

Environment friendly practices among rural people in Moshtoher village, Qalubia Governorate

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ABSTRACT

The main objectives of this study were to identify the farmers' practices in handling farm and home waste, investigate the reasons of rejecting the application of environment friendly practices in handling farm and home waste, explore the farmers' opinion related to the available facilities for recycling waste, investigate the farmers demands for conserving the environment

The study was conducted in Moshtoher village in EL Dakahlyia governorate. It covered a systematic random sample of 234 landholders' farmers. Data was collected thorough personal interviews by using a questionnaire designed and pre-tested to achieve the study objectives, frequencies; percentages were used for data presentation and analysis. **The main results of the study could be summarized as follows:**

1. The most important techniques and practices to discharge farm wastes are using them as fodder, burning, using animal wastes as a soil fertilizer, as reported by 71%, 49%, 39.3% respectively. As for home wastes, about three quarters (73.7%) reported that the most important method for discharging home wastes was throwing them in garbage place at the village.
2. The reasons of rejecting the application of environment friendly practices in handling farm and home wastes were communication and knowledge reasons including lack of farmers' understanding of information concerning how to use wastes (as reported by 59.4% of the respondents) and inappropriate method for information provision (59.4%); financial reasons like high costs of materials required for transforming wastes to fodder; application-related reasons such as the difficulty of small scale application of the practice (43.1%); environmental reasons like using garbage boxes in streets for home purposes and agricultural extension reasons including lack of coordination and integration between agricultural extension and governmental, rural and civil organization, lack of environmental responsibilities assigned to extension workers.
3. The majority of farmers (84.6%) reported that the equipment and facilities required for recycling wastes were available, 87.2% reported that the extension workers were training them on transforming wastes into fodder.

4. Farmers' demands for conserving environment were: governmental support (as reported by (49.1%), increasing numbers of qualified extension workers in the area of environment (41.8%) and developing awareness raising and training programs for famers in the area of environment.