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 VE/II/52597  
 VE/2/58036

Usman Umar Nakuta  
 Jaja Japhet  
 Margaret Yemi John  
 Ikpl Linda Haasana  
 Habiba Abdulwahab  
 Hasana B. Ndako  
 Sikira Shitsu  
 Jummai Comfort Zaki

BY

(A Case Study of Shiroro Local Government  
 Area of Niger State)

ASSESSMENT OF FARMERS TOWARD  
 EXTENSION SERVICE DELIVERY

**ASSESSMENT OF FARMERS TOWARD EXTENSION  
SERVICE DELIVERY.**

**(A CASE STUDY OF SHIRORO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF NIGER STATE)**

**BY**

**USMAN UMAR NAKUTA**

**VE/11/52724**

**JAJA JAPHET**

**VE/11/52716**

**MARGRET YEMI JOHN**

**VE/11/57966**

**IKPI LINDA HASSANA**

**VE/11/52579**

**HABIBA ABDULWAHAB**

**VE/11/57928**

**HASSANA . B. NDAKO**

**VE/11/52593**

**SIKIRAT SHITTU**

**VE/11/52697**

**JUMMAI COMFORT ZAKI**

**VE/11/58036**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE  
EDUCATION  
NIGER STATE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION,  
MINNA**

**SEPTEMBER, 2014**

## Approval Page

This research work has been carefully recommended by the Department of Agricultural Science, under the School of Vocational Education Niger State College of Education, Minna, after having supervised and approved as partial fulfilment for the requirement of National Certificate in Education.

Sign -----

  
Mr. Ishi Chika Nwanji  
Project Supervisor

Date -----

12/10/14

Sign -----

Head of Department

Date-----

## DEDICATION

We dedicate this project to God Almighty for seeing us through the hurdles in the course of this research work.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We give thanks to Almighty God for seeing us through from the beginning of our course of study.

This project work will not be complete if we fail to acknowledge our sincere gratitude to all those who have financially, materially and morally make it a success. In this regard, my appreciation goes to Mal. Isah Shehu our supervisor who had been more than just a supervisor but a guidance counsellor. His suggestion and criticism help a lot in bringing this research work to a success.

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### Abstract

The study was an attempt to determine the assessment of farmer's forward extension service delivery in Shiroro Local Government Area. 50 farmers were sampled in the study. A questionnaire was design for the study. The target group were administer with questions. The specific objectives are to assess the socio-economic characteristic of farmers toward extension service delivery, to examine the attitude of the farmers toward extension service delivery, to ascertain the level of awareness of the farmers, to identify the problem militating against extension service delivery. In the research study question were formulated and tested, the finding obtained from the study shows that extension service delivery is more adopted when extension agent participate in farming activities. It was also observed that successful extension service need to take notice of extension agent because 66 % of the farmers complain of not having regular visit. And also that 64 % of the respondent do not produce trial plot for extension agent. The level of education of the respondent which 50 % had tertiary certificate, as against 6 % who had primary certificate. It has been recommended that government should make provision for extension agents all necessary incentive to carryout their activities for successful delivery. And also farmer should have the zeal to adapt to new technique of farming in order to improve their standard of production.

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## CHAPTER ONE

### Introduction

#### 1.0 Background of the study

Agriculture has a process of all operation involve in cultivation of land and all management system in rearing of animals for the benefits of man. Meanwhile extension is a process of Disseminating of information or a way of educating or assisting farming people C.J (2013).

Iwena (2006) cited that agricultural extension is a term meaning the application of scientific research and new knowledge to agricultural practice through farmer education.

The origin of agricultural extension, it is not known where or when the first Chinese officials were creating agricultural policies documentary practical knowledge and disseminating advice to farmer at least 2000 year age the fourth generation is well established in some countries while it has only just begun in other places. And it seems likely that participatory approaches will continue to spread in the next ten year, it is impossible to predict the long-term future of extension Azih, (2011).

In developing countries like (Nigeria) extension started as just extension with the aim of disseminating information to people who were not privileged to taste the four wall of the classroom. Agricultural extension

In developing countries like (Nigeria) extension started as just extension with the aim of disseminating information to people who were not privileged to taste the four wall of the classroom. Agricultural extension can be define as an advice and assistance given to the farmers and his families through educational procedures on new farming method and techniques in order to improve their production efficiency and income bettering their level of living and up lifting the education and social standard of the farmer. Obasi (2012).

