

Socio-economic Drivers of the Abandonment of Agricultural Fields in the Smallholder Farming Sector in Peddie, Eastern Cape, South Africa

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Where leaders learn



PRESENTATION STRUCTURE

Contents

- INTRODUCTION
- STUDY AREA
- METHODS
- RESULTS
- DISCUSSION
AND
CONCLUDING
REMARKS



INTRODUCTION

KEY ISSUES

- **Population Growth**
- **Land abandonment**
 - Increase in demand for food
- **Current Rate of Food Production**
 - Sustainability
- **Potential Threats to Food Security**
 - Drought
 - Land degradation
- **Land abandonment**
 - Rural areas
 - Drivers
 - Challenges



KEY QUESTIONS

- What are the socio-economic drivers of land abandonment in the smallholder farming sector?
- What challenges do smallholder farmers face?



STUDY AREA

- **Peddie District, Eastern Cape**

- 33°3'S, 27°0'E to 33°13'S, 27°12'E

- **Main Land Tenure Units**

- Formal Commercial Farms
- Traditional Communal Areas

- **Climate**

- Seasonal and variable distribution of rainfall
- Hot summers
- Frosty dry winters

- **Vegetation**

- Eastern Cape Thicket
- Karoo shrubs and thorn bushes
- Invasive species



METHODS

- **Structured Questionnaire**
 - 150 Cultivators
 - 150 Non-Cultivators
- **5 Sections**
 - General Information
 - Sources of Income
 - Cultivation History
 - Livelihood Assets
 - Garden Cultivation
- **3 Villages**
 - Mthathi
 - Mabaleni
 - Gwalani



RESULTS

$\chi^2(8.532) < 0.05$ (df=3)

