Comparing Modern and Indigenous Knowledge of Cut Flower and Pot Plant Growers (CFPPG) in Development of Floriculture Production

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Introduction

Recognition of the indigenous knowledge characteristic is a vital step to find the strengths and weaknesses in its maturation cycle via floriculture extension. Knowledge and experiences of the producers are considered as covered investment having development potential. Regarding water and land scarcity, CFPPGs in Mahalat can take advantage of these basic impute and earn a higher income compared to other kind of agricultural products. Regardless of educational, fund and other limitations, flower and plant production have been raised up considerably and have changed this township to one of the core production areas in the country.

Purpose

The purpose of this research was a comparing and analyzing the modern and indigenous knowledge of CFPPGs and factors affecting floriculture development and production in Mahallat Township of Iran.

Methods

This research was a causal-comparative study dealing with various variables in comparing the modern and indigenous knowledge of CFPPGs and various factors affecting the production of floriculture. Population consisted of two groups: (1) those CFPPGs that participated in floriculture extension training programs as experimental group and those that did not participate in the floriculture extension training programs as control group. Since the number of experimental group was small all of them were included in the study. A sample of 82 subjects (control group) was randomly drawn. Totally 123 CFPPGs were included in the research. Both content validity and reliability were gained for the instrument developed by researchers.

Findings and Conclusions

There was a significant difference between CFPPGs with indigenous knowledge and those with modern knowledge in terms of their hectare of land under cultivation. Modern knowledge also had meaningful affect on flower variety of CFPPGs. Developing and improving of CFPP production had a significant influence on some flower and pot plant varieties. Applied multiple regression with backwards device showed that exporting cut flowers had a significant effect on cult flower and pot plant production.

Educational Importance

Obviously extension organization can use the findings of this study in developing and delivering a much more effective extension education programs for the floricultures of Mahalat Township of Iran.