

The Impact of Boko Haram Insurgency on Livestock Production in Mubi Region of Adamawa State, Nigeria.

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Abstract: This study was conducted to examine the impact of Boko Haram insurgency on livestock production in Mubi region of Adamawa State, Nigeria. Four local government areas (Mubi north, Mubi south, Madagali and Michika) were purposely selected for this study. Thirty (30) livestock farmers were randomly selected from each of the local government area making a total of one hundred and twenty (120) respondents. One hundred and twenty (120) structured questionnaires were administered to gather information from the farmers through an interview schedule. Majority of the livestock farmers in Mubi south (56.67%) Mubi north (63.33%), Madagali (53.33%) and Michika (80%) were males. Most of the respondents had secondary school certificates (40 to 50%) and Diploma certificates (23.33 to 36.70%). Greater proportion of the livestock farmers had family size of 5 to 10 people per family. Family labour accounted the highest (43.33 to 60%) types of labour used in managing the animals. Sizable population (53.33 to 63.33%) of the livestock farmers kept domestic animals as source of income. Livestock populations were observed to have been drastically reduced as a result of Boko Haram attacks. Significant economic losses were recorded in Madagali with the highest economic losses of ₦395,000, ₦2,000,000, ₦285,000 observed for goats sheep and pigs respectively and ₦300,500, ₦175,000, ₦390,000 losses were also recorded respectively for goats, cattle and pigs were recorded in Michika local government area. The problems of finance (36.67 to 40%), problem of supply of inputs (13.33 to 23.33%) and scare of reoccurrence of Boko Haram attack (30 to 43.33%) are the major constraints affecting the development of livestock production in Mubi area of Adamawa State. There is need for government, non governmental organization and individuals to assist livestock farmers in Mubi region with finance and facilities. Government should further enhance the security of Mubi region and restore back confidence in people to invest more in livestock production. It was concluded that the activities of Boko Haram insurgency had serious negative impact on the livestock industry in Mubi area.

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Introduction

The role of the Nigerian livestock industry in the socio-economic development of Nigeria cannot be overemphasized. Keeping livestock is an important risk reduction strategy for vulnerable communities which are important providers of quality nutrients and traction for growing crops in smallholder systems. Currently, livestock production is one of the fastest growing agricultural sector in developing countries (Philip, 2010). The Nigerian livestock industry in the North-eastern part of the country has been threatened by incidence of Boko Haram insurgency. The Joint Humanitarian Action Plan [JHAP] (2015) reported that Borno, Yobe and Adamawa States are the most affected in Nigeria and Mubi region happens to be the most hit area by insurgency in Adamawa State. This was buttressed by Vahyala *et al.* (2016) that insurgency has led to significant population

displacement in Adamawa State and kept many farmers away from their usual agricultural activities which are the main sources of their livelihood. This phenomenon has led to huge lost of lives and properties especially livestock. Professor Eustace Iyayi reported that livestock population had been drastically reduced by the activities of Boko Haram insurgency (Iyayi, 2018). This had consequently led to rise in unemployment, poverty, malnutrition, and disease outbreak and mortality rate among the populace in the affected areas. Although, much work have been done on the effect of insurgency on agricultural activities and food security however, much information have not been documented specifically on the effects of insurgency on livestock production in Mubi region hence the need to conduct

more studies and bridge this information gap. In view of the above, this study was conducted to assess the impact of insurgency in 2014 on livestock production in Mubi region of Adamawa State Nigeria. The outcome of this study will be beneficial to policy makers, non governmental organizations and donor agencies that have the intention to revive the livestock industry in the region.

Methodology

Study area

The study was conducted in Mubi region of Adamawa State. The region comprises of five local government areas namely; Madagali, Maiha, Michika, Mubi North and Mubi South. The region lies between latitudes 9° 30' and 11° north of the equator and longitudes 13° and 13° 45' east of the Greenwich meridian. It has a land area of 4728.77km². The major economic activities of the populace in the area are crop and livestock production which are their major sources of livelihood (Adebayo, 2004).

Sampling procedure

Four local government areas namely; Madagali, Michika, Mubi North and Mubi South were purposely selected for the study. Random sampling technique was used to select thirty livestock farmers from each

of the local government area making a total of one hundred and twenty (120) respondents.

Data collection and analysis

A total of one hundred and twenty (120) structured questionnaires were used to gather information from the livestock farmers in a scheduled interview. Data obtained were analyzed using simple descriptive statistics (Frequency and percentage).

