

Fulani Herdsmen's Activities and Food Security in Enugu State, Nigeria

¹Anikeze Nnaemeka Hillary and ²Nkiruka Celestina Udentia

Department of Public Administration, Faculty of Management Science, Enugu state university of science and Technology.

Department of Political Science, Faculty of Social Science, Enugu State University of Science and Technology

Email: maemeka.anikeze@esut.edu.ng; nkiruka.udenta@esut.edu.ng

ABSTRACT

This study investigated Fulani Herdsmen's Activities and Food Security in Enugu State. The study was carried out in Uzo Uwani, Nkanu West and Agwu Local Government Areas of Enugu State. The specific objective of the study includes to; examine the effect of Fulani Herdsmen activities on food production in Uzo uwani, Nkanu West and Agwu Local Government Areas of Enugu State, evaluate the effect of Fulani Herdsmen activities on food affordability in Uzo uwani, Nkanu West and Agwu Local Government Areas of Enugu State, and ascertain the effect of Fulani Herdsmen activities on food accessibility in Uzo uwani, Nkanu West and Agwu Local Government Areas of Enugu State. Two thousand seven hundred and thirty (2730) farmers from the three selected local government areas in Enugu state served as the population for the study. A stratified proportion sampling was employed to obtain a suitable unit representative of population, as follows; uzo uwani local government (89) respondents, Nkanu West local government (97) respondents, and Agwu local government (87 respondents) while a questionnaire developed by the researcher served as the instrument for data collection. Data elicited from the respondent was analyzed using simple percentages, while the chi-square was used for testing of hypothesis at 0.05 level of significance. The findings of the study revealed that; Fulani Herdsmen activities has significant negative effect on food production in Uzo Uwanil, Nkanu West and Agwu local government areas of Enugu State, Fulani Herdsmen activities has significant negative effect on food accessibility, in Uzo Uwanil, Nkanu West and Agwu local government areas of Enugu State, Fulani Herdsmen activities has significant negative effect on food affordability in in Uzo Uwanil, Nkanu West and Agwu local government areas of Enugu State. Based on the findings the following recommendations were made; government should provide cattle ranch as this will help to reduce overgrazing and incessant conflict between herdsmen and farmers in Nigeria, legislations against open grazing should be enacted and enforced with all seriousness in Enugu State, enlightenment campaign and nomadic education should be provided to Fulani Herdsmen to enlighten them on the dangers of open grazing which is often the cause of violence and food insecurity.

Keywords: Fulani Herdsmen activities, Food Security, Food availability, Food affordability, Food accessibility.

INTRODUCTION

Food insecurity and Fulani Herdsmen activities are two major problems that have aroused the attention of well-meaning citizens of Nigeria. Over several decades, resources have been mobilized to reduce the number of hunger in the world, particularly in developing countries [1]. Nigeria as a nation state is under a severe internal socio-economic and security threat. At a more general level, the threat has special economic, political, and environmental dimensions. Each of these dimensions has greatly affected the nation's stability and can be traced to the Fulani Herdsmen activities, ethnic militant armies, ethnic and religious conflict, poverty, insurgency, armed robbery, corruption, economic sabotage, and environmental degradation [1]. Fulani Herdsmen's activities have resulted in civic unrest in most of the country. There's always a tumultuous relationship between Fulani Herdsmen and farmers. Conflicts usually break out suddenly when livestock is poorly controlled and when herds wander onto cultivated fields. This has always tended to occur at critical periods in the annual cycle, particularly during sowing when herds are late in leaving agricultural lands and during harvests if they return too early. Clashes occur when agricultural activities hinder the movement of herds and cut off their access to water or pasture [2]. These crises have resulted in the loss of numerous lives and properties. The effects of this sustained Fulani Herdsmen war in the affected localities have led to farmers' reluctance to go back to their farms. In Enugu State for example, farmers from Nimbo in Uzo Uwani Local government area stayed away from farms for fear of being killed or