Essentially, agricultural extension service provides farmer the scientific knowledge so that they could solve their problems, it is also the primary means of change the reason for change the value of the results you can advice the process by which the arrived at also the uncertainty inherent in this change it helps the farmer to learn about what alternative that exist in farming so that they can choose the alternatives for themselves Robert (2005).

It encourage the people to discuss the condition under which they live, it also help to obtain a clear, insight to their problems either individually or collectively in order to achieve better standard of living.

However, agricultural extension as a strategy to agricultural transformation is an attempt to bring together theories and practices of rural development through extension service through agricultural

extension farmer are informed of many way of farming as well as new techniques and economic possibilities that could, if adopted the useful to them( R.G 2006), furthermore, advanced countries use extension service to succeed in agricultural transformation have them same fact, that tend such extension must have something to extend such technology or practices the innovation offered must be technically or able to economically attractive and acceptable the innovation must communicate to the farmer effectively. If the farmer reject on innovation the chance are that one of the above condition is lacking and not that the people are illiterate the introduction to the farmer must be within the competence not only of the most progressive farmer but untimely of the majority of the farming population.

The development of agricultural extension service in Nigeria has closely followed, that of agriculture and rural development thus, variability and inconsistencies have been the majority hallmarks since the colonial era to the present has been principally influenced by the interest and focus of the government in power and /or by the primary funding agencies especially with respect to the externally funded agricultural project intervention the ineffective and inefficient parallel extension system of the pre and immediate post-independence era remained operation until the establishment of the agricultural development project(ADP) supported by the world bank(1975-1995) using the classical training and visit ( t/v).

Extension service however, midway into the implementation of the ADPs in 1991 a policy of a unified agricultural extension delivery through a single extension agent to the ADPs to improve effectiveness and efficiency of the extension service M.G (2000).

Meanwhile, certain basic principles under line the conduct of extension worker i.e how the extension worker will gain the mind of this rural farmers, these principle differ with respect to kind of community in which extension education should be state where the people are extension teaching must start at the learners level. Extension workers must gain confidence of their audience, people have unsatisfied wants. An extension worker cannot go far with people unless they want to help the situation, therefore programme must start with felt need to the people proceed others that are also needed by them.

### **1.1 Statement of Problem.**

Due to inadequate staffing of extension worker via the farming population is one of the problems and it has hindered the actualization of the objective of the extension service.

However, the enactment of this extension service policies were bedevilled with in adequate, irregular and untimely release of the extension service in Nigeria as worse the transformation of agricultural sector, this problem still exist in extension service? If they still exist then

there are question to be answered on how and what the extension service has developed our agricultural sector.

Meanwhile, could it be that these problem are still there because of unfriendly policy environment, compounded by policy somersault and poor to no incentive provided for the agricultural sector or could it be that the management of the public agricultural extension service that is character by a top-down supply driven extension system compounded by serious structural organization and management are corrupt.

As a result of all these the research question given below need to be answered.

1. What are the socio-economic characteristic of the respondent?
2. What is the attitude of the respondent toward extension service delivery?
3. What is the level of awareness of the respondent in extension service delivery?
4. How does extension service identify the problem militating against extension service delivery?

### **1.2 Objectives of the Study**

The main objective of this topic is to assess the farmers toward extension service delivery in the study area.

### 1.2.0 Specific Objectives

1. To examine the socio-economic characteristic of the respondent
2. To examine the attitude of the respondent toward extension.
3. To ascertain the level of awareness off the respondent.
4. To identify the problem militating against extension service delivery.
5. To recommend possible solution to extension service delivery.

### 1.3 Scope of the Study

The assessment of extension service in agriculture is to bridge the gap between researchers and the farmer in the sense that it act as the rural vacuum filler where there extension service is the contact and alternatives that exist in farming , so that they can make best choices for themselves.

It also helps the farmer in solving problem of resources management, for example it shows the farmer the advantage of and disadvantage of shifting, Continuous cropping, crop rotation and bush burn. It creates idea from the researchers to the farmers problems could be solved, they also assist the in modern agricultural production by helping the farmer make good choice of land, labour and capital so as to meet the nation food needs through the educational programme so to help the farmer to make decision on how to produce or distribute their product at a reasonable price but they are not engage in the actual implementation of marketing and distribution for the farmer and also provide decsion in the area. It assist

government and foreign experts that help in feasibility studies to the stakeholder involved in agricultural production in the area and supervision monitoring and evaluating the activities of extension service in the area of research study.

