

Changes in Crop and Livestock Activities of Yoruba and Fulani Women in Saki-West Local Government Area of Oyo State, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT Over the years Fulani pastoralists migrate from the northern part of Nigeria to Southwestern part in search of pasture for their livestock. The interaction between the Fulani and Yoruba women might have resulted in changes in their socio-economic activities. Therefore, this study assessed changes in their crop and livestock activities. Purposive random sampling was used in selecting one hundred and forty respondents in Saki-West Local Government Area of Oyo-State, Nigeria. The study revealed that most of the respondents were between the ages of 46 – 57 years, married and had no formal education. Majority of the respondents now engaged in crop and livestock activities that are foreign to them with respect to their socio-cultural background. The crops now planted include yam, cassava, maize, guinea corn, cowpea, groundnut, melon, soybean, tomato, okra and millet. While their livestock activities include, rearing of cattle, sheep, goat, guinea fowl, duck, rabbit and chicken. Lack of access to credit facilities and extension services were rated as major constraints. Result of analysis shows that there is no significant difference in cropping and livestock activities of Yoruba and Fulani women, but significant difference exist in their constraints being faced. Therefore, for agricultural extension development to be sustainable there is need to recognize the effect of economic and social interactions emerging between the Fulani and Yoruba in the study area, in order to develop extension packages that will be of benefit to them, irrespective of their cultural background.