

Effective Factors on Wheat Producers' Knowledge of Soil Management in Ardabil Province

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Extended Abstract

1. INTRODUCTION

Scientific findings show that rational utilization of soil resources depends on the promotion of the level of farmers' technical knowledge, because the lack of knowledge of farmers damage farming soil and challenge food security. The main object of this research is "the investigation of factors which affect knowledge of wheat producers related to the use of accurate methods of soil management, and also the explanation of the most important socio-cultural, economic, individual and promotional factors which affect farmers' knowledge in Ardabil Province. The research objectives are as follows:

- 1- Describing socio- cultural, economic and individual characteristics of wheat producers
- 2- Investigating the situation of the knowledge of wheat producers related to the use of accurate methods of soil management
- 3- Comparing the average knowledge of respondents related to the methods of soil management in terms of social, economic and individual characteristics
- 4- Forecasting variables which affect knowledge of wheat producers related to the methods of soil management

2. METHODOLOGY

This study is quantitative in terms of its nature, non-experimental in terms of controlling variables, applied in terms of its objectives and descriptive- analytic in terms of data-gathering procedure. The number of samples was 17500 people that 410 people was selected using the method of multi-level cluster sampling. Also, the number of samples was estimated based on the study of the Krejcie and Morgan. Besides, points of view of some commentators were used to

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substantiate the questionnaire validity. Also, Cronbach's alpha coefficient and SPSS were used to investigate the reliability of the questionnaire and Cronbach's alpha value was calculated 87%.

3. DISCUSSION

Broadly speaking, the knowledge of wheat producers is effective on the way of using soil resources. Because farmers who have adequate knowledge, use soil resources effectively and use production factors optimally and prevent soil erosion and finally promote the level of productivity.

4. CONCLUSION

The results of correlation coefficients showed that there is a meaningful relationship between variants of age, history of agricultural activities, experience of wheat cultivation, education, gross income, territory of dry lands, access to agricultural seeds and credit facilities, the territory of agricultural lands, the area under wheat cultivation, promotional activities by promoters, act to the promotional guidelines of promoters, channels and information resources, social participation, and socio-institutional trust with knowledge of wheat producers from soil management.

Finally, based on research findings it can be said that culture-making can contribute to the sustainability of the farming soil. Meanwhile, adequate credits should be supplied to implement the approach of farm school of farmer and farmer to farmer training i.e. assistance of pioneer farmers. Also, promoters can be central in holding educational courses in order to promote awareness and acceptance of the methods of soil management to improve the sustainability of agricultural resources.

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