

Review of: "Factors Influencing Smallholder Farmers' Preference for Veterinary Services Providers in Zimbabwe"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This paper can be published. Obviously, the author has done sufficient work on this topic. To be specific, the purpose and significance of the study are clearly stated, and research materials and methods are appropriate. Also, the author gives a comprehensive analysis in the discussion. In addition, probit regression data analysis results are presented explicitly by the tables which make the study more convictive.

However, there are still some contents that need to be modified in the paper. Please proofread the whole paper and make revisions accordingly. Below are some of my observations and suggestions:

The author is advised to give GPS position (coordinates for latitude and longitude) of the study site besides the description of the study area

The in-text citation style should be consistent according to the publication standards. There are observed variations in punctuations following et al such as (Hair et al., 2019), (Ilukor et al, 2015), (Hernandez-Jover et al. 2015) and (Jilo et al 2016). The author is advised to adopt only one format and consistently use that throughout the write-up.

This also applies to the use of words and symbols in citations and references where the author is again advised to choose one style and be consistent.

Example 1 a) (Panya and Nyarwath, 2022)

Example 1 b) (Kusina & Kusina, 2018)

Example 2 a) Gizaw, S., Woldehanna, M., Anteneh, H., Ayledo, G., Awol, F., Gebreyohannes, G., Gebremedhin, B. and Wieland, B., (2021). Animal health service delivery in crop-livestock and pastoral systems in Ethiopia. *Frontiers in Veterinary Science*, 8, p.

Example 2 b) Hair, J. F., Black, W. C., Babin, B. J., & Anderson, R. E. (2019). *Multivariate data analysis* (8th ed.). Cengage Learning.

The author is advised to highlight the factors under results into subheadings and number them successively. This also applies to the Materials and Methods.

For example, it is observed that level 1 headings are well numbered as 1. Introduction, 2. Background to the problem, 3. Literature Review.....

I suggest the same be done for level 2 and level 3 sub headings. The level 2 subheadings should be numbered like "1.1, 1.2, 1.3...",

Examples Level 1: 4. Materials and Methods

Level 2: 4.1 Study area,
4.2 Sampling procedure,
4.3. Data collection
etc.

The level 3 headings should be numbered like "1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.3..."

Examples Level 1: 5. Results

Level 2: 5.1 Demographic data and Resources
Level 3: 5.1.1 Gender
5.1.2. Level of education
5.1.3 Access to Resources
5.1.4 Availability of Infrastructure
etc.

Similarly, constraints should be highlighted as subheadings under this heading

Example 5.3. Major constraints to livestock production
5.3.1 Diseases
5.3.2 non-availability of veterinary drugs
5.3.3 Other animal health-related constraints
etc.

This will make it much easier for the reader to follow and pick out the methods and factors much more clearly under 'Materials and Methods' and 'Results' respectively.

I suggest presentation of a table for demographic data results including the necessary statistics would also be very useful to a reader. I further suggest that the title of a table be displayed on top of a table and not at the bottom.

The author is advised to divide the "Discussion and Conclusion" section into "Discussion" and "Conclusion". The structure

of the paper will be clearer and it will be much convenient for readers to follow the author's thoughts. In the discussion, the author is advised to bring out what has been reported by other researchers (by citation) that probably have done similar work elsewhere.