

Determining Rural Women's Knowledge Level Of Causes Of Environmental Pollution And Their Practices Leading To It In Some Villages Of Gharbia Governorate

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Abstract

This research aims at determining rural women's knowledge level of causes of environmental pollution and their practices leading to it. It also aims at investigating the relationship between the respondents' level of knowledge about the causes of environmental pollution along with the rate of practising what causes it, and some examined independent variables. The research was conducted in some villages of Gharbia Governorate, being one of the main governorates in all fields of agricultural production. There were 130 women respondents in the sample, representing 10% of the total research. They were collected from three different villages in Kafr Elzayat town. Data was collected via personal interviews and by means of a questionnaire prepared especially for fulfilling the purpose of the research objectives in February and March 2018. After that the data were extracted and analysed statistically using enumeration tables, percentages, averages, standard deviation and Pearson simple linear correlation.

The findings were as follows:

Results show that 34% of rural women respondents maintain a low level of knowledge of the causes of environmental pollution, 20% of them maintain moderate level of knowledge about environmental pollution causes, whereas only 46% of women maintained high level of knowledge. This shows that rural women's level of knowledge of environmental pollution is low. As the vast majority of about 54% of rural women respondents fall into the categories of moderate and low levels.

Results shows that independent variables, that are directly proportioned with the level of knowledge of rural women respondents of environmental pollution, are the educational level of the respondents, residents conditions and getting exposed to resources of information. The values of simple correlation coefficients are (0.435), (0.569) and (0.311) respectively and significant on level 0.01. However, independent variables like age, land tenure, livestock holding, machinery, agricultural guidance connections and attitude towards healthy environmental practices, did not have a significant relation with rural women respondents' knowledge of causes of environmental pollution.

Results show that 29.2% of rural women respondents reach a relatively high level of practices causing environmental pollution. 13.1% of

rural women respondents maintain a medium level, whereas only 57.7% of the total sample maintains a low level of pollution practices. There is a significant relationship between practices of rural women respondents causing environmental pollution, being an independent variable, and the condition of resident. The simple coorelation coefficient between them is (0.213) significant on level 0.05, whereas all other independent variables examined have insignificant correlation with the dependant variable of the level of rural women respondents practices causing environmental pollution.