



Effects of Alcohol Consumption on the Socio-Economic Wellbeing of Farmers in Khana Local Government Area, Rivers State, Nigeria.

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ABSTRACT: The study examined the effects of alcohol consumption among rural farmers in Khana Local Government Area of Rivers State, Nigeria. Primary and Secondary data were collected using structured questionnaires from 120 respondent using random sampling technique. Data were subjected to both descriptive statistics and regression analysis. It was observed that farmers in the study area consume different types of alcohol such as Ogogoro, palm-wine, and beer but gin (kai kai/ogogoro) that constitutes the highest type of alcohol consumed with 64.29%, also factors such as family transmission (genetic), ethnic and cultural background. Peer/social club, affordability of alcohol, lack of self-control etc. were causes of alcohol consumption in the study area. However, we recommends that Government should direct the extension workers to educate rural farmers on the danger of consumption of alcohol.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Certain factors contribute to the use of alcohol, Glavas, (2006) identifying these factors as complex mixture of genetic and environmental factors which influence the risk of the development of alcoholism, Akajiaku (2010) added peer pressure, availability of alcohol and financial statics as contributing factors to the development of alcoholism. Studies by Brown and Odejide (1987) have been consistent on the causes of alcohol dependence. Their researches have shown conclusive that familiar transmission risk is at least in part genetics and not just the result of family. The task of current science is to identify what a person inherits that increase vulnerability to alcoholism and how inherited factors interact with environment to cause the disease. This information will provide the basis for identifying people at risk and for developing behavioural and pharmacological approaches to prevent and treat alcoholic problems. Many researchers have also shown that alcoholics runs in families. In a study of 159 hospitalist alcoholics, Ellison (1966), found that slightly over 40% had a parent, usually the 32 father who is an alcoholic. Others such as Grant & Litvak (1980) followed the case histories of 56 children who had been taken from foster homes. There findings revealed a very high relationship of alcoholism to parenthood. Beasley (2005) stated "children of parents suffering from alcoholism are at 100 percent greater risk of developing alcoholism even if they are not raised in the same home. Miller & Caddy (2006) added "children of alcohol biological parents still have nearly double the number of alcohol problem by their late twenties and worse in the late forties as did a central group of adopted children whose biological parents did not have any history of alcoholism all of them having been raised in the same environment. Peer group and social association influence also contribute to the causes of alcoholism. People belong to group that adore alcoholic beverages are being compelled by the group to take alcohol, since failure leads to loss of status and expulsion from the group. Confirming this view, Odejide (2007), Aduku (2011) and Akinede (2012) stated that alcohol dependence generally result from the desire to be accepted by the peer group or social club to which one belongs.

Beside physiological factors like poverty and sexual abuse can contribute to alcoholic addiction. Beasley (2005) observed that poverty and poor environment develop the chances of one being alcoholic due to the frustration, depression and anxiety. The same fact holds with victims of physical, mental or sexual abuse in the past due to rape, heart break, loss of beloved ones and other challenges offends these people resort to alcohol in order to arrest or take away the hurting memories of the past. These often lead to excessive intake of alcohol.

Alcoholism has remained a chronic social, economic and health problem. However, if not well managed could cause severe damage to the brain. The problem of alcohol consumption is characterized by health challenges including an impaired control over alcohol, compulsive thought about alcohol, and distorted thinking. Alcohol consumption, abuse and alcoholism have become a societal problem in Nigeria especially in Khana Local Government Area of Rivers State, especially among the farmers. The consequences of alcohol abuse or addiction are devastating to such extent that both national and internal organization around the world are worried its spread among Nigeria farmers. There consequences include but not limited to severe health issues, social violence among farmers, mental issues and lawlessness, in fact, Nigeria is ranked 27th Worldwide in alcohol consumption among adult of 18 years and above in litres per capital per year and as a result, the leading African country in alcohol consumption (Linda,2012).