raped by Fulani Herdsmen, as a result of the invasion and score of a massacre by over 500 armed Fulani Herdsmen in the area. The attack which occurred in the early hours of 25th April 2016, was the fourth deadliest terror group attack in the world [3]. In recent times, Nigeria has witnessed a series of violent communal clashes arising from the activities of Fulani Herdsmen who move about daily with their cattle in search of water and green pasture. Fulani Herdsmen are on the streets in most of the cities and could also be found operating in the remotest villages in various states across the country. Fulani Herdsmen are mostly nomads originally found in small make-shift communities scattered across the northern fringes of Nigeria and other countries in West Africa. [4] maintained that in their culture, tradition, and occupation, nomadic herdsman have remained a migrant race who does not own lands nor have any permanent abode. To him, they cared less about land ownership because they were always on the move. This practice which has been established as a culture by the Nomads has before now been observed with the highest ethical standards whereby the herded animals were prevented from grazing on crops. The fact remains that these nomadic herdsman care less about land ownership because they are always on the move. The nomads used to embark on seasonal migration from the North to the South but this movement has become an all-season affair. The reason has been that overgrazing in the far north has given way to desertification and the normal alternating wet and dry seasons have metamorphosed into some unusual weather conditions non known as climate change. [5], revealed that a symbiotic relationship existed before now between the nomads and the farmers in every new community they dropped over to take a rest. The residents of host communities usually farmers derived free organic manure from cow dung and protein from the beef and dairy products, while the nomads relied on the farm produce for food. But the trend which revealed a strong crisis between the host communities and Fulani Herdsmen is worrisome. The activities of the Fulani Herdsmen had degenerated into kidnapping, armed robbery, rap, terrorism, murder, and all sorts of social vices. Nigeria on the other hand is experiencing a historical demographic expansion and a spectacular change in food habits. With a population growth nearing 2.8% per year, according to [6], the country's domestic production is far from being able to meet demand. Nigeria is however expected to have a population of over 398 million which is more than the population of Pakistan and Brazil in 2050. At the federal level, livestock operation contributed only about 5% of GDP, whereas agriculture as a whole contributes 35% of GDP as reported by [7].

In recent times, the menace of Fulani Herdsmen across the regions in Nigeria has become a major focus of the Nigerian government, and international and national or indigenous development organizations. This to a large extent, if not halted at an early stage, may affect the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 2 which aims at ending hunger, achieving food security improving nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture by 2030. The menace of Fulani Herdsmen instead of diminishing has been increasing in momentum to the dismay of helpless Nigerians. It is against this background that this study is conducted to investigate the effect of Fulani Herdsmen activities and food security in Enugu State using Uzo Uwani, Nkanu West, and Agwu Local Government areas as a case study. The study aims to examine Fulani Herdsmen activities and food security in Enugu State. Specifically, the objectives of the study include to; examine the effect of Fulani Herdsmen activities on food production in Uwani, Nkanu West, and Agwu Local government areas of Enugu State, evaluating the effect of Fulani Herdsmen activities on food affordability in Uzo Uwani, Nkanu West and Agwu Local government areas of Enugu State, ascertain the effect of Fulani activities on food accessibility in Uwani, Nkanu West and Agwu Local government areas of Enugu State. The study is limited in scope to examining the effect of Fulani Herdsmen activities on food security in Uzo Uwani, Nkanu West, and Agwu Local government areas of Enugu State. The study covers, the effect of Fulani Herdsmen activities on food production in Uzo Uwani, Nkanu West, and Agwu Local Government areas of Enugu State, the effects of Fulani Herdsmen activities on food availability in Uzo Uwani, Nkanu West, and Agwu Local Government areas of Enugu State and the effects of Fulani Herdsmen activities on food affordability in Uzo Uwani, Nkanu West and Agwu Local Government areas of Enugu State.

