

Administrative driving factors of organic farming development in Iran

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There is considerable public interest in redefining the role of agriculture in Iran. Increased domestic and international demand for organic products, along with environmental and safety foods have stimulated policymakers and governors in agricultural part to try to find incentives and necessities for converting from conventional to organic farming. There are many evidences that increased adoption of organic farming system can offer numerous environmental, social and financial benefits. Despite high potential of organic production and organic market in Iran, it remains a very small sub-sector of Iran's agriculture. The objective of this study was to identify most important driving factors to develop organic farming in administration aspect. For achieving this goal we used survey method by a questionnaire to ask agricultural extension experts who are working with organic farmers about the most important governmental influencing factors on conversion to organic farming. The snowball sampling method was adopted. According to the results nine influencing factors were determined by factor analysis method. The extracted factors are: 1) to establish structures and infrastructures, 2) to provide the necessity funds, 3) policy and object making, 4) education and advisory for farmers, 5) to identify and analyze the necessary data, 6) advertisement and public informing, 7) organizational coordination, 8) regulations collection and providing, 9) giving distinctions to investments. In this basis this article recommends making more capacities in public sector to help and support small holders to use organic methods in divers farming systems in the country.

Key Words: administrative factors, driving factors, organic farming development