ABSTRACT

The study on Agricultural Credit and Farm Productivity of Irish Potatoes was conducted in Muhoza, Nyange, Cyuve and Kinigi Sectors of Musanze District, Northern Province, Rwanda. The research purpose was to identify the influence of agricultural credit to the farm productivity of Irish Potatoes. The objectives were to determine the profile of the respondents as to age, gender, marital status and education level; the level of agricultural credit; the level of farm productivity of Irish Potatoes and to establish if there is a significant relationship between the levels of agricultural credit and farm productivity of Irish Potatoes in Musanze District.

This study used correlation design. The target population involved a total of 300 people of Muhoza, Nyange, Cyuve and Kinigi Sectors where we have selected a sample size of 171. Stratified random sampling is used to select respondents able to provide relevant information to the research. To meet our objectives, we have collected data using questionnaires. The data were presented, analyzed and interpreted using Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS). The research showed that the majority of people of Muhoza, Nyange, Cyuve and Kinigi Sectors are males (57%), married (43%) with age between 20 and 40 years (41%). Many people do not borrow money from Bank (mean=3.9) as a capital to be used because they do not have any collateral to present in order to get credit (mean = 3.7) and also the rate of interest is very high (mean=3.9). This affect negatively people and they produce below 200kg of Irish Potatoes per season (mean=3.9).

This is a very low quantity of output. It is also due to the low level of technology used and small area cultivated with small number of labors used. We conclude that, there is a significant relationship between agricultural credit and farm productivity of Irish potatoes. As recommendation, people should be educated to raise their thinking capacity, use improved seeds, and facilitated them to get easily credit in order to increase productivity of Irish potatoes as a result of increase their standards of living.