

Casual comparative analysis of social consequences of vermicompost production: The case of Marvdasht County

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Agricultural development is sustainable, if it be economically stable, environmentally and socially acceptable. Therefore, the technology of vermicompost production with using earthworms produces a combination that is in a way of sustainable agriculture. Accordingly, the aim of this research was to investigate the social consequences of vermicompost on farmers at Marvdasht County. For this purpose, a casual-comparative study with the aid of a questionnaire was used. Validity of the questionnaire was confirmed by experts and reliability of sections the questionnaire was measured by calculating Cronbach-Alpha coefficient (0.72). The statistical population of the study was the farmers of Marvdasht County in two strata: farmers with and farmers without the vermicompost production that snow ball and criterion sampling methods were used to select them, respectively. Finally, 60 farmers (30 farmers with and 30 farmers without vermicompost production) participated in this study. The gathered data were analyzed by SPSS software. The results confirmed improving of women's social situation, social participation, social capital, quality of life and social welfare of farmers group with vermicompost production.

Key Words: social consequences, Agricultural Extension, Vermicompost, Marvdasht