Women in Horticulture: A Case Study Oo Mbeya Rural Area in Tanzania

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Abstract

A case study was undertaken at Uyole, a small village in Mbeya region (Latitude 8 53's and Longitude 33 39'E) to find out the extent of women involvement and problems in horticultural crop production. Horticultural crops commonly grown at Uyole include tomatoes, cabbage, onion, garlic, carrots and amaranthus. Of the 50 women interviewed, less than 10% were involved in the actual production as well as both production and retailers) of the crops. A large percentage of the production was in the hands of men particularly when the crops attained a commercial status. Household activities among other reasons prevented women from involving themselves into this labour intensive and risky adventure.