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Do Rural Smallholder Farmers Subsidize Farm Investments With Non-farm Income? A Study of Vegetable Farmers

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ABSTRACT

Growth in the number of smallholder farmers in developing countries has led to a decline in agricultural production and income. This study examines the role of non-farm income in subsidizing farm investments. Data from a survey of 1,000 smallholder farmers in Nigeria were analyzed using Tobit regression. The results show that non-farm income has a positive and significant effect on farm investments. The size of the effect was larger for farmers who had access to credit and extension services. The findings suggest that non-farm income can play a key role in subsidizing farm investments and improving the livelihoods of smallholder farmers.

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