LEVEL OF TRACTOR UTILIZATION AND IRRIGATION SCHEMES
STATUS IN ADAMAWA STATE OF NIGERIA

E.A. Ajav and B.R. Burramu

ABSTRACT
The level of agricultural mechanization in any area is an important determination of the extent to which agricultural output or productivity could be increased. A study was therefore undertaken to assess the level of agricultural mechanization in Adamawa State. The state was divided into five zones: Mubi, Gombi, Yola, Numan and Ganye. Available data on government and private tractor hiring services, irrigation schemes distribution of tractors and implements from 1997 -2002 and their utilization were collected using a well structured questionnaire, oral interviews, observation and study of office documentations. Results show that total land cultivated with tractors was 10.8% (862,100 ha). There were 365 tractors available in the state, 225 (62.0%) were serviceable while 140 (38.0%) were unserviceable. In the case of implements, there were 474 implements and other machinery. Out of this, 213 (44.9%) were serviceable while 261 (55.1%) were unserviceable. 600 water pumps were distributed to 1,170 farmers, 111 boreholes drilled. Yields of 105.9 kg/ha of rice were obtained from irrigation farms as against 5.0 kg/ha obtained without irrigation. Mubi zone had 112 pumps and 45 boreholes, Gombi zone, 89 pumps and 35 boreholes, Yola zone, 165 pumps, Numan zone, 102 pumps and 11 boreholes, Ganye zone, 132 pumps and 20 boreholes. Irrigation schemes were found to be leading agricultural mechanization in the state.

1 Department of Agricultural and Environmental Engineering, Faculty of Technology, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria