

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR- 58644

Title: CARACTERISATION DE L'ENTREPRENARIAT AGRICOLE ET SA CONTRIBUTION DANS LE REVENU ET LE BIEN-ETRE DES MENAGES DANS LA VILLE DE MADAOUA AU NIGER.

Recommendation:

Accept as it is

Accept after Minor revision.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		✓		
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity			✓	
Significance			✓	

Reviewer Name: **ANAPANA GOPAL**

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

General Comments

The manuscript investigates the characteristics of agricultural entrepreneurship and its contribution to household income and well-being in Madaoua, Niger. Using survey data from 154 agricultural entrepreneurs, the authors examine enterprise characteristics, financing sources, income generation, household expenditure, and Minor constraints affecting entrepreneurship. The topic is timely and relevant because agricultural entrepreneurship is increasingly recognized as a strategy for poverty reduction and food security in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The study provides useful baseline information for policymakers and development agencies. However, several aspects of the manuscript require substantial improvement before publication. Minor concerns relate to methodological rigor, statistical analysis, interpretation of results, discussion depth, and language quality.

Minor Comments

1. Novelty should be better demonstrated

Although the manuscript states that few studies have been conducted in Madaoua, the scientific novelty remains insufficiently articulated.

The Introduction should clearly explain:

- What specific knowledge gap exists.
- Why Madaoua differs from other regions.
- How this study advances previous research on agricultural entrepreneurship.

2. Methodology requires additional details

The Materials and Methods section needs more information to ensure reproducibility.

The authors should clarify:

- sampling frame and sample size justification;
- questionnaire validation procedure;
- reliability testing (Cronbach's alpha if applicable);

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- ethical approval and informed consent;
- inclusion and exclusion criteria;
- limitations associated with random sampling.

These details are currently missing.

3. Statistical analysis should be strengthened

The study mainly reports descriptive statistics with Chi-square and ANOVA.

The analysis would be considerably improved by including:

- multiple regression analysis;
- logistic regression;
- effect sizes;
- confidence intervals;
- predictors influencing household income;
- determinants of successful entrepreneurship.

This would greatly enhance the scientific contribution.

4. Measurement of household well-being is limited

The manuscript concludes that entrepreneurship improves household well-being.

However, well-being is measured mainly through income and expenditures.

The authors should discuss that well-being also includes:

- education;
- nutrition;
- healthcare access;
- housing;
- asset ownership;
- subjective well-being.

This limitation should be acknowledged.

5. Discussion requires deeper interpretation

The Discussion primarily compares findings with previous studies.

It should also explain:

- why livestock entrepreneurs contribute more to household income;
- why agro-food enterprises have higher household expenditure contributions;
- socio-economic reasons behind informal entrepreneurship;
- policy implications for Niger.

6. Conclusions occasionally overstate findings

Since the study is observational and cross-sectional, statements implying causality should be moderated.

Instead of stating that entrepreneurship "improves" household well-being, the manuscript should indicate that entrepreneurship is "associated with" higher household income and expenditures.

7. Policy implications need expansion

The manuscript should provide more practical recommendations, including:

- improving rural credit access;
- strengthening entrepreneurship training;
- promoting business planning;

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- supporting enterprise formalization;
- improving agricultural extension services;
- developing market infrastructure.

8. Literature should be updated

Although several recent references are included, additional literature (2023–2025) from international journals should be incorporated to improve the global relevance of the manuscript.

Specific Comments

Abstract

The abstract is informative but should include:

- sampling technique;
- statistical methods;
- important numerical findings;
- practical recommendations.

Introduction

The Introduction provides sufficient background.

However:

- the research gap should be more explicit;
- hypotheses should be presented;
- international context should be expanded.

Materials and Methods

Please provide additional information regarding:

- questionnaire development;
- pilot testing;
- ethical approval;
- informed consent;
- handling of missing data;
- assumptions checked before ANOVA.

Results

The Results section is generally clear.

However:

- avoid repeating values already presented in tables;
- include confidence intervals where appropriate;
- improve consistency in reporting percentages;
- simplify lengthy descriptive paragraphs.

The tables are informative but some could be merged to improve readability.

Discussion

The Discussion should better explain:

- reasons for predominance of informal enterprises;
- gender differences in entrepreneurship;
- implications of limited business planning;
- financing challenges in rural economies.

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The authors should also discuss possible biases affecting the findings.

Conclusion

The Conclusion summarizes the study appropriately.

However, it should additionally include:

- study limitations;
- future research directions;
- recommendations for policymakers;
- implications for rural development programmes.

Tables and Figures

The tables present useful information.

However:

- Table titles should be standardized.
- Decimal formatting should be consistent.
- Figure quality could be improved.
- Figure captions should be more descriptive.
- Tables should avoid unnecessary repetition of statistical significance notes.

References

The reference list is generally appropriate.

However:

- several references are theses and reports rather than peer-reviewed journal articles;
- DOI formatting should be standardized;
- URLs should be verified;
- reference formatting should follow the journal style consistently.

Language and Presentation

The manuscript requires **Minor English/French language editing** before publication.

Several issues include:

- grammatical inconsistencies;
- punctuation errors;
- spacing problems;
- inconsistent formatting of tables;
- inconsistent presentation of statistical values (P-value, p-value);
- repeated wording throughout the Discussion.

Professional language editing is recommended.

Strengths

- Addresses an important issue for rural development.
- Good sample size (154 entrepreneurs).
- Appropriate use of descriptive statistics, Chi-square, and ANOVA.
- Provides useful socioeconomic data.
- Practical relevance for agricultural policy in Niger.
- Well-organized manuscript structure.

Weaknesses

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- Novelty is insufficiently highlighted.
- Limited methodological detail.
- No multivariate statistical analysis.
- Household well-being indicators are relatively narrow.
- Discussion requires deeper interpretation.
- Policy recommendations need expansion.
- Language and formatting require improvement.

Final Recommendation

This manuscript addresses an important topic with practical implications for agricultural entrepreneurship, poverty reduction, and household welfare in Niger. The dataset is valuable, and the study contributes useful baseline information. However, improvements are necessary in the methodology, statistical analysis, interpretation of results, discussion, language quality, and presentation before the manuscript can be considered for publication.

Final Decision: Minor Revision.