

Review of: "Agritourism: a source for socio-economic transformation in developing economies"

Erika Quendler

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

REVIEW of Agritourism: a source for socio-economic transformation in developing economies

The title "Agritourism: a source for socio-economic transformation in developing economies" aligns with the content provided. The paper discusses the benefits of agritourism in terms of economic diversification, job creation, community revitalization, preservation of cultural heritage, environmental awareness, and sustainable development. It also mentions the potential of agritourism to contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and provides insights on the implications for practice and policy in Zimbabwe. Overall, the paper explores how agritourism can be a catalyst for socio-economic transformation in developing economies, which aligns with the title. According to the title it is not clear why section 3 is about "Agritourism Trends Around the World." Should not the main focus be on developing countries. Why is there a discussion about EU, Europe, Italy and United States?

The introduction would benefit a lot from following the introduction formula, see <https://www.albany.edu/spatial/training/5-The%20Introduction%20Formula.pdf>

Overall, this paper is important as it advocates for the transformative power of agritourism in developing economies, provides insights for policymakers and practitioners, aligns with sustainable development goals, offers contextually relevant information for Zimbabwe, and encourages further research and dialogue in the field of agritourism.

1. **Ethics:** Based on the information provided, there are no explicit signs of scientific misconduct, such as citation manipulation, data fabrication or falsification, or plagiarism.
2. **Quality:** The text discusses the benefits of agritourism and its alignment with sustainable development goals. It provides general information and highlights the potential advantages of agritourism, including economic diversification, employment opportunities, preservation of farming traditions, educational experiences, community participation, and environmental sustainability. However, it does not provide specific data, rigorous study designs, or statistical analyses to support these claims. As a result, the quality of the text in terms of research methodology and data presentation is limited. The writing style is generally clear and coherent, but it lacks a more structured and logical flow. The English language is grammatically correct, but there may be areas for improvement in terms of clarity and organization of ideas.
3. **Impact:** The text addresses a topic of interest, discussing the potential benefits of agritourism and its alignment with sustainable development goals. While the information presented may be informative, it does not provide groundbreaking or highly significant findings. The practical applications and implications of the content are relevant,

particularly in the context of promoting sustainable agriculture and rural development. However, the text does not present any specific case studies, examples, or evidence of the impact of agritourism. Additionally, the lack of novelty and original research limits its potential impact.

4. **Novelty:** The text provides general information about agritourism and its benefits, but it does not introduce new concepts or innovative approaches. The information presented appears to be based on existing knowledge and literature, rather than introducing new ideas or advancing understanding in the field. Therefore, it does not demonstrate a high level of novelty.

Overall, while the text provides some useful information about agritourism and its potential benefits, it lacks specific data, rigorous research methodology, and evidence to support its claims. It could benefit from a more structured and logical flow of ideas. Additionally, the text does not introduce new concepts or advance understanding in the field, limiting its impact and novelty.

1. **Further research should explore more on the limitations of this paper**

Limited empirical evidence: The paper acknowledges the limited literature available on agritourism in Zimbabwe and other developing nations. This scarcity of empirical evidence may affect the depth and comprehensiveness of the analysis. The conclusions drawn and the recommendations provided may be based on a limited number of case studies or anecdotal evidence, which could limit the generalizability of the findings.

2. **Lack of quantitative data:** The paper primarily relies on qualitative information and case studies to support its arguments. While qualitative research provides valuable insights into specific contexts, the absence of quantitative data limits the ability to quantify and measure the impact of agritourism on socio-economic transformation. The inclusion of statistical data and empirical studies would strengthen the research and provide a more robust foundation for the claims made.
3. **Incomplete coverage of challenges:** While the paper highlights the benefits and opportunities of agritourism, it may not fully address the challenges and potential drawbacks associated with this form of tourism. Factors such as infrastructure limitations, access to markets, regulatory barriers, cultural sensitivity, and the potential for over-tourism or environmental degradation need to be thoroughly examined to provide a balanced perspective on the subject.
4. **Lack of comparison or benchmarking:** The paper primarily focuses on agritourism in Zimbabwe and does not provide a comparative analysis with other developing economies or regions. A comparative approach would allow for a better understanding of the unique challenges and opportunities faced by Zimbabwe and provide a broader perspective on agritourism's potential for socio-economic transformation.
5. **Limited stakeholder perspectives:** The paper does not extensively incorporate the perspectives of various stakeholders involved in agritourism, such as local communities, tourists, government officials, and tourism operators. Inclusion of diverse viewpoints would enhance the understanding of the complexities and nuances of implementing agritourism initiatives in developing economies.
6. **Lack of long-term analysis:** The paper primarily focuses on the potential benefits and short-term impacts of agritourism. However, it may not delve deeply into the long-term sustainability and viability of agritourism as a socio-economic transformation strategy. A more comprehensive analysis that considers the long-term implications,

challenges, and potential risks would provide a more nuanced understanding of agritourism's role in developing economies.

While these limitations exist, they do not diminish the overall importance and value of the paper in highlighting the potential of agritourism and providing insights for policymakers and practitioners. They simply suggest areas where further research and investigation could enhance the understanding and implementation of agritourism in developing economies.