International Journal of Advanced Scientific Research | IJASR
International Journal of Scientific Research in Social Sciences & Management Studies | IJSRSSMS
ISSN Print: 2579–101X | *ISSN Online: 2579–1928*
Volume 3, Number 2, November, 2018

Micro Finance Loan: A Sustainable Tool for Agricultural Development in Nigeria

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Abstract

The study examined the role of microfinance banks in financing agriculture in Ogun State. Primary data were collected from a total of 100 farmers selected by simple random sampling. Structured questionnaires were the instrument for data collection from the farmers. Simple descriptive statistics such as means and percentages and frequencies were used to analyze the data collected from respondents and Pearson Product moment correction to test the hypotheses. The research findings include; the deregulation of bank credits (non-regulated bank interest rates) to agricultural entrepreneurs; adequate bank credits should be granted to small scale agricultural farmers to increase productivity; and their farms land should be used as collateral instead the usual banks loans security to promote agricultural productivity. The study recommends that loans for the farmers should be disbursed in good time; banks should reduce the interest rates on agricultural loans. Also, microfinance banks should be encouraged to act as a major lender in financing small scale farmers in the country to meet the food requirement of the teeming population.

Keywords: *Microfinance, Loan, Banks Entrepreneur, Productivity, Economic growth*

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Background to the Study

The banks are the largest financial intermediaries in our economy. The commercial banks credits and loans are the heart of the financial institutions; these they channeled to investors in forms of overdrafts, medium and long credits. Hanson (2002) concludes that whether bank credits by overdraft or by means of loan account, the result isthe same, it increases the total volume of deposits and the purchasing power for the purpose of investment, distribution and consumption. And so, banks credits are anticipated to impact positively on the investible sectors of the economy and engender significant economic growth and development through production of goods and services.

Extension of credit facilities by commercial banks is very important to the economy, most importantly, the agricultural sector, for it makes possible the financing of the agricultural, commercial and industrial activities of the nation. Indirect or found-about production as against direct production where consumable goods are secured by the direct application of labour to land or natural wealth is made possible through the extension of these credit facilities. Also, bank credits make possible production for inventory. For instance, in the food industry, if Nigeria cannot consume all the food that is harvested and processed immediately bank credits to carriers would enable them to purchase, process and store the food which may at a late time be sold to retailers and ultimately to consumers. You discover therefore that the bank credits have made possible the economic handling on the food crop during this interval of time i.e. from producers to carrier, to wholesaler, to retailers and finally to consumer (Adewole, Adekanmiand Gabriel 2015).

Agriculture primarily provides food for man and raw materials for agro- based industries. It consists of all the productive endeavors of man in collaboration with nature to rear plant and animal for a better harvest. It involves all aspects of farming, fishing livestock, rearing, poultry and forestry. Anyanwu (1997), state that agriculture has been the main source of gainful employment from which the nations can feed its teeming population, providing the nation's industries with local raw materials and also as reliable source government revenue.

The rural areas are blessed with abundant natural resources. They are the hubs of agricultural activities such as farming, forestry, fishing, and livestock rearing which collectively constitute a basic sector of rural economy. Majority of the rural farmers carry out agricultural activities at subsistent level using crude implements and unscientific methods which are characterized with low yield. These rural small scale farmers, Asogwa, Umeh and Ater (2007) maintained, belong to the poorest segment of the population and therefore cannot invest much on their farms. According to the International Fund for Agricultural Development (2009), the neglect of rural infrastructure affects the profitability of agricultural production, and that limited accessibility cuts small scale farmers off from sources of inputs, equipment and new technology. Yet, these farmers account for about 90 percent of the food needs of the entire country (Ekpo and Olaniyi, 1995).

In Nigeria, the agricultural sector employed the largest economic workforce; however, these workers are mostly in the rural areas and aging. In light of this, agriculture need to be mechanized and modernized to attracts young able men and guarantee food security. Food, as basic necessity of life, cannot be obtained without robust agricultural practice; which include the use of modern tools and adequate finance. Sufficient financing of agricultural projects, will not only promote food security, but also enhance the entrepreneurship performance of our young investors(Udih2014).

