



GLOBAL JOURNAL OF HUMAN-SOCIAL SCIENCE: E  
ECONOMICS

Volume 22 Issue 6 Version 1.0 Year 2022

Type: Double Blind Peer Reviewed International Research Journal

Publisher: Global Journals

Online ISSN: 2249-460x & Print ISSN: 0975-587X

## Food and Cash Crop Productivities and Poverty Reduction in Ghana

By Boahen Atta Oppong, Edward Ebo Onumah, Ramatu Mahama Al-Hassan  
& Akwasi Mensah-Bonsu

*University of Energy and Natural Resources*

**Abstract-** Food and cash crop productivities growth provide food and improve smallholder farmers' income to reduce poverty. Crop farmers poverty rate is disaggregated into food and cash crop type but beyond 2006 the poverty rate is not disaggregated which is addressed by this study. Food and cash crops have different growth paths and unequal pathways towards poverty. The paper estimates the poverty rates among food and cash crop farmers and examines their productivities effect on poverty. The estimated poverty measures are explained by crop output value per hectare of land using Panel logistic two stage instrumental variable fixed and random effects models with data from the fifth and sixth rounds of the Ghana Living Standards Survey (GLSS). The study finds cash crop output value increased by 330% more than food crop output value which increased by 190% to provide food and income towards poverty reduction between 2005 and 2013. The findings reveals using a poverty line of ₵1314 (\$219) poverty among food crop farmers declined from 59% in 2005 to 39% by 33.9% in 2013.

**Keywords:** crop productivity, poverty, wellbeing.

**GJHSS-E Classification:** FOR Code: DDC Code: 658.15224 LCC Code: HD30.28



*Strictly as per the compliance and regulations of:*



© 2022. Boahen Atta Oppong, Edward Ebo Onumah, Ramatu Mahama Al-Hassan & Akwasi Mensah-Bonsu. This research/review article is distributed under the terms of the Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International (CC BY-NC-ND 4.0). You must give appropriate credit to authors and reference this article if parts of the article are reproduced in any manner. Applicable licensing terms are at <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>.

# Food and Cash Crop Productivities and Poverty Reduction in Ghana

Boahen Atta Oppong <sup>α</sup>, Edward Ebo Onumah <sup>ο</sup>, Ramatu Mahama Al-Hassan <sup>ρ</sup> & Akwasi Mensah-Bonsu <sup>ω</sup>

**Abstract-** Food and cash crop productivities growth provide food and improve smallholder farmers' income to reduce poverty. Crop farmers poverty rate is disaggregated into food and cash crop type but beyond 2006 the poverty rate is not disaggregated which is addressed by this study. Food and cash crops have different growth paths and unequal pathways towards poverty. The paper estimates the poverty rates among food and cash crop farmers and examines their productivities effect on poverty. The estimated poverty measures are explained by crop output value per hectare of land using Panel logistic two stage instrumental variable fixed and random effects models with data from the fifth and sixth rounds of the Ghana Living Standards Survey (GLSS). The study finds cash crop output value increased by 330% more than food crop output value which increased by 190% to provide food and income towards poverty reduction between 2005 and 2013. The findings reveals using a poverty line of ₵1314 (\$219) poverty among food crop farmers declined from 59% in 2005 to 39% by 33.9% in 2013. Poverty among cash crop farmers fell from 35% in 2005 to 24% by 31.4% in 2013 to reveal food crop farmers have higher poverty rates than cash crop farmers and both food and cash crops have considerable importance towards poverty reduction. Furthermore, an increase of food crops productivity by 1% reduces poverty headcount ratio, poverty gap, and poverty severity by -0.19%, -0.41% and -0.81% respectively. A 1% increase in cash crop productivity reduces probability of poverty headcount ratio, poverty gap, and poverty severity by -0.28%, -0.44% and -0.88% respectively. Food and cash crops poverty rates have declined significantly through provision of food and income and both production systems reduce poverty with inelastic estimates which should be supported with resources and skills such as improved crop varieties, production methods due to low use of recommended practices, capacity building, and market access to increase productivity to provide food and income towards poverty reduction.

**Keywords:** crop productivity, poverty, wellbeing.

## I. INTRODUCTION

The economy of Ghana consists of three main sub-sectors of agriculture, services and manufacturing which provide employment opportunities. The average shares of GDP by agriculture, service and industry were 26%, 52% and 22% between 2006 and 2016 (GSS 2017) and 18.5%, 47.2%, and 34.2% in 2019 (GSS 2022). Poverty reduction requires significant income growth from economic growth; however,

inclusive growth is the main channel for poverty reduction (Fosu, 2016). About 47% of total agricultural land area is cultivated mostly by smallholder rain-fed farming, using rudimentary technologies whilst 3.5% is irrigated. Small holder farming accounts for 80% of total agricultural production in Ghana. Food crops are “crops that are intended entirely or primarily for home consumption whereas cash crops are defined as crops that are intended entirely or primarily for market (Govereh & Jayne 2003). Food crops include cereals (e.g., maize and rice), roots and tubers (e.g., yam and cassava) and legumes (e.g., cowpea and groundnuts). Fruits (e.g., avocado and mango) and vegetables (e.g., tomatoes and peppers) and industrial cash crops (e.g., cocoa, rubber, kola, coffee, and oil-palm) are important crops for export revenue (MOFA 2016).

