

Role of plant protection clinics in using pesticides in gardens of Tehran province

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One of the controversial topics among researchers in agriculture and environmental sciences is environmental pollution due to excessive use of chemical pesticides and other soil pollutants that caused many problems for environment and human health. Implementation of integrated pest management (IPM), especially in order to production safe products, is the ultimate goal of most of plant pest control programs. Meanwhile, plant clinics have an important role in reducing usage of pesticide and offering new strategies for pest control and decreasing production costs. The purpose of this study is to investigate role of plant protection clinics in using pesticides in gardens of Tehran province. The methodology of the study was descriptive which was done using a survey and questionnaire as research tool. In this study 230 experts of 23 plant protection clinics in Tehran province were census and among the 13,500 farmers, using Morgan table 374 people were randomly surveyed. In this research, the effect of economic, social, cultural, professional factors and farmers satisfaction of clinics performance on reducing pesticide use by farmers was evaluated. The results of study showed that the extension courses, trust to clinics experts as well as selling safe products with higher prices are correlated with reducing the use of chemical pesticides.

Key Words: safe product, plant protection clinic, integrated pest management, chemical pesticides