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Influence of Retrospective Agricultural Information on Nigerian Economy

By

Katamba Abubakar Saka PhD
Dept. of Library and Information Technology,
Federal University of Technology, Minna, Nigeria
07038706880
s.katamba@futminna.edu.ng

Abstract

The study investigated the influence of retrospective agricultural information on Nigerian economy as contained in the print media New Nigerian newspaper for the period 1993-1995. The specific objectives of the study are to bring together scattered articles (information) in the print media into a single document there and then determine the agricultural information by subject/main headings, months and years, aspects of agricultural information respectively. Documentary research was carried out using three year newspaper publication and 7.5cm x 5cm paper slips for arrangement of entries. Frequency counts and percentages as well as pie-charts were used to analyze data. Results showed 332 entries on agricultural information and that general agriculture dominate the subject headings. The dissemination of agricultural information is more prominent in the month of July for the 3 years. The conclusion was that the study was able to bring the scattered information into single document leading to analysis data analysis. It was recommended that certain pages in the print media be dedicated to agricultural information while regular or timely provision and dissemination of information for stakeholders in agriculture be carried out.

Keywords: Agricultural information, Economy, Nigeria, Print media, Retrospective information

1.0 Introduction

The history of Agriculture in Nigeria has its origin from the time immemorial for more than thousand years ago when man first learned to plant and cultivate crops and domesticate animals for his own use. Man began to wander from one place to another gathering fruits, hunting animals and engaged in hunting expedition. Agriculture in Nigeria has been in existence even before the advent of oil, hence it was instrumental to the development of our oil industry and this will be well appreciated if we should take our minds back to the period between 1950s and 1960s when Nigeria was the chief exporter of such agricultural produces like cocoa, rubber, cotton, oil palm and groundnut.

However, there was gradual decline in the overall agricultural output and export earnings, as a result of the discovery of oil boom and the outbreak of civil war. The contribution of Agriculture

to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of any country cannot be underestimated hence Okebukola (2012) posits that GDP is a symbol of national development after literacy and life expectancy in any nation. The position of agricultural sector is still important since it is the major employer of rural labour force, with about 70 percent of the total labour force employed in it. Tayo (1992: 15) stated that the contribution of agricultural sector in the economy shows that throughout the 1950s, agriculture accounted for the bulk of the country GDP thus in 1955/59 the GDP amounted to N2,082.2m out of which agriculture accounted for N1,342M and this represents 69.4 percent. At independence in 1960, it's percentage contribution to GDP was about 70 percent and it was 67 percent in 1963. Oyenuga (1967:20) stated that "in 1963, the latest year for which GDP is available, agriculture, livestock, fishing and forestry products together accounted for 64 percent of the total GDP". In 1966 the GDP was 55 percent while in 1967 the share of agriculture in the GDP was 51.9 percent and between 1969/70 when the civil war ended it was 47.5 percent The contribution of the sector had declined to about 34.06 percent and in the late 1986, agriculture accounted for only 20 percent of the total GDP even though Mohammed et al (2020) maintained that agriculture is still an important sector in Nigerian Economy in some past decades despites oil boom, hence it is the source of employment opportunities for the teeming Nigerian population. Various governments since the advent of oil boom have been working on the need to effect the expansion of the export basket by shoring-up the fortunes of non-oil commodities whose contributions to Nigeria's total export earnings have declined from 90 percent in the 1960s to the present 2 percent with the oil accounting for the balance of 98 percent. What accounted for this decline was the neglect of the sector in preference to the oil sector and this has affected both domestic and international agricultural supplies by altering output prices and quantities. Successive governments in the country have embarked on several programmes end projects aimed at boosting agricultural production for food security and this will be appreciated if we should look at some of the Agricultural Programmes and Projects that government initiated from 1950s to the present day. Government of Nigeria made an effort in agricultural development through the establishment of Farm settlement scheme in the then Eastern and Western Regions of the country between late 1950s and early 1960s. The objectives of the scheme was to make agriculture attractive to the youth and to increase the agricultural production in the regions through intervention of extension services. The farm in the settlements was a demonstration plot for rural farmers. Although the scheme did not succeed because farmers could not operate independently

when government stopped supplying them with basic inputs as the Inputs were very expensive and not subsidized. The institute for Agric research samaru Zaria was established in 1962; its activities include research and development and productions of publications.

