

Training Needs of Women Farmers in Livestock Production: Implications for Rural Development in Oyo State of Nigeria

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KEYWORDS Training needs; women farmers; livestock production; knowledge and skill

ABSTRACT This paper identifies some training needs of women farmers in livestock production and discusses the relevance of such needs to rural development. The study was conducted in 5 (five) selected Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Oyo state. Structured interview schedule was used to collect information from one hundred and seventy-one (171) women farmers. Analysis of the data collected revealed that women perform virtually all livestock related operations, although they are less involved in marketing of livestock products; construction of livestock houses and slaughter/dressing of animals. The weighted mean scores in knowledge and skills of women farmers were low in compounding of feeds; breeding; identification and diagnosis of sick animal; selection and administration of drugs. Women expressed felt training needs in all the listed operations. The implication for rural development is that empowerment of women farmers through adequate training in all the expressed areas of training needs in livestock production is a predisposing factor to sustainable livelihood and consequent participation in rural development.

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