#### 1.4 Significance of the Study

Extension service in the delivery of agriculture there is a necessity to address the problem of agriculture in the state with a particular reference to Shiroro local government which will aim at the use of democratic method in educating the farmer technology of agricultural production.

Kuta is abundantly blessed with a good climatic condition and a fertile land for agricultural activities that are very much untapped, to neglect this study this study have find out appropriate solution which will amount one who live by the riverside and still complain of taste of water so, that emulate the adoption of innovation which helps in studying and solving the rural problems of extension service delivery in agricultural practises.

Meanwhile, extension service delivery in agriculture is base on making good communication to the farmer that are involved in agricultural activities that will enhance national development an the study of assessment of farmer toward extension service delivery particularly Shiroro local government area this mood for stress research work is merit

able as a solution derived stress from like other researchers will be of great impact to the standard of living of farmers.

### 1.5 Definition of Term

**Agriculture:** Can be define as act of cultivation of land and keeping/rearing of animal for man use.

**Extension:** It is a way of extending or additional part or period of time; it is also a way of passing information to the extent beyond the reach.

**Delivery:** It is the way and manner in which information is pass through

**Extension agent:** is an educator, and information provider, a needs assessor, a problem solving source for farmers.



## CHAPTER TWO

### 2.0 Literature Review

Agriculture extension generally means the application of scientific research and new knowledge to agricultural practise through farmer education. The field of extension now encompasses a wider range of communication and learning activities organised for rural people by educators from different discipline including agriculture, marketing, health and business Iwena, (2006). Robert L Heath (2005) defines agricultural extension as a series of embedded communicative intervention that are meant among other goals to develop and or induce innovation which help to resolve farmer problematic situation. Auta, S.J (2004). Define extension service as the essence of facilitating inter play and nurture synergies within a total information system involving agricultural research, agricultural education and a vast complex of information providing business. Dafwang (2006), sited that agricultural extension service is to assist farmer to help them identify their production problems which become aware to the opportunities for improvement and also it is organised exchange of information and the deliberate transfer of skills. Adegboye (2004). Define extension service as a system or a service which assists farm people through educational procedure in improving farming method and technique in increasing production efficiency and income for bettering

their standard of living and lifting social educational standard. Kolawale (2009). Define agricultural extension service as a system of out of school education for rural people to teach people so as to increase their knowledge toward making better use of new idea and technique in farming. Vientiane (2006) define extension service as the process of enabling change in an individual communities and industries involved in the primary industry sector and in natural resource management.

Obiaku (2000) define agricultural extension service as a strategy for agricultural transformation through which the farmer can learn the reason for change, the result that can be achieved and the process of the change and also, Obiora C.J (2001) define agriculture extension service as an organisation set up by government , commercial organization or group individual to disseminate information to local farmer i.e agricultural extension is an information type of education given to farmers so that they can improve their method of production and marketing. Adeleye(2002) define extension service as the process through the farmer can learn the reason for changing the value of new ideas on farming.

## **2.1 Development of Extension in Niger State.**

The historical development of the agricultural extension services in Niger state has closely followed that of agriculture and development; thus variability and inconsistencies have been the major hallmark since the

colonial era to the present and has been principally influenced by the interest and focus of the government in power and or by the primary funding agencies especially with respect to the externally funded agricultural project intervention. However, the ineffective and inefficient parallel extension system of the pre and immediate post independence era, remained operational until the establishment of the agricultural development project (ADPs) supported by the World Bank (1975-1995) using the classical training and visit (T and V) extension system. Midway into the implementation of the farmer for the improve effectiveness and efficiency of the extension service. Meanwhile, because of the historical development of the extension system or service the crop sector remain dominate even till the present, but notably however, the policy failed to effectively address institutional arrangement, coordination collaboration leadership and funding for Niger state public agricultural extension service which still remains the dominant service for the majority of Niger state small-scale farmers. Neither did the system clearly address the roles and responsibilities of the various stakeholders in agricultural extension until the enactment of the 2007 National agricultural policy by the Dr, mau'za Aliyu Babagida administration.

The 2007 agricultural policy was perhaps the first to address the issues of public agricultural extension service in Niger state with particular

reference to the roles and responsibilities of the various tiers of government and the private. The new policy thrust was premised on the fact that 'self sufficiency in food production (as propounded by the 1999 policy) was too limited in scope. The policy objectives must be transcend self-sufficiency to cover food security, agricultural policy assigned roles and responsibilities to the different tiers of government and private sector. Although agricultural extension service is on the concurrent list of the constitution, the federal government to-date has always taken the responsibility for a major portion of the funding policy formulation and direction and whiles the state and local government agricultural development project (ADPs), are the primary agencies responsible for public extension delivery at the grassroots nationwide. The quality of staff and the resources of the local government authorities are much that their participation in agricultural extension delivery has only been very minimal, unlike the provision.

However, according to Adegboye the benefits of extension service delivery were to be realized through a re-organized extension and revitalized agricultural extension system that integrate which operate extension workers training and farm visit and ensure two-way communication between farmers and research , an effective farm input distribution system which operate through a network of farmer service

centres(FSC) to ensure that supplying the needed farm inputs are reliable and are in close proximity to their farm produce excauation as well as cost effective farm input distribution. A rigorous monitoring and management system that provides needed management system or information to ensure that error in one project are not perpetuated there, or in another extension service delivery, it is a joint responsibility for both stakeholders in project formulation and especially implementation and arrangement which has grassroots agricultural programme primarily as a state responsibility. Arokoyo, Madukwe (2009).

## **2.2 Roles of Extension Service Delivery**

The extension service delivery bridges the gap between the researchers and the farmers in the sense that it act as the rural vacuum filter where the extension agents are the contact man and alternative that exist in farming so that they can make best choice for themselves and only places of meeting the farmer farm. Akisami (2000) says, extension service delivery helps farmer in solving problem of resource management. However extension worker also takes new ideas from the researcher to the farmer to solve or problems are also bringing farmers to the notice of the researcher. The role of extension service delivery also concern with the farmer and his land with his family and home, their health, nutrition, education planning of family income, child care, problem arising poverty

between farmer and the government administration for agriculture. He also formulate and organize farmer which assist to create healthy and improved rural farmers community, he implement and pilot activities on appropriate local technology and also collection and analysis of relevant information C.J(2013)

## **2.4 Method of Disseminating New Techniques to Farmer**

Method as there is no 'best' extension method nor a 'one size fits all' a mix of both traditional (print assorted extension publication and electronic, radio, Tv and traditional ICTs) and modern tools method (mobile phone and internet) will be employed to meet the various need of the method can be subdivided into (3) three classes.

1. Individual method
2. Group method
3. Mass media method

### **2.4.0 Individual method**

This includes farm and home visit, aimed at direct contact between farmers and the extension agents. The purpose is to give advice or assistance on a wide range of farm and home problem in order to succeed. It may require the assistance of volunteer leader or administrators to arrange meeting so as develop public relation with organization, and important individuals .E.g individual method of disseminating ideas and information

includes; home of farmer, office or farm, telephone call, result demonstration and correspondence. However, it gives and obtains information that will be useful to farmers and researcher, and also more attention is given to the individual farmers than any other method. Meanwhile, it is hinder by time consuming method and also the extension agent and not reaches out to many farmers.

#### **2.4.1 Group Method/ Agriculture Show**

The group method involves the working together with groups of farmers under the supervision of the extension workers, group method include; symposia, lectures, debates, group discussion, excursion, field trips and agriculture show. Agriculture show is usually organized by the government and companies to demonstrate or exhibit farm produce from improved agricultural practice, agriculture show provides forum for interaction between and within farmers and manufacturers. It is also effective in stimulating farmers interest to adopt new farm or techniques or improved practices, it also provides avenue for sale of agricultural produce. However, the good side of agricultural show is that enable extension workers to reach out to many farmers at a time, it also save energy and time while the negative side of it is some members of the group may easily discourage other.