Statement of Problem

The farmers in the country most especially the rural areas lack the necessary financial services, especially credit from the commercial banks; this is because they are considered not credit worthy. Consequently, rural farmers depend on families, friends and other informal source of funds for agricultural finance (Odebiyi, 2012). In order to address this problem of finance by farmers, microfinance is thought to have an important role to play since an encompassing and vibrant financial (banking) sector is essential to increase the level of economic activities of a country.

Several studies in this area including Enyim, Ewno and Okoro (2013), have identified poor credit supply as one of the factors accounting for the poor performance of the agricultural sector in Nigeria. According to Obilor (2013), banks precisely the commercial banks, obviously have no kin interest in agricultural finance. In order to encourage the banks, the government established the Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme (ACGS) to provide guarantees against inherent risk in agricultural lending. This measure could not achieve the intended objectives because agricultural being both labour and capital intensive venture requires huge capital outlay (Nwankwo, 2013).

Ekwueme et al (2007) and Ifeoma (2008)explained that, inadequate access to economic resources especially financed by the numerous sparsely located farmers across Nigeria continues to inhibit agricultural development. This calls for critical examinations and the adoption of an approach to avoid declaring farmers "an endangered species". It is important to double efforts to transform the economy and continuously explore pragmatic methodologies to address the problem of our farmers (Maurice and Tashkalma, 2000; CBN, 2005).

Microfinance banks provide credit to the under banked sector of the economy and development of rural areas as well as the financial empowerment of those areas. While substantial progress has been made in this respect, there is still need for further improvement, with the expansion of the agricultural sector, the financial need of the sector isalso increasing and there are significant opportunities for microfinance banks to deploy their funds in a remunerative manner (Ndanecho and Akum, 2009). There is the need especially in Nigeria to look at the banks credits and loans in relation to agricultural development as well as the impact on the entrepreneurship performance in the economy. This is borne out of the expectation that a good match between adequate bank credits and advances to agricultural sector will ensure agricultural development and promotes entrepreneurship performance.

Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study include:

(a) To evaluate the impact of Micro finance banks' credit on agricultural productivity in Nigeria.
(b) To determine the relationship between Agricultural finance and economic development.
(c) To know the correlation between Microfinance loans and agricultural development in the country.

Research Hypotheses

To facilitate the study, the following hypotheses were formulated and tested:

Ho1: Microfinance banks' credit does not have a positive impact on agricultural productivity in Nigeria.

Ho2: There is no correlation between microfinance loans and agricultural development in the country.

Literature Review

Micro finance institution and Agricultural financing in Nigeria

Agricultural financing has suffered a great set back in Nigeria. Perhaps this is due to the fact that agricultural lending is considered to be more risky, problematic and unprofitable relative to other sectors (Enyim, Ewno and Okoro, 2013). To this end, the commercial banks which are the major conventional financial institutions have no kin interest in agricultural finance (Obilor 2013). In the days of sectoral allocation, the agricultural sector was favoured and banks complied because of the penalties involved of which some of the banks even preferred to pay than to comply (Gurdenson, 2003).

Thus, the Nigerian agricultural sector which is significantly made up of peasant farmers relies more on the informal sources of fund for credit supply. These include: cooperatives, community development associations, thrift associations, family, friends and money lenders (Akinleye, Akanni and Oladoja, 2003). Nwankwo (2013) in his contribution asserted that the informal sources cannot meet the credit needs of the farmers adequately. Consequently, in order to enhance credit flow to the sector and monitor granting loan to the sector, the government/ established the Nigerian Agricultural Cooperative Bank (NACB) now the Nigerian Agricultural Cooperative and Rural Development Bank (NACRDB) in 1973 (Nwankwo, 2013).

Small-scale farmers have impeded access to credit facilities. Mohammed (2009) attributed this impedance largely to the inability of small scale farmers to meet up with collateral requirement, among others. In other to mitigate this constraint, the ACGSF was established to guarantee loans to farmers. As at 2006, loans worth N14.9 billion have been advanced to 497,692 beneficiaries (Central Bank of Nigeria, 2007). Also National Agriculture Insurance Corporation (NAIC) was established to assist in absorbing the risk in the sector. Worldwide, banking sector has been providing the much-needed capital, particularly finance or loans to kick-start or sustained development. The banking sector constitutes a business that keeps money for individuals, people or companies. Exchange-currencies, make loans, and offer other financial services. Nigerian banks have extended loans to various sectors of the economy in order to sustain growth and development over a long period. Statistics from the bulletin of the Central Bank of Nigeria (2008) showed that banks' loans in this direction come from either merchant banks or commercial banks.

