

# Review of: "Growth, Instability and Trend Analysis of Rice Production Indicators in Nigeria"

Lorenzo Barbanti<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> University of Bologna

**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

The Authors addressed a relevant subject: the time trend in the rice cultivated area, yield per unit crop surface, and global production in Nigeria across 60 years (1961 to 2020). They relied on FAOSTAT data, which they grouped into four periods, each averaging 15 years, and the pooled 60 years. They adopted outstanding metrics such as the Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) by means of the best fitting equation among four models of regression in time, the Cuddy Della Valle Instability Index to assess the dependability of the time trends, and the Decomposition Analysis to rate the relative weight of the increases in rice yield, cultivated area, and their interaction on the global production increase in the four periods and the total 60 years. Based on their results, the Authors concluded that there are weaknesses in the rice sector, which is vital for the livelihood of the Nigerian people, and expressed their recommendations to overcome the pending constraints.

The work is surely worth publishing as it provides clues and tools to interpret the raw statistical data of rice production in a country such as Nigeria, which heavily relies on this staple food. However, the work requires amendment from many viewpoints before it can be considered for publication. I am uploading an annotated PDF in the Supplementary data, where especially the Results and Discussion section requires corrections and upgrades. I notice, by the way, that there is no reference cited in this section, as if there were no comparison/suggestion/contrast linking the findings of this work with any other work in the literature. This is also a weakness I warmly invite the Authors to amend, in light of the good work they performed in the Introduction and the Literature Review sections.