ABSTRACT
This article provides answers to some overarching questions of whether urban agriculture (UA) contributes to alleviating income poverty amongst practicing urban farmers in Tanzania. Sources of data for this paper were obtained from many ways both published and unpublished, from research carried out at Sokoine University of Agriculture, government departments, bilateral projects, and empirical evidence. Literature shows that in developing countries, UA is practiced for social, economic, and cultural reasons. In Tanzania, people of all socio-economic status (SES) undertake UA everywhere in towns and cities, and several studies on UA show that the practice is for food provisioning and mostly for income poverty alleviation, because of the urban dwellers’ real income decline. Further, the study shows that urban farmers undertake UA because of reasons residing at four contextual levels of government, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, city/town councils, and the individual. Most important reasons are those residing at the government and at the individual levels.

* Department of Agricultural Education and Extension, Sokoine University of Agriculture, P.O. Box 3002, Chou Kikuu, Morogoro, Tanzania