## 2.4.2 Mass Media

Mass media involve the dissemination of information through special media of communication to the farmer. The method is used to create awareness and interest in the new ideas and technique among the majority of the farmers. In other words, this method enables many people to know about the new innovation mass media include the use of radio, television, newspaper, films show, pamphlet, banner, handbills and handout. Mass media is subdivided into (2) two types which are; electronic media and print media. Iwena (2006)

### 2.4.2.0 The use of ICTs in extension service

In agricultural extension service ICT usage is spreading rapidly and changing the way of doing business across all sector of the economy including agriculture the world over. It is actually the new form of literacy and very soon any person who is not able to considered an illiterate, stakeholder therefore get set for the mainstreaming of ICT in agriculture like in all shares of live will lead to higher operational efficiencies because it will enhance faster, cheaper and sustainable communication-the hallmark of a good extension system a critical success factor for the much desired agricultural extension service delivery because of its ever increasing importance agricultural extension is changing from the narrow concept of farming technology transfer to the broader concept of



knowledge transfer or whole enterprise, covering not only technology but entrepreneurship, climate and environment.

Agricultural extension service has a long history in Niger state and has passed different phases evolution. ICT has been adopted at varying levels-through vans spreading audio/video message, radio and television broadcasts and more recently web and mobile telephone based platforms. Traditionally extension delivery as largely been seen as a social service initiated and funded by government, development partners or community service unit of large businesses basically for technology transfer to farmers, although there are pockets of commercially motivated efforts through some forms of farmer service to support specific manufacturing supply chain or sale of input stand-alone commercial extension service are almost not existed. The use of ICT in agriculture has generally followed this not for profit pattern, and attempts to commercialize. ICT in agriculture have not been encourage or at best treated with nonchalance. Some public sector and development partner advocates of the not for profit approach have argued that commercial extension and ICT services exploits 'poor farmer' while advocates of such commercial service argue that the public sector/development partner managers of not for profit extension and ICT projects are subvention and grant seekers mainly for their own survival always hiding under the project administration cover to get comfortable

packages at the expense of the same farmers. To appreciate the importance of a sustainable ICT platform we need to understand the knowledge of the value chain concept let us consider knowledge as tested and certified information that can be used for scientific or evidence based decision making information becomes knowledge only after it has passed through a validation mill consisting of a number. Madukwe, Micheal (2008).

#### **2.4.2.1 Radio and Television**

The introduction of the state wide world bank-funded agricultural development projects (1986-1990) marked a watershed in the use of ICT in extension delivery in Niger state with the external support all the ADPs were able to establish well-equipped, development support communication unit which had printing, video, and Tv / radio recording facilities. Most of the state established video/ Tv viewing centre as well as provide free airtime for the radio and Tv farm broadcast for the ADPs the ADPs also took advantage of the free air waves of the radio and Tv station in their states. The outfit of the ADPs reached their highest development under the national agricultural technology support project which was the second/ last phase. (1991-1996) of the World Bank assistance to the ADPs, virtually all of them produce and aired radio and Tv agricultural programs. Broadcasting network compounded with the withdrawal of the World Bank

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support, the frequency of both the ADPs radio and Tv program which help in show and demonstrating agricultural activities.

It helps in farm broadcasting programs with English and other language to enhance extension service delivery to the farmers. It as facilitate agricultural activities which support extension service delivery in Niger state.

## 2.5 Adoption of Innovation By The Target Group

Agricultural research organisation normally brings news innovation to the farmer through extension agents. The adoption of innovation or new ideas and techniques in agriculture is not always automatic depending on several factors; the rate of adoption of a particular innovation varies with individuals. However, these factors affect the affect the rate of adoption of innovation. The level of education, the more educated a farmer is, the higher time for an illiterate farmer to accept new ideas in farming the attitude of the farmer most farmers that develop positive attitude towards new innovation are more likely to succeed than those that do not respond at all. The farmer financial status and also play a vital role which experience has shown that wealthy farmers are ever willing to accept and experiment on new farming technique than very poor or peasant farmers.

Meanwhile, result of demonstration plot is very important particularly if it is a good one will promote the acceptance and adoption of

the innovation but when the result is not good one farmer will abandon the whole idea concerning the innovation. Adoption of innovation is categories of farmer based adoption and innovation agricultural research organization of extension officers usually categories farmer according to the rate of adoption of new innovation, these categories include; innovators, early adopters, late adopters and never adopters.