The major of millennium development goals is the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger. For the goals to be achieved, sectors of the economy like the manufacturing and agricultural sectors need to be improved (FAO, 2004).Microfinance institutions have become the main source of funding enterprises and agriculture in under developing countries like Nigeria, Kenya, Pakistan etc. (CBN, 2004). Microfinance banks are distinguished from other financial institutions in that they offer small advanced loans and or savings, there is also the absence of asset based collateral and simplicity in their operation. Microfinance is very important in farm production and this fact cannot be overlooked in the sense that, it is the bedrock upon which increased food production rests, which means adequate finance to improve on their production (Adebayo and Onu, 1999).

CBN 2006 stated that, shortage of primary production credit was one of the major causes of declining agricultural production in Nigeria. The shortage was attributed to reluctance by the commercial banks to provide credit for real sector achievement in agricultural production, urban and semi-urban based nature and mode of operation of the banks, high cost of administration of agricultural loans and inability of farmers to provide the necessary collateral (CBN, 2006).As a probable solution to the above problems and to enhance flow of financial services to Nigerian rural areas, the government has in the past initiated a series of public-finance micro/rural credit programme and policies targeted at the poor and agricultural sector. Notable among such programmes were the rural banking programmes.

The Contributions of Agricultural Sector to the Nigeria Economy

Agriculture contributes greatly to the gross domestics' product (GDP) and consequently, the economic growth of the nation (Aigbiremolen, 2004). The agricultural sector employed about 70% of the country labour force, increased foreign exchange earnings through the export of agricultural products. Today, agriculture still remain the mainstay of the Nigerian economy as it provides greater employment, income and food, raw materials for industries and investment opportunities for the populace. Various successive Nigerian governments and the transformation agenda of the present government Empowering Nigerian Youths for prosperity (N-Power) headed by President Muhammed Buhari, have shown remarkable appreciation over the contributions of agriculture to the Nigerian economy. These culminated in different Agricultural National Development plans; the ultimate goal for all is the attainment of self-sustaining growth and food security to boost the socio-economic development of the economy. Specific objectives of the plan policy documents include:

1. The attainment of self-sufficiency in basic food commodities.
2. Increased employment opportunities.
3. Modernization of agricultural production, processing, storage and distribution through the infusion of improved technology and management.
4. Increased production of agricultural raw materials to meet the growing needs of the expanding industries.
5. Increase production and processing of export crops with a view to increasing their foreign exchange capacity.
6. Improved protection of agricultural land.

Agriculture is a major contributor of Nigeria's GDP and small- scale farmers play a dominant role in this contribution (Rahji and Fakayode 2009) but their productivity and growth are hindered by limited access to credit facilities (Odoemenem and Boinne 2010). Agricultural credit is expected to play a critical role in agricultural development (Douong and Izumida, 2002). Farm credit has for long been identified as a major in put in the development of the agricultural sector in Nigerian

Agricultural Programmes, Funding and Performance

Various institutions had been set up to implement various stands of agricultural policies in Nigeria (Abayomi,2013). In these various national development plans, the Federal and States Governments had taken up greater responsibilities, especially with the formulation of agricultural policies and project implementation. Governments of both the Federal and States had been involved in the areas of agricultural research, training and development, investment in large scale irrigation and mechanized food crops farms through her agencies like CBN, River Basin Development Authority, Commodity Boards, the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology and Federal Ministry of Agriculture even currently the SURE-P. Agricultural programs that had be coordinated by Federal Ministry of Agriculture, some of which may include, Operation Feed the Nation, National Accelerated Food Production Project, Green Revolution, National Seed Multiplication Program and Agro Service, and the transformation agenda of the N-Power program of the present administration. However, in all these agricultural programs and projects, the issues of agricultural funding always dominate discourse. Abe (2002) concluded in his research paper "Human Resources Development and Economic Growth in Development Countries: a Simultaneous Model" that in spite of the good policies and programs, Nigeria farming is still fraught with so many problems and this is seen to revolve a great deal on financing.