Productivity is defined as output per unit input which is used to indicate the performance of crop production (Coelli et al., 2005). Agricultural output grows by improved weather conditions, conventional inputs, and enabled by rural infrastructure, institutional factors and policy frameworks (Thirtle et al., 2003; Reimers & Klasen 2013). According to the World Bank (2000), “poverty is pronounced deprivation in well-being” where well-being can be measured by an individual's possession of income, health, nutrition, education, assets, housing, and certain rights, such as freedom of speech. It is also a lack of opportunities, powerlessness, and vulnerability. Poverty rate in Sub-Saharan Africa was high at about 40% and moderate at 18% in South Asia in 2015 (Roser & Ortiz-Ospina, 2018; Fosu 2016). Non-income poverty measures of enrolment rates in senior-secondary schools and tertiary education and the quality of learning in both basic and post-basic education are low in poor countries (Molini & Paci, 2015). By the national poverty line of Ghana, the poverty rate in 1991 of 53% decreased to 21% in 2012 but increased to 23.4% in 2016/17 (GSS, 2018). Similarly, in Uganda poverty reduced from 25% in 2009 to 21% in 2013 and geographical disparities characterised this poverty reduction (Ssewanyana, & Kasiye, 2014). Poverty rates by employment type showed that poverty among farmers reduced from 45% in 2005 to 39.2% in 2013; the rural population in the agricultural employment sector have the highest poverty incidence. Nationally, the Gini coefficient of 41.9% in 2005 increased slightly to 42.3% in 2013 (GSS, 2014).

Poverty is mainly caused by inadequate income or resources for an optimum consumption of

*Author α:* Department of Agricultural Economics, Agribusiness, and Extension, University of Energy and Natural Resources, Sunyani.  
e-mail: attakwameatoapoma@gmail.com

*Author ο ρ ω:* Department of Agricultural Economics & Agribusiness, University of Ghana, Legon.

commodities and services which consequently show symptoms of malnourishment and lack of assets (Sen, 1999; Stern & Rogers, 2005; Tebaldi and Mohan 2010). The agricultural sector of Ghana, which is led by smallholder farmers is burdened with low productivity due to low technology adoption and poor soils, weak infrastructure, low market access, high transaction costs and climatic shocks (ACDI/VOCA 2012). Improved agricultural productivity through innovative technologies that support sustainable development is an important channel that aids in poverty reduction and increased food and nutrition security (Al-Hassan and Diao 2007). Improving agricultural productivity is related to Sustainable Development Goal 8 to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all poverty and hunger reduction.

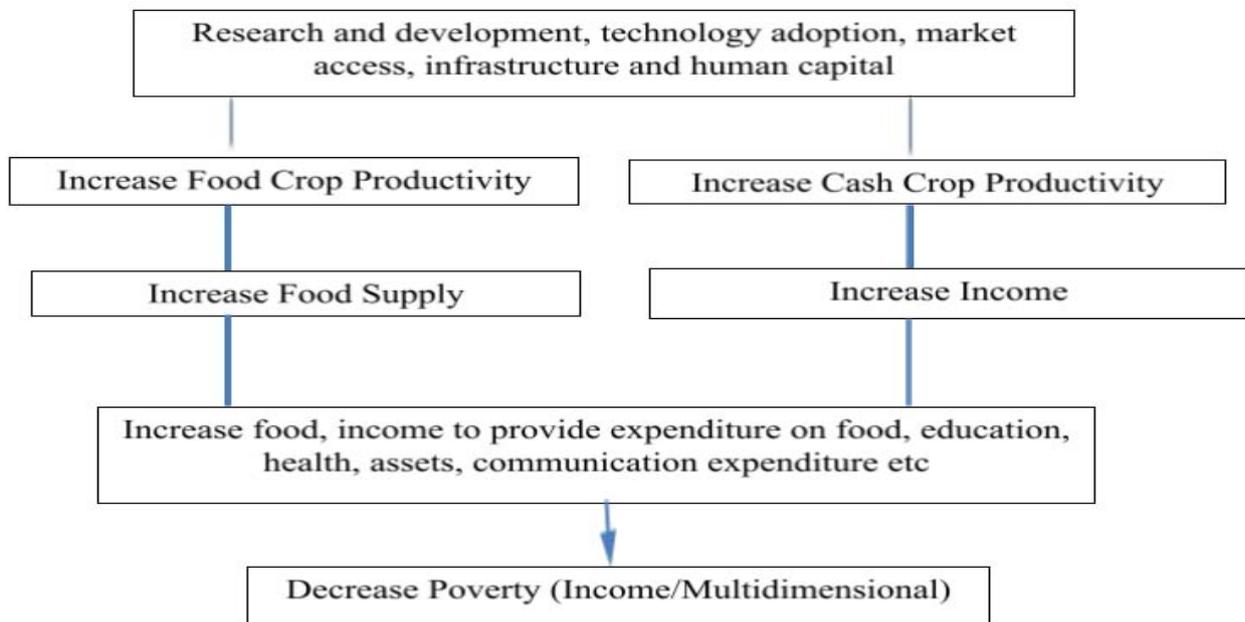
Christiaensen et al. (2011) found employment of poor people in agriculture and the linkage of agriculture with other sectors of the economy leads to poverty reduction. Agricultural productivity pathways to poverty reduction are through the effect of income from higher output; lower food prices and multiplier effects on rural economic growth (Grewal et al., 2012; Bresciani & Valdes, 2007). A related study found significant negative relationships between household's intensity of cash crop production and food security due to increasing food prices and competing activities for land use. The adverse relationship between cash crop production and household food security observed calls for caution; results suggest that positive relationships cannot be assumed, and that further empirical evidence is needed to better understand these tradeoffs (Anderman, et al. 2014). Food and cash crops have different production

systems and synergistic effects or trade offs on farm households' livelihoods (Govereh and Jayne 2003). Crop farmers' poverty rate has not been disaggregated into food and cash crop types and their role on poverty reduction have not been assessed. This study therefore assesses the effect of food and cash crop productivities on poverty. The next section presents the methodology of the study, which entails the data and method of analysis, followed by the results and discussion and lastly conclusion.

## II. METHODOLOGY

### a) Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework adapted for this study shows four pathways out of poverty, namely raising agricultural labor productivity, labor reallocation to rural non-farm activities, migration to reallocate labour to urban activities, and transfer of rural tax reduction or income transfers, price support and input subsidies (Schneider & Gugerty 2011). Food crops provide food and income while cash crops provide income for farm households towards poverty reduction (Figure 1). Food and cash crops have varied growth paths and unequal pathways for poverty reduction (Diao & Dorosh, 2007). The sub-sectors are distinct by agro ecological conditions, policy, markets and special role towards alleviating poverty. Food crops pathway for poverty reduction is broad-based mainly through supply of food for household consumption and sale of surplus food through domestic and regional market (Al-Hassan & Poulton 2009; Khan and Verma, 2018; Diao & Hazell, 2004). Cash crops are high value crops and provide mainly income in well-structured domestic and export markets (Diao & Hazell, 2004; Hill & Viner, 2014).



Adapted from Christiaensen & Kuhl (2011)

Figure 1: Conceptual Framework: Pathways to Poverty

### III. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The household economic model provides the theoretical basis of this analysis. The indirect utility function of a rural household is given by  $V = V(y, p_j)$  is labour income to purchase commodities and services for optimum satisfaction and  $p_j$  is price of crop  $j$  (Ravallion, 1996; Minten & Barrett 2008). The study assumes the labour income,  $y$  is decomposed into farm and non-farm labour income as defined in equation (1).

Labour income  $y$  specified in equation (1) is totally differentiated to give equation (2):

$$dy = \frac{\partial y}{\partial p_j} dp_j * f(Q) + \frac{\partial y}{\partial Q} dQp_j * f(P) - w \frac{\partial y}{\partial t^f} d(t^n) + (t^n) \frac{\partial y}{\partial w} dw \tag{2}$$

Equation 2 is simplified as:

$$\frac{dy}{dA} = \frac{\partial P_j}{\partial A} * Q_j + P_j \cdot \frac{\partial Q_j}{\partial A} - w \frac{\partial t^n}{\partial A} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial A} * (t^n) \tag{3}$$

$\frac{\partial p_j}{\partial A}$  is given by  $\epsilon_{p_j,A} \cdot \frac{P_j}{A}$  where  $\epsilon_{p_j}$  is the price elasticity with respect to productivity.  $\frac{\partial Q_j}{\partial A} = \epsilon_{Q_j,A} \cdot \frac{Q_j}{A}$ ,  $\frac{\partial w}{\partial A} = \epsilon_{w,A} \cdot \frac{w}{A}$ ,  $\frac{\partial L^f}{\partial A} = \epsilon_{L^f} \cdot \frac{L^f}{A}$ .

$$\frac{dy}{dA} = \frac{P_j * Q_j}{A} (\epsilon_{Q_j} + \epsilon_{p_j}) - \frac{w * L^f}{A} [\epsilon_{L^f,A}] + \frac{w(L-L^f)}{A} [\epsilon_{w,A}] \tag{4}$$

Higher crop productivity growth would increase crop output greater than the decline in crop prices to increase crop income and thereby reduce poverty (Nicholas & Snyder, 2008; Minten & Barrett 2008).

#### a) Estimation of Poverty Rate

The Foster-Greer-Thorbecke (1984) (FGT) poverty index is used to estimate the poverty headcount ratio, poverty gap and poverty severity among crop farmers. The measure uses consumption expenditure which is more reliable to obtain from households and more stable than income of farmers. The FGT measures are given as:

$$P_0 = \frac{q}{n} \rightarrow \text{Poverty headcount ratio} \tag{5}$$

$$P_1 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^q [(z - y)/z] \rightarrow \text{Poverty gap} \tag{6}$$

$$P_2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^q [(z - y)/z]^2 \rightarrow \text{Poverty severity} \tag{7}$$

$n$  = Number of households in a group

$q$  = The number of poor households per group

$z$  = Poverty line of ₵1314 (\$219); farmers below the poverty line are poor

$y$  = Household expenditure per capita adult equivalent of the  $i$ -th household in the specified group

#### b) Relationship between Crop Productivity and Poverty Reduction

The effect of food and cash crop productivity on poverty is estimated using Panel logistic two stage

$$y = y[p_j fA(L, t^f) + w(t^n)/E] \tag{1}$$

where,  $A$  is productivity of the underlying technology,  $fA(L, t^f/E)$  is the production function  $l$  represents farm size,  $t^f$  is farm labour supply  $t^n$  is non-farm labour supply,  $w$  is the wage rate for unskilled labour and  $E$  is the given agroecological conditions.

instrumental variable fixed and random effects regression technique based on Hausman specification test (Dzanku 2015; Crown et al., 2011; Katchova, 2013). The food and cash crops productivities are measured as output value per hectare of land and is estimated by the instruments of cost of chemical and intermediate inputs in equation (8). Crop productivity is expected to be endogenous due to possible correlation with the error term, which is corrected by the instruments found to be related to the crop productivity but unrelated to the error term. Poverty measures, poverty headcount ratio, Poit Poverty gap, P1it and Poverty severity, P2it are regressed on the estimated crop productivity ( $x_{1,i}$ ), household size ( $x_{2,i}$ ), distance to water source ( $x_{3,i}$ ), years of education ( $x_{4,i}$ ), days of ill-health ( $x_{5,i}$ ), livestock and remittance income ( $x_{6,i}$ ), in equation (9-11).

Stage 1:

$$lcp\ x_{1it} = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 \log k_{1it} + \alpha_2 \log k_{2it} \tag{8}$$

Stage 2:

$$\left( \frac{P_{0it}}{1 - P_{0it}} \right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 lcp_{1it} + \sum_{j=2}^6 \beta_j \log x_{jit} + \epsilon_{it} \tag{9}$$

$$lP_1 = \beta_0 + \beta_1 lcp_{1it} + \sum_{j=2}^6 \beta_j \log x_{jit} + \epsilon_{it} \tag{10}$$

$$lP_2 = \beta_0 + \beta_1 lcp_{1it} + \sum_{j=2}^6 \beta_j \log x_{jit} + \epsilon_{it} \tag{11}$$

Table I: Description of Explanatory Variables

Variables	Definition	Measurement	Apriori sign
$P_{0it}$	Poverty headcount ratio	Dummy 1=poor 0=non-poor	
$P_{1it}$	Poverty gap	Consumption expenditure	
$P_{2it}$	Poverty severity	Consumption expenditure	
$x_1$	Crop productivity	Output Value¢ /Ha	-
$x_2$	Household size	Household members	-/+
$x_3$	Years of education	Years of education	-
$x_4$	Distance to water source	Distance Km	-/+
$x_5$	Days of ill-health	Number of days of inactivity	-/+
$x_6$	Remittance income	Cedis	+
$x_7$	Livestock income	Cedis	+
$k_1$	Cost of chemical inputs (IV)	Cedis	+
$k_2$	Cost of intermediate inputs (IV)	Cedis	+

Source: Authors Construction, 2018

### c) The Data

The study employs the Ghana Living Standards Survey in 2005/06 and 2012/13 of Ghana and enumeration areas were selected from the sixteen (16) regions of Ghana in proportion to size of the region, ecology and rural/urban classification. The total numbers of enumeration areas were 550 and 1200 for 2005/06 and 2012/2013 surveys respectively. Fifteen (15) households from each enumeration area were selected either randomly or systematically to obtain the total farm households of 2910 and 8355 in 2005/06 and 2012/13 surveys respectively. Farm households of 2910 and 8355 were used to create pseudo-panel data of 102 cohorts based on age, gender, and agroecological zones in the 2005/06 and 2012/13 surveys respectively. Deaton (1985) suggests creating cohorts, based on some pre-determined characteristics that are time invariant, can substitute for panel data. and have cohort means that generate consistent and efficient estimates (Guillerm 2017).

relevant in contributing towards poverty reduction. Additional income from livestock sales increased by 220% for non-poor farmers but reduced by 52% for poor farmer, which can have a dampening effect on consumption expenditure to increase poverty. Household size is higher among poor farmers than non-poor farmers and increased slightly between 2005 and 2013. Distance to water source has reduced significantly between 2005 and 2013 and does not differ significantly between the poor and non-poor. Days of ill health is high and does not differ between the poor and non-poor.

## IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### a) Summary Statistics of model explanatory variables

Crop income per hectare of land increased and consumption expenditure on food and non-food items is lower among poor farmers than non-poor farmers which increased to reduce poverty between 2005 and 2013. Crop productivity (kg/ha) reduced for non-poor farmers and increased for poor farmers between 2005 and 2013. Table II shows that years of education of household head fell by 14% for non-poor farmers and 8% by poor farmers. Years of education is important to use the inputs to obtain optimum output. The study further reveals remittance income increased highly by 260% for non-poor farmers and by 205% for poor farmers to support household income for consumption, which is

Table II: Summary statistics of model explanatory variables by poverty status

Variable Description	Mean		Mean Difference	Mean		Mean Difference
	Poor	Non-Poor		Poor	Non-Poor	
	2005	2005	2013	2013		
Consumption per Adult	727.50	2502.36	1774.85***	832.15	3083.84	2251.69***
Crop productivity kg/ha	636.30	954.30	318.00**	720.27	874.92	154.65***
Revenue cedi/ha	177.93	283.76	105.82***	682.97	894.46	211.49***
Price cedi/kg	1.01	1.18	.17	1.36	1.64	0.28**
Chemical Cost (GHS)	20.94	54.66	33.71***	172.00	259.59	87.59***
Seed & Labour Cost (GHS)	27.43	82.98	55.55***	73.20	164.68	91.47***
Intermediate Input Cost	10.42	22.93	12.51***	77.87	127.92	50.05**
Household Head Age	47.54	47.11	-.43	49.26	47.94	-1.32***
Years of Education	7.61	8.69	1.07***	6.97	8.56	1.58***
Remittances Income	28.68	59.69	31.00***	87.35	214.96	127.61***
Livestock Income (GHS)	48.35	29.78	-16.24**	23.39	95.98	72.58*
Household Size Number	6.06	3.68	-2.38***	6.44	4.40	-2.04***
Distance to water source km	2.9	2.3	0.6	.42	.36	-0.069***
Days of ill health	5.64	6.49	.84*	6.31	6.17	-.13

Source: Estimation output

#### b) Food and Cash Crop Sub-Sector Productivity

Food crop output increased, farm size reduced slightly and the productivities output/income per hectare of land increased towards poverty reduction between 2005 and 2013 (Table III). Cash crop output increased lower than food crop, farm size reduced slightly, and the productivities output/income per hectare increased higher than food crops to reduce poverty between 2005

and 2013. Cash crop output value increased by 330% more than food crop output value which increased by 190% towards poverty reduction between 2005 and 2013. Cash crop yield growth is supported by the well organised value chains which offer technical assistance on production and readily available markets for outputs and inputs (Diao & Hazell 2004).

Table III: Food and Cash Crop Sub-Sector Productivities

Agro Ecological Zone	Mean Output(kg)		Farm size (ha)		Output (kg/ha)		Productivity (¢/ha)	
	2005	2013	2005	2013	2005	2013	2005	2013
Food Crop	1169.5	1529.3	2.61	2.30	851.35	949.06	245.19	718.80
Cash crops	740.96	806.38	2.60	2.36	390.27	450.64	264.51	1147.8
All Crops	1284.0	1603.6	3.32	3.35	763.81	811.59	257.24	806.82

Source Estimation Results, 2018

#### c) Crop Input Use by Farmers

Crop farmers apply inputs such as fertilizer, seed, labor, equipment, to increase productivity.