### **Innovator**

Innovators are farmer who introduces changes or new ideas, of farming into new area; such ideas may reach the innovator through the extension agent, mass media or they might have seen it done in another place. The proportion of such people are usually very small, they may suffer some losses due to inexperience or error during the cause of doing their work as a result of these reason they require encouragement. Azih (2001)

### **Early Adopters**

These group of adopters are second group that come in immediately after the innovator, the percentage of early adopters may be high or low, however if the percentage is low (say 10% or below) It shows that the new idea was not uniformly accepted, and also the new idea has to be practised by some of the farmers was a sample and an easy one. Auta, S.J (2010)

### **Later Adopters**

The late adopters are the third group of farmers that can accept new ideas and techniques in most cases the number or percentage of late adopters is usually very high, reasons for high number of late adopters is because, they may be illiterate farmers and poor communication system also account for high numbers of late adopters, and also cultural and traditional belief system do slow down the adoption of new ideas, if the result of the new technique is not significantly better than the existing method the people drag their feet. Ojo B(2012)

### **Never Adopters**

The never adopters is the last group of farmer that will never accept nor adopt the new innovation. This group of farmers no matter how best the extension agents will try to convince there will never change their mind, high level of illiteracy poverty and conservatism are the major reasons for these farmers unwillingness to adopt new innovation. Iwena (2012).

## CHAPTER THREE

### 3.0 Research Methodology

#### 3.1 Description of the Study Area

Shiroro local government area was formerly the then Chanchaga Local Government where its headquarter was in Kuta, Shiroro then got her autonomy of Government from Federal Government in 1976, Kuta is the central town of Shiroro local government, it is located north-east from the capital city Minna, Shiroro local government has the total population of 235,665 census, (2006) and the majority of whom are speaking Gbagyi and which most of them are Muslim in religion. However the dominant occupation of the people is farming and other handcraft. Thus there is civil servant, Shiroro local government has suitable vegetation for agricultural with a climate condition that is favourable for cereal crop and other fruit crops. For example rice, Yam, sugarcane, guinea corn, maize, millet and cowpea fruit crops such as mango, guava, cashew and others. Kuta in Shiroro local government is dominantly known for large production yam in Niger state.

#### 3.1 Sampling Procedure Sample Size

Assessment of farmers toward extension service delivery, a case study of Shiroro Local Government Area in Niger State. However to

actualized this research work to obtain data for the research the towns are divided into five groups A, B, C, D and E. Thus:

Selected village	Group/unit
Kuta	A
Gwada	B
Zumba	C
Erena	D
Gunu	E

Each of the village farmers were been selected randomly which will response to interview and questionnaire.

### 3.2 Sampling procedure

This study adopt sampling random sampling technique where five village were purposely selected because of this predominance nature of famers in this areas farmers were randomly selected from each village using sampling frame which will be established through the assistance of the village head.

The number of respondent sampled from each village depend on their relative size in the proportion to the total. 50 respondent were sampled

Selected	Group	Population
Kuta	A	15
Gwada	B	5
Zumba	C	10
Erena	D	5
Gunu	E	15
		50



### 3.3 Method of Data Collation

The data use for this study were obtained from primary and secondary sources primary data were collected through interview schedule.

The secondary data were from publish information such as text books, bulleting , news papers, magazine, formal conference papers.

The information solicited for this study ware. The socio economic characteristics of farmer, the attitude of the respondept, level of awareness and problem militating .

### 3.4 Method of Data Analysis

Only descriptive statistic is use for data analysis such as mean, mode, frequency.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### 4.0 Result and Discussion

In this chapter it is concerned with the presentation of analysis and interpretation of the data collection.

#### 4.1.0 Socio-economic characteristic of respondents

These include age, sex, marital status, occupation, and the level of education.

#### 4.1.1 Age of the Respondents

Age is the length of an existence of a person extending from birth to death. (Merriam, 2006) it is the time of the life at which some particularly quality, arises or rest. The commonest system of agriculture in Nigeria is subsistence farming, in which the quality of labor dependent on age.

Table 1: Age of the Respondents

Age (yrs)	Frequency	Percentage (%)
16-20	7	14
21-25	19	38
26-30	10	20
30 and above	14	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: field work 2014

This research work shows that majority of farmers in Shiroro LGA were between productive age group of between 21-25 years which represents 38%. This implies that they were young and within the productive age which could improve the delivery of extension services.

#### 4.1.2 Sex of the respondents

In any subsistence agriculture practice, the number of male and female is a very important factor that determined the si24 production.