The Nigeria Agricultural and Co-operative Bank (NACB) was established in the year 1973 with its headquarters at Kaduna and its main objective is to provide timely and affordable agricultural credit to farmers and agro-based industries as well as providing consultancy services to small and large scale farmers. The Federal Government embarked on a programme known as “Operation Feed the Nation” (OFN) in 1976 as a strategy to strengthen the food security of the country. The program was aimed at making the country self-sufficient in food supply. However, the oil boom did not allow the programme to succeed because the country used money realized from oil to import food.

Another contributory factor to the failure of OFN was that it was not properly supervised. The same year (1976), the Federal Military Government established by decree No. 25, eleven River Basin Development Authorities (RBDA) in the country on 15 June 1976 and seven (7) additional ones were created in 1984 making a total of eighteen (18) RBDA in the country. The aim of RBDA was to ensure meaningful planning, co-ordination and utilization of the country's land and water resources for irrigation, industrial and domestic purposes.

As part of Government’s commitment and contribution to the Agricultural development in the country, the Federal Government in 1979 gave birth to another programme called "Green Revolution” which aimed at increasing agricultural production in the country.

In 1984 the “Back-to-land programme under shariadiagbon regime into being. This programme made a majority of men and women who stayed in towns looking for white collar jobs to go back to villages to farms. The period under review made a majority of Nigerians to be actively engaged in farming activities up to the present day.

During the regime of President Ibrahim Babangida (1985-1992), the following programmes were launched and implemented (DFRRT, MAMSER, NDE and NALDA). The Directorate of Food, Road and Rural infrastructures was set up to boost food production, provide good access road and of course develop rural areas in terms providing pipe-borne water, health services, electricity and good roads since majority of Nigeria population are concentrated in the rural areas whose main occupation is Agriculture. Mass mobilization for Social Justice, Self-reliance and Economic Recovery was launched on 25th July, 1987 at National Stadium, Lagos by President Ibrahim

Babangida what prompted Mr. president to launched this programme was that the four sectors (Agriculture, Industries, Education and Culture) become worsened. According to him, "Our society is full of Dishonesty, distrust, disharmony etc. end it need a positive change". As for Agriculture sector, the programme was aimed at making Nigerians self-reliance interms of food production arid not to import food from foreign countries. MAMSER produces a lot of publication on Agriculture and distributed to the public free-of-charge. The National Directorate of Employment (NDE) on the other hand was established in 1987 to assist young school leavers, graduates and farmers with loans to enable thorn embark on Agric business and agric-related Vocation. The program provides self-employment opportunities to the above mentioned categories loan beneficiaries.

The National Agricultural Land Development Authority (NALDA) was established in 1992 was responsible for land clearing and cultivation, land reform to oversee the agricultural land in the country as well as the provision of agricultural infrastructures like dam/water, access road to farms, electricity and telecommunication facilities for appropriate farms. NALDA is an agency that receives its grant directly from Government, until recently when it was to transfer the Federal ministry of Agriculture.

Under the present administration of Gen. Sani Abacha few agricultural projects were launched and they Include National Accelerated Industrial Crop Production Project" (NAICPP) which came into being in 1994 and who-so focus is to boost the industrial crop production like cashew, cotton, cocoa, gun arable, oil palm, rubber, groundnut and soybeans. The project according to the Federal Government was expected to be launched at Saminaka in Kaduna state since 1994. An Organization known as Nigeria Agriultural Co-operative Marketing organization (NACMO) was formed and established in the early 1997 and the aim was among other to:

- a. Curtail heavy post-harvest losses due to poor storage by constructing sufficient silos in the land.
- b. Procurement and distribution of faterllizer, agro-chemical and other farm inputes etc.