Statement of the Problem

Nigeria is seriously threatened by Fulani Herdsmen activities which in most cases has resulted in a crisis and therefore, is considered to be a major potential threat affecting Nigerians mostly on the part of socio-economic activities of the country. The Fulani Herdsmen activities ranging from crisis, kidnapping, murder, rape, arm robbery, and other social vices numerous to mention have become a major threat to the national security and development of Nigeria because its increased operations have caused diversion and removed government attention on some key area of the economy, as a huge amount of human and material resources are channeled into curbing the menace [8]. Social vices such as crisis, rape, kidnapping, and murder, are a great predicament in any human society. In the case of Nigeria, the frequent occurrence of Fulani Herdsmen nefarious activities has left adverse effects on food security and the socio-economic development of the people [1]. In the course of this menace, farmers have at certain times, taken up weapons to counter attacks from the Fulani Herdsmen thereby diverting their attention from food production. The government on the other hand channeled funds and resources that would have been more useful to the social and economic development of the nation in a bid to curbing the menace caused by Fulani Herdsmen activities. It is based on these observable problems confronting the nation that the researcher

LITERATURE REVIEW

Concept of Food Security

In the early 1970s, a time of global food crises, the concept of food security initially focused on ensuring food availability and the price stability of basic foods, which was due to the extreme volatility of agricultural commodity prices and turbulence in the currency and energy markets at that time [9]. The occurrence of famine, hunger, and food crises required a definition of food security which recognized the critical needs and behavior of potentially vulnerable and affected people [10]. The concept of food security was defined then at the World Food Conference in 1974 as “the availability at all times of adequate world food supplies of basic foodstuffs to sustain a steady expansion of food consumption and to offset fluctuations in production and prices” [11]. This definition stressed understandably the need for increased production since protein-energy deficiency in 1970 was believed to affect more than 25% of the global population.

The Effect of Fulani Herdsmen Activities on Food Production

Socioeconomic impacts of herdsmen and Farmers conflicts are problems of concern especially in Africa where competition over resources forms the basis of such conflicts as well as other related crises. For many years Nigeria has been seriously threatened by herdsmen and farmers clashes which have been exacerbated in recent years. It has therefore been considered to be a major potential threat affecting Nigerians mostly on the part of socio-economic activities of the country. The herdsmen and farmers crisis is posing a serious obstacle to a successful national economy. It has become a major threat to the national security and development of Nigeria due to the fact that its increased operation has caused diversion and removed government attention on some key areas of the economy, as huge amounts of human and material resources are channeled into curbing the menace. In the case of Nigeria, the frequent occurrence of herdsmen and farmers (Crop Producer) crises has left adverse effects on food security and the socio-economic development of the people [12]. The murderous campaigns and vicious onslaughts on individuals and institutions by Fulani Herdsmen herdsmen provide a highly unfavorable business environment for internal and foreign investment, which is a major factor in the achievement of sustainable development [13]. A study of constraints to cassava production in Kwara State by [14], found that over 90% of interviewed farmers indicated that their greatest problem in cassava production is cattle rearers' encroachment of their farms. On their part, the Fulani Herdsmen cattle herdsmen have also identified conflicts arising from land use as the “most important” problem they face in their occupation. Several other studies have documented increasing conflict-induced frustrations experienced by these two groups within and outside Nigeria.