Fertilizer and hired labour are moderately used in crop production process. Farmers do not commonly use improved seeds and equipment (Table IV).

Table IV: Crop Farmers Input Use

Inputs	Yes	Percentage	No	Percentage	Total ??
Fertilizer	3346	40.01	5016	59.99	8362
Seed	1519	18.17	6843	81.83	8362
Labour	4306	51.49	4056	48.51	8362
Renting Equipment	1331	15.92	7031	84.08	8362

Source: Ghana living standards survey, round 6

#### d) Source of Income

The study shows major source of income for poor farmers is agriculture and major source of income

for non-poor farmers is wage and non-farm income sources towards poverty reduction.

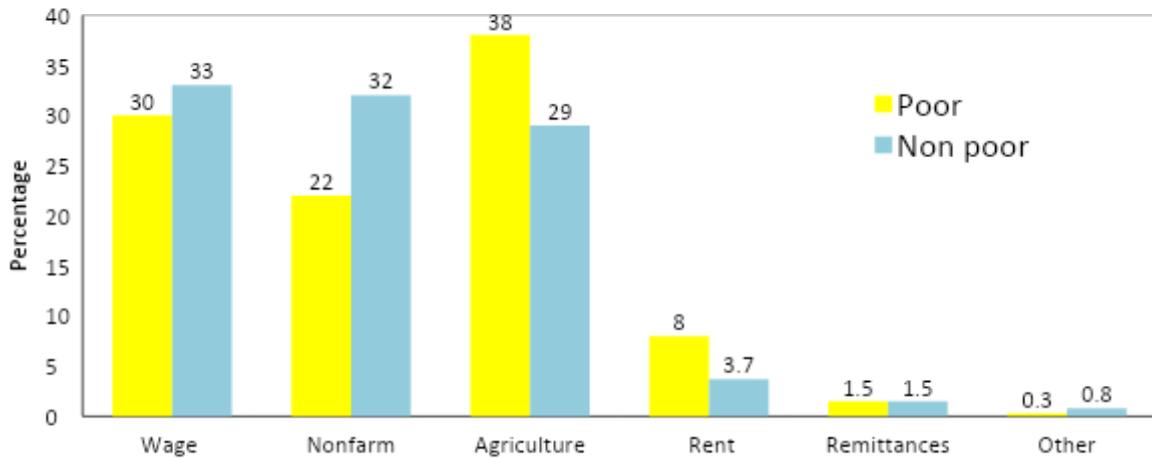


Figure 2: Sources of Income from GLSS 6 Survey Data 2012/2013

e) Food and Non-Food Expenditure

Poor farmers spent more income on food than on non-food items in the consumption bundle. Non-food expenditures include those expenditures on health, education, transportation, clothing, recreation, remittances among others. Total expenditure for poor

farmers increased by 14%: food expenditure increased by 30% and non-food expenditure increased by 14% between 2005 and 2013 (Table V). The Ghana Statistical Service requires ₵1314.4 minimum food and non-food expenditure per year to become non-poor (GSS 2014).

Table V: Food and Non-Food Consumption Expenditure per Adult Equivalent

Expenditure	2005/06			2012/13		
	Mean Poor	Mean Non-Poor	Difference	Mean Poor	Mean Non-poor	Difference
Food	397.78	1339.93	942.14 ***	516.96	1767.51	1250.54***
Non-food	275.13	972.84	697.71***	314.52	1323.80	1009.29***
Total	727.77	2497.60	1769.81***	831.47	3091.31	2259.83***

Source: Authors' estimated output, 2018

f) Poverty Levels by Crop Type

Food crop producers of major food crops such as maize, rice, millet, cassava, and plantain poverty rate declined from 59% in 2005 to 39% in 2013. Cash crop producers of major crops such as cocoa, cashew, rubber, and cotton poverty rate declined from 44%, in

2005 to 24% in 2013, lower than food crop producers as highlighted in (Table VI). Cash crop sub-sector reduces poverty through significant output value growth by participating in export market for relatively low number of farmers than the food crop sub-sector which engages more farmers (Broeck et. al, 2017).

Table VI: Poverty Levels (%) by Crop Type

Crop Categories	P1		P2		P3		Consumption (₵)		Population (number)	
	2005	2013	2005	2013	2005	2013	2005	2013	2005	2013
Food Crops	59	39	27	15	16	7.4	1432.14	2172.39	2,771	7,454
Cash Crops	44	24.4	16	7.4	8.5	3.2	1796.82	2638.11	736	2,331
All Crops	57	37	25	14	14	6.8	1486.16	2244.07	2,957	8,352

Source: Authors estimated output, GLSS 5 & 6

g) Effect of Food Crop Productivity on Poverty

The poverty headcount model is estimated by fixed effects model which is consistent; poverty gap and poverty severity are estimated by random effects model which is consistent and efficient as shown in (Table VIII).

A 1% growth in food crop productivity reduces the probability of being poor in terms of the elasticity of poverty headcount ratio, poverty gap, and poverty severity by -0.19%, -0.41%, -and -0.81% which are negative but inelastic. The effects are however lower

than that due to cash crop productivity (Table VII). The conduit of food crop productivity towards poverty reduction is mainly by the provision of food and crop income from the productivity growth. Food crop diversity increases by 10% to provide food and income to decrease the probability of a household being in poverty by 18% in Ethiopia (Michler & Josephson 2017; Iheke & Nwaru 2013). In addition to crop productivity, growth in years of education, livestock income and remittances are important for poverty reduction. However, livestock income does not affect poverty gap and severity. Remittance receipts by households contribute to stabilizing consumption in developing countries (Mondal & Khanam 2016). Education develops the numeracy and literacy skills to increase income and manage consumption effectively and efficiently (Coppola & Laurea 2016; Leshoro & Leshoro 2013; Nowak & Kijek 2016). The poverty elasticity estimates for household size are all positive suggesting that larger households

