



Agricultural expert's attitudes towards privatization of Agricultural extension: case study of agricultural engineering organization experts of Khuzestan province

Lotfollah Piramoon^{1*}, Dariush Hayati², Masoud Baradaran³

1MSc student, Department of Agricultural Extension and Education, College of Agriculture, Shiraz University, Shiraz, Iran. 2Department of Agricultural Extension and Education, College of Agriculture, Shiraz University, Shiraz, Iran. 3Department of Agricultural Extension and Education, College of Agricultural Engineering and Rural Development, University of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Ramin Khuzestan, Iran

L_piramoon@yahoo.com

In the past two decades, structural and financial constraints of public agricultural extension, has emerged privatization of agricultural extension, and necessary to make it more clear and lead to financial and administrative reconstructing of agricultural extension activities. The purpose of present study is investigation of agricultural experts' attitude towards privatization of agricultural extension to improve management of agricultural production. Research method of this study was survey. In order to collect data, researcher deigned a questionnaire that its validity was confirmed by a panel of specialists and its reliability Alpha Coefficient was 0.75. Sample size estimated by Morgan's table (n=70) and samples were selected randomly. Result of correlation analysis revealed that there was significant correlation between independent variables such as attitude toward canceling public extension, improving extension services centers, Transfer of ownership and extension services to private sector with attitudes towards privatization of agriculture extension. Also, Results showed low-income of farmers, lack of budgets to implementation of agricultural extension services and increasing costs of agricultural production are major obstacles to ward privatization of agricultural extension.

Keywords: public extension, private extension, organization of agricultural engineering, Khuzestan.