

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

Investigating attitudes and behaviors about chemical herbicides utilization among farmers in the central district of Karaj

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ABSTRACT:

Nowadays chemical herbicides, despite their known toxicity, are widely used in developing counties. Evaluating the patterns of their use would be interesting to assess the appropriateness of adequate intervention and penetration of herbicides. In this study, the attitudes associated with using of chemical herbicides were evaluated among farmers in the central district of Karaj. A standardized questionnaire was completed by 130 farmers. The research population consisted of 130 farmers from central district of Karaj, which were selected with the help of Cochran's formula 1598. The whole experiment was carried out by randomized sampling method and proportionate appointment of selection. Data gathering was done using questionnaire. Cronbach's alpha coefficient was higher than 0.7 which is favorable to distinguish the stability of questionnaires. Validating of the questionnaire was confirmed by experts' panel. Data analysis was accomplished with the help of SPSS software. The results indicated that attitude as well as education has positive and direct effect on behaviors of farmers to utilize chemical herbicides. Based on the results, variables of age, education, farm area, land's distance to farmers habitat and ultimately farmers experience plays a determinative role to alter the usage of chemical herbicides in their field.

Keywords:

Chemical herbicides, Farmers, attitude, behavior

Article Citation:

Shabnam Sarvaramini, Farid Golzardi, Yazdan Vaziritabar, Yavar Vaziritabar, Kamal Sadat Asilan and Seyedeh Zohreh Ebadi

Investigating attitudes and behaviors about chemical herbicides utilization among farmers in the central district of Karaj.

Journal of Research in Ecology (2015) 2(3): 027-038

Dates:

Received: 04 Aug 2014 **Accepted:** 05 Sep 2014 **Published:** 12 Feb 2015

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