

Empowering Agricultural Cooperative Societies to Improve Coffee Production: Case Study of Hai District in Tanzania

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Introduction

Recently there has been an increase in coffee production in Tanzania particular in Hai district in Kilimanjaro region. This is contributed by the use of improved coffee varieties and promotion of Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) implemented by Tanzania Coffee Research Institute (TaCRI) through Technology Transfer and Training program. In Hai district, TaCRI is currently working with 25 coffee AMCOS with more than 6000 farmers by promoting the use of improved coffee varieties and application of GAPs to increase coffee production

Materials/Methods

The case study was conducted in Hai district for the period of five (5) years from 2017/2018 to 2021/2022. Data for coffee production and number of improved coffee seedlings distributed were collected from Hai District Executive Director (DED) office while number of trained farmers and Training of Trainers (ToT) came from TaCRI. Ten (10) AMCOSs were selected from randomly selected villages of potential coffee growing wards for coffee beans size (grades) determination. Data for coffee grading came from Tanzania Coffee Board (TCB) and The Tanganyika Coffee Curing Company limited



Figure 1: Trend of coffee production



Figure 2: : Trend of coffee grades



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Figure 3: Training the ToTs

Results/Discussion The result shows that, in areas where TaCRI interventions have been effective farmers who planted the improved

varieties and adapted the

application of GAPs have increased their coffee production and beans size quality. In Hai district coffee production has increased from 831 to 962 tons after replanting 1.5 million of improved coffee seedlings (Fig. 1) together with conducting trainings to more than 970 AMCOS members and 198 AMCOS leaders (ToT). ToT covers a gap of 66 government employed extension officers in Hai district to make total of 176 coffee extension providers. On the other hand, high quality grades (AA, AB and PB) have increased from 77.67% to 88.56% leading to better market price.

Conclusion/Perspectives

Therefore this paper describes various interventions that have led to the increased coffee production in Hai district. The use of improved coffee varieties as a substitute to traditional and unprofitable coffee trees through new farms establishment, farms rehabilitation, adoption of the GAPs and primary processing techniques given by TaCRI have improved coffee production. Involvement of ToT on providing extention services to coffee growers overshadows the inadequate extension services to farmers. So promotion and dissemination of appropriate and financially viable technologies to coffee farmers improves coffee production.

References:

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