Results and Discussion

The socio-economic characteristics of livestock farmers in Mubi area of Adamawa State is presented in Table 1. On the basis of gender, the males are more involved in livestock production than the females which is in agreement with the findings of Vahyala *et al.* (2016) who in a similar study on effects of Boko Haram on food security reported more involvement of male respondents in agricultural activities. This therefore suggests that the males are more actively involved in agricultural activities such as rearing of livestock.

Majority of the respondents have been to school and have acquired western education. Those with secondary school and Diploma certificates accounted the highest number.

Table 1: Socio economic characteristics of Livestock Keepers in Mubi Region of Adamawa State.

Sex*	Mubi South	Mubi North	Madagali	Michika
Male	17(56.67)	19(63.33)	16(53.33)	18(60.00)
Female	13(43.33)	11(36.67)	14(46.67)	12(40.00)
Total	30(100.00)	30(100.00)	30(100.00)	30(100.00)
Level of education				
Primary certificate	6(20.00)	4(13.33)	3(10.00)	5(16.67)
Secondary certificate	14(46.67)	12(40.00)	15(50.00)	14(46.67)
Diploma/NCE	9(30.00)	8(26.67)	11(36.67)	5(23.33)
Degree	2(6.67)	3(10.00)	1(3.33)	4(13.33)
Others	1(3.33)	3(10.00)	0(0.00)	2(6.67)
Total	30(100.00)	30(100.00)	30(100.00)	30(100.00)
Household size				
1 – 5	8(26.67)	5(16.67)	11(36.67)	9(30.00)
5 – 10	14(46.67)	13(43.33)	9(30.00)	12(40.00)
10 – 15	6(20.00)	9(30.00)	6(20.00)	5(16.67)
> 15	2(6.67)	3(10.00)	4(13.33)	4(13.33)
Total	30(100.00)	30(100.00)	30(100.00)	30(100.00)

Source: Field survey (2018), *values in parenthesis are in percentages.

This finding is in agreement with the Findings of Vahyala *et al.* (2016) reported that majority of farmers in Mubi area have acquired one form of education or the other. This therefore suggests that livestock farmers in Mubi area can easily adopt to innovation in livestock production.

Greater number of livestock farmers in Mubi area of Adamawa State are within the family size of 5 to 10 which is close to the family size of 8 to 12 in Mubi region reported by Vahyala *et al.* (2016). This

result signals that livestock farmers in Mubi region are conscious of large family size that is difficult to carter for.

Most of the farmers in Mubi area were observed to rear livestock for the purpose of income. This is in line with report of Philip (2010) who reported that livestock sector serve as source of employment and livelihood for many smallholder farmers especially in developing countries like Nigeria.

The result on types of livestock kept, management system, types of labour adopted, reasons of keeping livestock and population of livestock owned by livestock farmers is presented in Table 2. The result showed that goat, sheep, and pigs are the dominant species of livestock kept by farmers. This is because the foundation stock for this category of

animals are relatively cheap to acquire and manage. This finding is in tandem with the report of Asibong (2004) who reported that this types of animals are easy to purchase and managed. Furthermore, significant number of the livestock farmers in Mubi region are smallholder with flock size of 1 to 10 and 11 to 30, respectively.

Table 2: Types of Livestock Kept, Management System, Reasons of Keeping Livestock Type of Labour used and Flock Size in Mubi Region of Adamawa State

Type of Livestock Kept*	Mubi South	Mubi North	Madagali	Michika
Goat				
1 – 10	23(76.67)	9(63.33)	12(40.00)	7(23.33)
10 – 30	4(13.33)	8(26.67)	10(33.33)	21(70.00)
>30	3(10.00)	3(10.00)	8(26.67)	2(6.67)
Total	30(100.00)	30(100.00)	30(100.00)	30(100.00)
Sheep				
1 – 10	12(40.00)	14(46.67)	16(53.33)	23(76.67)
10 – 30	9(30.00)	11(36.67)	12(40.00)	4(13.33)
>30	9(30.00)	5(16.67)	2(6.67)	3(10.00)
Total	30(100.00)	30(100.00)	30(100.00)	30(100.00)
Cattle				
1 – 10	16(53.33)	19(63.33)	15(50.00)	22(73.33)
10 – 30	8(26.67)	7(23.33)	8(26.67)	5(16.67)
>30	6(20.00)	4(13.33)	7(23.33)	3(10.00)
Total	30(100.00)	30(100.00)	30(100.00)	30(100.00)
Pig				
1 – 10	18(60)	20(66.67)	12(40.00)	14(46.67)
10 – 30	9(30.00)	7(23.33)	15(50.00)	10(33.33)
>30	3(10.00)	3(10.00)	30(10.00)	6(20.00)
Total	30(100.00)	30(100.00)	30(100.00)	30(100.00)
Type of Labour used to manage livestock				
Family	17(56.67)	16(53.33)	18(60.00)	13(43.33)
Hired	9(30.00)	10(33.33)	6(20.00)	8(60.00)
Both	4(13.33)	4(13.33)	6(20.00)	9(30.00)
Total	30(100.00)	30(100.00)	30(100.00)	30(100.00)
Reasons for keeping livestock				
Source of income	15(50.00)	19(63.33)	18(60.00)	16(53.33)
Domestic use	9(30.00)	7(23.33)	8(26.67)	10(33.33)
Risk aversion	6(20.00)	4(13.33)	4(13.33)	4(13.33)
Total	30(100.00)	30(100.00)	30(100.00)	30(100.00)

