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**CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON FAMILY FARMERS IN SÃO PAULO STATE:
PERCEPTIONS AND CHALLENGES**

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This research aimed to analyze the perceptions of women family farmers regarding the effects of climate change in two settlements, located in the west region of São Paulo State, Brazil. The study employed a qualitative approach, utilizing the case study as the main research method. Data collection involved semi-structured interviews with five women residing in the settlements, seeking to understand both the climatic and socioeconomic impacts perceived by the family farmers. Among the main observed effects, the results point to Rainfall scarcity, which directly compromises cultivation, and increased temperatures, associated with global warming and the activities of the local sugar-cane mill, which produces ethanol in the region. The farmers reported that deforestation and burning caused by the mill's activities have intensified environmental

degradation, directly interfering with agricultural and livestock production. Furthermore, the expansion of sugarcane monoculture has reduced productive diversity and diminished the local food supply, creating external dependence and affecting the families' food security. In the socioeconomic sphere, interviewees mentioned that climate change exacerbates existing territorial challenges, such as the distance of the settlements from essential services, especially the hospital, hindering access to healthcare. The research also highlighted that access to public policies—such as the Food Acquisition Program (PAA), the National School Feeding Program (PNAE), and the Cesta Verde (Green Basket) Program—plays a central role as a support instrument in the capacity to cope with these challenges. However, not all farmers are able to participate due to advanced age or low production volume, which keeps some families in a vulnerable situation. We recommend that future studies analyzing the climatic effects on family farming in the Western region of São Paulo State should discuss the impacts of agro-industrialization on local production.

Palavras-chave: climate change; family farmer; food security.