It therefore follows that the alcohol consumption rate among Nigeria farmers, especially in the area of study is the phenomenal increase, as is due for attention, hence this study, unarguably, alcoholics and other drug abuses have high rate of anti-social behavior of which farmers in Nigeria need to know with actions in place to tackle the phenomenon. This calls for the adoption of a proactive measures to avert the impending danger associated with alcohol consumption especially its abuse and a dependence leading to incessant cases of health problems on alcohol consumers and its effects on farmers. The specific objectives for the study were to:

- (i) Identify the types of alcohol consumed by the farmers
- (ii) Ascertain the rate of alcohol consumption and
- (iii) Examine the socio-economic consequences of alcoholism

II. METHODOLOGY

This study was carried out in Khana local Government Area of Rivers State Nigeria. Which lies in the Niger Delta within latitude 4^o.42' North East and longitude 8^o.21' East. It covers an area of 560km², and a population of 294,217 (National Population Census, 2006). The LGA is made up of one urban centre (Bori) and several rural communities blessed with natural resources majorly crude oil and large area for farming. The inhabitants are predominantly Ogoni's who engaged in subsistence farming and trading. Data for the study were obtained by the use of structured questionnaire. Khana LGA is made up of thirty Nine (39) communities, six communities was purposively selected based on the presence of farmers. One hundred and twenty (120) farmers were randomly selected. A proportionate sample of twenty farmers from each of the selected communities from the six (6) communities in Khana LGA was employed. The six (6) communities were Bori, Eken, Kpean, Deken, Betem and Bie-Gwara. The summary of sampling procedure is shown in table 1. A list of stratified heads of household who are farmers were selected into alcohol consuming and non-alcohol consuming he as of household. Alcohol consuming heads of house holds were elected using simple random techniques while semantic deference scale was used to find the rate of alcohol consumption. The semantic difference scale is a 7 point scale or a numeric scale that measures a concept on a continuum which range from 1 to 7. Descriptive statistics such as percentage, frequency, means and inferential statistic tools such as chi-square and regression was use to analyzed the data.

Table 1: Sampling Procedure and Sampling Size

S/No	Community in Khana LGA	Selected Communities	Selected Farmer	Household
1	Baghayaghe	Bori,	20	
2	Banchabone			
3	Betem			
4	Bie Gwara,			
5	Bori			
6	Deken	Eken.	20	
7	Eeke			
8	Gbam Boue			
9	Gure			
10	Kagwara			
11	Kani	Kpean,	20	
12	Kani Babbe,			
13	Kapnor,			
14	Kayangbe,			
15	Kerekekiri,			
16	Kano Boue	Deken	20	
17	Kpean			
18	Luawii,			
19	Luyorgwara.			
20	Ndagbami,			
21	Nyokuri Boue,			
22	Nyotem			
23	Sii			

24	Uegure Boue	Betem	20
25	Zaa Kpong		
26	Kpong		
27	Bean		
28	Pue		
29	Luuhaara		
30	Bianu		
31	Beere		
32	Bere		
33	Luusue Ko		
34	Karaoko Ko	Bie Gwara.	
35	Kabanga		
36	Luumene Banga		
37	Ewee		
38	Kwawa		
39	Duburo		
Total	39	6	120

Source: Field Survey, 2017

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Types of Alcohol consumed by farmers

Table 2 shows a multiple response implying that there was no restriction on the response, consequently, those who drink palm wine had the option to also indicate that they also drink red wine and others, while those who drink spirit were not restricted from indicating that they also drink local gin (Ogogoro). The table 2 showed that local gin (Kaikai/Ogogoro) was mostly consumed by farmers (64.29%) while raffia palm was least consumed. About 52% and 50% of the farmers drink spirit/dry gin and palm wine respectively.

