

Review of: "The Disruption of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Farm Produce and its Implications for the Future of Food Security - A review"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Review

The Disruption of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Farm Produce and its Implications for the Future of Food Security

The impact of COVID19 on food production is worth studying during this period of crisis. While this article is commended for looking at this important topic. There are some issues that need to be addressed by authors.

First, authors should start the discussion by looking at one of the main concepts, at least in a page or so. Authors need to discuss the concept food security/ insecurity to contextualise the study. The discussion should not exclude the United Nations SDG 2, which is about food security.

Second, the paper is too general, and it does not have a focus. Authors are referring to too many countries across the world. Both developed and developing. While it is important to have information from different regions, it is however imperative to focus on one region. For instance, focus can be mainly on East Asia, because they also refer to it.

However, it would be important to focus mainly on developing countries because COVID-19 had a negative impact on poor countries.

Third, it should be clear whether focus is on different types of farmers or not. Although the impact of COVID-19 was felt by different types of farmers, the smallholder farmers in developing countries were severely affected compared to commercial farmers, especially from the developed countries. Therefore, authors should decide whether they focus on smallholder farmers or large capitalist farmers.

Fourth, focus on the type of farming is also needed. Authors are making examples from different type of produce, horticulture and others. It should be clear whether they are focusing on horticulture or cereal crops. If they are focusing on both of them, the impact of COVID-19 on each category of farmers should be well discussed.

Fifth, there is no evidence provided to support the arguments. The discussions are lacking some statistical data. The use of statistical data will show how COVID-19 impacted in food production or collection. This will show whether there was a decrease in food production or not. As a result, the pre-COVID-19 era should be compared with COVID-19 era in terms of food production. That will give readers a picture of what happened before and during COVID-19.

Sixth, authors are also focusing on lack of food availability in retail shops or supermarkets. While this information is

important, it should be clear where the major shortage came from (horticulture or cereal food products). In addition, it should be clear how governments have solved the problem, if there were any measures.

Seventh, the government interventions to promote food security among the citizens during the pandemic should also be discussed. There is not discussion about how governments solved the issue of food crisis.

Eighth, the paper has some grammatical mistakes that need to be attended to. There is also improper citation in the body of the paper. Proper citation or referencing should be done.

Conclusion;

I am recommending that the paper be improved before it can be published. The title of the paper should also not be too general, it should have a focus.