To ensure high productivity in agricultural sector and stability n Nigerian Economic, Emmanuel and Chuwang (2009) maintained that farmers should not only have accessed to well organized relevant agricultural information but also have full utilization of agricultural information in relation to Nigerian economy.

Despite all these efforts made by the successive government, and the role play by various libraries and agencies in providing agricultural information to stake holders in agricultural sector, the country is still unable to imbibe the culture of food security.

1.1 Statement of the Problem

The provision of agricultural information is crucial for the survival of stakeholders in agriculture in terms of higher productivity level in any country. Regular and timely provision or dissemination of agricultural information in print media especially newspaper would enhance productivity in agricultural sub-sector of Nigerian economy. Unfortunately, articles on Agriculture are scattered in several issues of the newspaper. This has no doubt created the problem of getting access to information as pointed by Aina (2013), the unresolved major problem to food production in Africa is due to the inadequate provision of agricultural information to stakeholders (farmers, extension workers, researchers and policy makers) in agriculture sub-sector in Africa. It is this problem of scattered articles of agricultural information in the national daily that the researcher seeks to rectify.

1.2 Objectives of the Study

The study is aimed at providing retrospective agricultural information and its influence on Nigerian economy as contained in New Nigeria Newspaper between 1993 and 1995. The specific objectives are to:

- a. Bring together all the scattered articles in the newspaper on Agriculture for the three (3) years into a single document thereby assisting users in the location of information.
- b. Determine influence of retrospective Agricultural information on Nigerian Economy covering the period 1993 to 1995.
- c. Assess the contribution of various areas of agricultural information to Nigerian economy.

2.0 Literature Review

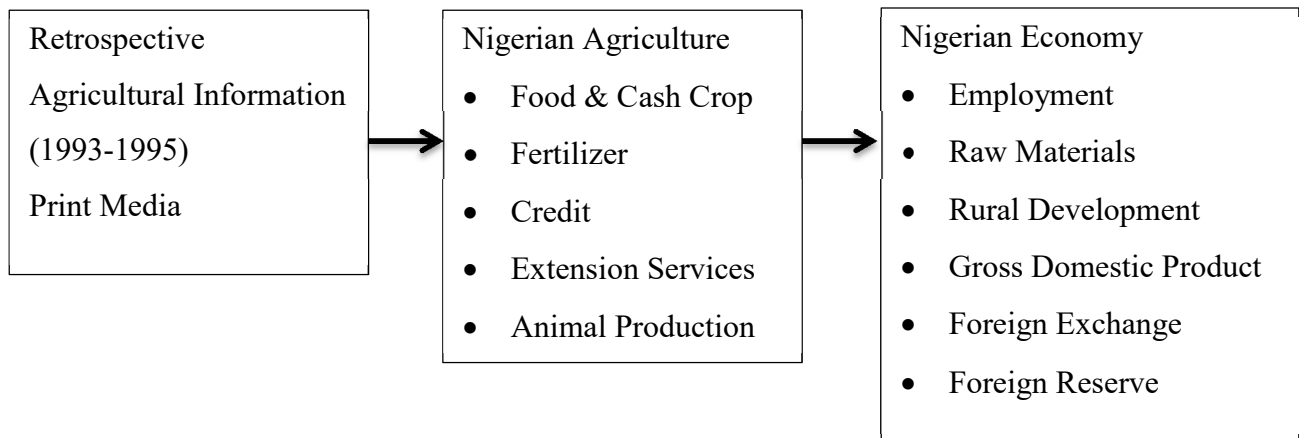
2.1 Introduction

This aspects review literature based on research work related to the study. The topics reviewed cover various sources: namely textbooks, magazine and student project. This chapter reviews some literature end present than under two different sections:

1. Conceptual Framework/Model
2. Nigerian Agriculture

3. Agriculture Indexes and Thesaurus.
4. Review of related empirical studies on Agricultural Information

2.2 Conceptual Framework/Model



Source: Author's Developed Model

Retrospective agricultural information derived from the print media (New Nigerian) of 1993, 1994 and 1995 keep stakeholders in agriculture sub-sector, and entire citizens of Nigeria abreast of the development and obstacles to agriculture. This is made possible through timely and regular dissemination of agricultural information in several issues of newspaper.

