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Factors Influence Fertiliser Practices of Cabbage Growers in Gia Lam District, Ha Noi, Vietnam

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Abstract

Among socio-economic factors, fertiliser plays extremely important role which influence both food security and food safety in agricultural sector. The inappropriate rate of and fertilising methods might lead to the failure of food sustainable production as well as environmental pollution. The study was conducted in a peri-urban area of Ha Noi in order to understanding the circumstance of fertiliser application by cabbage growers and its influence factors. The data for analysis was collected by household interview. There were 137 cabbage farmers had involved and nearly a haft of them had VietGap or RAT certification.

The study found, cababage growers used averagely two tons of inorganic fertiliser per hectares and the organic fertiliser was over five tons per hectares. For each season crops, famer averagely applied fertiliser from four to five times and over a haft of interviewed households used poultry manure or ash for cabbage production. The results pointed out that, nearly 100 % farmers used their own experiences as the most important factor to determine their fertiliser practices. Furthermore, nearly one-third of interviewed farmers asserted that personal experiences is the sole factor which help them regulate the use of fertiliser in their farms. The average fertiliser rate also vary from farmer to farmer without the significant difference between two typical types of farms in Vietnam, certificated farms to non-certificated vegetable farms. Nonetheless, it significant correlated to households' perspectives, attitudes, demographic characteristic, and self-experiences. These findings help to proposed appropriate solutions for fertiliser management practice which promote food safety and sustainable growth of vegetable production in the study area.

Keywords: Fertiliser adoption, food safety, sustainable development