However, with the establishment of the NACRDB the challenge of poor credit supply to the agricultural sector was yet unbated. This is indication amongst others that the budgetary allocation of NACRDB was insufficient for the credit needs of the agricultural sector (Akinleye, Akanni and Oladoja, 2003). According to Zakaree (2014), in an attempt to address this issue, the government established the Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme (ACGS) in 1977 to encourage commercial banks to increase credit supply to the agricultural sector by providing guarantees against inherent risk in agricultural lending.

Akinleye, Akanni and Oladoja (2013) asserted that despite several years of the establishment of the Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme (ACGS), the level of commercial bank involvement in credit distribution to the agricultural sector is yet uncertain. Nigeria as a country with highly diversified agro-ecological endowment, is yet relying on massive importation of basic food items and industrial raw materials, it is ironical.

Therefore, financing institutions such as the microfinance banks was introduced by the CBN with the specific objective of making financial services accessible to a larger segment of the potentially productive Nigerian population who otherwise have no access to such services and permit them to contribute to rural transformation, promote synergy, and mainstream/graduate the informal subsector into the formal financial system. This will enable Micro finance banks to make credit more available to the agricultural sector for a massive development of that sector as this will help in job creation for the youths.

Empirical Review

Udih (2014) investigated banks credit and agricultural development. The paper used primary and secondary sources of information that were extracted from five (5) banks and ten (10) agricultural enterprises in Delta State. A simple random sampling technique through the lottery method was adopted to select the samples. The data were analyzed using percentage, mean, and Standard Deviation and Pearson product moment correlation to test the hypotheses. The research findings include: that banks' credits and advances to agricultural entrepreneurs promotes agricultural development and productivity, and that regulated banks' credits to the agricultural entrepreneurs has no or little impact on the entrepreneurship performance.

Obilor (2013) examined the impact of Agricultural Credit Scheme Fund, agricultural product prices, government fund allocation and commercial banks' credit to agricultural sector on agricultural productivity. The result revealed that Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme Fund and Government fund allocation to agriculture produced a significant positive effect on agricultural productivity, while the other variables produced a significant negative effect.

Nwankwo (2013) examined agricultural financing in Nigeria and its implication on the growth of Nigerian economy using ordinary least square method and quantitative research design. The study revealed that there is significant relationship between agricultural financing and the growth of Nigerian economy and that the level of loan repayment rate over the years has indeed negatively impacted significantly on the growth of Nigerian economy.

Enyim, Ewno and Okoro (2013) examined banking sector credit and performance of the Agricultural sector in Nigeria. The study applied econometric tests such as unit root, cointegration and its implied error correction model and Grange causality test, in which changes in AGDP was regressed on commercial bank credit to agriculture. The result of the analysis shows that the total money stated as Government Expenditure on agriculture is not statistically significant and not theoretically in line. However, the result shows that commercial banks' credit to the agricultural sector has a positive relationship with agricultural productivity.

Methodology

The study was conducted in Abeoukuta Area of Ogun State. The study was narrowed down to four Microfinance Banks in Abeokuta. Astrapolaris Microfinance Bank, Lavenda Microfinance Bank, FUNNAB Microfinance Bank and Mapoly Microfinance Bank which all are located in Abeokuta. These banks were selected because of their closeness to the rural farmers. Astrapolaris covers Adigbe and Obada area of Abeokuta, Lavenda covers Lafenwa and Ayetoro area, also Funnab Microfinance bank covers Obantoko and Odeda area and Mapoly Microfinance bank covers Onikolobo and Oba area. Primary data were collected from a total of 100 farmers selected by simple random sampling. Simple descriptive statistics such as means and percentages and frequencies were used to analyze the data collected from respondents and Pearson Product moment correction to test the hypotheses.

Results and Discussion

An analysis of socio-economic characteristics of the respondents is presented on table 1. The result shows that more than half (72%) of the respondents were males and only 28% were females. This implies that men engage more in agricultural activities than women in the study area. The table shows that 10% of the respondents fell below the age of 30 years, 23% were between the ages of 31-40 years while 45% were between the age range of 41-50 years and only 22% were above 50 years of age. This shows that majority (78%) of the respondents were within the age range of 30-50 years implying that they are in their productive age and can strive more to access farm credit as well as energetic enough to carry out their farm activities.

