



BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

*XIII International Scientific Agriculture Symposium
"AGROSYM 2022"
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URBAN AND PERI-URBAN AGRICULTURE IN BURKINA FASO AND NIGER: A BIBLIOMETRIC ANALYSIS

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Abstract

Urban and peri-urban agriculture (UPA) has been recently put forward as a means to address many challenges such as food insecurity, climate change and poverty. This is particularly relevant in developing countries, facing the dramatic consequences of these challenges, such as Burkina Faso and Niger in Sahelian West Africa. Research is needed for the development of UPA. However, comprehensive analyses about the landscape of research dealing with UPA are oftentimes lacking especially in developing countries. In this context, the present review provides a bibliometric analysis of the scholarly literature addressing UPA in Burkina Faso and Niger. It draws upon a search performed in June 2022 on the Web of Science. The bibliometric analysis focuses on sources/journals, research areas, authors and organisations/affiliations. It suggests that while interest in research on UPA is increasing, the annual output of articles remains low. Furthermore, the research field is quite multidisciplinary but mainly falls under the area of agriculture thus focusing on biological and environmental sciences, while social sciences and economics are generally overlooked. The analysis also shows that a large share of studies on UPA is carried out by scholars affiliated with universities and research centres based outside Burkina Faso/Niger and even West Africa, especially in Germany. This might denote the weakness of the research system and the lack of structured research projects/programs on UPA in both countries. Investments in research, development and innovation are needed to bridge the existing knowledge gap and unlock the potential of UPA in addressing the challenges that both countries face. Since challenges and opportunities are quite similar, multi-country and regional research programmes on UPA would be highly beneficial in the Sahel and West Africa.

Keywords: *urban agriculture, urban food systems, Sahel, West Africa, bibliometrics*