TRENDS IN SMALLHOLDER AGRICULTURE

Preview

• Trends in:
  – Crop production
  – Distribution of area cultivated
  – Distribution of fertilizer used
  – Distribution of maize production and sales
Trends in area planted

Production season

Hectares

Maize

Cassava

Groundnuts

Others

Proportion of farmers growing crops

Production season

Per cent

Maize

Millet

Cassava

Groundnut
## Annual changes in production

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Less Industrial Crops</th>
<th>Annual growth (%)</th>
<th>Industrial Crops</th>
<th>Annual growth (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crop</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cotton</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>Soybean</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sorghum</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>Sunflower</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Millet</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>B. Tobacco</td>
<td>8.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>V. Tobacco</td>
<td>20.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groundnut</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweet potato</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed beans</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: PHS, CSO

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## Preview

- Trends in:
  - Crop production
    - Distribution of area cultivated
    - Distribution of fertilizer used
    - Distribution of maize production and sales
Trends in average area cropped per household

% of total land planted by Top 10% of smallholder farmers
• Trends in:
  ✓ Crop production
  ✓ Distribution of area cultivated
    – Distribution of fertilizer used
    – Distribution of maize production and sales

Trends in proportion of fertilizer users
% of total fertilizer consumed by Top 10% of smallholder farmers

Average fertilizer consumed per farmer
• Trends in:
  ✓ Crop production
  ✓ Distribution of area cultivated
  ✓ Distribution of fertilizer used
    – Distribution of maize production and sales
Trends in average maize production & sales per farmer

![Graph showing trends in maize production and sales from 1991/92 to 2003/04.]

**Preview**

- Trends in:
  - Crop production
  - Distribution of area cultivated
  - Distribution of fertilizer used
  - Distribution of maize production and sales
SUMMARY

- Maize consistently predominant in smallholder cropping systems
- Growth rates higher for export crops and staple alternatives to maize
- Average area cropped per household is declining
- Planted land consistently concentrated among small % of households

SUMMARY (2)

- Percentage of smallholder farmers using fertilizer varied from 15 to 32%
- 70 – 86% of fertilizer consumed by 10% of households
- 43 – 62% of maize produced by a 10% of households
- 60 to 85% of maize sold by 10% producing the most maize
Conclusions

• Agricultural growth greatest for crops other than maize
• Largest part of fertilizer used, maize produced and sold has consistently been by 10% of smallholder farmers

POLICY MAKERS!!!!
• Program benefits to fertilizer users proportionate to the distribution of purchases
• Program benefits to maize producers are proportionate to distribution of sales