

Prioritizing training needs of greenhouse owners: Case of Najaf-Abad County

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Abstract

The purpose of this research was to assess and priority the training needs of greenhouse owners in Najaf-Abad county, Isfahan province, Iran. This research was an applied research and in terms of data collection was a survey research. The study population included all greenhouse owners (N=143) in Najaf-Abad county. The sample population was selected by using Kerjci and Morgan table (n=70). The main instrument used in this study for data collection was questionnaire. Validity of the questionnaire was confirmed by experts' viewpoints. Reliability of the questionnaire was confirmed by examining Alfa Cronbach coefficient, which was obtained as more than 0.7 in most of the categories. Results of the research showed that most greenhouse owners (47.1%) had bachelor degree and work experience of less than 5 years (78.6%). The area of most greenhouses (87.1%) was less than 5000 m². The results revealed that although educational needs at different stages of greenhouse management are different, but the most important of these needs can be summarized as: taking advantage of new technological developments, introducing high-yield seed varieties suitable for growing in the greenhouse, methods of pest control in greenhouses and reduction of agricultural products' wastes.

Keywords: Agricultural production, Greenhouse, Need assessment.

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