The information content is confined to areas such as food and cash crop, fertilizer, credit facilities, innovatory, extension services, animal production, product and veterinary services etc. With these products in agricultural sub-sector, there is boost in agriculture particularly in the area of employment, rural transportation, raw materials, Gross Domestic Product (GDP), foreign reserve and foreign exchange earnings. The high or low level of performance of agriculture sub-sector is a function of the degree of information dissemination and role play by government, extension services and information agencies.

2.3 Nigerian Agriculture

This review focuses on textbooks and magazines on Nigerian Agriculture as could be seen below: Oyenuga (1967) discussed “the contribution of agriculture to the mommy of Nigeria. According to author the services and lives of the people of Nigeria arose from agricultural occupation. The author went further to identify some of the obstacles to the development of agriculture which include: nutritional problem, lack of capital by farmers, insufficient Extension service among

others. The author suggested that modernization of agriculture could be achieved through mechanization of Nigerian farming, agricultural research. Education and extension services.

In a contribution to Nigerian Agriculture Oladele (1988) stated that over 90% of the Nigerian population regarded agriculture as their main occupation and that they earn their income from cash and food crop. The writer was of the opinion that Nigeria no longer provide food for its citizens because majority of them are now living in cities. According to him, two (2) reasons are responsible for this:- the first is "Education" and the second is "oil": that people think Education is a way by which people escape from land, get white collar jobs and build beautiful houses. As for oil, according to him, many Nigerians have stopped going to farm with the discovery of oil in 1960s. The writer suggested to bias Federal Government that Agricultural sector be privatized with maximum fiscal incentives and attention be paid to rural areas.

2.4 Agricultural Indexes

The literature review below was drawn from the field of general Agriculture and different fields of agriculture as well as:

Agrindex (1987) is in four (4) sections namely: personal doctier index, corporate entry index, report and patient number index and subject index. The subject index is the Best important channel for retrieving citations ca specific topic. The subject index covers different field of agriculture which include General Agriculture, education, Extension and Information, Administration and Legislation, Agric Economics development and Rural sociology science and Production, Plant Protection, Post-Harvest Technology, Fisheries and Aquaculture, Forestry atc. The entries are arranged alphabetically according to subject headings "see also" references are used and it is comprehensive for any research work in the field of Agriculture.

In another contribution to Agriculture, a comprehensive dissertation Index on Agriculture is arranged by subject in alphabetical order (A-Z)). The Index is comprehensive enough and covers the field of General Agriculture, Animal and Plant Culture, Agronomy, Forestry and wildlife, Horticulture, Veterinary Medicine end so on. Under each subject headings, there are several number of entries. Although the index did not contain cross references.

Indexes to Bibliography of Agriculture (1967) is arranged in three (3) parts namely:- personal index, organizational index and subject index, it is an index to literature in the field of Agriculture and the allied sciences received in the National Agricultural library. The subject index contains bibliographies from different literature of Agriculture world-wide end include areas like

Agricultural Economics and Rural sociology, Animal industry, engineering, forestry , soil and fertilizer etc. the index is arranged alphabetically only that “see” and “see also” references are not available in the index.

In one of the index titled “soils and fertilizer (1979) which is arranged by Author and subject alphabetically, the subject index contains the subject headings and under each subject heading and under each subject heading contained in the index include Agricultural systems. Aluminum in soil, Aluminum. toxicity in soil, calcium fertilizers, Nutrition plants, soil types and types of fertilizer. The mode of subject index entries is in this form e.g.

Aluminum toxicity in plants

Plants in general, bibliographies 883 barley.

The only of this index lies in its inability to provide the cross references.

Sirak (1992) compiled an index to livestock literature of Nigeria. It is a bibliographic index containing serial number, author/title, year of publication and pagination of the literature.

Subject headings are arranged alphabetically with a number of entries under each subject Headings areas of coverage include:- Agriculture, research, Geography extension etc. The last few pages of the index containing the subject and author index together with their serial number; acronyms and Abbreviations are arranged alphabetically. The index contain current information on Nigeria n Livestock only that cross references are lacking.

