A multiple response analysis: effective strategies toward reduce the gardeners problems in north of Iran

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Abstract

This study was conducted in order to find out the effective strategies for obviation of gardeners problems in north of Iran. This study was carried out by descriptive survey at March 2011. Target population was formed from 21 actuary experts of gardeners that sample size was including 17 experts. Questionnaire was used as the main tool to collect data with an open question. Data was analyzed using the multi-response analysis. The results showed that increasing education -extension and increasing experts in the villages were at top of represented issues by respondent experts. Besides, issues such as providing enough facilities for gardeners, prompt and sufficient distribution of agriculture inputs for gardeners, guaranteed purchasing of horticultural crops in real prices and market stability regulation and applying specialists responsible for the correct policies in gardening were among the most important strategies presented by experts.

Keywords: Strategies, Problems, Gardeners, Experts, North of Iran.

Introduction

Nowadays, value of agriculture products has declined to one of five of total domestic product. While agriculture is still most important nongovernmental economic activity (Koopahi, 2007), on the other hand, supplying the food required for public and food security depends on this sector ad annually great expenditures are spent by government for growth and development of agriculture (Akbary et al, 2003). Un-sustainability and risk taking in conditions of agricultural productions caused that production of this sector is considered as an operation joined with risk (Karbasi and Kambozia, 2003). Guilan province despite of it’s least area in north due to been next to Khazar sea and having sufficient rain and humidity is the most important agricultural area of Iran that covers many strategic garden and agricultural products. In recent years many economic problems have created to produce these products (Mahdavi et al., 2004). Sedaghathoor and Shadparvar (2007) in line with Guilan strategic garden products describe that government studies to find causes of tea economic failure had not much effect on solving Iran tea problem. Dalivand et al., (2011) reported that false and unreasonable imports of some horticultural crops, non consideration to warranted purchase of orchard products with real prices by government, untimely and inadequate distribution of agricultural inputs, lack of governmental support in respect of providing adequate facilities and convenience for farmers and lack of consideration to presence of dealers in orchard product purchase and selling were most important problems of gardeners in north of Iran. Thus planning and providing required arrangements fitted to specific conditions of each region and coordinated to the country's needs and transitions is necessary to benefit from new scientific and technical advancements that is development culture. For this purpose, governments bound themselves to provide conditions where agriculturalist could obtain required technical information and facilities easily, simply and rapidly (Shahbazi and Hajjaran, 1991). In this respect proper comparison with limitation and satisfying the agricultural development objectives dependent on the reviewing past experiences, understanding the existing condition, describing the future
background and proper evaluation of possibility to transmit from existing condition is necessary. This study was conducted with aims of identify effective strategies for solving problems of gardeners in north of Iran.

Materials and Methods

This study was carried out by descriptive survey at March 2011 in Guilan province near to Caspian Sea, north of Iran (Fig. 1). Target population was formed from 21 actuary experts of gardeners that sample size was including 17 experts. Questionnaire was used as the main tool to collect data with one open question as to effective strategies for obviation of gardener's problems. As regards that multi-response analysis is appropriate technique for analyzing data from open questions of questionnaire, so this statistical method was used to analyze problems among gardeners. At first step, all responses to these questions were assessed. Then maximum number of responses by respondents, were identified which is determined that 14 responses by one expert had been most problems. In addition, 38 kinds of problems were represented by experts, that codes 01-38 were specified for each from problems. And because no one represented more than 14 problems out of 38 problems, so 14 variables were determined for each from problems and they were analyzed statistically by SPSS\textsuperscript{16} software. Output data of this analyze were: frequency of responses, percentage of responses, frequency of cases and percentage of cases.

