A STUDY OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND PSYCHOLOGIC FACTORS RELATED WITH KNOWLEDGE AND IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL FOR APPLE–TREE FARMERS IN SOME REGIONS OF AL GABAL AL AKHTAR, LIBYA

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ABSTRACT

The research aims mainly to study the socio-economic and psychologic factors related with the knowledge and implementation level for apple – tree farmers in some regions of al gabal al akhtar, the knowledge sources they depend on, also determining the total degree of knowledge and implementation level, the problems facing the farmers and their suggestions. 25% from a population of (510) was taken as a random sample in the regions: gernada, messa, shahat, and alwaseta, resulting in 126 researched members.

Data were collected through questionnaire and interview. Percentages, frequencies, averages, st.d. and simple correlation coefficient were used in data analyses. The main results were as follow: (69.1%) of farmers with ages ranging between (42- 54) year, (93.7%) have different educational levels, which encourages the acceptance of recommendations and agri. innovations, (84.4%) have low and medium cosmopolite level, the results indicated that the personal experience was the most channel which the farmers depend on for their knowledge, the total degree of the knowledge level was high, the total degree of the implementation level was low.

The results showed correlative relationship at 0.01 between the total degree of the knowledge level and age, income, knowledge sources.

A relationship at 0.05 between the total degree level, educational level, and the total degree of cosmopolite. also a relationship at 0.01 between implementation level and the total degree of informal social participation.

A relationship exists at 0.05 between the total degree of implementation level and income of apple product.

The results indicated that the most important problems facing the farmers were: dispersion of aphids, diseases and high costs of pesticides

The researchers recommend by preparing planned extensional programs and coordinating with other departments concerned for increasing knowledge and implementation level of apple- tree farmers.