In order to meet the current information needs of researchers an index veterinarians (1995) was compiled in tow (2) section i.e. subject index and Author index. Each title is listed under one or more subject heading in the subject index section depending on whether the origin document concerned with one or several important applets of veterinary sciences, Lech title is also lifted under the name of the first author in the Author Index section. The names of the co-authors are also listed and cross-referenced to the name of the first either. The author and subject indexes incorporate the abstract number for an item published in veterinary bulletin. The number provides direct access to the abstract of the title cited. It is a current index to various literatures in the field of veterinary medicine and of course arrange alphabetically, contain cross references though related headings art lacking.

Annual indexes to Abstracts on rural development in the tropics (1999) is an index to abstracts on rural development and is in three (3) parts namely; subject index, geographical index and project

index, subject index contains the subject headings like access to education,, agricultural development, cultivation systems, Irrigation systems and projects, innovation etc. written together with their abstract and page number. The geographical and project index are arranged in the same pattern in alphabetical order. The index lacks “cross references”. To be more specific and narrow in scope, Douglas (1967) indexed some of the Botanical Monographs which contains the list of specific plant family, genus or group found. The entries are arranged alphabetically without the cross references.

Afolabi (1987) In BLS project entitled index to Now Nigerian Newspaper on Agriculture in Nigeria (1980-86) she indexed most of the subjects on Nigerian Agriculture as contained in the newspaper from 1980 to 1986. The arrangement of entries is alphabetical, with the use of “see and see also references. One essential thing which every research project should have is Date Analysis which this project lacks.

For the consistency in the use of Agricultural terms Indexing, Salami, (1981) in his work titled "Nigerian Agricultural Thesaurus to index terms, covers several agricultural terms with special emphasis to Nigeria. The terms are arranged alphabetically A-Z. An interesting aspect of Salami's work is that it guides users while indexing using agricultural terms. Salami used terms that are normally found in thesaurus namely Broader Term (BT) Narrower Turn (NT), Related Tara (RT) Use For (UF) Use (Us) etc.

Emmanuel, and Chuwang (2002) investigated the information needs for farmers in Okpokwu Local Government Area of (LGA) of Benue State, Nigeria. Descriptive Survey design was used for the study with the target population of 120 farmers from three districts within the LGA were purposively sampled and Focus Group Discussion (FGD) schedule was used to collect data through tape recorder. Focus Group Discussion (FGD) interviewed was qualitatively analyzed. Results showed that rural farmers in the LGA needs agricultural, economic, educational and political information. The major challenges to rural farmers were the education and training in modern techniques of farming insufficient extension workers, lack of funds to pursue farmer's plans.

Saka, Mommoh and Mohammed (2018) investigated the influence of information literacy on agricultural research innovation in Kaduna State and Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, Nigeria. The study was anchored on to research question to capture variety such as demographic users and individual information literacy skills as they affect agricultural research innovators in the two

stated area. Two null hypothesis were formulated as well as interactive effects of gender and educational qualification on research innovation descriptive research design was adopted with a determinant population of extension workers in the two studied areas purposive and random sampling was employed to select 240 extension workers. Four point rating scale questionnaire was used as data collection instruments.

Results shared that out of the information literacy instrument used, synthesis of information has the highest mean score of 3.59 with std 0.58 results showed significant construction of the information literacy skills to agricultural research innovation. On the interactive effect of these independent variables on the research innovation, it was discovered that there was no interactive effects, of information were constructs on research information. Mohammed et.al (2020) investigated the role of agriculture in the diversification of economic of the Nigeria economy between 1980 and 2016). Diagnostic test was carried out and the result show positive corrective and significant impact with non-oil export (NOB).

3.0 Methodology

This aspect states the method used for data collection instrument for gathering data the organization of the index and procedures for data analysis. The method adopted in this study for data collection is the documentary one. This method involves subject analysis of the content of newspaper on agriculture in Nigeria. The newspapers to be Indexed are gathered from 1993 to. A month-by-month check articles relating to Nigerian agriculture within the period under review are carried out.

