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Livelihood Asset and Diversity of Agrarian Communities in Ogun State, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT Considering the livelihoods of agrarian communities, this study examines the effect of rural household assets in livelihood diversity. Simple random sampling technique was used to select 150 households. Data were collected with an interview schedule and analysed with descriptive and logistic regression analysis. Findings show that rural households in Ogun state had a low level of livelihood diversity with the Simpson Diversity Index of 0.30 while their livelihood asset status was constrained with a mean score of 7. The households had an average of 3 livelihood activities and 34.7 percent combined on-farm and non-farm livelihoods. Non-farm livelihoods contribute 58.9 percent of the households' income. Assets have a significant influence on the level of livelihood diversity while age (β =0.065 p<0.05) and total income ((β =0.000 p<0.01) were substantial predictors of livelihood diversity. It is inferred that an improvement in the arrays of assets plays a vital role in livelihood diversity thereby enhance households income and wellbeing.