Similarly, [15] reported that losses from these conflicts are of far-reaching dimensions and implications on both sides, in a study carried out in Nigeria's Guinea savannah, within which is Kwara State reported that out of about 150 households interviewed, 22 reported loss of a whole farm of standing crops, 41 reported losses of livestock, while eight households from both sides reported loss of human lives. Other studies also indicated that stores, barns, residences, and household items were destroyed in many of the violent clashes, serious health hazards are also introduced when cattle are reared in water bodies that serve rural communities. Similarly, the invasion of Tipto, Kisa, Samne, Bangi, Wurke, and Gure communities in Lamurde local government area of Adamawa State by cattle rearers with guns left an unconfirmed number of dead and injured persons with over 2,000 rendered homeless due to the destruction of villages (New Nigerian, February 1, 2010, cited in [16]). The political economy of land use in Nigeria is inherently biased against pastoral Fulani Herdsmen's interests within the system of resource use. The implications of all these may put question marks on the achievability of the 10 percent growth rate in the agricultural sector being proposed by the federal government of Nigeria. Neither would it be easy for Nigeria to achieve a 20 percent increase in area under actual cultivation nor grain yields from the present 0.99 to 2.5 metric tons per hectare being proposed in its State Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (SEEDS) as released by the State Planning Commission [17].

The Effect of Fulani Herdsmen Activities on Food Availability

The violent activities of Fulani Herdsmen in Nigeria are a serious threat to national security, which has adversely affected the socio-economic progress of the country. Firstly, the menace of Fulani Herdsmen militates against human security. Human security is the protection of people from all forms of socio-existential threats and vulnerabilities [18]. The perennial feud between the Fulani Herdsmen and host communities in Nigeria has led to massive loss of lives and property, population displacements, human injury, and livelihood crisis. These conflicts have crippled law and order in affected communities of different states in Nigeria such as Benue, Nasarawa, Plateau, Taraba, Kaduna, Adamawa, Zamfara, Oyo, Imo, Cross River, and Enugu, Rivers, and Abia. Secondly, the crisis between Fulani Herdsmen and farmers is an impediment to food security with the mass displacement of farmers from the affected communities. It has drastically reduced agricultural production. This has been amply demonstrated by the relative shortage of farm produce in the rural and urban markets of central Nigeria [19]. This could also be judged by the soaring prices of essential commodities in these areas. Thirdly, the conflicts have

led to strained relationships between the herdsmen and the farmers. The pastoralists regard settled farmers as their potential enemies that threaten their survival and destiny. On the other hand, the farmers regard the herdsmen as intruders in their communities who are bent on destroying their farm products. This creates an atmosphere of mutual distrust and animosity which threatens peaceful coexistence in these communities. Finally, the violent clashes between the farmers and herdsmen have resulted in massive unemployment. For example, in North Central Nigeria, many farmers have not planted or harvested because of the menace of Fulani herdsmen. Many have abandoned their farming activities which are their means of livelihood and relocated to other places.

Effect of Fulani Herdsmen Activities on Food Affordability

Nigeria is seriously threatened by herdsmen and farmers crisis and therefore considered to be a major potential threat affecting Nigerians mostly on the part of socio-economic activities of the country. It also poses a serious obstacle to a successful national economy and has become a major threat to the national security and development of Nigeria because its increased operation has caused diversion and removed government attention on some key areas of the economy, as a huge amount of human and material resources are channeled towards curbing the menace. In the course of these conflicts, farmers have at certain times, taken up weapons to counter the attacks from the Fulani Herdsmen, claiming to do so in self-defense. Here in Nigeria, frequent occurrence of Fulani Herdsmen and farmers clashes have become a common phenomenon, especially in areas with considerable populations of Fulani Herdsmen cattle rearers. In most instances, losses incurred from such conflicts tend to have an enormous effect on food availability and affordability. Despite the killings recorded on both sides and other social problems associated with the conflicts, economic impacts such as reduced crop production, destruction of farms, killing of animals, destruction of stored crops, etc. are also associated with these sorts of conflicts, which results in scarcity and high cost of agricultural produce in the affected areas [20]. Besides, both parties spend a lot of money in judicial processes sparked by the Despite efforts by governments at all levels aimed at curtailing this menace, clashes between herdsmen and farmers are still going on in different places in Nigeria and are becoming a matter of serious concern to the state government because of the serious socioeconomic consequences attributable to it. Besides, with the emergence of the Boko Haram insurgency, Fulani Herdsmen herdsmen-farmers conflicts is taking another dimension in the state especially as result of the similarities in the nature of attacks employed by the clashing factions which makes it very difficult for authorities to differentiate such clashes from Boko Haram attacks.