The instrument used for gathering data is documentary evidence in the New Nigerian Newspaper. Data in the form of index entries were obtained from the newspaper 1993-1995.

Index entries are arranged according to subject headings, alphabetically in a word-by-word order. While entries on the subjects are arranged alphabetically a single subject heading, it then means that within a single subject heading there might be two (2) or more entries, cross references like “see and see also” references are used to connect Acronym, synonymous or related terms e.g.

FARMING and Agriculture

RESEARCH CENTER see Research organization

This deals with the tabulation of subject headings leading to frequency tables so as to convert raw data and/or number of entries into percentage to facilitate the drawing of tables and construction of a pie chart.

4.0 Data Analysis and Interpretation

4.1 Results

This involves the analysis and interpretation with regards to the distribution of subject headings in a ranked order; articles by months and years and Table showing the distribution of articles by various areas of Nigerian Agriculture while Pie-chart is being drawn from the figure

Table 1: Distribution of Agricultural Information in a Ranked Order.

Subject Headings	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Agriculture	30	9
Credit	30	9
Fertilizer	27	8.13
National Agric. Land Dev. Authority	16	4.81
Prices	12	3.61
Rural Development	12	3.61
Agric. Research	10	3.01
Conference	10	3.01
Post	10	3.01
Food	9	2.71
Harvesting	8	2.4
Equipment	7	2.1
Forestry	7	2.1
Subsidy	7	2.1
Agric. Polices	6	1.8
Agro-allied Industries	6	1.8
Income	6	1.8
National Fertilizer of Nigeria	6	1.8
Nigerian agric. and co-operative	6	1.8
Bank (NACB)	6	2.8
Cotton	5	1.5
Irrigation	5	1.5
Wheat	5	1.5
Drought	4	1.2

Fisheries	4	1.2
Livestock	4	1.2
National Agric. Insurance Company	4	1.2
River Basin Dev. Authority	4	1.2
Development projects	3	0.9
Farmers Organization	3	0.9
Financing	3	0.9
Grain Crops	3	0.9
Input	3	0.9
Poultry	3	0.9
Vaccines	3	0.9
Agric. credit scheme	2	0.6
Agric. Education	2	0.6
Agric. Revolution	2	0.6
Agric. Show	2	0.6
Animal husbandry	2	0.6
Banks	2	0.6
Crop yield	2	0.6
International for agric. research	2	0.6
International Inst. For Tropical Agric.	2	0.6
Milk	2	0.6
Pasture control	2	0.6
Pest control	2	0.6
Research organization	2	0.6
Animal disease	1	0.3
Animal product	1	0.3
Budget	1	0.3
Dairy industry	1	0.3
Food storage	1	0.3
Insecticide	1	0.3

Land	1	0.3
Soya bean	1	0.3
Vaccination	1	0.3
Wild Life Conservation	1	0.3
TOTAL	332	100

The table 1 revealed that, agriculture and credit have the highest number of articles with 30 each representing 9%, followed by fertilizer with 27 articles (representing 8.3%) while the least 7 subject headings had the lowest number of articles with 1 each (representing 0.3%). With agriculture and credit having the highest rate of information dissemination, there is tendency that the two can contribute to economic growth of Nigeria. What the researcher consider interesting in this table is that the agricultural information are arranged in a descending order i.e. from highest to lowest.

Table 2; Distribution of Agricultural Information by Months and Years (1993-1995)

Year	FREQUENCY (YEARS)			Total No of entries for this years	PERCENTAGE %			Total % for this 3 years
	1993	1994	1995		1993	1994	1995	
JANUARY	18	16	-	34	11	23.52	-	10.24
FEBURUARY	14	7	-	21	8.54	10.30	-	6.33
MARCH	10	10	10	30	6.10	14.71	10	9.04
APRIL	6	6	9	21	3.66	8.82	9	6.33
MAY	9	8	12	29	5.5	11.76	12	8.79
JUNE	11	12	19	42	6.71	17.65	19	12.65
JULY	22	7	14	43	13.41	10.30	14	17.95
AUGUST	9	2	11	22	5.50	2.94	11	6.63
SEPTEMBER	19	-	6	25	11.59	-	6	7.53
OCTOBER	25	-	10	35	15.24	-	10	10.54