Sex	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	39	78
Female	11	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

#### Source field survey, 2014

Table 2. Shows that 78% of the respondents were male with 39 persons and 11 persons were female which represent 22%. This however, implies the male folks were fully in engage in farming than the female folks.

#### 4.1.3 Marital status of the respondents

The marital status of the farmer has a vital role in agricultural production.

Table 3: Marital Status of the Respondents.

Status	Frequency	Percentage(%)
Single	30	60
Merited	20	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

#### Source: Field Work 2014.

Table 5 shows greater percentage of the farmer 60% were single as against 40% who were married. It shows that young men were more involved in extension service in the study area. Youth are active in extension service than married men.

**Table 4: Occupation of the Respondents**

Occupation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Trading	7	14
Civil servant	14	28
Non of the above	29	58
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: field work 2014

Table 4 shows 14% were into trading while 58% the respondents were only into farming. This implies that farmers without any occupation will participate fully in extension service delivery.

### 1.5 Level of education of the respondents

The education qualification of the farmer affects their capacity and product the level of education ensures the quality of skills knowledge, understanding and attitude towards adopting new insulation and technology.

**Table 6: Educational Level of the Respondents.**

Education	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Primary certificate	3	6
Secondary certificate	22	44
Tertiary certificate	25	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: field work 2014

Table 5 shows that farmer involve in extension service delivery 50% had tertiary certificate. As against 6% who had only primary certificate

#### 4.2.1 Attitude of the respondent toward extension service

Attitude is the different approach in which the farmers react when new technique is revealed to them. It implies that the gap between the research institute and the farmer toward accepting extension service.

**Table 7: Attitude of the Respondent.**

Statement	Yes	No
1. Do you have extension agents in your village?	33(66%)	17 (34%)
2. Do you feel the impact of the extension agents?	37 (74 %)	13 (26 %)
3. Do you see changes in the technique extension agents bring to you?	36 (72%)	14 (28%)
4. As a farmer do you have regular visit of extension agents?	17 (34%)	33 (66%)
5. As a farmer for you adapt to extension service early?	24 (48%)	26 (52%)
6. Do your village produce trial plot for the extension agents?	18 (36%)	32 (64%)
7. Do extension agents demand for incentive in your village?	9 (18%)	41 (82%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: field work 2014

Table 7: shows that 66% of the farmers engage in extension service delivery complain that extension agent do not visit them regularly. Also 64% of the farmer do not provide trial plot for extension agent. This

implies that extension service deliveries were not effectively delivered, this stand to effect agricultural production.

#### 4.3.1 Level of Awareness of the Respondent

Awareness is the level at which extension service passes information or dissemination of information. The awareness plays a vital role in disseminating of new ideas of farming using the local languages of the farmer for effective usage.

**Table 8: Level of Awareness of the Respondent.**

Awareness	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	35	70
No	12	24
Undecided	3	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: field work 2014**

The table shows that 70% are aware of extension service as against 24% who are not aware of extension service. This implies that extension agents are properly dissemination technique of farming.

#### 4.3.2 Ways of Disseminating of Information

The table shows how often extension services in the area receive information.

**Table 9: Way of Informing the Respondents.**

<b>Means (ways)</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
Tv and radio station	19	38
Newspaper	-	-
Hand bills	-	-
Personal contact	20	40
Cell phone calls	-	-
poster and banner	-	-
Undecided	11	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: field survey, 2014.**

Table 9 revealed that 40% of the farmers in the study area have information through personnel contact, while 38% have information through Tv and radio station. This implies the respondents would respond quickly to extension services. Since the agent comes to them face to face and also participant in farming activities.

#### **4.4.1 Problems of Extension Services**

Problems are the constraints faced by extension service. It enables the farmer to identify the problems of extension service encounter. These problems discourage them from involving in the delivery of extension service. This will however effect the production of activities.

**Table 10: Constraint of Extension Services:**

<b>Problems</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
Inadequate staff	9	18
Inadequate funding	10	20
Unstable government Policies	12	24
Farmers ignorance	19	38
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: field work, 2014**

Table 10 shows that 38% and 24% of the respondents says that farmer's ignorance and unstable government policies are the major problems; while 20% and 18% says the inadequate funding and staffing are the extension services delivery problems.