are more likely to be poor. The response is also elastic for poverty headcount ratio which increases poverty highly to affect wellbeing of farmers. Household size can erode the benefits of crop productivity growth towards poverty reduction due to the larger effect it exerts on poverty (Teka et al., 2019). Increase in days of ill health reduces probability of being poor by poverty headcount ratio, poverty gap and poverty severity by -0.09%, -0.06% and -0.11%. Days sick can positively influence consumption for speedy recovery towards poverty reduction but higher days sick will reduce consumption to increase poverty. Cho *et al.* (2016) found household head's physical, and mental disabilities were associated with higher likelihood of being food insecure. An increase of distance to water source elicits an increase poverty headcount ratio but does not affect poverty gap and poverty severity. Longer distance to fetch water increases poverty incidence because of longer time spent to fetch water to retard household productivity.

Table VII: Effect of Food Crop Productivity on Poverty

Variables	Poverty Headcount	Poverty Gap	Poverty Severity
Output value	-0.192*** (0.0211)	-0.405*** (0.0419)	-0.810*** (0.0837)
Household size	1.333*** (0.0464)	0.317*** (0.0293)	0.634*** (0.0585)
Education years	-0.378*** (0.0252)	-0.0980*** (0.0168)	-0.196*** (0.0336)
Dayssick	-0.0949** (0.0412)	-0.0564** (0.0263)	-0.113** (0.0525)
Distance water	0.0803*** (0.0131)	0.0146 (0.00896)	0.0292 (0.0179)
Livestock income	-0.159*** (0.0104)	0.0120 (0.00832)	0.0240 (0.0166)
Remittance income	-0.0333*** (0.0102)	-0.0181*** (0.00667)	-0.0361*** (0.0133)
Forest		0.0889 (0.0826)	0.178 (0.165)
Savannah		0.455*** (0.0794)	0.911*** (0.159)
Constant		0.121 (0.238)	0.242 (0.476)

Source: Authors estimated output

Table VIII: Hausman Specification Test and Food Crop Productivity and Poverty

Poverty Measure	Statement of Hypothesis	Test Statistic	Decision Rule
Headcount Ratio	H0: Random effects model Ha: Fixed effects model	12.05 (0.09)	Reject Null
Poverty Gap	H0: Random effects model Ha: Fixed effects model	9.02 (0.25)	Do not Reject Null
Poverty Severity	H0 : Random effects model Ha : Fixed effects model	9.02 (0.25)	Do not Reject Null

h) *Effect of Cash Crop Productivity on Poverty*

The results of the Hausman specification test in Table (X) indicate poverty headcount ratio is estimated by the fixed effects model which is consistent but not efficient. Poverty gap and severity are estimated by random effects model which is consistent and efficient. The study finds cash crop productivity increases by 1% reduces poverty headcount ratio, poverty gap, poverty severity, by -0.28%, -0.44%, -0.88% respectively. Poverty elasticity in response to productivity growth in cash crop production, is negative for all poverty indicators (Table IX). The elasticity values are higher than those estimated for food crop productivity growth in Table (VII). Cash crops mainly provide income to support household consumption bundles. Cocoa productivity growth increased income to support household consumption expenditure growth towards poverty reduction in Ghana (Danso-Abbeam, & Baiyegunhi, 2018). Cash crops revenue increase per capita expenditure towards poverty reduction in Vietnam (Cuong, 2009). The effect of an increase in household size on poverty is positive and significant for all poverty indicators. Balagtas et al. (2014) found an additional family member in rural Bangladesh slightly increased the probability of falling into poverty. A related study revealed an increase in variance of household dependence ratio decreases variance in consumption expenditure by 0.14 standard

deviation which negatively affects consumption to increase poverty (Dzanku, 2015b). Table IX shows a reduction in all poverty indicators with respect to an increase in years of education. Additional years of education promote household management of resources to positively influence consumption. Thirtle & Piesse (2007), found education increases productivity in farm and non-farm sector. Educated farmers search for new information and use new technologies efficiently to increase productivity towards poverty reduction.

The study further reveals positive poverty elasticity with respect to increase in distance to water sources because of the constraints introduced on consumption due to longer time and effort to access water, and loss of productive hours. Access to livestock income growth by 1% reduces probability of poverty headcount ratio by 0.12% due to use of additional income to increase consumption. Katagame et al. (2017) found that pigs contribute toward household income to reduce poverty among farmers' in Mimika. Remittance income is associated with poverty reduction through its effect on food consumption expenditure. A 1% increase in remittance income negatively reduces food insecurity in rural Mali by 0.11% to provide adequate and nutritious diet for households (Generoso 2015).

Table IX: Cash Crop Productivity and Poverty

Variables	Poverty Headcount Ratio	Poverty Gap	Poverty Severity
Outputvalueha	-0.283*** (0.0382)	-0.440*** (0.136)	-0.879*** (0.272)
Household size	1.473*** (0.105)	0.527*** (0.0834)	1.053*** (0.167)
Education years	-0.447*** (0.0549)	-0.131*** (0.0446)	-0.263*** (0.0892)
Daysick	-0.0233 (0.0842)	-0.0767 (0.0715)	-0.153 (0.143)
Diswater source	0.120*** (0.0317)	0.0307 (0.0277)	0.0615 (0.0554)
Livestockincome	-0.119*** (0.0241)	0.00321 (0.0190)	0.00642 (0.0381)
Remittance	-0.0792*** (0.0220)	-0.0678*** (0.0186)	-0.136*** (0.0371)
Forest		0.250 (0.247)	0.501 (0.495)
Savannah		0.104 (0.226)	0.208 (0.451)
Constant		-0.146 (0.722)	-0.292 (1.444)