Table 2: Types of alcohol consumed by famers

Types of alcohol	Frequency	%
Palm wine	56	50.00
Local gin (kai kai/Ogogoro)	72	64.29
Raffin Palm	41	36.61
Spirit/Dry gin (e.g. Brandy)	58	51.79
Red wine	47	41.96
Beer	64	57.14
Others	22	19.64
Multiple Response		

Source: Field Survey 2017

The Rate of Alcohol Consumption

Table 3 showed rate of alcohol consumption was ascertained using the semantic deference scale as indicated in the methodology the left hand side of the scale indicated low rate while the right hand side indicated high rate. The table showed that 18.8% of the farmers do not take any form of alcohol 9.8% and 12.5% farmers drink alcohol at most once every month and at most once every two weeks respectively, 16.6% each of the farmers respectively drink alcohol 2 to 5 times a week and at least once in a day. The table showed that the average rate of alcohol consumption was 3.88% considering the fact that the required average for the semantic difference scale was 4, the calculated mean $3.88 < 4$ hence it was accepted the left side.

Table 3: Rate of Alcohol Consumption

Rate of alcohol consumption	Frequency	%	\bar{x}
None	21	18.8	3.88
Once every month	11	9.8	
Once in two weeks	14	12.5	
Once in two weeks	19	17.0	
Once in every week	21	18.8	
2-5 days in a week	13	11.6	
At least once daily	13	11.6	
Total	112	100	

Source: field survey 2017

Socio-economic Consequences of Alcohol Consumption

Table 4 showed that all factors were accepted except the fact that it reduces efficiency ($91.69 < 2.5$). This is true considering the fact that most farmers take alcohol to enhance their work performance, they equally, give alcohol to hired labour to enhance their ability to work. Alcohol is consequently not an inhibiting factor specifically, the social consequences of alcohol consumption were; Alcohol consumption increases crime rate

(3.41>2.5), it aids and albeit violence (3.22>2.5), increases sexual risk behaviour (harassment, rape, unprotected sex resulting to sexual transmitted diseases (STD) (2.95>2.5). Increase crime rate (3.05>2.5) and finally carelessness which may lead to loss of job and child neglect (3.25>2.5), the table also showed that the economic consequences were Reduction in man-hour, the respondents however agreed that it reduces man-hour in farming. This is possible because in cases of farm hazard which is also agreed upon as consequence of alcohol consumption (3.58>2.5), man-hours are lost. Alcohol consumption leads to low agricultural production which may lead to food scarcity and increase in the price of agricultural produce and related commodities (3.2>2.5).

Table 4: Socio-Economic Consequences of Alcohol Consumption

S/n	Socio-economic Consequences	Sum	Mean	Remark
1	Reduction in man-hour in farming	401	3.58	Agree
2	Reduces efficiency	189	1.69	Agree
3	Increases farm hazards	388	3.46	Agree
4	It leads to low agricultural production which may lead to food scarcity and increase in the price of agricultural produce and related commodities	390	3.20	Agree
5	Alcohol consumption increases crime rate	382	3.41	Agree
6	It aids and albeit violence (intra and inter family)	361	3.22	Agree
7	Increases sexual risk behaviour (harassment, rape, unprotected sex resulting to STDs	330	2.95	Agree
8	It leads to carelessness which may lead to child neglects, and loss of job	362	3.23	Agree
9	It increases accident rate	342	3.05	Agree
	Grand Mean		3.09	Agree

Sources: Field Survey 2017

The Effects of ‘Socio-economic Characteristics on the Rate of Alcohol Consumption

Table 5 shows the summary of regression results on the effects of socio-economic characteristics on the rate of alcohol consumption. The table revealed that the multiple correlation coefficient was 0.975, this value is very high implying that a very strong correlation exist between socio-economic characteristics and rate of alcohol consumption. The coefficient of multiple determination (R^2) = 0.951, this implies that 12.6% variation in the rate of alcohol consumption is explained by variations in the socio-economic characteristics of the respondents.

This indicates that the model has a good fit. The remaining 4.9% is explained by other variables not included in the model. The F-calculated of 2339.8 had a corresponding significant f-value ($0.000 < 0.05$ level of significance); therefore the researcher concludes that the overall model is useful. Conventionally $F - Cal = 339.8 > F - tab 0.056.105 = 2.19$ hence the decision of a useful model is upheld.

Test of Hypotheses

H₀₁ The Socio-economic Characteristics of farmers do not significantly affect the rate of alcohol consumption.

