

THE EFFECT OF RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE ON MAIZE YIELD IN KOGI STATE, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

The study analyzed the effect of rainfall and temperature on maize yield in Kogi state, Nigeria. The study depends on secondary data for a period of 10 years up to 2010. Data collected included: monthly rainfall, monthly temperature, output of maize and yield of maize. Descriptive statistics and multiple regression analysis were used to analyze the findings. The study showed that the rainfall range for the ten years period was 62cm, while the temperature range was 30⁰C. Variations in both rainfall and temperature were found not to directly relate to the variations noticed in the output and yield of maize during the ten year period. It was then recommended among other things that the Extension agents should liaise with the Nigeria Meteorological Agency to advise farmers in the state to stabilize their maize cropping calendar in accordance with the weather forecast since both temperature and rainfall had no effect on maize output.

Keywords: Climate, Rainfall, Temperature, Output, Yield.