Impact of Farmers Field School on Rice Production in Municipality of Macalelon, Quezon Province, Philippines

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Abstract

The study evaluated impact of farmers field school (FFS) on rice production in municipality of Macalelon, Quezon province, Philippines. FFS is an agricultural extension program which is based on Palaycheck system. The purpose of FFS program is to improve awareness of farmers regarding farming practices. The data was collected through interview with farmers in barangay Mambog and barangay Olongtao Ilaya using a questionnaire. Propensity score used in regression (covariance) adjustment method was applied to examine impact of FFS program. Results showed that participation into FFS program increased knowledge of farmers in barangay Mambog and barangay Olongtao Ilaya regarding rice production. In terms of yield, FFS farmers in barangay Mambog had higher yield than that of non-FFS farmers with the difference of approximately 330 kg/ha for dry season 2013-2014 and approximately 400 kg/ha for wet season 2013-2014. Correspondingly, FFS farmers in barangay Olongtao Ilaya also recorded higher yield of rice production than that of non-FFS farmers with the difference of around 300 kg/ha during wet season 2013-2014. However, the impact of FFS program on rice income was not significant in both barangay Mambog and barangay Olongtao Ilaya.