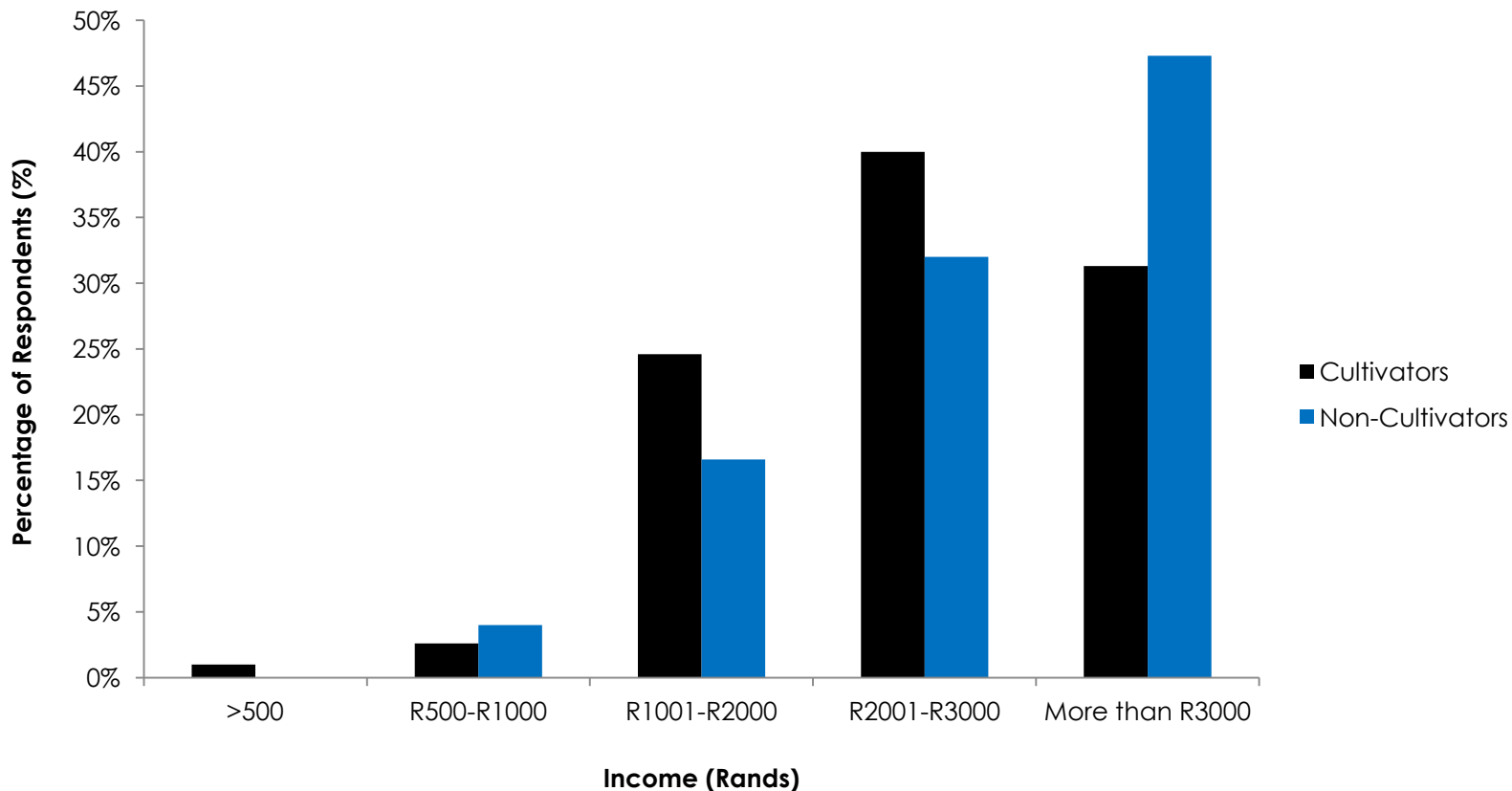


Figure 1: Monthly Income Received by Cultivators and Non-Cultivators

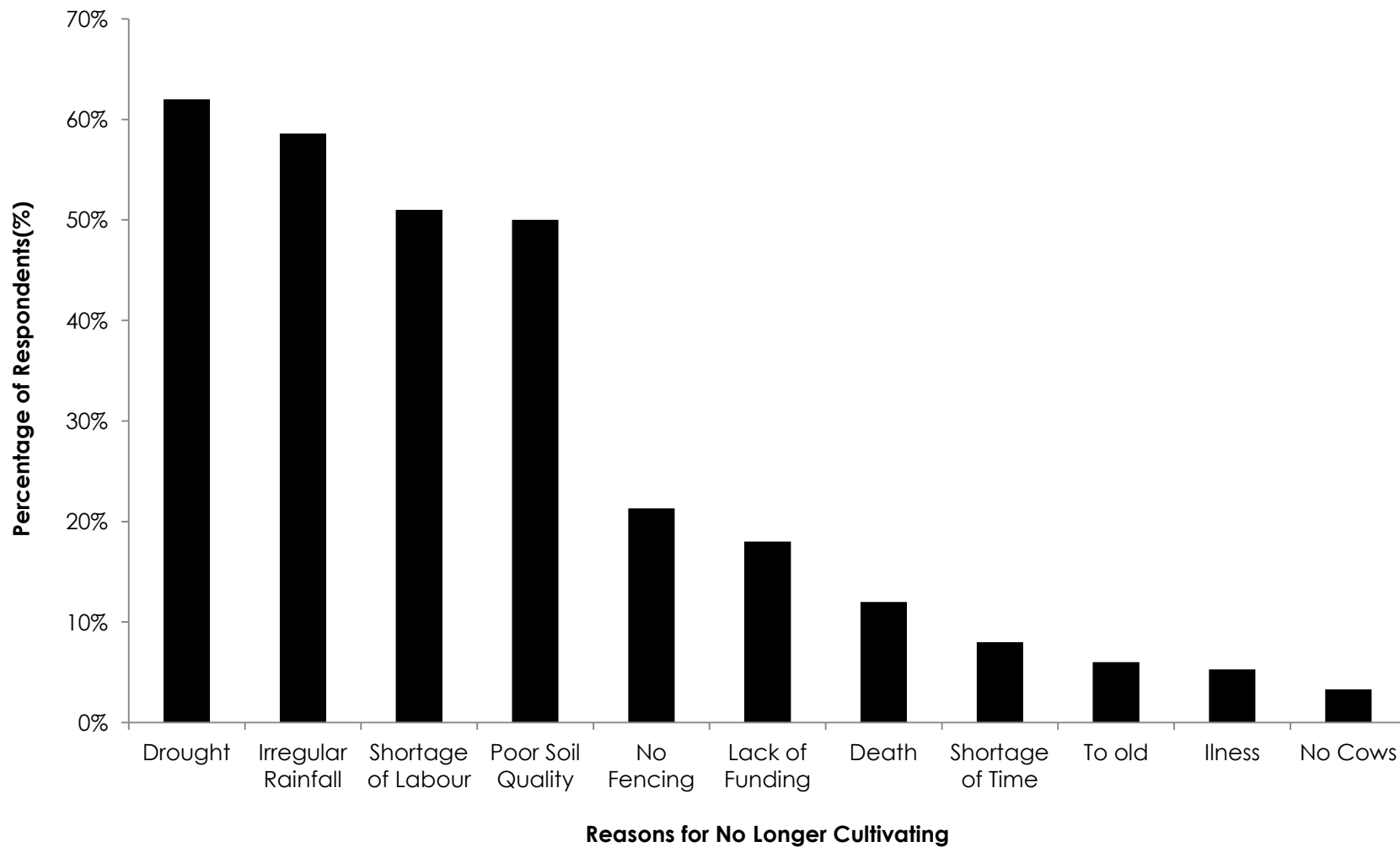


Figure 2: Drivers of Land Abandonment

