

# Analyses of Information Sources for Decision-making Used by Romanian Farmers

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## Abstract

The complexity of information necessary in planning activities determines farmers to use more information sources. It is important for Romanian farmers to use a high number of sources to improve the quality of their decision.

The research was conducted in 2007 in the North-West Development Region of Romania; the main objective was the evaluation of the planning activities. Data were collected using a survey completed by farmers. Results reveal that only 59% of respondents indicated maximum 2 sources of information, while 9% indicated more than 4 sources of information in the decisional process. This emphasizes that there is a problem regarding the complexity of the information used by farmers in decisional process.

This result and the fact that most farmers use the last years experience as information source in their decisional process contribute to the decision of cultivating same crops and using same technologies each year. This situation is reflected by the crops area from this region. For instance, the surface cultivated with wheat and maize was the same in 2003 and 2005. Thus, in this zone it is used the one-crop or two-crop system on the large scale. The use of these systems has an impact on the production levels; in the studied area, the average production was 3.4 tones for wheat and 2.8 tones for maize.

In conclusion, it is necessary that farmers may have more access to all information; the sources of information should keep the attention of farmers in order to be used in their planning activities and to improve the quality of their decision.

Key words: information sources, decisional process, Romanian farmer

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