Source: Estimation Result, 2018

Table X: Hausman Specification Test and Cash Crop Productivity and Poverty

Poverty Measure	Statement of Hypothesis	Test Statistic	Decision Rule
Headcount Ratio	H0: Random effects model	18.56 (0.01)	Reject Null
	Ha: Fixed effects model		
Poverty Gap	H0: Random effects model	2.49 (0.92)	Do not Reject Null
	Ha: Fixed effects model		
Poverty Severity	H0 : Random effects model	2.49 (0.92)	Do not Reject Null
	Ha : Fixed effects model		

## V. CONCLUSIONS

Food and cash crop productivities increase to provide food and income to reduce poverty. Crop farmers poverty rate is disaggregated into food and cash crops which have different growth paths and unequal pathways toward poverty reduction and their role on poverty reduction is assessed differently in this study. Food crops such as maize, rice, millet, cassava, etc mainly supply household food staples and cash crops such as cocoa, rubber, oil palm, cotton, etc. provide income towards poverty reduction. The study finds poor farmers mainly depend on agriculture and food and cash crops productivities grow to provide food and income to increase consumption expenditures mainly on food among poor farmers to reduce poverty. Non-poor farmers spend higher on food and non-food items which include health, education, transportation, clothing, and remittances, etc to reduce poverty. Food crop farmers have higher poverty rates than cash crop farmers and food and cash crops have considerable importance towards poverty reduction between 2005 and 2013. Food and cash crop productivities growth reduce poverty moderately which is inelastic and efforts made to support farmers with resources and skills to increase productivity of food and cash crops will count towards poverty reduction. The farmers should benefit from improved crop varieties, production methods, due to low use of recommended agronomic practices, capacity building, and market access towards productivity growth to provide food and income to reduce poverty.

## REFERENCES RÉFÉRENCES REFERENCIAS

- ACDI/VOCA. 2012. Ghana–Agriculture Development and Value Chain Enhancement (ADVANCE) Project. <http://www.acdivoca.org/site/ID/ghanaADVANCE> (retrieved October 1, 2019).
- Al-Hassan R. & Poulton, C. (2009) Agriculture and Social Protection in Ghana Futures Agricultures FAC Working Paper No. SP04
- Al-Hassan, R., M. & Diao, X. (2007) Policy Options and Public Investment Implications Regional Disparities in Ghana Development Strategy Governance Division International Food Policy Research Institute IFPRI Discussion Paper No. 00693
- Anderman, T.L., Remans, R., Wood, S.A. *et al.* (2014) Synergies and tradeoffs between cash crop production and food security: a case study in rural Ghana. *Food Sec.* 6, 541–554. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12571-014-0360-6>
- Balagtas, J. V., Bhandari, H., Cabrera, E. R., Mohanty, S., & Hossain, M. (2014). Did the commodity price spike increase rural poverty? Evidence from a long-run panel in Bangladesh. *Agricultural Economics*, 45(3), 303-312.
- Bresciani, F., & Valdés, A. (Eds.). (2007). Beyond food production: the role of agriculture in poverty reduction. Food & Agriculture Org. Economic and Social Development Dept., 2007, p. 3-40
- Broeck, Van den G., Swinnen, J., & Maertens, M. (2017). Global value chains, large-scale farming, and poverty: Long-term effects in Senegal. *Food policy*, 66, 97-107.
- Cho, S., Ishdorj, A., & Gregory, C. (2016). Food Insecurity and Types of Disability. In 2016 Annual Meeting, February 6-9, 2016, San Antonio, Texas (No. 230083). Southern Agricultural Economics Association.
- Christiaensen, L., Demery, L., & Kuhl, J. (2011). The (evolving) role of agriculture in poverty reduction—An empirical perspective. *Journal of development economics*, 96(2), 239-254.
- Coelli, T. J., Rao, D. S. P., O'Donnell, C. J., & Battese, G. E. (2005). An introduction to efficiency and productivity analysis. Springer Science & Business Media.
- Coppola, L., & Di Laurea, D. (2016). Dynamics of persistent poverty in Italy at the beginning of the crisis. *Genus*, 72(1), 3.
- Crown, W. H., Henk, H. J., & Vanness, D. J. (2011). Some cautions on the use of instrumental variables estimators in outcomes research: how bias in instrumental variables estimators is affected by instrument strength, instrument contamination, and sample size. *Value in Health*, 14(8), 1078-1084.
- Cuong, N. V. (2009). Measuring the impact of cash crops on household expenditure and poverty in rural Vietnam. *Asia-Pacific Development Journal*, 16(2), 87-112
- Danso-Abbeam, G., & Baiyegunhi, L. J. (2018). Welfare impact of pesticides management practices among smallholder cocoa farmers in Ghana. *Technology in Society*, 54, 10-19.
- Deaton, A. (1985), "Panel Data from Time-Series of Cross-Section", *Journal of Econometrics*, 30, 109-130
- Diao, X., & Dorosh, P. (2007). Demand constraints on agricultural growth in East and Southern Africa: A general equilibrium analysis. *Development Policy Review*, 25(3), 275-292.
- Diao, X., & Hazell, P. (2004). Exploring market opportunities for African smallholders (No. 22). International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).
- Dzanku, F. M. (2015a). Household welfare effects of agricultural productivity: A multidimensional perspective from Ghana. *The Journal of Development Studies*, 51(9), 1139-1154.
- Dzanku, F. M. (2015b). Transient rural livelihoods and poverty in Ghana. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 40, 102-110.

