

The Evaluation of Agricultural Production Information and Sources of Local Farmers in Rural Areas of Cambodia

SHINOBU YAMADA *, MACHITO MIHARA **, KUMIKO KAWABE *

* Institute of Environmental Rehabilitation and Conservation, Tokyo, Japan
 ** Faculty of Regional Environment Science Tokyo University of Agriculture, Japan

Abstract: The main object of this study was to quantitatively grasp the relationship between agricultural production information and information sources, which local farmers attach great importance to in order to realize stable and sustainable agricultural management. A questionnaire survey of local farmers was conducted in Kampong Cham, Cambodia, and received 437 responses. The results of the analysis are summarized as follows. 1) According to the results of Multiple Correspondence Analysis, it was confirmed that the relationship between the information source and the agricultural production information necessary for improving the agricultural management of local farmers, specifically, agricultural production information related to daily farming is obtained from familiar sources such as other farmers in the village and parents. In addition, the same tendency is seen in the expected information sources. 2) According to logistic regression analysis, the current sources of information and the expected sources of information were identified for the four agricultural production information sources that local farmers consider the most important. It was confirmed that local farmers have high expectations for Government officers (DDAFF officers) in addition to familiar sources such as other farmers in the village and parents. However, the results suggest that they are not aware of specific sources of information regarding market information and agricultural production information related to new technologies, which are assumed to be necessary information for improving the current agricultural management..

INTRODUCTION

Recently, with the economic development in Cambodia, the demand for various agricultural products such as vegetables and fruits has increased along with the staple food, rice. Despite these changes in domestic demand for agricultural products, the current situation in rural areas is that many local farmers only want to expand rice production. Producing a variety of agricultural products in addition to rice production, for which demand is expected to increase in the future, will enable sustainable and stable agricultural management and is expected to improve the poverty problem in rural areas. In order to shift from traditional farming to sustainable and stable farming, it is necessary for local farmers to clarify their evaluation of important agricultural production information and sources. The main object of this study was to quantitatively grasp the relationship between agricultural production information and information sources, which local farmers attach great importance to in order to realize stable and sustainable agricultural management.

OBJECTIVE

The specific analysis of this study has the following two issues. 1) According to Multiple Correspondence Analysis, it was confirmed that the relationship between the information source and the agricultural production information necessary for improving the agricultural management of local farmers. 2) According to logistic regression analysis, the current sources of information and the expected sources of information are identified for the four agricultural production information sources that local farmers consider the most important. Furthermore, The research site was in Kampong Cham Province, Cambodia. The total number of respondents is 437.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The relevant of agricultural production information and sources of local farmers

Firstly, Table 1 shows agricultural production information that local farmers consider important. These are the results from multiple answers.

Table 1 The Agricultural production information that local farmers consider important

Index	Agricultural production information									
	Information about seeds	Information about machinery	New technology information	Information about chemical	Information about organic	Market information	Information about training	Price information	Information about harvest	Planting information
Number of response	194	26	135	32	199	113	117	32	15	138
437 (m)	0.44	0.06	0.31	0.07	0.46	0.26	0.27	0.07	0.03	0.32

Source : Survey Data

Secondly, Multiple Correspondence Analysis confirms agricultural production information and its source Relevant that local farmers consider important. Specifically, Figure 1 shows to whom local farmers are given agricultural production information. In addition, Figure 2 shows who local farmers are conscious of wanting to receive agricultural production information.



Fig.1 Results of required agricultural information of local farmers and response patterns of information sources-Correspondence analysis-

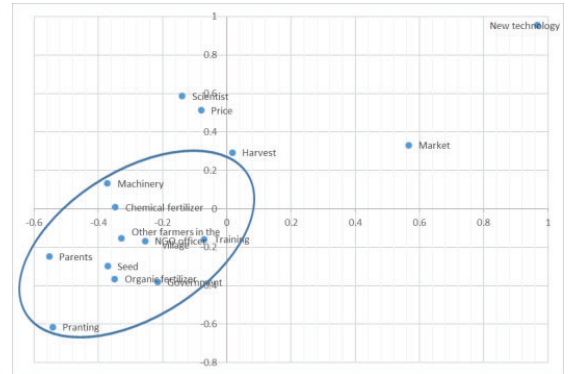


Fig.2 Results of response patterns of required agricultural information of local farmers and expected sources-Correspondence analysis-

According to the results of Multiple Correspondence Analysis, it was confirmed that the relationship between the information source and the agricultural production information necessary for improving the agricultural management of local farmers, specifically, agricultural production information related to daily farming is obtained from familiar sources such as other farmers in the village and parents. In addition, the same tendency is seen in the expected information sources.