Results and Discussion

Results of this discussion are given in Table-1. In this study, results indicated that holding training – promotional classes separately and continually for farmers and increasing the number of experts and supervisors in rural areas to increase the technical knowledge of farmers were the most important of strategies. As 7.8% responses introduced relative to these strategies. 8 experts (47.1%) introduced these strategies for solving problems of gardeners. Providing low profit credits and loans and financial support for farmers were that strategy introduced by 7 experts (41.2%) that included 6.8% responses. Each of cases the providing the inputs (fertilizer, toxin ...) dominantly with low price for farmers, warranted purchase of orchard products with real prices and regulating the market stability and using professional authorities for proper policy making in farming and supervision on them were represented by 35.3% of the respondents, separately, to which each of them dedicated themselves to 5.8% of all responses. 5 experts (29.4%) mentioned supplying engineered seedlings with high economic efficiency and familiarizing the new varieties to the farmers that included 4.9% of 103 responses. Cases such as increased education and awareness rate for farmers, using modern irrigation systems and supplying water demands by constructing dams, canals, using modern techniques instead of traditional techniques by supporting and informing gardeners and preventing excessive import of products which are produced also in the country introduced by 23.5% experts. In addition, cases such as removing the dealers in selling orchard products to support producer and consumer, encourage superior farmers and creating the motivation to more effort and perseverance in farming and optimum utilization of resources such as water and soil by using mixed and multipurpose plantations introduced by 17.6% experts. Each of cases the construction, expansion and mobilizing conversion and packaging plants for orchard products, increased quality and acceptance for market for
orchard products for example separating high grade and intact fruits, preventing from segmentation of orchards in accordance to legacy law, distributing educational promotional publications and brochures among farmers, increased usage of modern agricultural equipments and providing the loans to purchase them, creating specific cooperative societies and unions between farmers, land leveling and integrating farms and supporting the farmers when occurring disasters and developing the insurance for agricultural products by governments were represented by 11.8% of the respondents, separately, to which each of them dedicated themselves to 1.9% of all responses. In addition to represented cases, 16 of these experts began to say something about some other strategies for obviation of gardener’s problems, separately, which were: constructing suitable warehouses for preserving orchard products, using mechanized planting systems for trees, decreased transformation costs of orchard products with allocation of fuel ration, submitting the administrative and promotional activities to private sector, creating wider and more equipped centers for agricultural promotion and services in rural areas, transferring the administrative sectors of agricultural jihad organization into rural areas, decreased costs and increased production and income for farming, surveying the demands of farmers at the end of each farming season by investigation centers, using early profitable plans in orchard farming, producing the products fitted to climatic conditions of the area, strengthening the handcrafts and animal husbanding to cut the dependence villagers to farm incomes, proper usage of variable data to plan in orchard farming, using biologic techniques to combat pests and disease, using leading and flexible farmers to satisfy educational goals and compete old thoughts, providing initial life services for farmers in rural areas and supporting innovative and creative farmers.

In spite of uncertainty on asset function to reach economic goals there is not in farming, but in recent decades farming asset is decreasing that in third development plan is one future challenge of farming. So it's necessary that provide methods to prevent invest output to other parts to satisfy inside invest needs and output investment would not be needed (Yavari and Mehregan, 2003). Karimzadegan et al. (2006) believe that additional subsides for chemical fertilization make sever not improve consume and cause environment instability. Insurance service of agriculture products in recent years had some ups and downs and affected economic and social agents and assurance application from farmers (Karbasi and Kambozia, 2003). Agriculture sector requires governmental support for development and progress. And government had applied various policies to prevent decreased investment and increased production in this sector. In this regard, some of the most important policies are: providing subsidy for production inputs, granting subsidy for credits and conveniences for this sector for current and invest operations, defining warranting purchase prices for agriculture products, applying tariff and non tariff limits for importing agricultural products, granting subsidy for exporters of agricultural products, providing various free expansion and promotional services, paying compensation for individuals experiencing damages from natural disasters, allocating the subsidy for agricultural insurance and performing various infrastructural investments for rural development (Amini 2009).

Unfortunately despite the water limitation, using it in agriculture with greatest water consumption is not optimum. Irrigation in Iran is mainly through superficial methods where water efficiency is low. Thus, selecting modern and optimum irrigation methods is necessary (Ebrahimi, 1997). Torkamaani and Shajari (2007) in respect of production risk on acceptance of novel technologies concluded that if desirable production conditions are not provided, planting new varieties are more likely than traditional varieties.

**Conclusion**

In general, in study showed that increasing education -extension and increasing experts in the villages, providing enough facilities for gardeners, prompt and sufficient distribution of agriculture inputs for gardeners, guaranteed purchasing of horticultural crops in real prices and market stability regulation and applying specialists responsible for the correct policies in gardening were among the most important strategies presented by experts. According to the high risk taking nature of the agriculture sector, governmental support for this sector is necessary to enter to worldwide scope and actualizing the prices in international competing market, agriculture must be managed in such a way that being profitable. This is not possible except with increased efficiency in this sector must be performed with high security rate which among strategies of this increased security is providing competition to other sectors i.e. industry and service. Addition to supportive acts such as gardeners needed bases, training experts in villages, education level increasing among gardeners, giving sufficient facilities for gardeners and garden products buying are the most important government acts to decrease gardening dangers in Guilan.
Table 1. Frequencies of effective strategies for solving problems of gardeners in north of Iran

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Strategies</th>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Percent of Cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Holding training – promotional classes separately and continually for farmers</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Increasing the number of experts and supervisors in rural areas to increase the technical knowledge of farmers</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Providing low profit credits and loans and financial support for farmers</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Providing the inputs (fertilizer, toxin …) dominantly with low price for farmers</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Warranted purchase of orchard products with real prices and regulating the market stability</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Using professional authorities for proper policy making in farming and supervision on them</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
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| 7    | Supp...
References


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