20. Foster, J., Greer, J., & Thorbecke, E. (1984). A class of decomposable poverty measures. *Econometrica: journal of the econometric society*, 761-766.
21. Fosu, A. K. (2016). Growth, inequality, and poverty reduction in developing countries: recent global evidence. *Research in Economics*, 71(2), 306-336.
22. Generoso, R. (2015). How do rainfall variability, food security and remittances interact? The case of rural Mali. *Ecological Economics*, 114, 188-198.
23. Ghana Statistical Service (2022) Ghana Statistical Service Ghana Statistical Services. (statsghana.gov.gh)
24. Ghana Statistical Service. (2014). Poverty profile in Ghana (2005-2013). Ghana Statistical Service, Accra.
25. Govereh, J., and Jayne T.S. (2003) Cash cropping and food crop productivity: synergies or trade-offs? *Agricultural Economics* 28 (2003) 39-50
26. Grewal, B., Grunfeld, H., & Sheehan, P. (2012). The contribution of agricultural growth to poverty reduction. Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR).
27. GSS (2017) Ghana Statistical Service Provisional 2016 Annual Gross Domestic Product [Date Accessed <http://www.statsghana.gov.gh/docfiles/GDP/GDP2017>]
28. GSS (2018). Poverty Trends in Ghana (2005-2017). Ghana Living Standards Survey Rounds 7 Ghana Statistical Service.
29. Guillerm, M. (2017). Pseudo-panel methods and an example of application to Household Wealth data. *Economie et Statistique/Economics and Statistics*, 491-492, 109-130. DOI: 10.24187/ecostat.2017.491 d.1908
30. Hill, R. V., & Vigneri, M. (2014). Mainstreaming gender sensitivity in cash crop market supply chains. In *Gender in agriculture* (pp. 315-341). Springer, Dordrecht.
31. Iheke, O. R., & Nwaru, J. C. (2013). Innovation Adoption, Farm Productivity and Poverty Status of Rural Smallholder Farm Households in South-East, Nigeria. In Invited paper presented at the 4th International Conference of the African Association of Agricultural Economists, Hammamet, Tunisia.
32. Katagame, A., Fanani, Z. & Nugroho, B., A. (2017) Income Contribution of Pig Livestock toward Poverty Reduction and Factors Influencing Pig Farming in Mimika Papua IOSR Journal of Agriculture and Veterinary Science (IOSR-JAVS) e-ISSN: 2319-2380, p-ISSN: 2319-2372. Volume 10, Issue 1 Ver. I, PP 11-15
33. Katchova, A. (2013). Panel Data Models Econometric Academy. [Date accessed: <https://sites.google.com/site/econometricsacademy/econometrics-models/panel-data-models>]
34. Khan, K., & Verma, R. K. (2018). Diversifying cropping systems with aromatic crops for better productivity and profitability in subtropical north Indian plains. *Industrial Crops and Products*, 115, 104-110.
35. Leshoro, S., & Leshoro, T. L. (2013). Impacts of literacy rate and human development indices on agricultural production in South Africa. *Agricultural Economics/Zemedelska Ekonomika*, 59(11).
36. Michler, J. D., & Josephson, A. L. (2017). To specialize or diversify: agricultural diversity and poverty dynamics in Ethiopia. *World Development*, 89, 214-226.
37. Minten, B., & Barrett, C. B. (2008). Agricultural technology, productivity, and poverty in Madagascar. *World Development*, 36(5), 797-822.
38. MoFA, (2016). *Agriculture in Ghana: Facts and Figures (2016)* Ministry of Food and Agriculture Statistics, Research and Information Directorate (SRID) (2017).
39. Molini, V., & Paci, P. (2015). Poverty Reduction in Ghana—Progress and Challenges.
40. Mondal, R. K., & Khanam, R. (2016). The impacts of international migrants' remittances on household consumption volatility in developing countries.
41. Nicholson, W. & Snyder, C., (2008). *Microeconomic theory. Basic Principles and Extensions Tenth Edition*. Thomson South-Western, Canada.
42. Nowak, A., & Kijek, T. (2016). The effect of human capital on labour productivity of farms in Poland. *Studies in Agricultural Economics*, 118(1), 16-21.
43. Ravallion, M. (1996). *Issues in Measuring and Modeling Poverty*. The World Bank. Policy.
44. Reimers, M., & Klasen, S. (2013). Revisiting the role of education for agricultural productivity. *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 95(1), 131-152.
45. Roser M., & Ortiz-Ospina, E. (2018) - "Global Extreme Poverty". Published online at OurWorldInData.org. Retrieved from: '<https://ourworldindata.org/extreme-poverty>' [<https://ourworldindata.org/extreme-poverty> accessed 17/09/2018]
46. Schneider, K., & Gugerty, M. K. (2011). Agricultural productivity and poverty reduction: Linkages and pathways. *Libraries Test Journal*, 1(1), 56-74.
47. Sen, Amartya. (1999). *Development As Freedom*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
48. Ssewanyana, S., & Kasirye, I. (2014). Uganda's Progress Towards Poverty Reduction during the last Decade 2002/3-2012/13: Is the Gap Between Leading and Lagging Areas Widening or Narrowing?
49. Stern, N., Dethier, J. J., & Rogers, F. H. (2005). *Growth and empowerment. Making development happen*. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology Press, Cambridge.
50. Tebaldi, E. and R. Mohan (2010). 'Institutions and Poverty', *The Journal of Development Studies*, Vol. 46, pp. 1047-66.

51. Teka, A. M., Woldu, G. T., & Fre, Z. (2019). Status and determinants of poverty and income inequality in pastoral and agro-pastoral communities: Household-based evidence from Afar Regional State, Ethiopia. *World Development Perspectives*, 100123.
52. Thirtle C, Lin L, Piesse J. (2003). The impact of research led agricultural productivity growth on poverty reduction in Africa, Asia and Latin America. *World Development* 31(12): 1959–1975
53. Thirtle, C., & Piesse, J. (2007). Governance, agricultural productivity and poverty reduction in Africa, Asia and Latin America. *Irrigation and Drainage: The journal of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage*, 56 (2-3), 165-177.
54. World Bank (2000), *World Development Report 2000-2001*, World Bank, Washington, DC.