Table 1 further shows the distribution of respondents according to marital status, the table revealed that the highest percentage of the respondent with 73% were married, 12% were single, 3% were widowed and only 12% were divorced. This implies that farmers in the study area have a lot of family responsibilities to carter for since majority of them (73%) are married. Furthermore, the table revealed that 75% of the respondents have formal education and 25% had informal education. The result indicates that majority of the respondents have attended western education. The table also revealed that majority (68%) had farming experience of 21 years and above and only 32% had farming experience of 11-15 and 16-20 years. This shows that, farmers in the study area generally have experience in farming activities. The high level of farming experience can go a long way to ease the bottlenecks (bureaucracy) in the process of loan acquisition from the banks.

Table 2 showing Agriculture and economic development.
Agriculture as a tool of economic growth and development

Table 2 (1) reveals that majority (59%) of the respondents see agriculture as a means of improving economic growth in the country. However, only (36%) did not agree with this submission. This may be due to the fact that they belief in Oil as a major source of revenue generation to the country. Only (5%) have no idea about the question.

Proper agriculture financing can reduce poverty in the country.

Table 2 (2) reveals that majority (75%) of the respondents believe agriculture financing can reduce poverty in the country. However, only (15%) did not agree with this submission. This may be due to the fact that they don't belief in the microfinance banks loans. About (10%) have no idea about the question.

Promoting agriculture can reduce unemployment in the country,

Table 2 (9) shows that majority (79%) of the respondents agreed that Promoting agriculture can reduce unemployment in the country. Only (11%) of the respondents did not agree with this submission may be they believe in oil than agriculture. About (10%) have no idea about the question.

Table 2 showing Microfinance credit and Agricultural development in the country
Proper application of Agricultural Credit from Microfinance Banks in the area

Table 2 (3) reveals that majority (75%) of the respondents agreed that farmers used the credit for the purpose for which it was to be applied. These could be the purchase of farm inputs such as agrochemicals, improved seeds etc. However 21% of them did not agree that the farmers use the credit for the purpose for which it was to be applied for. This loan diversion may be as a result of family obligation due to large number of dependants, poverty or irresponsibility. Only 4% did not respond to the question.

There are problems affecting availability of Credit to small scale Farmers.

Table 2(4) shows the (67%) of the respondents agreed that farmers are not finding it easy to access microfinance bank credits. This may be due to not meeting the banks requirements like guarantors, opening of accounts with the banks and running the accounts for a specified number of months etc. while 24% of the respondents agreed that they are finding it easy to access microfinance bank loans. Only 9% respondents has no idea of the question.

The granting of adequate bank credits and advances to agricultural entrepreneurs do promote agricultural development.

Table 2(5) shows the (85%) of the respondents agreed that bank credits and advances to agricultural entrepreneurs do promote agricultural development. while 11% of the respondents disagreed that bank credits and advances to agricultural entrepreneurs do promote agricultural development. This may be result of not having access to the loan facilities. Only 4% respondents has no idea of the question.

Micro finance Bank credits does enhance productivity and entrepreneurship performance

Table 2(6) reveals that majority (81%) of the respondents see Micro finance Bank credits as a tool to enhance productivity and entrepreneurship performance. However, only (16%) did not agree with this submission. This may be due to the fact that they have other means of finance apart from microfinance bank. Only (5%) have no idea about the question.

Hypothesis Testing

Hypothesis One: Microfinance banks' credit does not have a positive impact on agricultural productivity in Nigeria.

Regression analysis

Variables Entered/Removed[a]

Model	Variables Entered	Variables Removed	Method
1	Microfinance_bank_credit[b]	.	Enter

a. Dependent Variable: Agricultural_productivity

b. All requested variables entered.

Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.835[a]	.697	.694	3.49804

a. Predictors: (Constant), Microfinance_bank_credit

Interpretation: The value of R squared above is 0.697, which show that 70% of Agricultural productivity infrastructure can be explained by Microfinance bank credits while the remaining 30% can be explain by other factors in the model i.e residual. The above R squared shows that the model fit for prediction.

