

# CZECH UNIVERSITY OF LIFE SCIENCES PRAGUE

Faculty of Tropical AgriSciences

## Evaluation of the Diploma Thesis by Opponent

Thesis Title **ASSESSMENT OF COMPETITIVENESS OF MAIZE PRODUCTION AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO FOOD SECURITY IN GHANA**

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Thesis supervisor **Miroslava Bavorová**

Department **Department of Economics and Development**

Opponent **Ing. Zuzana Bednaříková**

Formulation of the aims	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Choice of suitable methods	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Fulfilment of the aims	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Scientific contribution of the thesis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Originality of the thesis	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Theoretical background of the author	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Handling with data and information	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Handling with scientific literature (citations)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Argumentation and critical thinking	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Abstract and keywords	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Structure of the chapters and paragraphs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Comprehensibility of the text	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Accuracy of the terminology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Quality of scientific language	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Formatting, layout and general impression	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Evaluation of the work by grade (1, 2, 3, 4)	<b>2</b>			

Evaluation: 1 = the best

Date 05/22/2018

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**Other comments or suggestions:**

The whole study seems to tackle a highly relevant issue and a lot of work has been done. It assess the competitiveness of maize production.

The main objectives of this study:

"The objective of this study is geared towards the assessment of the competitiveness of maize production and its contribution to food security in central Ghana."

is not fully fulfilled. The author does not describe how the results of his research regarding maize production contribute to the food security in Central Ghana.

The Introduction section should be revised as some of the sentences are doubled in this section.

The literature review provides very good insight into concept of maize production, expansion and market through the linkages to the national and international literature.

The combination of qualitative and quantitative methods to obtain data is well selected. However, there is only a few of information about the data gathering process, i.e. qualitative questionnaire survey and focus group.

The meaning of some terms, such as the role of market intermediates/middlemen and extension officers, group labor, and extension services should be explained.

The references to the tables and figures in the Chapters 5.7, 5.8. and 5.9. are missing in the text. The most of tables and figures in the study lacks source of data.

The descriptive analysis of the data is appropriate. Results of the survey are well discussed followed by general policy recommendations.

**Questions for thesis defence:**

1/ What can the results of your study tell us about the contribution of maize production to food security in Central Ghana?

2/ As more details about the survey are needed, please explain:

Who collected the data? Was the pen and paper method used? Who completed the questionnaire: the respondent or the interviewer? How did you choose the respondents? What were the obstacles during the data gathering?

3/ There is not a description of the used research method – focus group in the study. Explain, please:

What was the group composition (number of respondents, share of males and females, farm size etc.)? What questions were discussed?

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