

Determining Spatial Dependency of Systematic Risk of Dryland Wheat Yield in Iran: Application of Spatial Autoregressive Models

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to determine spatial dependency pattern of systematic risk of dry land wheat production in Iran, using spatial autoregressive models. To this end, spatial weighted contiguity matrix was constructed based on the Delaunay Triangularization method, and correlation coefficient among these neighbors were estimated using spatial autoregressive models. In addition, the role of precipitation and temperature variables in explaining yield variations in wheat production cities was determined. Results indicated that: First, yield risk of dry land wheat production has a systematic nature and covers a considerable numbers of wheat producing cities. Second, the intensity of spatial correlation varies among neighbor's cities. Precipitation and temperature variations play important role in explaining these differences such that the more variation in these variables is associated with the more variations in neighbor's wheat yields. This is a useful piece of information that can be used in developing appropriate insurance portfolio of agricultural products to reduce risk of the insurers in Iran.

JEL Classification: D81, G32.

Keywords: dry land wheat, spatial autoregressive models, systematic Risk.

Investigation of Space Integration and Law of One Price in North Bony Fish Market (Case study: Mazandaran and Guilan Provinces)

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ABSTRACT

Investigation of Long run Space Integration (SI) and convergence in agricultural market is very important, because it shows that price difference of integrated markets is equal to marketing cost in long run and there are the Law of One Price (LOP) in these markets. In this study, SI and LOP in bony fish market in Mazandaran and Guilan provinces are investigated. Therefore, markets of Kutum, Carp and Mullet fish in two provinces with monthly data in years of 2001-2010 are analyzed using integration, co-integration and Vector Error Correction Model (VECM). The results showed that there are market integration, SI and LOP in Mazandaran and Guilan's types of fish. Also, Mazandaran province market of Kutum and Mullet fish is reference market and effects on Guilan province market. Depend on the market of Carp fish, the results showed that Guilan is reference market. According to the VECM results, the adjusted rate of sudden shocks in all of the markets is equal to two periods. Based on the results, attention to the reference market for making efficient policies of market regulation and establishing suitable long run linkage in space markets will be necessary.

Keywords: bony fish, co-integration, space integration, vector error correction model.

The Role of Water Resources Management in Agricultural Development of Tabriz Plain

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ABSTRACT

Water is one of the most valuable natural resources in human societies which is demanded by different parts of the society, and as one of the main inputs of production in agriculture has a special role in the agricultural sustainable development. Nowadays, the consumption of water is more than the supply, and its highest consumption is in agriculture. This study scrutinized the role of management of agricultural water in agricultural development. In order to prevent from generalization and to achieve exact and applicable results, Tabriz Plain as one of the most important areas of agriculture in East Azarbaijan has been chosen and canonical correlation has been used. Thereafter, initially to reduce the number of indices to the fundamental mechanism and effective indices, factor analysis has been used and the elements achieved from this analysis have been used as the input in the canonical correlation analysis. The results indicated that 32.35 percent of the variance of the total water management indices has been defined by three canonical variables of agricultural development. Also, the three canonical variables of water management are capable to declare 43.32 percent of the variance of the total indices of agricultural development. According to the results, there is a bilateral relationship between water resources management and agricultural development. Hence, considering importance of the underground water resources in agricultural development, it is necessary to act sustainable indices of water usage in development planning.

Keywords: agricultural development, canonical correlation, Tabriz Plain, Water Resources Management.

Study of Food Import Capacity Effects on Rural Households Food Security in Iran

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ABSTRACT

One of the import indices of food security evaluation is food import capacity index. Ratio of total exports to food imports is often thought to be a measure of the capacity of a country to finance its food imports using revenues from exports of goods and services. This study investigates Food Import Capacity Effects on Rural Households Food Security by calculated AHFCI (Aggregate Household Food Security Index) and FICI (Food Import Capacity Index) in during 1983- 2009 with using Vector error correction model (VECM). Our finding indicates that food security was in good level and has increasing trend. Also, Food Import Capacity Effects on Food Security in national level is positive and model estimation shows Food Import Capacity Index Effects on Food Security in rural households' level in short run is negative and in long run is positive.

