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## Impact of Corona Virus (Covid-19) Pandemic on Agricultural Production in Ethiopia: Implication for Research

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### Abstract

A novel coronavirus (nCoV) is a new strain that has not been previously identified in humans. For first time it was reported In Wuhan state of China. After its spreads to corners of the globe number of socioeconomic problems has been reported. The societies with a lower economic status are more vulnerable to the COVID-19 disease. In Ethiopia; agricultural offices at different level are expected as they have been working to safeguard future food security of the society vis-à-vis COVID-19. However, the farmer's initiation is not known and studied. So there should rapid research on the Impact of corona virus (COVID-19) pandemic on farmer's initiation for agricultural production. This will help farmers and expertise at least to safeguard the livelihood of the rural poor.

### Article Info

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### Keywords

Crop Producers, COVID-19, Pandemic, population.

### Introduction

#### Background

The new pandemic disease called COVID-19 for first time was reported by WHO (2020) In Wuhan, China, on December 31, 2019. This viral disease has been spreading to almost all continents and countries of the world. For instance, the first confirmed case in Africa was reported in Egypt on February 14, 2020 (Achoki *et al.*, 2020) and since then the number of confirmed infections in the other countries of the continent has been reported.

Ethiopia is a country that is particularly exposed to possible adverse impacts of climate change because a large proportion of the population is dependent on

agriculture for employment and income. The countries capital city is Addis Ababa. This review focuses on the Impact of corona pandemic on agricultural production in Ethiopia.

#### Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic

It has been reported that Coronavirus Outbreak (COVID-19) has Economic Effects on the World Economy in general (Fernandes, N., 2020). As reported by Goodell, J. W., (2020) the COVID-19 pandemic is causing a direct global destructive economic impact that is present in every area of the globe (Triggs & Kharas, 2020). As the disease progresses, making movement restrictions more and more stringent, causing labor shortages locking down of industries and other sectors globally, a number of socioeconomic problems have been reported.

As indicated in ILO, (2020) the societies with a lower economic status are more vulnerable to the COVID-19 disease. It is obvious that African countries have relatively low economic status.

In Ethiopia particularly, the office of the prime minister declared a state of emergency of pandemic in the country on 8 marches 2020. The Government of Ethiopia has introduced interventions to safeguard the economy, In addition to social and health-related measures.

Agriculture in general accounts large share of african economy and in Ethiopia, next to services sector (39.8%) of the national economy, agriculture (33.3%), accounts largest share in 2018/2019 (NBE, 2019). In Ethiopian most agriculture is subsistence, and 75% of farmers are smallholders, but food security is an issue. The pandemic has brought shock to the farmers at global and country level.

Zonal and woreda level agricultural offices have been working to safeguard future food security of the society vis-à-vis COVID-19 as per order from minster of agriculture. In addition to the office level works of agricultural sector, initiation of farmers is also important for sustained production. However, Impact of the pandemic on farmer's initiation for agricultural production in Gamo zone was not studied yet. So this study was aimed to fill this gap.

COVID-19 has been devastating every sector in almost all corners of the world. People in developing countries are more vulnerable to the effects. Specially, Due to the pandemic Farmers could be under tension and there will be a problem on their readiness for next growing season.

To tackle scientific recommendation for farmers there should be research's on farmers in initiation of crop production and animal husbandry/poultry. Therefore I strongly recommend concerned bodies to conduct rapid research for the betterment of farmers.

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