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Annals of Biological Research, 2012, 3 (6):3022-3025
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A multiple response analysis: Policies influencing gardening in north of Iran

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ABSTRACT

This study was conducted in order to find out the problems caused by governmental policies on the gardening of Guilan province. 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 false and unreasonable imports of some horticultural crops were at top of represented issues by experts. Besides, issues such as lack of attention by government in guaranteed purchasing of horticultural crops in real and nominal prices, lack of prompt and sufficient distribution of agriculture inputs, lack of supporting by government in providing enough facilities for orchardists and lack of governmental attention in existence of brokers in trading horticultural crops were among the most important issues presented by experts.

Key word: Policies, Problems, Gardening, Experts, Guilan province.

INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, importance of agricultural in usual functions such as supplying food and raw materials for industry, exporting, creating foreign exchange and employment is very important. Supporting the agricultural sector is and inevitable necessity influencing on benefits of all classes and economic sectors of the society policy in agricultural sector is among the most important economic strategies for developed and developing countries [12]. In this respect, in most countries worldwide without supporting the agriculture, most low income farmers and villagers will face serious problems. Especially, since these countries using export and direct intervening in the cost of major crops have been trying to keep low the costs to support the urban consumers to provide food security [11]. Additionally, high inflation rate in recent years due to economic policy making had increased the risk of production activities and will provide a great profit for brokering and trading [3]. Thus individual investments are leading towards the coin and gold markets, land market and department buildings with more safety. Additionally, high costs of initial operations and fundamentals of agriculture such as restoration and leveling ht lands may catalyze the lack of investment in agriculture sector [5]. Granting unsupervised and without surveying credits to the farmers also led to nonproductive and consumption usage of these credits [8]. Despite the fact that one of structural sector in Iran's economy is the flow of capital from this sector to the other economic sectors. But government supporting policies from this sector was not much influential so far in decreasing this flow [6]. Thus adopting current supporting policies in internal agricultural production sector is very necessary. This requires more study and understanding the policies effecting in producing the problems in agriculture. Sedaghatoor and Shadparvar [10] 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. Abdolahi-Ezzatabadi [7] also with study on the role of uncoordinated policies in

sustainable development of pistachio with focusing on water supplies concluded that independent, uncoordinated policies in macroeconomic sectors decreased the social wellbeing and led to unsustainable development in planting the pistachio in Iran. In this study was conducted with aims to evaluation of problems caused by governmental policies on the gardening of Guilan province, 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 problems caused by governmental policies on the gardening. 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 8 responses by one expert had been most problems. In addition, 23 kinds of problems were represented by experts, that codes 01-23 were specified for each from problems. And because no one represented more than 8 problems out of 23 problems, so 8 variables were determined for each from problems and they were analyzed statistically by SPSS₁₆ software. Output data of this analyze were: frequency of responses, percentage of responses, frequency of cases and percentage of cases.

