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Feminization of agriculture without loss of productivity and income : a case study from Nyeri District-Kenya

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Abstrak

Farming is the most important economic activity for developing countries. Not only does it provide the basic food requirements but also the bulk of the exports and raw materials fot the home industries. It has been regarded as a male donimated activity which is bound to suffer in terms of total production and productivity if left in the hands of women. This stems from the notion that women are not capable of successfully carrying out the "heavy" agricultural tasks which are performed by men leave alone being good farm managers. The results of the research have shown that women are not only capable of successfully carrying out the bulk of the heavy agricultural tasks but also to be better farm managers than men. This has greatly contributed not only to increased total agricultural production but also productivity in areas where women are actively involved in agriculture as decision maker as evidenced in Mbogoini village of Nyeri district.