ABSTRACT
The research study was about the role of cooperatives in the development of farmers in Musanze District Rwanda. It was conducted along the following study objectives: to identify the role of cooperatives in the development of farmers, to determine the factors for the development, growth and expansion of cooperatives, to establish the effects of cooperative societies in the development of farmers in Musanze district. Data were collected from 80 respondents composed of 29 females and 51 male farmers in cooperatives. Data were collected using questionnaire, focus group discussion and face to face interviews which were guided by questionnaire. Objective one was analysed with quantitative approach while objective two and three were analysed with a qualitative approach. Objective one was analysed by the use of a Chi-square using the research hypothesis, and cross referencing with the literature review was done to ascertain the findings. It was found out that there was a significant role cooperatives play in the development of farmers in Musanze district as was ascertained by the Chi-square value ($\times^2_{obs}$) = 393.84. The study concluded by highlighting on the potential of the growth and expansion of cooperatives in Musanze District. The study recommended among others that an inclusive policy design be made to increase the number of women and the young generation in cooperatives and this could be facilitated by mass sensitization.