

## **ABSTRACT**

The complexities in the decision-making processes such as a variety of possible parameters for study, a range of agro-ecological and socio-economic settings and the diverse results are major challenges to capturing impact of a farmer field school. The present methods used to assess the impact of IPM, the true costs of pesticide use and the various benefits derived from adoption of effective IPM strategies focus mainly on inputs, yields and productivity.

This study evaluates the economic factors influencing two farmer field schools in Trinidad with (30) Farmers over a (4) four month period growing a crop of tomato using farmer field school IPM methodology compared to farmers practice calendar.

It was found that there was a notable increase in yields of the IPM plots, the plants were healthier, lower populations of pest were observed, an increase in the amount of natural enemies present in the IPM plots and the amounts of inputs used were significantly less compared to the farmers practice