NOVEMBER	36	-	3	19	9.75	-	3	5.72
DECEMBER	5	-	6	11	3	-	6	3.31
TOTAL	164	68	100	332	100%	100%	100%	100%

On Table 2 show that during the period under review (1993-1995), 164 articles were recorded for the year 1993, 64 articles were recorded in 1994 while in 1993, 100 articles were recorded. Variations in numbers of articles per month and year were attributed to among others: - the rate at which people are engaged in agricultural vis-à-vis provision of agricultural information as well as the rate of publication of several issues of the articles which means that the more people are engage in agriculture the more information on sector are published. Political crisis is one of the reasons that can be advanced for the variations in the number of articles with special references to 1994/95 when “June 12” political crisis started and there were few or no publications of the newspaper at all. one other person for the variation is number of ariles was due to the fact that during the set in motion, there is higher degree of the publication of articles on Nigerian agriculture while less articles in dry season. This situation can lead to high or growth rate of economic development with high or low crop yield and animal products respectively.

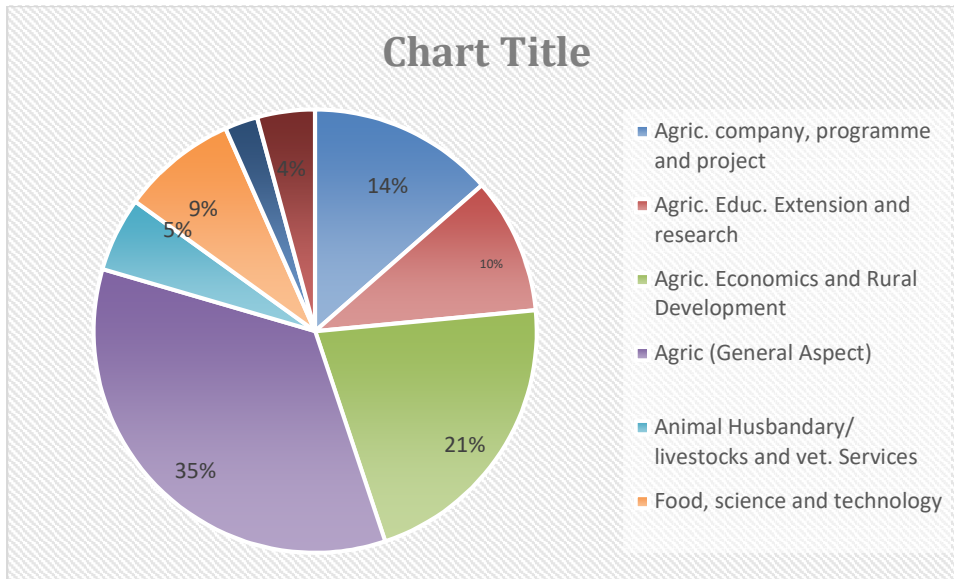
Table 3, the table show the distribution of articles by various areas of Nigeria Agriculture as contained in the newspaper of 1993, 1994 and 1995. Various subject headings that are related to each other combined to inform some areas of the field. Pie-chart has been drawn from the figure bellow;

Table 3: Areas of Agricultural Information

Areas of Nigeria Agriculture	No. of Articles	Percentage (%)	Degree
Agric. company, programme and project	45	13.55	49
Agric. Educ. Extension and research	33	9.94	36
Agric. Economics and Rural Development	71	21.39	77
Agric (General Aspect)	115	34.64	125
Animal Husbandary/Livestock and Vet. Services	18	5.42	20
Food, Science and Technology	28	8.43	30
Forestry and Wild life conservation	8	2.41	8

Pest Disease and Control	14	4.22	15
Total	332	100%	360°

Figure 2: Pie-chart showing various areas of Nigerian agricultural information as covered by the new Nigerian from 1993-1995