ANOVA[a]

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	2760.153	1	2760.153	225.571	.000[b]
	Residual	1199.157	98	12.236		
	Total	3959.310	99			

a. Dependent Variable: Agricultural_productivity

b. Predictors: (Constant), Microfinance_bank_credit

Conclusion: With reference to ANOVA table above, Sig-Value (0.000) < P-value (0.05), we reject Null hypothesis and conclude that there is linear relationship between Agricultural productivity and Microfinance bank credits.

Hypothesis Two: There is no correlation between microfinance loans and agricultural development in the country.

Correlations

		Microfinance_bank_credit	Agricultural_productivity
Microfinance_bank_credit	Pearson Correlation	1	.835**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	100	100
Agricultural_productivity	Pearson Correlation	.835**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	100	100

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Interpretation: The value of 'r' above is 0.835, which show that there is strong positive degree of relationship between Microfinance bank credits and Agricultural productivity and development i.e increase in Microfinance bank credits will bring about corresponding increase in Agricultural productivity and development vice versa.

Conclusion: With reference to table above, Sig-Value (0.000) < P-value (0.05), we reject Null hypothesis and conclude that correlation exist between Microfinance bank credits and Agricultural productivity and development in Nigeria.

Conclusion and Recommendations

The granting of credits facilities by the Microfinance banks to the farmers will boost agricultural productivity and performance. Sustainable food security cannot be obtained without the deliberate concerted effort of all to encourage and promote agricultural development. As a growing economy and a merging market, agricultural expansion through the adoption of modern farming techniques and equipment should be developed. This called for adequate financing, and therefore, the banks are encouraged to give more sustainable and revolving loans to the farmers to increase agricultural productivity in the country.

Microfinance Bank credits and advances granted to farmers will increase agricultural products and encourage young farmers to put up agriculture ventures and businesses. Government should deregulate bank credits to farmers by encouraging non-regulated interest rate and quota that is attached to the agricultural sector through CBN. Adequate credit facilities to the agricultural farmers will not only increased productivity, but increases manpower development economic growth and the education of the farmers. The impediments to loan facilities like collaterals securities, high interest rate, rate and structure of deposit tenure should be remove from bank credits for agricultural farmers but their farmland used as collateral

Base on the above findings, the following recommendations are made:

1. Considering the strategic position of the agricultural sector in food security in the economy, there is an urgent need to raise the status and the educational awareness of farmers in respect to Microfinance bank credits as against other sectors of the economy.
2. Governments at all levels should evolve agricultural programs tagged at the small scale enterprises with enabling credit facilities that are well monitored and effectively distributed to the grass root individual and cooperatives farmers.
3. We do also recommend that the Federal Government through the CBN should deregulate the credit and advance facilities (Negotiable interest rate and loanable amount) the removal of the impediments/conditions of accessing agricultural loan to the individual and corporate farmers to negotiate; their farms land should be their loan security or collateral.
4. Government should only be involved in implementation, supervision and control by creating the enabling environment and allowed the private sector be solely involved in the production and processing of agricultural products and services; making agriculture a business.

Appendix

Table 2

Statement	SA %	A %	UD %	D %	SD %	CUM%
Agriculture improves the economic development in Nigeria.	45(45)	14(14)	5(5)	28(28)	8(8)	100
Proper agriculture financing can reduce poverty in the country	71(71)	4(4)	10	7(7)	8(8)	100
There is appropriate use of Farm Credit by farmers in the country.	56(56)	19(19)	4(4)	13(13)	8(8)	100
There are problems affecting availability of Credit to small scale Farmers.	55(55)	12(12)	9(9)	16(16)	8(8)	100
The granting of adequate bank credits and advances to agricultural entrepreneurs dopromoteagricultural development.	70(70)	15(15)	4(4)	5(5)	6(6)	100
Micro finance Bank credits does enhance productivity and entrepreneurship performance.	65(65)	16(16)	3(3)	8(8)	8(8)	100
Micro finance banks are willing to offer loan for agricultural purpose.	50(50)	17(17)	10(10)	3(3)	20(20)	100
Interest rate on Micro finance banks' credit has influence on agricultural productivity in Nigeria.	43(43)	24(24)	9(9)	16(16)	8(8)	100
Promoting agriculture can reduce unemployment in the country	57(57)	22(22)	10(10)	5(5)	6(6)	100
Government is doing enough in promoting agricultural development in the country.	53(53)	23(23)	8(8)	8(8)	8(8)	100

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