Theoretical Framework

Frustration-Aggression Theory

The frustration-aggression theory could be used to study the menace of Fulani Herdsmen in Nigeria. This theory which was also known as frustration-aggression-displacement theory was developed by John Dollard and his associates in 1939 but expanded and modified by Yate in 1962 and Berkowitz in 1963, which draws mainly from the psychological basis of motivation and behaviour [21]. The theoretical framework explains the violent behavioural pertain which is caused by the inability of individuals to fulfill human needs. According to the theorists, the main cause of human capacity for violence is the frustration-aggression mechanism. This means unfulfilled expectations create a relative deprivation gap between expectations and capabilities and can lead to violence or conflict. In other words, when someone or a group of people have the perception of their ability or right to something (goal), if prevented from attaining such goals the result is frustration which will in turn generate aggressive behaviour that will snowball to violence [22]. [23], posited "that occurrence of aggressive behaviour always presupposes the existence of frustration and, contrariwise, that the existence of frustration always leads to some form of aggression." Frustration can be used to mean not only the process of blocking one's attainment of a reinforcer but also the reaction to such blocking. Therefore, being frustrated implies a person's access to reinforcement is being thwarted by another party or by circumstance, and that one's reaction to this prevention or thwarting is one of annoyance. The application of this theory is that the increase in attacks on Fulani Herdsmen is associated with the frustration they experience as a result non-fulfillment of their needs. The herdsmen's inability to have access to land for the rearing of cattle (as a result of restriction by local communities) has led to frustration on the side of herdsmen which made them engage in violent activities whenever they experience any restriction by local farmers and people communities in Nigeria. The herdsmen regard settled farmers as their potential enemies that militate against their survival and destiny, while the farmers see the herdsmen as intruders in their communities who are determined to destroy their farm products. The frustrated herders and farmers resort to violence, which leads to the destruction of lives and properties, displacement of farmers, and reduction in agricultural production. These problems pose a serious threat to national security in Nigeria.

METHODOLOGY

The study was carried out in Uzo Uwani Local Government Area, Nkanu West Local Government Area, and Agwu Local Government Area of Enugu State. The research design adopted for the study is descriptive survey research design, while two thousand seven hundred and thirty residents from the three selected Local Government

Areas in Enugu State served as the population for the study. A stratified sampling technique was employed to obtain a suitable representative of the population as follows; Uzo Uwani Local Government Area (89) respondents, Nkanu West Local Government Area (97) respondents, and Agwu Local Government area (87) respondents. A questionnaire developed by the researcher served as the instrument for data collection. Data elicited from the respondents were analyzed using simple percentages, while chi-square was used for testing of hypothesis at a 0.5 level of significance.

Data Presentation and Analysis

This is the statistical presentation of the respondent’s view of the research question.

Research Question 1

Table 1: Effects of Fulani Herdsmen activities on food production in Uwani, Nkanu West, and Agwu local government areas of Enugu State

Fulani Herdsmen activities and food production in Enugu State	Frequency	Percent
Fulani Herdsmen activities made farmers withdraw from farming in the selected local government areas of Enugu state	69	25.27
Cattle destroy cultivated crops due to Fulani Herdsmen activities in the selected local government of Enugu State	61	22.34
Fulani Herdsmen activities led to low food production in the area	77	28.20
Fulani Herdsmen activities result in lost of lives of farmers in the area	66	24.17
Total	273	100.0

Source: Researcher, 2023

From the finding of Table 1, 25.27% of the respondents thought that Fulani Herdsmen activities made farmers draw from farming in the selected local government areas of Enugu state, 22.34% of the respondents thought that Cattle destroyed cultivated crops due to Fulani Herdsmen activities in the selected local government of Enugu State, 28.20% of the respondents occurred that Fulani Herdsmen activities led to low food production in the area, while 24.17% of the respondents agreed that Fulani Herdsmen activities result to lost of lives of farmers in the area. The findings of the table therefore revealed that Fulani Herdsmen activities had a significant effect on food production in the study areas.