The test of significance conducted as shown in table 5 that; Gender had significant effects on the rate of alcohol consumption in the study area ($PV=0.000 < 0.05$ level of significance), furthermore, $t - cal = 8.56 > t - tab (0.05.111) = 1.98$ henceforth the null hypothesis is rejected and it is consequently concluded that gender of the Respondents significantly influence the rate of alcohol consumption.

Age significantly affected the rate of alcohol consumption in the study area ($PV=0.000 < 0.05$ level of significance), more so, $t - cal = 5.31 > t - tab (0.05.111) = 1.98$ consequently, the null hypothesis is rejected and it is concluded that of alcohol consumption.

Table 5 also showed that respondents education no significant effects on the rate of alcohol consumption in the study area ($PV = 0.082 > 0.05$ level of significance), additionally $t - cal - 1.76 < t - tab (0.05.111) = 1.98$ consequently, the null hypothesis is accepted and it is concluded that respondents education does not significantly affect the rate of alcohol consumption. The coefficient of education is negative implying that an inverse relationship exists between education and the rate of alcohol consumption in the study area.

Table 5 also showed that respondents primary occupation had no significant effects on the rate of alcohol consumption in the study area ($PV 0.080 > 0.05$ level of significance), $t - cal < t - tab 0.05.111 = 1.95$ consequently, the null hypothesis is accepted and it is concluded that respondents primary occupation does not significantly affect the rate of alcohol consumption.

Net Income Per Month had ($PV = 0.606 > 0.05$) additionally, $t - cal = -0.517 < t - tab 0.05.1119 = 1.96$, the null hypothesis consequently accepted and concluded that Net Income per Month of the Respondents does not significantly influence the level of satisfaction with NDDC Agricultural Programmes. However, the negative

sign of the coefficient is an indication that increase Net Income per Month decreases the level of satisfaction with NDDC Agricultural Programmes.

Table 5 disclosed that Household size significantly affected the rate of alcohol consumption in the study area (PV = 0.000 < 0,05 level of significance), more so, t-cal = 5.30 > t-tab (1.05.1111) = 1.98 consequently, the null hypothesis is rejected and it is concluded that household size of the Respondents significantly affect the rate of alcohol consumption.

Effects of Socio-Economic Activities on the Rate of Alcohol Consumption

Dependent Variable; Rate of Alcohol consumption

$$RAC = a_0 + a_1 Gen + a_2 Age + a_3 Edu + a_4 Occ + a_5 HHS + a_6 Inc + U_1$$

$$RAC = a_0 + 1.26Gen + 0.32Age - 0.10Edu + 0.08 Occ + 0.54 HHS + 0.75 Inc$$

t-values: (-15.9) (8.56)(5.315) (-1.76) (1.77) (5.23) (7,34)

Tab 5 Summary of Regression Analysis Showing the Effects of Socio-economic Characteristics on the Rate of Alcohol Consumption

Variables	Coef	t-eal	Sig. t	t-tab (0.05, 119)	R	R2	F-cal	F-tab(0.05), 5,105)	Sig F
(Constant)	-3.10	-15.92	.000						
Gender	1.26	8.557	.000						
Age	0.32	5.314	.000						
Education	-0.10	-1.755	.082						
Primary Occupation	0.083	1.766	.080						
Household Size	0.535	5.297	.000	2.05	0.951	0.951	339.8	2.02	0.000
Income per Month	0.748	7.339	.000						

Source: SPSS 22.0 Output (Based on Field Survey)

IV. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The study concludes that the alcohol consumption and its effects among rural farmers in Khana Local Government Area of Rivers State has been discovered to be low, therefore farmers in the locality should be encouraged since they do not consume in excesses, therefore affecting the activities of agricultural production and also causing health challenges on them. Finally both male and females are engaged in alcohol consumption and both gender have about the same behavioural pattern but majority of the males consumed alcohol than the females are engaged in alcohol consumption and both gender have almost the same behavioural pattern but majority of the males consumed alcohol than the females. It therefore recommends Government should direct the extension workers to educate the rural farmers on the consumption of alcohol.

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