Keywords: AHFCI index, FICI index, vector error correction model.

Determination of effective inputs on production and production-risk of onion in Tabriz plain

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ABSTRACT

Usage of inputs is one of the most important factors affecting agricultural production variations. Thus, in the evaluation of production function, it is reasonable to consider the effects of inputs usage on the production fluctuation. East Azerbaijan province is one of the five major producing in Iran and Tabriz plain and the most important region of the province for onion production. The main objective of this study is determination of effective inputs on production and production risk of onion in Tabriz plain. To this end, the general model of Just and Pope has been used. Results show the generalized quadratic and Leontief form is best functional form to onion production and production risk, respectively. The results of these functions estimations indicates that area, seeds, water and labor inputs have significant and positive effect on onion production and chemical fertilizer has significant and negative effect on it. Results of estimation of risk function represent that increasing area, labor, water and seed consumption increase production risk and increasing chemical fertilizer and pesticide decrease it. Total output variance elasticity is 1.48 that shows that production risk increases by every increase of one percent of consumption of inputs.

Keywords: just and pope model, onion, production function, production risk, Tabriz plain.

Effective Factors on Rural People Participation in Watershed Management Projects (Case Study: Dorod Faraman & LalAbad Basin, Kermanshah Province)

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this descriptive-Correlation study was to investigate Effective Factors on Rural People Participation in Watershed management projects in Dorod Faraman & LalAbad Basin, Kermanshah Province. Both qualitative and quantitative paradigms were considered in the study. The target population in quantitative section consisted all rural peoples in the Dorod Faraman & LalAbad Basin villages (N=3722). 220 of them as sample were selected based on Morgan and kerjece table and randomized classified sampling method. The population of the study in qualitative consisted all villagers in the Hosin Gholi Khan village and all Watershed organizational experts which were selected by Snowball sampling method. The result showed that there are significant positive correlation between extension & informartive source using, attitude regards participation, education, and social relationship rate of respondents with their participation degree in watershed management projects. But agricultural work experience, livestock number, the amount of dry land and Sheep number had significant negative correlation with their participation degree in watershed management projects. The qualitative analysis revealed that there are differences between rural people and experts regards participation concept and related factors on participation degree. The regression analysis revealed that 57 percent of variability in participation degree of rural people in watershed management projects is explained by two informative and extension resources using degree and economic Status of respondents.

Keywords: Drod Framan Watershed Basin, LalAbad Watershed Basin, natural resources, user participation, watershed management.

An Investigation of the Influence of Intrapreneurship on Organizational Outcomes of Agricultural Extension in the Context of Agricultural Sustainable Development using the Structural Equation Model

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to investigate the influence of entrepreneurship on organizational outcomes Agricultural Extension in the context of agricultural sustainable development. This paper aimed to identify the key dimensions of entrepreneurship and determine how these dimensions influence the outcomes of agricultural extension organizations in the context of agricultural sustainable development. The statistical population of this study was agricultural extension experts (N=2882). Method of sampling was Proportional Stratified-random sampling method and data obtained from a sample of 315 respondents in Iranian agricultural extension organizations. Questionnaire was employed for data collection. The questionnaire's validity was verified by a group of experts and professors of Revise it. A pilot study with 30 numbers of questionnaire was conducted to determine the reliability of research tool, and was estimated the Cronboch's alpha that different parts of questionnaire were suitable for study. The collected data were analyzed using SPSS and LISREL softwares. According to the results, innovativeness, pro-activeness, risk-taking and strategic renewal are the most important dimensions of agricultural extension organizations entrepreneurship in the context of agricultural sustainable development. Also result revealed that entrepreneurship positively and significantly influences outcomes of Iranian agricultural extension organizations in the context of agricultural sustainable development. In other words entrepreneurship of agricultural extension is a valuable key capability that predicts outcomes of organization in the context of agricultural sustainable development.

