

## **Economic Analysis of Cotton Production in Selected Local Government Areas of Taraba State, Nigeria**

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**ABSTRACT** The study was carried out on the economic analysis of cotton production in Selected Local Government Areas of Taraba State, Nigeria. Data were collected through primary source using structured questionnaires from 96 respondents using multi-stage, purposive random sampling techniques. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics and budgetary technique analysis. The result of the socio-economic characteristics revealed that 84.5% were young aged people below 41 years with a mean age of 32 years and were predominantly males (88.5%). About 77.08% of the respondents attained different level of education, 91% had farm size ranging from 0.5 – 5 ha with a mean farm size of 2.5 ha. Also 72% had above 6-10 years farming with a mean farming experience of 9 years. Budgetary technique analysis showed a total cost of production of ₦ 37, 629/ha with a total revenue (TR), gross margin (GM), net farm income (NFI) and returns on investment (R.O.I) per hectare of ₦ 58,081.10, ₦ 23, 236.12, ₦ 21,172.2 and ₦ 0.56 respectively. The study also identified low price of seed cotton, pest and diseases infestation, inadequate funds, highest cost of inputs and inadequate extension agents as constraints of production. The researchers wish to recommend that farmers should form cooperative societies to have access to loans; they should also be trained by Government and Non-Governmental organization on the effective method of pesticide application in the study area. The result of the study showed that the business of cotton production is a profitable venture.