

DETERMINANTS OF FISH AQUACULTURE IN SELECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS OF TARABA STATE, NIGERIA

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The study was on determinants of fish aquaculture in selected Local Government Areas (LGA's) of Taraba State, Nigeria, specifically to; describe the socioeconomic characteristics of the respondents and determine the factors affecting fish output in the study area. The study area was selected LGA's in Taraba State, Nigeria. Data for the study was collected mainly from primary source; 186 structured questionnaires were administered through snowball sampling technique. The data was analyzed using descriptive statistics and multiple regressions. The results of socioeconomic characteristics results showed that 67% of the respondents were male, 74% were less than 46 years of age, 96% had one form of education or the other, 80% had more than 5 persons in their households, 78% had experience of maximum of 10 years and 83% had contact with extension services. The multiple regression results had a model summary of $R^2 = 0.992$ and the F-value was high (2237.837) and significant at 1% level. The results of the multiple regressions showed that pond size, number of fingerlings, labour, feeds, drugs, water, sex, household size and education were positive and significant at 1% level. Meanwhile, extension service was negative and significant at 10% level. However age, farming experience and marital status were not significant at conventional level. The study recommends that; input such as pond, fingerlings, labour, feeds, drugs and water should be emphasized in fish aquaculture in the study area and related places, intending farmer should emulate socioeconomic characteristics such as sex, household size and education as it affects the business positively.

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