Keywords: agricultural sustainable development, agricultural extension, entrepreneurship.

An Investigation of Professional Development Components Effects of Agricultural Extension Agents on Organizational Entrepreneurship in Kermanshah Province

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ABSTRACT

The objective of the current study is to identify the role of professional development components in developing organizational entrepreneurship in Agricultural Extension Management of Kermanshah Province. The study was fulfilled by using correlation method and relational-causal model. All the agricultural extension agents in Kermanshah province equal to 456 people formed the population of this study. According to Morgan table, 210 people were chosen as the sample size and for suitable classification a stratified random sampling method were applied. Research tools include questionnaire and its validity was confirmed based on the collective opinion of the university professors and experts of Ramin and Tehran universities and its reliability using Cronbach's alpha test for the organizational entrepreneurship development. Institutional-participatory and Financial-managerial components professional development, respectively ($\alpha=0.87, 0.92, 0.92$) was calculated, indicating that the suitability of the research tool. Data analysis using correlation and path analysis test was using SPSS version 15. Results showed that that there is a meaningful and positive relationship between the variables of organizational entrepreneurship development and professional development components ($P=0.01$). The results of path analysis show that out of seven variables of professional development components, three variables of employees' professional development by using researching-learning opportunities of the organization, the organization's cooperative skills and employing g managerial supports of the organization had the most causal effects respectively on organizational entrepreneurship development in Kermanshah province's agricultural extension organization.

Keywords: agricultural extension, Kermanshah Province, organizational entrepreneurship, professional development.

Contextual Factors for Enhancement of Knowledge Management in Agricultural Faculties

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ABSTRACT

In new Millennium, we encourage with rapid changes in technologies and complexity of environment. In such situations, create sustainable competitive advantage, requires new type of organization that have the ability to create qualitative knowledge. Higher education institutes including agricultural faculties to meet challenges ahead, require knowledge creation and manage it. So, managers of agricultural faculties are expected better management and more effective organizational knowledge and integrated in organizational culture to promote agricultural faculties' performance. In this regard, investigation of factors promoting knowledge management help to better manage it. The purpose of this study was implementation of contextual factors for enhancement of knowledge management in agricultural faculties. This research is done through a survey. The statistical population of the study consisted of all agricultural faculty members in agricultural colleges in Iran. The stratified random sampling technique was used, 350 faculty members comprising the sample size of the study. Research was administrated through a valid and reliable questionnaire. Content validity of questionnaire was ascertained by a panel of expert judgment and reliability determined through a pilot test and calculation of Cronbach's alpha coefficient (0.91). Factor analysis was used as main statistical technique to analyze the data. The findings revealed that seven factors determined about 67.22 percent of variations of contextual factors for enhancement of knowledge management in agricultural faculties. The factors were knowledge-based organizational culture, flexible organizational structure, and professional development of knowledge workers, measurement, IT infrastructure, benchmarking and strategy. Hence, the following suggestions for improving knowledge management in agriculture faculties are: promoting participatory culture for knowledge sharing, professional development of knowledge workers as a key element in knowledge management systems and knowledge-based orientation in defining and developing the visions, goals and strategies of agricultural faculties.

Keywords: knowledge, knowledge management, agricultural faculties.

Analysis the Effective Component on Agricultural Educator's Creativity

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ABSTRACT

The main purpose of research was Analysis of Agricultural educator's creativity and investigating it's relation with effective contextual variables. Research method was descriptive- survey and applied-developmental methods were used. Statistical population consisted of agricultural educators of Agricultural education centers in Kermanshah province (N=60) that studied by census method. Research instrument was questionnaire that developed based on Torrance Tests of Creative Thinking (TTCT) and Hilgard test. Result showed that the educator's creativity was normal with negatively skewed. Results of correlation coefficient test showed that there was positive significant correlation between, talent of creation novel and new idea, talent of application of novel and new idea, rapidity for recognition of opportunity and threats related with job, independently spirit, risk acceptance, self-confidence and experience in education with creativity and creative thinking of agricultural educators. Also results showed that these variables: talent of creation novel and new idea, talent of application of novel and new idea, talent of consideration to details, independently spirit and self-confidence totally explained 40 percent of variance of agricultural educator creativity.