## CHAPTER FIVE

### 5.0 Summary, Conclusion and Recommendation

#### 5.1 Summary of the Major Finding

The research work was carried out to interpret the activities of extension service in Shiroro Local Government Area of Niger state.

The specific objective of the study is to determine the socio-economic characteristic of the farming population, to assess the attitude of farmers towards extension services, to indentify the level of awareness of the farmers, on extension services and also to ascertain the problems of extension service delivery in the study area. The research has four research question stated. The first question, what are the socio-economic characteristics of the farmers, the second, what are the attitude of the famers toward extension service, the third what is the level of awareness of the farmers in extension service, the fourth, how do extension identify the problems militating against extension service delivery.

A random sample of the FIFTY (50) respondents was chosen. A questionnaire was used for data collection data were analyzed using frequency distribution, percentage table.

The result of the study identify that farmer involve single with about 60% a sample in the study area. Respondents were within the productive

age limit 21-25 years. This might imply that increase of production involved in agricultural activities is high. It also revealed that 78% of the respondents were male which will have high production than the women folks.

It also revealed that about 58% were into farming alone without any other source of income.

Further work, it revealed that about 50% had tertiary certification. All farmer in the study area says that, the extension agent do not visit them regularly. About 66% and also 64% do not provide trial plot for the extension agent to carry out agricultural activities. The problems militating against extension services were 38% and 24% of the respondents say farmer's ignorance and unstable government policies the problems of extension services.

However, 70% of the respondents are aware of extension service as against 24% that are not, and it revealed that through the means of personnel contact. While 38% through Tv and radio stations. The percentage table shows the relationship between the farmers (respondents) and the extension agents and research institutes.

## 5.2 Conclusion

1. Based on the finding of this study, Assessment of farmers toward extension service delivery in Shiroro Local Government has yielded positively in agricultural Production.
2. Most of the respondents were within the productive age of 21-25 year.
3. Most of the respondent involve were singles.
4. Most of the respondent were predominately farmers.
5. Extension service were most especially faced with problems of unstable government polices and also farmers ignorance towards adopting new technique of farming.
6. Extension service delivery to be effectively been disseminate through personnel contact for effective usage.

## 5.3 Recommendation

1. Famers should have the urge to accept and learn from the extension agents.
2. Extension agents should adopt a sense of belonging among the farmers for effective usage of new innovation he brings.
3. Government on their side should employ more staff to enhance the activities of the service and the institution of research.
4. Government should provide adequate polices that will suit the agricultural sector since it is one of the constraint of extension service delivery.

5. More awareness should be created by regular visit of the farmer to triage the gap between the institute of research and the farmers.

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## APPENDIX I

Questionnaire  
Agricultural science,  
Department,  
Niger state college of,  
Education,  
Minna, Niger State.

Dear respondent,

The researchers are final year student of about named institution currently researching on assessment of farmer toward extension services delivery. Case study of Shiroro Local Government area.

We therefore, solicit for your response to the under listed question your response will be solely for agricultural purpose and nothing more.

Thanks

Yours faithfully

Usman Umar Nakuta

Jaja Japhet

Marget Yemi John

Habiba Abdulwahad

Hassana. D. Ndako

Sikirat Shittu

Ikpi Linda Hassana

Jumma Comfort Zaki

## Appendix ii

### Section A

1. Age (a) 16-20 (b) 21-25 (c) 26-30 (d) 30 and above.
2. Sex M/F
3. Marital status. (a) Married (b) single
4. Occupation (a) trade (b) civil servant (c) non of the above
5. Level of education (a) primary certificate (b) secondary certificate (c) tertiary certificate.

### Section B

Mark either **yes** or **no** in the box

1. Do you have extension agent in your village?
2. Do you feel the impact of the extension agent?
3. Do you see changes in the technique of farming an extension agent bring to you?
4. As farmer do you have regular visit of extension agent?
5. As a farmer do you adopt to extension agent early?
6. Do your village provide trial for the extension agent?
7. Do extension agent demand for incentive in your village?

Yes	No

### Section C

As farmer are you aware of the extension services in your locality? YES/NO.

If yes through which means. (a) Tv and radio station. (b) newspapers (c) handbills (d) personal contact (e) cell phone for poster and banners.

### Section D

As a farmer which of this problems militate against extension service in your locality? (a) inadequate staff (b) inadequate funding (c) unstable policies of government (d) famer ignorance toward new ideas.