ABSTRACT

Energy is a critical input in modern production and consumption system and its scarcity is a major constraint for speeding up economic growth. The dwindling energy resources, coupled with population explosion in rural areas of developing countries have accentuated the problem of energy scarcity in rural areas. Kenyan rural economy and society encounter severe scarcity of energy resources. The present study attempts to assess the household energy consumption pattern in the context of the changing food habits and availability of different sources of energy in rural Kenya. It is a micro level study based mainly on primary data collected from a sample of 240 households in three villages in Kisii District of Kenya representing different levels of development. A comprehensive and structured schedule of questions was used to collect the information from the respondents on wide ranging aspect of energy consumption pattern/The data were analyzed by using appropriate statistical techniques including significance tests. The thesis is presented in seven chapters: 1) Introduction, Objectives and Methodology, 2) Review of Literature, 3) Energy scenario in Kenya, 4) profile of the Study area, 5) Socio-economic profile of sample households, 6) Analysis and discussion and 7) Summary, findings and conclusions.