Keywords: agricultural educator, creativity, creative thinking, education of creativity, torrance tests.

Analyzing the Factors Affecting on Rural People's Participation in the Projects of Natural Resources Conservation

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ABSTRACT

The main purpose of this research was to analyze the factors affecting on rural people's participation in the projects of natural resources conservation. The research method of the study was analytical- explanatory research. The statistical population of the study consisted of all the heads of households in rural district of Azadlo in Moghan township (N= 750). According to Krejcie and Morgan table, 260 of them were selected by simple random sampling for doing the study (n= 260). A questionnaire was used to collect the data. A panel of experts in the University of Tehran established the validity of the questionnaire. A pilot study was conducted to confirm reliability of the instrument. Cronbach alpha's coefficient for the scale of factors affecting on rural people's participation in the projects of natural resources conservation was equal to 0.97. Collected data were analyzed. The finding of factor analysis of factors affecting on rural people's participation in the projects of natural resources conservation revealed that four factors named as awareness- informing, social- psychological, cultural- legal and governmental- motivational explained 69.843% of total variances of participation in the projects of natural resources conservation.

Keywords: moghan township, natural resources, participation, projects conservation, rural Society.

Comparison of Different Dimensions of Sustainable Fishing in the Pareh Cooperatives in Gilan Province

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ABSTRACT

Fishing as one of the most important agricultural sectors has an important role in providing the protein for people. Pareh cooperatives despite of having a long history, are faced with problems such as loss of fishing catch compare with previous years, the high cost of purchasing tools and equipments to catch and transportation and Location of fishing become unfavorable due to natural and human factors that this could cause instability in fishing sector in the northern coastal strip, especially in Gilan province. This paper aimed to investigate the sustainability of fishing cooperatives (Pareh) in Gilan province and has been developed to analyze different aspects of sustainability in the cooperatives. The statistical populations of the research were managing directors and board chairmen of fishery cooperatives and Fisheries experts of Gilan province that 36 of them were determined through formula of Cochran and were selected randomly. Methods used in this paper, were the technique of multi-criteria analysis, a general approach that can analyze complex problems involving multiple criteria are used in sophisticated systems such as fishing. The results showed that economic sustainability has the best situation and ecological sustainability has the worst situation, which shows the status of the Caspian Sea's ecological crisis.

Keywords: Gilan province, multi-criteria analysis techniques, Pareh cooperatives, sustainable fishing.

Assessment of Mechanisms Affecting the Successful Installation and Use of pressurized Irrigation Systems in Isfahan Province.

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ABSTRACT

The main objective of this article is to evaluate the Mechanisms affecting the level of success in setting pressurized irrigation systems in Isfahan Province. The necessary data was obtained from field research, interviews and questionnaire responses from a random cluster sample of 315 farmers owning irrigation systems. Research findings indicate unremarkable success of farmers in implementing pressurized irrigation systems. The results show that representing variables such as individual characteristics, farm unit characteristics, farmers' managerial characteristics, economic characteristics of farmers. In addition to cooperation and encouragement of agencies and organizations in the implementation of the pressurized irrigation systems have a positive influence on their success in implementing pressurized irrigation systems. In contrast, social status of farmers has a negative influence on them. Variables including "education", "ownership of water resources" and "land utilization type" have a positive influence on the success of farmers.

Keywords: irrigation systems, Isfahan Province, mechanisms impacting, success.