Identification of current and expected sources of agricultural production information by logistic regression analysis

Table 2 Predicted results of logistic regression analysis

	n	%	variable	Who do you think should give you information and skills for agricultural production?				How do you get market price information?						
				partial regression coefficient	standard error	Wald test	P-value	odds ratio	partial regression coefficient	standard error	Wald test	P-value	odds ratio	
Organic fertilizer	Organic fertilizer=0	238	54.66	Government	0.3801	0.2241	2.9819	0.1081	1.4235	1.1893	0.2619	20.6990	0.0000 **	3.2849
	194	44.39	Village leader	0.1594	0.2420	0.2666	0.6092	1.8044	-0.0641	0.2502	0.1414	0.7069	0.3912	0.7589
	437	100.00	Other farmers in the village	0.2730	0.2116	1.6838	0.1971	1.3139	1.3184	0.2819	21.8084	0.0000 **	3.7298	
	Parents	0.5174	0.2268	5.1113	0.0235 *	1.6776	1.8904	0.5020	10.2777	0.0013 **	4.9999			
	Scientist	-0.3769	0.7494	0.2600	0.6197	0.9222	0.9104	0.7929	0.8737	0.3494	2.4854			
Seed	Seed=0	243	55.61	Government	0.5806	0.2291	6.5919	0.0102 *	1.7971	1.7929	0.2551	8.9340	0.0028 **	21438
	194	44.39	Village leader	-0.0726	0.2927	0.0777	0.7855	0.9292	-0.0641	0.2502	0.2811	0.5705 **	3.2649	
	437	100.00	Other farmers in the village	-0.0839	0.2126	10.5566	0.0013 **	0.4696	0.7650	0.2842	8.8316	0.0038 **	21489	
	Parents	0.4539	0.2338	3.7687	0.0522 *	1.5144	3.8138	1.0204	19.6453	0.0002 **	452319			
	Scientist	0.1329	0.6975	0.2480	0.6266	1.1651	0.1432	0.9066	0.0222	0.8770	1.1773			
Pranting	Pranting=0	299	68.42	Government	0.2955	0.2396	1.5173	0.218	1.3438	1.1972	1.1972	0.2667	17.4404 **	33110
	138	31.58	Village leader	-0.1516	0.2287	0.4392	0.5075	0.8594	1.0073	1.0073	0.2729	13.8204 **	2.7883	
	437	100.00	Other farmers in the village	0.4399	0.2411	3.2645	0.0663	1.5209	1.2972	1.2972	0.4519	7.8025 **	3.5598	
	Parents	1.0232	0.7196	2.0572	0.1515	2.0072	1.0882	1.0682	0.9374	1.8273	2.9102			
	Scientist	-0.6587	0.3023	4.7484	0.0293 *	0.5175	-0.3361	-0.3361	0.2735	15.109	0.0145			
New technology	New technology=0	302	69.11	Government	0.4208	0.2385	2.8984	0.0887	1.5009	0.3247	0.2830	1.8193	0.2032	1.3975
	138	31.58	Village leader	-0.0523	0.2927	0.0242	0.8823	0.9491	1.2108	-0.0522	0.2502	0.2400	0.0000 **	3.2649
	437	100.00	Other farmers in the village	-0.0602	0.2271	0.0703	0.7908	0.8416	-0.1729	0.2925	0.3498	0.5343	0.8412	
	Parents	0.2418	0.2480	0.2666	0.6092	1.2705	0.2418	0.2418	0.2418	0.2418	0.2418	0.2418	0.2418	
	Scientist	1.2574	0.7239	3.4987	0.0615	3.6862	1.0000	0.8881	4.4038	0.0359 *	6.0547			

note: * P<0.05 ** P<0.01

According to logistic regression analysis, familiar sources such as other farmers and parents in the village are currently the main sources of four agricultural production information that local farmers consider important. However, it became clear that local farmers wanted to have an information source that matched the content of agricultural production information.

CONCLUSION

The results of the analysis are summarized as follows. According to the results of Multiple Correspondence Analysis, it was confirmed that the relationship between the information source and the agricultural production information necessary for improving the agricultural management of local farmers, specifically, agricultural production information related to daily farming is obtained from familiar sources. In addition, it was confirmed that local farmers have high expectations for Government officers (DDAFF officers) in addition to familiar sources such as other farmers in the village and parents. However, the results suggest that they are not aware of specific sources of information regarding market information and agricultural production information related to new technologies, which are assumed to be necessary information for improving the current agricultural management.