Research Question 2

Table 2: The effects of Fulani Herdsmen activities on food availability in Uwani, Nkanu West, and Agwu local government areas of Enugu State

Fulani Herdsmen activities and food availability in the study areas	Frequency	Percent
Fulani Herdsmen activities led to a scarcity of some food items in the study areas	50	18.31%
Fulani Herdsmen activities led to the high cost of some food varieties in the study areas	61	22.34%
The outright destruction of farmland by Fulani Herdsmen and their cattle led to severe scarcity of food in the study area	84	30.76%
the attack on farmers by Fulani Herdsmen led to poor storage of food items which resulted in scarcity in the study area	78	28.57%
Total	273	100.0

Source: Researcher, 2023

From the findings of Table 2, 18.31% of the respondents were of the opinion that Fulani Herdsmen activities led to a scarcity of some food items in the study areas, 22.34% of the respondents were of the opinion that Fulani Herdsmen activities led to the high cost of some food varieties in the study areas, 30.76% of the respondents concurred that The outright destruction of farmland by Fulani Herdsmen and their cattle led to severe scarcity of food in the study area, and finally, 28.57% of the respondents agreed that the attack of farmers by Fulani Herdsmen led to poor storage of food items which resulted to scarcity in the study area. The findings of the table therefore revealed that Fulani Herdsmen activities had a significant negative effect on food availability in the study area.

Research Question 3

Table 3: The effects of Fulani Herdsmen activities on food affordability in Uwani, Nkanu West and Agwu local government area of Enugu State

Fulani Herdsmen activities and food affordability in the study area	Frequency	Percent
Fulani Herdsmen activities led to a high cost of food in the study area	70	25.65%
Fulani Herdsmen activities led to the high cost of storage of food items in the study area	71	26.00%
Due to Fulani Herdsmen activities, the cost of labour increased drastically in the study area	69	25.27%
As a result of the menace of Fulani Herdsmen activities the cost of distribution of food increased	63	23.07%
Total	273	100.0

Source: Researcher, 2023

From table 3, 26.00% representing the majority of the respondents were of the opinion that Fulani Herdsmen activities led to the high cost of storage of food items in the study area, followed by 25.65% of the respondents who were of the opinion that Fulani Herdsmen activities led to the high cost of food in the study area, 25.27% of the respondents concurred that due to Fulani Herdsmen activities the cost of labour increased drastically in the study area and finally 23.07% of the respondents agreed that As a result of the menace of Fulani Herdsmen activities the cost of distribution of food increased. From the findings of table 4.6 above it could be inferred that Fulani Herdsmen activities had a significant effect on food affordability in the study area.

Test of Hypotheses

The hypotheses were tested using the chi-square statistical tool

Hypothesis I

H01: There is no significant relationship between Fulani Herdsmen activities and food production in Uwani, Nkanu West, and Agwu local government areas of Enugu State

Table 4 was used for testing hypothesis I

Fulani Herdsmen activities and food production in Enugu State	Frequency	Percent
Fulani Herdsmen activities made farmers to draw from farming in the selected local government areas of Enugu state	69	25.27
Cattle destroy cultivated crops due to Fulani Herdsmen activities in the selected local government of Enugu State	61	22.34
Fulani Herdsmen activities led to low food production in the area	77	28.20
Fulani Herdsmen activities result to lost of lives of farmers in the area	66	24.17
Total	273	100.0

Source: Researcher, 2023

Chi Square table

O	E	(O-e)	(O-e)²	$\frac{(O-e)^2}{E}$
69	54.6	14.4	207.36	3.79
61	54.6	6.4	40.96	0.75
77	54.6	22.4	501.76	9.19
66	54.6	11.4	129.96	2.38
273				16.11

Table value = 5.991, calculated value = 5.66

Decision: Since the calculated value (16.11) is greater than the table value (5.99), the H_0 (null hypothesis) is rejected. This implies that Fulani Herdsmen activities have a significant effect on food production in the selected local government areas in the Enugu State Zone of Nigeria.