Multifunctional Agriculture (MFA) from Viewpoint Iranian Specialists' Agricultural and Rural Development

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ABSTRACT

In recent years, multifunctional agriculture as a new paradigm of agriculture and rural development was introduced to the world. Multifunctional indicates that the inclusion of agricultural production functions (food, fiber) and unproductive functions (field of employment and income, strengthening social capital, conservation of biodiversity and genetic enhancement of rural industries, represented beautiful landscape partially) is Multi-purpose farming, villagers and farmers benefit from, all the blessings of the agricultural sector. Hence, the aim of this study was to identify and determine the terms of agricultural practices agriculture and rural development experts using the Delphi Method. By using purposive sampling, 15 were identified as members of the Delphi panel. This study was conducted in three rounds, 7 functions as functions as functions of unproductive agricultural crop production and 33 performance in Subheading 8 (social functions and cultural, political, economic, educational, sociology of knowledge, art, environmental ecological and ecological) were identified. The most important functions of production - the production of food, feed and fiber production and the most important functions of the unproductive to food security, employment creation earn money, social investment, exports and exchange technology, conservation biodiversity and natural resources, especially soil and water production base pointed.

Keywords: agricultural & rural development specialists, multifunctional agriculture (MFA), sustainable agriculture.

Determination of the Period of Yield of Investment in Agricultural Sector in Iran

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ABSTRACT

Among investments in different sections of economy, investment in agriculture is great importance. In addition to increasing production and job opportunities in agriculture, investment in this section will help to increase these in other sections as well, due to back and front relations with other economic activities. Due to the fact that investment does not yield rapidly, and it takes some time to show its main impacts, in this article we aim to recognize the investment behaviour in agriculture section during its period of yield. Almon Distributed Lag method is applied to measure the short, medium and long yields of investment time in Iranian agricultural sector. This paper, tries to determine how long investment leads to its yield average in Iranian Agricultural sector. Results indicate that the average yield of investment is 6 years and the immediate yield of investment in agriculture is negative. This period follows a 2nd degree function: during the first four years the yield has an increasing trend after the maximum yield rate occurs, then yield is decreasing trend that lasts till the 6th year. One dollar increase in investment in agriculture sector, results in more than 12 dollar increase in value added of agriculture sector in a 6-year period. Also in average the amount of efficacy of agricultural sector is higher than those of the whole country and non-oil sector.

Keywords: agricultural sector, Almon Distributed Lag, investment, period of yield, value added.

Skills of Entrepreneurial Personality of Rural Youth of Gonbad-e-Kavous County

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ABSTRACT

Entrepreneurship is very important in order to creating jobs for the unemployed and educated youth. As regards educated youth have fewer tendencies to self-employment and investment in this context. Therefore this study was performed with the objective investigating personality skills of entrepreneurial of rural youth and suggest solutions for strengthen these skills in Gonbad-e-Kavous County. The statistic population consisted of all 15-24 years old rural youth in Gonbad-e-Kavous County. 347 rural youth were selected applying Cochran's formula. The sample was drawn using stratified sampling method with proportional allocation. To collect data, a questionnaire was developed. Validity of instrument was confirmed by faculty members of the department of agricultural management and development, University of Tehran and experts revised the questionnaire. The reliability was calculated using Cornbrach's Alpha (0.85). The data were analyzed using Spss_{win.19}. The results of the Prioritize of personality skills of entrepreneurial of rural youth showed that pragmatism entrepreneurial characteristics are priority and next priorities were: need to succeed, center of control, risk appetite, seeking to challenge, tolerance of ambiguity. The results of the Correlation analysis indicated, there was just significant relationship between education and youth's skills of entrepreneurial personality. The independent T Test indicated significance differences between youth's tendency to establish agricultural occupations and skills of risk appetite, center of control and tolerance of ambiguity.

Keywords: Gonbad-e-Kavous County, rural entrepreneurship, rural youth, self-Employed, skill of entrepreneurial.