Diversification and Productivity in African Agriculture: Evidence from Uganda

Kibrom Tafere*

July 18, 2016

Preliminary, please do not cite or circulate

Abstract

This paper explores the determinants of crop diversification in African agriculture. Using linear moments model, I find that crop diversification is determined by a combination of yield and variance considerations and that these considerations vary by crop type. Among the main crops in Uganda, inter-cropping of beans and sweet potatoes appears to be primarily deriven by yield considerations while variance (risk) appears to prominently factor in maize inter-cropping decisions. I find that crop yields are lower and yield variance higher on larger plots, suggesting the inverse productivity-size phenomenon is present in Ugandan agriculture.

*