

ABSTRACT

Attitude to
and Likelihood to Continue
in 4-H and Young Farmers' Clubs in Trinidad
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The 4-H and Young Farmers' Clubs (4-H/YFC) programme has operated in Trinidad since 1969; and is characterised by a rapid turnover of voluntary leaders and club members, and no significant increases in the number of community based clubs.

A study involving three surveys was conducted among members, parents and voluntary leaders to determine the variables that influence 4-H/YFC members' and voluntary leaders' attitudes to 4-H/YFC; members' likelihood to continue in 4-H/YFC; and the club's ability to retain its members.

The relationships between 27 independent variables and members' attitudes to 4-H/YFC and their likelihood to continue in 4-H/YFC were studied. The relationships between 29 independent variables and two dependent variables - voluntary leaders' attitudes to 4-H/YFC, and the club's ability to retain members - were determined.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Multiple regression analyses were used to investigate the variables influencing the four dependent variables at the 0.05 level of significance. Likert and Factor analyses were used to develop three "attitude to 4-H/YFC" scales.

The following variables influenced members' attitudes to 4-H/YFC: family involvement in 4-H/YFC; level of education; club type; peer involvement; and likelihood to continue in 4-H/YFC.

Members' likelihood to continue in 4-H/YFC were influenced by : family involvement in agriculture; members' attitudes to 4-H/YFC; peer influence; and club executive experience.

The following variables influenced voluntary leaders' attitudes to 4-H/YFC: leaders' age; level of commitment; exposure to other youth groups; and years leadership experience.

Years leadership experience of voluntary leader; club executive leadership; level of members' support; and club location influenced the club's ability to retain its members.

All respondents had positive attitudes to 4-H/YFC, though of varying intensities.