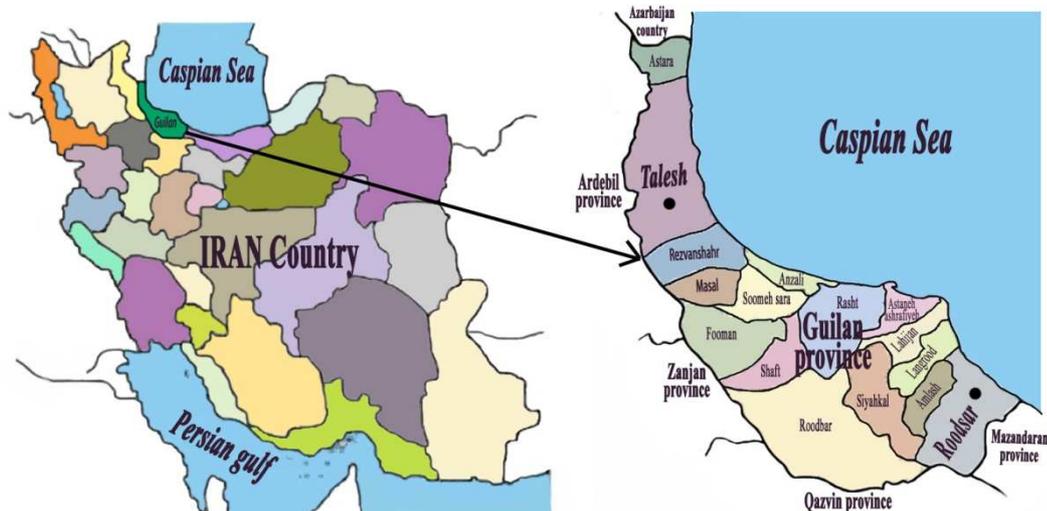


Fig. 1, Site of study

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results of this discussion are given in Table-1. Accordingly, wrong and excessive importing of some of the orchards products to the country was represented by 47.1% (8 persons) of experts who dedicated themselves to 13.3% of all responses. Non consideration to warranted purchase of orchard products with real prices by government were also represented by 7 experts of gardening (41.2%) and by 11.7% of all represented responses, were ranked 2nd. Untimely and inadequate distribution of agricultural inputs all over the Guilan province was the third problem for gardeners. 10% from total responses by experts related to this social problem that 35.3% respondents (6 experts) saw this problem on top. Each of the 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 and were represented by 23.5% of the respondents, separately, to which each of them dedicated themselves to 6.7% of all responses. Cases such as lack of consideration by government toward legacy law and division of orchards to small parts, lack of consideration by government to insure the agricultural products and not supporting by government in sudden losses, non emphasizing on agriculture as a major basis in governmental policy making, limited governmental resources for transferring the knowledge to farmers and inattention of authorities to farmers problems introduced by 17.6% experts. Each of cases the negligent in providing agricultural services in rural regions, lack of experts and promoters separately in all seasons for farmers and insufficient control by agriculture jihad to control farm pests in Guilan province were represented by 11.8% of the respondents, separately, to which each of them dedicated themselves to 3.3% of all responses. In addition to represented cases, 10 of these experts began to say something about some other problems taken from governmental policies, separately, which were: lack of regulation for market stability and controlling the prices of agricultural products by government, lack of

supporting supervision units in agriculture, unsuitable policy making to export orchard products of Guilan province, great look on agricultural in an unsuitable managerial level, non real usage of budgets allocated to agriculture in this respect, high profit rate for governmental loans and their short repayment time, lack of examining importing products such as seeds and unsuitable external varieties, non providing suitable seeds and cutting with low genetic purity for farmers, lack of support for organizations responsible to timely deliver orchard products to the market and lack of separate fruit markets for farmers producing high grade products.

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 [6]. Additional subsidies for farming input and chemical fertilization make sever not improve consume and cause environment instability [1 and 4]. Agriculture products insurance service in recent years had some ups and downs and affected economic and social agents and assurance application from farmers [2]. 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 [9].

Table 1: Frequencies of gardeners problems caused by governmental policies in north of Iran

Rank	Problems caused by governmental policies	Responses		Percent of Cases
		N	Percent	
1	wrong and excessive importing of some of the orchards products to the country	8	13.3	47.1
2	Non consideration to warranted purchase of orchard products with real prices by government	7	11.7	41.2
3	Untimely and inadequate distribution of agricultural inputs all over the Guilan province	6	10.0	35.3
4	Lack of governmental support in respect of providing adequate facilities and convenience for farmers	4	6.7	23.5
5	Lack of consideration to presence of dealers in orchard product purchase and selling	4	6.7	23.5
6	Lack of consideration by government toward legacy law and division of orchards to small parts	3	5.0	17.6
7	Lack of consideration by government to insure the agricultural products and not supporting by government in sudden losses	3	5.0	17.6
8	Non emphasizing on agriculture as a major basis in governmental policy making	3	5.0	17.6
9	Limited governmental resources for transferring the knowledge to farmers	3	5.0	17.6
10	Inattention of authorities to farmers problems	3	5.0	17.6
11	Negligent in providing agricultural services in rural regions	2	3.3	11.8
12	Lack of experts and promoters separately in all seasons for farmers	2	3.3	11.8
13	Insufficient control by agriculture Jihad to control farm pests in Guilan province	2	3.3	11.8
14	Lack of regulation for market stability and controlling the prices of agricultural products by government	1	1.7	5.9
15	Lack of supporting supervision units in agriculture	1	1.7	5.9
16	Unsuitable policy making to export orchard products of Guilan province	1	1.7	5.9
17	Great look on agricultural in an unsuitable managerial level	1	1.7	5.9
18	Non real usage of budgets allocated to agriculture in this respect	1	1.7	5.9
19	High profit rate for governmental loans and their short repayment time	1	1.7	5.9
20	Lack of examining importing products such as seeds and unsuitable external varieties	1	1.7	5.9
21	Non providing suitable seeds and cutting with low genetic purity for farmers	1	1.7	5.9
22	Lack of support for organizations responsible to timely deliver orchard products to the market	1	1.7	5.9
23	Lack of separate fruit markets for farmers producing high grade products	1	1.7	5.9
Total		60	100	352.9

Source: Survey Results, 2011

CONCLUSION

In preset study, results of study on Guilan gardening problems (north of Iran) showed that false and unreasonable imports of some horticultural crops was top problems. Also, non consideration to warranted purchase of orchard products with real prices by government, untimely and inadequate distribution of agricultural inputs all over the Guilan province, 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 among the most important problems presented by experts. Generally, 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, investors incentive and willingness to invest in agriculture sector being inclined to compete with industry and services both in

respect of profitability and added value providing secure and acceptable income for producer of agriculture sector as making agriculture strategic and economic may help us to satisfy this objective.

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