Hypothesis II

H₀₂: Fulani Herdsmen activities have no significant effect on food availability in the study areas

Table 5 was used for testing hypothesis II

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Fulani Herdsmen activities and food availability in the study areas	Frequency	Percent
Fulani Herdsmen activities led to a scarcity of some food items in the study areas	50	18.31%
Fulani Herdsmen activities led to the high cost of some food varieties in the study areas	61	22.34%
The outright destruction of farmland by Fulani Herdsmen and their cattle led to severe scarcity of food in the study area	84	30.76%
the attack of farmers by Fulani Herdsmen led to poor storage of food items which resulted to scarcity in the study area	78	28.57%
Total	273	100.0

Source: Researcher, 2023

Chi-Square table

O	E	(O-e)	(O-e)²	$\frac{(O-e)^2}{E}$
50	54.6	4.6	21.16	0.38
61	54.6	6.4	40.96	0.75
84	54.6	29.4	864.36	15.83
78	54.6	23.4	547.56	10
273				25.85

Table value = 5.991, calculated value = 0.47

Decision: Since the calculated value (25.84) is greater than the table value (5.99), the H_0 (null hypothesis) is rejected. This means that Fulani Herdsmen activities have a significant negative effect on food availability in the study areas.

Hypothesis III

H₀₃: Fulani Herdsmen activities have no significant effect on food affordability in the study area.

Table 6 was used for testing hypothesis III

Fulani Herdsmen activities and food affordability in the study area	Frequency	Percent
Fulani Herdsmen activities led to a high cost of food in the study area	70	25.65%
Fulani Herdsmen activities led to the high cost of storage of food items in the study area	71	26.00%
Due to Fulani Herdsmen activities, the cost of labour increased drastically in the study area	69	25.27%
As a result of the menace of Fulani Herdsmen activities the cost of distribution of food increased	63	23.07%
Total	273	100.0

Source: Researcher, 2023

Chi Square table

O	E	(O-e)	(O-e)²	$\frac{(O-e)^2}{E}$
70	54.6	15.4	237.16	4.34
71	54.6	16.4	268.96	4.92
69	54.6	14.4	207.36	3.79

63	54.6	8.4	70.56	1.29
273				14.34

Table value = 5.991, calculated value = 0.47

Decision: Since the calculated value (14.34) is greater than the table value (5.99), the Ho (null hypothesis) is therefore rejected. This means that Fulani Herdsmen's activities have a significant negative effect on food affordability in the study areas.

Summary of the findings

1. Fulani Herdsmen activities have significant negative effect on food production in the study areas
2. Fulani Herdsmen activities have significant negative effect on food accessibility in the study areas
3. Fulani Herdsmen activities have a significant negative effect on food affordability in the study area

