	5	4.2	
Total	120	100	

Source: - Field survey 2014

Table 4: Frequency distribution of comparism of bee hunting and beekeeping techniques for honey production by the respondent

COMPARISM CHARACTER	Beekeeping				Bee hunting			
	Better		Fair		Better		Fair	
	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%
Profit margin	66	55	–	–	50	41.7	4	3.3
Equipment requirement	68	56.7	–	–	50	41.7	2	1.7
Bee hive	70	58.3	–	–	50	41.7	–	–
Harvesting	80	66.7	–	–	–	–	40	33.3
Procession	86	71.7	–	–	10	8.3	24	20

Source: – Field survey, 2014

Table 5a. Summary of chi-square analysis on the relationship between level of involvement bee hunting and level of awareness on modern beekeeping

Variable	X ² C. value	df	X ² T. value	Remark
Level of awareness on beekeeping	7.228	9	16.92	Not significant

Source: - Field survey 2014

b. Summary of the Pearson correlation analysis of the relationship between level of involvement in bee hunting and level of awareness on modern beekeeping.

Variable	Correlation Co-efficient (r)	Co-efficient of determination (R ²)	Remark
Level of awareness on modern beekeeping	-0.1666	0.027556	Not significant
Contact with Extension Agents	-0.160	0.0256	Not significant

Source:- Field survey 2014

The degree of freedom (d.f) = r- 1, where r = number of respondents = 120; K = constant = 1
Therefore d.f = 120 – 2 = 118, r = Correlation co – efficient, r²=Co- efficient of determination which implies total change as contributed by each variable on the statistical table use, the significant.