Calculating the degree of articles distributed for the individual area of Nigeria Agriculture e.g food science and technology 28 i.e No. of articles. 28 total No of articles for the 3 years = 332

$$\therefore \left(\frac{20}{332} \times 360^\circ \right) = \frac{26}{1} \times \frac{360^\circ}{322} - 10.080 = 30^\circ$$

From the Table 3 and figure 2., general agriculture as on of the highest degree is 125° (34.64%), with lowest in the area of forestry, wild and life conversation having 8° (2.41%). Although there are greater variation in number of articles distributed/information dissemination to various reasons. Government lay much emphasis to agriculture (general aspects) then the other aspect hence farming, corp/ crop yield, agriculture and this is the only are farmers participate actively. Attention and also been paid to the areas of animal husbandry. Livestock's and vet. Service forestry and wild life conversation as well as pet's disease and their control. This might be connected with fact that government has not been generating income from them. Variations may also be due to bias on the part of the newspaper to disseminate more information on those areas that might look interesting.

4.2 Discussion

Objective one sought to find out the agricultural information in ranked order and it was discovered and agriculture and credit top the hit for agricultural development and stable economic growth in Nigeria, emphasis must be laid on general agriculture (farming, animal husbandry, fisheries, livestock, cash crop, etc.) and credit facilities for farmers. This finding contradicts the findings of Emanuel and Chuwang (2002) who reported that rural farmers need agricultural, economic and political information.

In order to achieve objective too, data was analyzed by months and years with frequency and percentage. Result showed that the month of July the highest in the information dissemination for three year. This may be attributed for the fact that high intensity of rainfall normally occur in the month of July and there in tendency for high rate of dissemination of information by the print media. This can consequently lead to high economic growth in the country thus contributing to GDP.

This finding in contrary to the finding of Saka, Mommoh, and Mohammed (2018) who reported that synthesis of information on the highest information literacy skill to agricultural research innovation in Kaduna state and FCT Abuja.

Area of agricultural information was investigated and result showed that general agriculture was top the list even though the arrangement of entries was not b ranked order. Various facets of agriculture combine to give birth of agriculture. This finding contradicts those of Afolabi (1987) and Mohammed et.al (2020). Afolabi (1987). In a project work compiled index entries on agriculture in Nigeria with the arrangement of entries by alphabetical order through there was absence of data analysis.

5.0 Summary, Conclusion and Recommendations

5.1 Summary

Documentation deals with Index entries in which the newspaper articles on Nigerian Agriculture from 1993 to 1995 were arranged alphabetically according to subject headings using Agricultural Thesaurus to Index terms. All in all, 332 entries were indexed; this figure excluded the cross reference and related headings which were used alongside with the entries.

Data were analyzed and interpreted in various forms. The data analyzed so far, its shows that General Agriculture and credit has the highest number of entries, which might be connected with the fact that government, has given priority to this aspect of Agriculture in the country.

5.2 Conclusion

This study had provided an opportunity for the research to bring together in one document. Various aspects of agricultural information as contained in the print media of New Nigerian Newspaper. In all, they gave wide coverage to agriculture. Although not all areas were covered but even then the study will be of great help to present and future researchers. With retrospective agricultural information in the area of general agriculture and in the month of July within the period under review in its function of the contribution food security, export commodities, etc. of agricultural sub-sector to Nigerian economy in the area of employment, income generation, rate of the dissemination of The retrospective information would enable stakeholders to assess agriculture in the past century and forged ahead for the present 21st century agricultural information.

5.3 Recommendations

The following are the recommendations as a result of the detailed research study:

- (a) Certain pages of the newspaper(s) should be dedicated to agricultural articles either on daily or weekly basis just like that of the sport;
- (b) There is the need for the services of the specialist (librarians) in the area of indexing and abstracting of all information on agriculture in Nigeria.
- (c) There should be adequate record keeping and maintenance, and this could be achieved through binding volumes of newspapers on quarterly basis.
- (d) As for agricultural sector, government should give priority to rural development, credit, facilities, subsidy and research.

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