

1st ISATA – International Symposium on Agricultural Technology Adoption: studies, methods and experiences



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Challenges for Technology Adoption Among Cassava Growers in the State of Amazonas

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Cassava cultivation in the Amazon exceeds 80,894 ha, spread over 65,000,000 rural establishments, reaching a production of 940,975 t/year, with an average of 11.63 t/ha/year (IBGE, 2015). This production is below the productivity of the Northern region, which is 16.36 t / ha, and the national one, which is 15.43 t/ha (IBGE, 2016). Cassava is the main source of energy in the Amazonian diet, hence its social importance. The low productivity and the socioeconomic importance of the crop led Embrapa western Amazon to develop a set of actions aimed at enhancing production, providing technologies for innovation in the cassava production process. The implementation of a regional germplasm bank from 1994, with more than 2,000 accessions of cassava materials, is an important step in initiating a technology generation process. The germplasm bank aims to prevent genetic erosion of the species by collecting, preserving, characterizing, evaluating, documenting and providing access for research and use. The research process has provided farmers with important productive varieties for human consumption. In addition to technical recommendations for crops, more recently technology transfer has been prioritizing management known as the yield trio, which includes management techniques in the selection of seedlings, adequate spacing and control of competing plants in the first five months after the harvest. planting. This paper examines the issue of technological adoption based on research and analysis based on testimonials from researchers, technicians and farmers. It assesses the level of adoption of the technologies developed and made available by Embrapa and the innovation achieved through them.

As a result it was observed that there is a cassava production process that uses little technology made available by research institutions. Because cas-

sava is one of the main household consumption and income generation products for the rural environment, socioeconomic research has identified, as a result of the low adoption of technology and low productivity, the impoverishment of rural areas, the lack of materials. production and the predominance of rudimentary production techniques. Still, it was found that, being small family farmers producing cassava scattered in large territory, there is a difficulty for the visits of rural technicians and extensionists, public and private assistance. The low level of access to agricultural finance and the difficulty in accessing technologies lead to a lower level of innovation in the establishments. Thus, the work concluded that the availability of technology needs to be made based on a broad rural development policy that strengthens the social, economic and organizational aspects of rural communities. This policy is essential for the availability and adoption of technologies by family farmers.