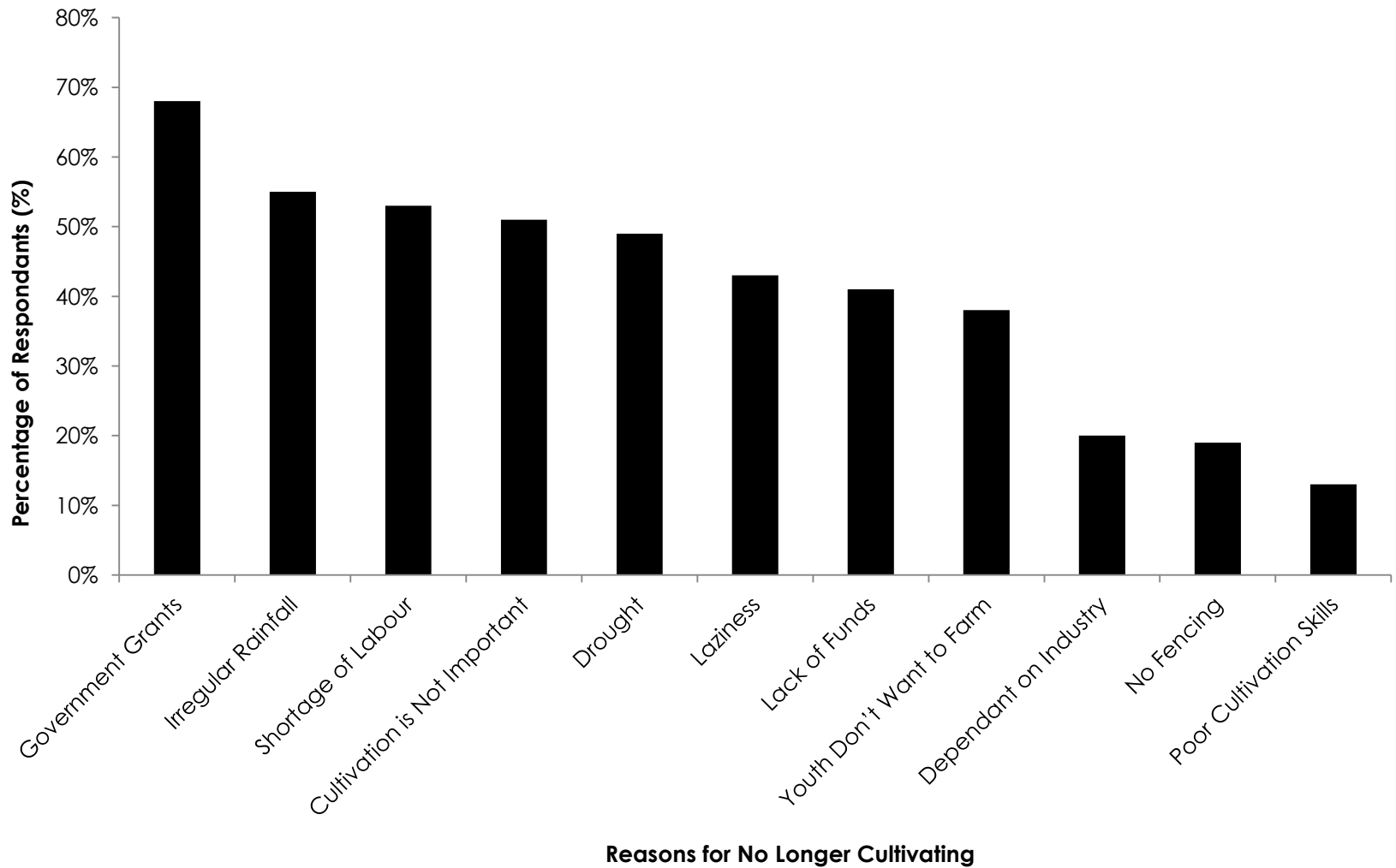


Figure 3: Cultivators' Perception on Drivers of Land Abandonment

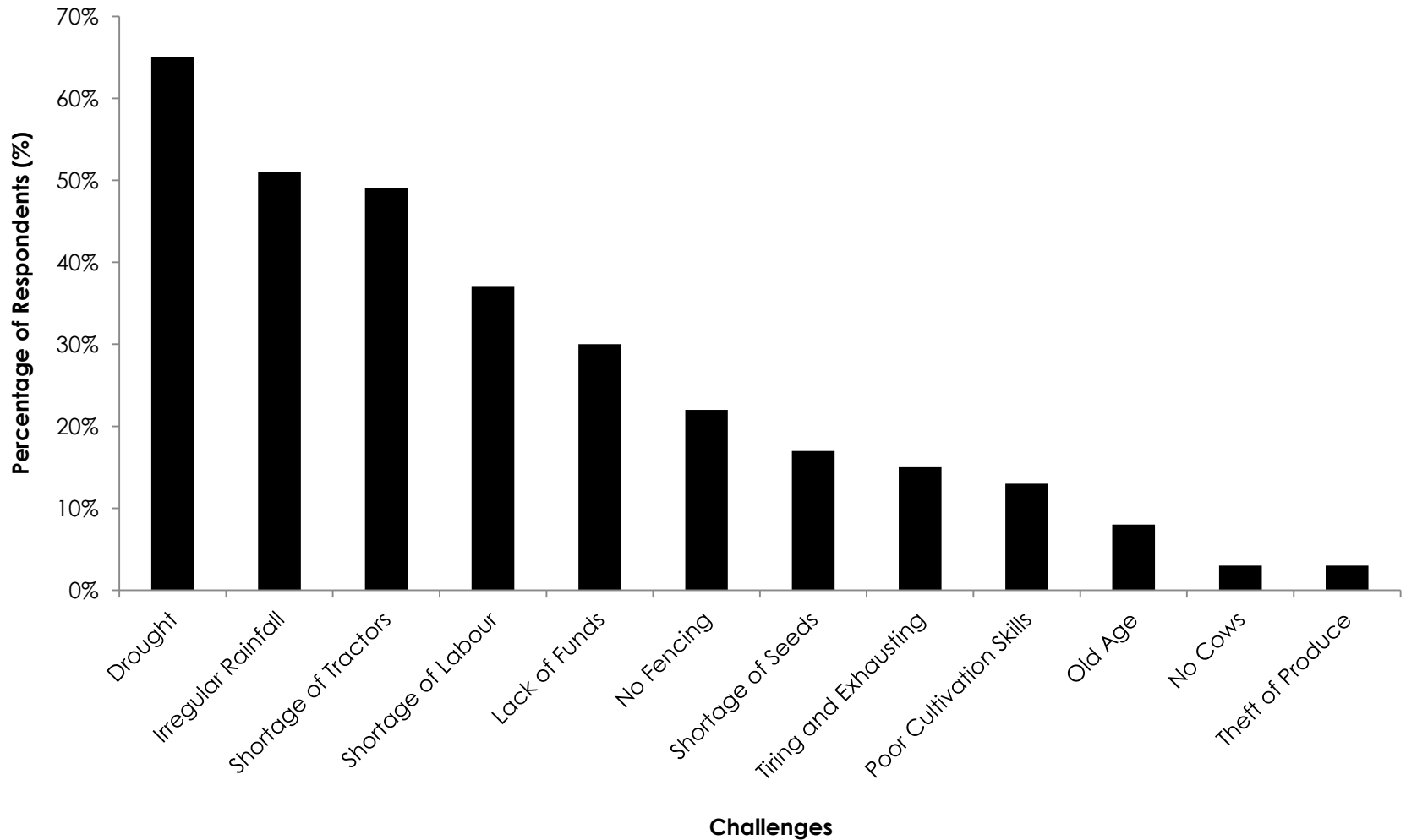


Figure 4: Challenges Faced by Cultivators

