Investigation of Factors Affecting the Possibility of Using Solar Energy in Agriculture as Perceived by Experts of Tehran Province Agriculture Jihad Organization

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Abstract
The purpose of this survey study was to investigate factors affecting the possibility of using solar energy in agriculture as perceived by expert of Agriculture Jihad Organization Tehran province. The research instrument was a structured questionnaire with close-ended questions, which its validity was confirmed by a panel of exprrts and its reliability by Cronbach's Alpha test (α = 0.82-0.95). The target population in this research, includes the province agriculture experts (N=308). Then, 196 respondents were selected as statistical sample using Morgan’s table and stratified random sampling. The results indicate that there are positive and significant relationships among variables including work background, economic, socio-cultural, and educational and research requirements with possibility of using solar energy in agriculture. Also, there is a positive and significant relationship between age and education level with possibility of using solar energy in agriculture. Stepwise regression analysis showed that economic requirements, research requirements, work background and educational requirements could explaine 33 percent of changes dependent variable.

Key words: Solar Energy, Agriculture, Agricultural Experts, Tehran Province.

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