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

From Table 1, 25.27% of the respondents were of the opinion that Fulani Herdsmen activities made farmers draw from farming in the selected local government areas of Enugu state, 22.34% of the respondents were of the opinion that Cattle destroy cultivated crops due to Fulani Herdsmen activities in the selected local government of Enugu State, 28.20% of the respondents occurred that Fulani Herdsmen activities led to low food production in the area, while 24.17% of the respondents agreed that Fulani Herdsmen activities result to loss of lives of farmers in the area. The findings of the table therefore revealed that Fulani Herdsmen activities had a significant negative effect on food production in the study areas. The findings fall in consonance with the observations of [24] that over 90% of interviewed farmers indicated that their greatest problem in cassava production is cattle rearer's encroachment of their farms. On their part, the Fulani Herdsmen cattle herdsmen have also identified conflicts arising from land use as the "most important" problem they face in their occupation. The findings of the table above fall in agreement with the observation of [25] who noted that the frequent occurrence of herdsmen and farmers (Crop Producer) crisis has left adverse effects on food security and socio-economic development of the people. In the same vein, the findings are also in agreement with the assertion of [13] who stated that the murderous campaigns and vicious onslaughts on individuals and institutions by Fulani Herdsmen provide a highly unfavorable business environment for internal and foreign investment, which is a major factor in the achievement of sustainable development. From the findings of Table 2, 18.31% of the respondents thought that Fulani Herdsmen activities led to a scarcity of some food items in the study areas, 22.34% of the respondents were of the opinion that Fulani Herdsmen activities led to high cost of some food varieties in the study areas, 30.76% of the respondents concurred that The outright destruction of farmland by Fulani Herdsmen and their cattle led to severe scarcity of food in the study area, and finally 28.57% of the respondents agreed that the attack of farmers by Fulani Herdsmen led to poor storage of food items which resulted to scarcity in the study area. The findings of the table therefore revealed that Fulani Herdsmen activities had a significant negative effect on food availability in the study area. The findings of this table are in agreement with the findings of [26] who observed that Fulani herdmn herdsmen and farmers are an impediment to food security with mass displacement of farmers from the affected communities. It has drastically reduced agricultural production. This has been amply demonstrated by the relative shortage of farm produce in the affected areas. Consequently from the findings of Table 3, 26.00% representing the majority of the respondents were of the opinion that Fulani Herdsmen activities led to the high cost of storage of food items in the study area, followed by 25.65%of the respondents who were of the opinion that Fulani Herdsmen activities led to the high cost of food in the study area, 25.27% of the respondents concurred that due to Fulani Herdsmen activities, the cost of labour increased drastically in the study area and finally 23.07% of the respondents agreed that As a result of the menace of Fulani Herdsmen activities the cost of distribution of food increased. From the findings of Table 2 above it could be inferred that Fulani Herdsmen activities had a significant negative effect on food affordability in the study areas. The findings of this table fall in consonance with the assertions of [27] who asserts that Fulani Herdsmen activities tend to have an enormous effect on food affordability destruction of farms, killings of animals, destruction of stored crops, etc are often associated with Fulani Herdsmen and farmers crisis which result in scarcity and high cost of agricultural produce. The findings are also in line with the observation [28] who noted that Nigeria is seriously threatened by the herdsmen and farmers crisis and therefore considered to be a major threat affecting Nigeria mostly on the part of socio-economic activities of the country.

CONCLUSION

From the findings of the study; the study draws the following conclusions that there is a high rate of Fulani Herdsmen menace in Enugu state, and Nigeria at large, despite the efforts of the state government to curb the menace of Fulani Herdsmen activities. The problems of Fulani Herdsmen's nefarious activities in Enugu State have in most cases resulted in the loss of life, property, and the destruction of farms and stored crops. This in most cases has resulted in the high cost of food items, as farmers are afraid to go back to their farms. Thereby reducing

the socio-economic activities in the state, these pose a serious threat to food security in the state, and Nigeria at large nothing is done to address the situation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings and conclusion drawn, the following recommendations are therefore made;

1. The government should provide cattle ranches as this will help to reduce overgrazing and incessant conflict between herdsmen and farmers.
2. Legislation against open grazing should be enacted and enforced with all seriousness.
3. enlightenment campaigns and nomadic education should be provided to Fulani Herdsmen herdsmen to enlighten them on the dangers of open grazing which is often the cause of violence and food insecurity.

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CITE AS: Anikeze Nnaemeka Hillary and Nkiruka Celestina Udentia (2024). Fulani Herdsmen's Activities and Food Security in Enugu State, Nigeria. Eurasian Experiment Journal of Arts and Management. 5(1):24-33.