

# **Honours Thesis Questionnaire for Research: The condition of small-scale tobacco farmers in Zimbabwe**

My name is Rutendo Vivian Chingosho and I am currently studying towards my BCom Honours in Economics at the University of Cape Town. I am conducting research into the conditions faced by small-scale tobacco farmers in Zimbabwe. The questionnaire consists of 27 questions which will take no longer than 20 minutes to complete.

Your participation in this research study is voluntary. The study will help us to understand more about the challenges faced by tobacco farmers. You may choose not to participate. If you decide to participate in this research survey, you may withdraw at any time. Your responses will be confidential, and I will not identify information such as your name, email address or home address. The results of this study will be used for scholarly purposes only. If you have any questions about this study you may contact my supervisor, Professor Corne van Walbeek at +27-21-6504689 or [cornelis.vanwalbeek@uct.ac.za](mailto:cornelis.vanwalbeek@uct.ac.za).

Ethics Clearance number: hons/2019/04

Please tick the box provided to show your consent to be part of the research. ☐

## **Preliminary Section**

1. Gender                      Male ☐                      Female ☐                      Prefer not to say ☐
2. Age: \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is your highest level of education?
4. Is tobacco farming your primary or secondary source of employment?  
  
                                 Primary: ☐                      Secondary: ☐
5. If secondary, what is your primary source of employment?
6. Which year did you start farming tobacco?
7. What type of farmer are you?      Contract ☐                      Independent ☐
8. Is income from tobacco farming your only source of income?                      Yes ☐                      No ☐
9. If not, what other sources of income do you have?

## **Credit issues**

*(If you are a contract farmer, please answer questions 10 – 18 and proceed to Profitability.*

*If you are an independent farmer, please answer questions 19-37).*

10. Which company do you contract with?

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11. What do you get credit for? (Indicate as many as apply).

Seed ☐ Fertilizer ☐ Pesticides ☐ Labor ☐ Other ☐

If other, specify:

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12. Do you have any debt related to the growing of tobacco Yes ☐ No ☐

13. If yes, please indicate how much? Please indicate the respective currency, for example, USD or Bond currency

<input type="checkbox"/> \$1-\$1000	Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1001-\$2000		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$2001-\$3000		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$3001-\$4000		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$4001-\$5000		
<input type="checkbox"/> > \$5001		

14. Please indicate the creditors that you owe Tobacco related debt:

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15. Indicate the size of your farm in acres: 

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16. (i) During high seasons (e.g. harvest season), how many workers do you have? 

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(ii) During low seasons, how many workers do you have? 

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17. What is the average annual turnover from your tobacco sales? Please specify the respective currency, for example, USD (\$) or Bond currency.

<input type="checkbox"/> \$1-\$1000	Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1001-\$2000		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$2001-\$3000		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$3001-\$4000		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$4001-\$5000		
<input type="checkbox"/> > \$5001		

18. Given the opportunity and the right assistance, would you switch to being an independent farmer? Please answer on a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 is “Highly unlikely” and 5 is “Highly likely?”

1	2	3	4	5
Highly Unlikely	Unlikely	Neutral	Likely	Highly likely

19. Do you have any debt related to the growing of tobacco? Yes ☐ No ☐

20. If yes, please indicate how much? Please specify the respective currency, for example, USD (\$) or Bond currency.

<input type="checkbox"/> \$1-\$1000	<b>Prefer not to say</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1001-\$2000		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$2001-\$3000		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$3001-\$4000		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$4001-\$5000		
<input type="checkbox"/> > \$5001		

21. Please indicate the creditors that you owe tobacco related debt:

\_\_\_\_\_

22. Please indicate the size of your farm in acres: \_\_\_\_\_

23. (i) During high seasons (e.g. harvest season), how many workers do you have? \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) During low seasons, how many workers do you have? \_\_\_\_\_

24. What is the average annual turnover from your tobacco sales? Please specify the respective currency, for example, USD (\$) or Bond currency.

<input type="checkbox"/> \$1-\$1000	<b>Prefer not to say</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1001-\$2000		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$2001-\$3000		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$3001-\$4000		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$4001-\$5000		
<input type="checkbox"/> > \$5001		

25. Given the opportunity and the right assistance, would you switch to being a contract farmer: please answer on a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 is “Highly Unlikely” and 5 is “Highly likely?”

1	2	3	4	5
Highly Unlikely	Unlikely	Neutral	Likely	Highly likely

## **Profitability**

26. Do you record all expenses, debts, incomes for your business operations?

Yes ☐ No ☐ Sometimes ☐

27. Are you able to cover all your operational expenses from the profits made from tobacco farming?

Yes ☐ Mostly ☐ Not Entirely ☐ No ☐

## **Expectations**

28. What were your expectations of tobacco farming profits before you became a tobacco farmer?

- ☐ To make more money than I did previously
- ☐ To make similar amount of money as I did previously
- ☐ I did not have any expectations
- ☐ Other. Please specify:

29. Generally, do your tobacco profits match your expected profits?

Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐

## **Support and Representation**

30. Where do you turn to when you have financial problems with the growing of tobacco?

- ☐ Neighbors and friends ☐ An agent of the tobacco buyer ☐ Debt
- ☐ An official from the government's department of agriculture ☐ Other ☐ Please specify:
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31. Are you a member of Tobacco Industry and Marketing Board (TIMB)? Yes ☐ No ☐

32. To what extent do you think TIMB represents your interests in discussions and negotiations with the tobacco buyers and the government?

Very Well ☐ Well ☐ Fair ☐ Badly ☐ Very Badly ☐

*Is there anything you would like to add to this section regarding representation issues?*

### **Health issues**

33. Do you possess the necessary protective gear for tobacco handling? (*gloves, boots, masks, overalls*)

Yes ☐ No ☐ Partially ☐

34. Do your farmworkers possess the necessary protective gear for tobacco handling? (*gloves, boots, masks, overalls*)

Yes ☐ No ☐ Partially ☐

35. Have you ever suffered from any illnesses related to handling tobacco? Yes ☐ No ☐

36. If yes, what illnesses? \_\_\_\_\_

37. Have any of your family members or farmworkers suffered from any illnesses related to handling tobacco?

Yes ☐ No ☐

38. If yes, what illnesses? \_\_\_\_\_

39. Have you ever received any compensation related to any illnesses that are tobacco related?

Yes ☐ No ☐

*Is there anything you would like to add to this section?*

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*Thank you for your participation*