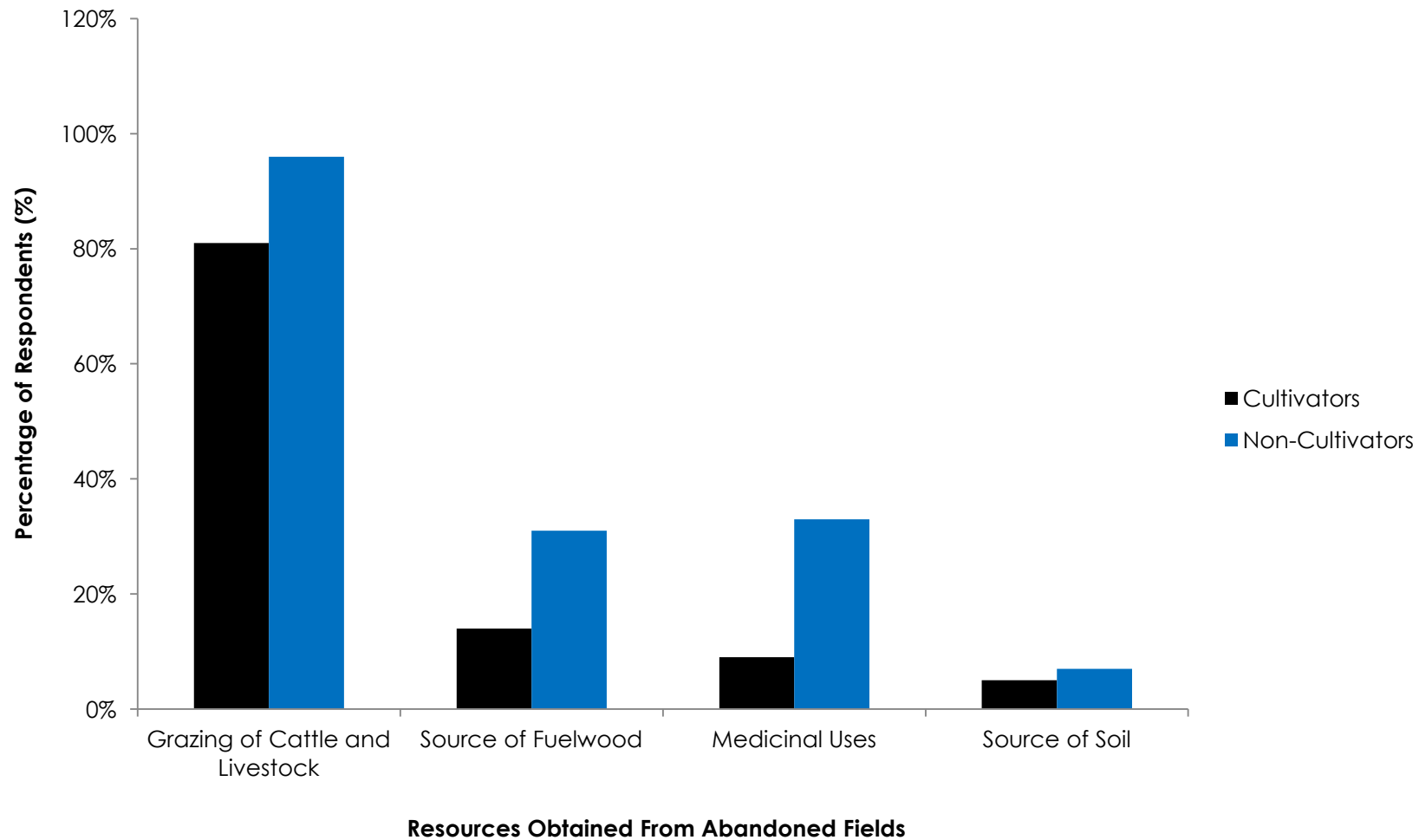


Figure 5: Resources Obtained From Abandoned Fields

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUDING REMARKS

- Main Drivers of Land Abandonment
- Issues of Land Degradation and Drought
- Reduction of Agricultural Yields
- Influence of Government Grants
- Sustainable Land Practices



QUESTIONS??



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