Source: Field survey (2018),* values in parenthesis are in percentages

Family labour accounted the highest type of labour adopted in managing domestic animals in Mubi region suggesting that most of the livestock farmers operates at subsistence level with small resources to carter for the animals. The flock size of the farmers indicated that majority of the farmers operates at subsistence level. Uchena *et al.* (2018) reported that high cost of labour is among the challenges of managing livestock which is in line with the findings of this study.

Estimated economic losses as a result of insurgence attack is summarized in Table 3. Significant economic losses were encountered in the livestock industry in Mubi region as a result of insurgence attack. However, more livestock losses were observed in Madagali and Michika local government area of Adamawa State. This was attributed to the nearness of this areas to Sambisa forest where the camps of the insurgence are located consequently resulting to frequent attacks leading to more losses.

Table 4: Estimated Economic Losses (₦) Due to Boko Haram Insurgency in Mubi Region of Adamawa State from October, 2014 to May, 2014

	Mubi South	Mubi North	Madagali	Michika
Goat	155,000.00	120,000.00	395,000.00	300,500.00
Sheep	160,000.00	108,600.00	232,000.00	198,000.00
Cattle	1,500,000.00	1,595,000.00	2,000,000.00	1,750,000.00
Pig	175,000.00	600,000.00	285,000.00	390,000.00

Source: Field survey (2018)

The population of livestock were observed to drastically reduce after the insurgency attack in 2014. This outcome was supported by the report of Iliyasu *et al.* (2015) who reported losses of livestock as result of

insurgency attack in the Northeastern part of Nigeria. Iyayi (2018) reported that livestock population had drastically reduced by the activities of Boko Haram sects in Northeastern Nigeria (Iyayi 2018).

Table 3: Number of Livestock Owned Before and After Insurgency (October, 2014 to May, 2014) in Mubi Region of Adamawa State

Before the Insurgency	Mubi South	Mubi North	Madagali	Michika
Goat	338.00	308.00	301.00	293.00
Sheep	226.00	289.00	160.00	91.00
Cattle	187.00	175.00	148.00	152.00
Pig	146.00	195.00	188.00	223.00
Total	897.00	967.00	797.00	759.00
Livestock after insurgency				
Goat	21.00	50.00	28.00	44.00
Sheep	55.00	13.00	25.00	31.00
Cattle	15.00	25.00	27.00	53.00
Pig	131.00	165.00	158.00	197.00
Total	222.00	253.00	238.00	325.00

Source: Field survey (2018)

The result on some major constraints affecting livestock production in Mubi region is presented in Table 3. Problems of finance and the scare of reoccurrence of insurgence attack are the major problems affecting investment in livestock production in the region. This has seriously affected the growth

and development of livestock production in Mubi region. This finding, concurred with the reported of Bosedede and Agyeno (2015), Joseph (2015) and Vahyala *et al.* (2016) who reported that activities of Boko Haram in North-eastern Nigeria has negatively affected agricultural activities in the region.

Table 5: Some Constraints of Livestock Production in Mubi Region after Insurgency

	Mubi South	Mubi North	Madagali	Michika
Constraints*				
Problem of finance	11(36.67)	13(43.33)	10(33.33)	12(40.00)
Problem of supply of inputs	4(13.33)	6(20.00)	3(10.00)	7(23.33)
Poor marketing of livestock	5(16.67)	3(10.00)	4(13.33)	2(6.67)
Fear of reoccurrence of insurgency	10(33.33)	8(26.67)	13(43.33)	9(30.00)
Total	30(100.00)	30(100.00)	30(100.00)	30(100.00)

Source: Field survey (2018), *values in parenthesis are in percentages\

Conclusion

The findings of this study revealed that the livestock sub-sector is an important component of the socio-economic activities of people in Mubi area. However, the activities of insurgency had negative impact on the livestock industry in Mubi area which resulted to serious economic losses.

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