Abstract

Documenting Technologies and Entrepreneurship in Vegetable Production in Trinidad.

The vegetable chosen for this project was Tomatoes and its production in Trinidad.

The purpose of this study was to document the use of technology and equipment used by tomato farmers in Trinidad. The study also looked at the use of chemicals like pesticides herbicides and synthetic fertilizers by these farmers. The project looks at labour shortage existing in the agricultural secret of Trinidad. It also takes a look at the level of innovation by farmers and their entrepreneurial skills and ideas that improve their production of tomatoes. The role of government intervention in the form of subsides is also looked.

The Methodology used to gather information for this study was gained from conducting personal interviews with fifteen farmers in different parts of Trinidad. All the farmers were asked the same questions from a pre-designed questioner and the tomato farmers had the opportunity to respond to them and state their specific situation in the production of tomatoes.

The Results indicate that farmers do use technology and chemicals in their production of tomatoes and that it is an integral part of their farming practices. The labour shortage was also found to be a problem in production of tomatoes by most farmers, and this also increases their dependence on the use of technology.

It was also found that the majority of farmers used in this study do not receive government subsides, and that this can be related also to their lack of interest in keeping farm records. The information gathered was also tabulated in a statistical program SPSS.