

**Determination of the Factors Affecting the Level of Benefit from Young Farmer Project Support in Rural Development: Tekirdag Sample, Türkiye\***

Kırsal Kalkınmada Genç Çiftçi Projesi Desteklerinden Yararlanma Düzeyini Etkileyen Faktörlerin Belirlenmesi: Tekirdağ Örneği, Türkiye

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**Abstract**

Achieving development in the field of agriculture in a country passes through the development of rural areas. Various plans, programs and policies are being developed for the sustainability of production and solving the problems of those living in rural areas. In recent years, it has been given importance to support development and entrepreneurship in agriculture in Türkiye in order to solve the existing problems. For this purpose, the Young Farmer Project was put into effect with the decision of the Council of Ministers in 2016. With this project, it is aimed to ensure that young farmers stay in the agricultural sector by providing the support they need, and to prevent migration from rural to urban by encouraging their agricultural production and activities. In this research, the application process of the farmers who received support between 2016 and 2017 in Tekirdag province with the Young Farmer Project, how they carried out the project, what kind of difficulties they faced while carrying out, how they continued it, and where they could carry it was determined. A survey was conducted with 106 young farmers who received support within the scope of the research. 54% of the young farmers participating in the research are woman farmers. The fact that male farmers have existing businesses registered on them that they work in other paid jobs besides farming, positive discrimination against women within the scope of the project has contributed to the increase in the number of female young farmer applicants and winners. 82.1% of the young farmers involved in the project also reside in the rural area before the project, and 13.2% live both in the city center and in the rural areas. The rate of those who started living in rural areas after receiving project support is 4.7%. It has been determined that young farmers who own livestock enterprises do not have an increase in their income levels, and they have difficulty in meeting their borrowing and operating input costs. Young people who receive support within the scope of the Young Farmer Project express the opinion that the project will not encourage agriculture and animal husbandry. For women farmers, the most important contribution of the project is that they have owned businesses for the first time, and for male farmers, they have further expanded their existing businesses.

**Keywords:** Young farmer project, Rural development, Agricultural supports, Rural area, Tekirdag.

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## Öz

Bir ülkede tarımsal anlamda gelişmenin sağlanması kırsal kesimin kalkındırılması yolundan geçmektedir. Üretimin sürdürülebilirliği ve kırsal alanlarda yaşayanların sorunlarını çözmek için çeşitli plan, program ve politikalar geliştirilmektedir. Son yıllarda mevcut sorunların çözümüne yönelik olarak Türkiye’de de tarımda kalkınmanın ve girişimciliğin desteklenmesine önem verilmiştir. Bu amaçla, 2016 yılında Bakanlar Kurulu Kararı ile Genç Çiftçi Projesi yürürlüğe girmiştir. Bu proje ile genç çiftçilerin ihtiyaçları olan desteklerin verilerek tarım sektöründe kalmalarının sağlanması, tarımsal üretimlerini ve faaliyetlerini teşvik ederek kırdan kente olan göçün önlenmesi amaçlanmıştır. Bu araştırmada Genç Çiftçi Projesi ile Tekirdağ İlinde 2016-2017 yılları arasında destekleme kazanan çiftçilerin projeye başvuru süreci, projeyi nasıl yürüttükleri, yürütürken ne tür zorluklarla karşılaştıkları, nasıl devam ettirdikleri ve nereye taşıyabildikleri tespit edilmiştir. Araştırma kapsamında destek alan 106 genç çiftçi ile anket çalışması yapılmıştır. Araştırmaya katılan genç çiftçilerin %54’ü kadın çiftçilerden oluşmaktadır. Erkek çiftçilerin üzerine kayıtlı mevcut işletmelerinin oluşu, çiftçiliğin yanın da ücretli başka işlerde çalışıyor olmaları, proje kapsamında kadına pozitif ayrımcılık yapılması, kadın genç çiftçi başvuran ve kazanan sayısının artmasında etkili olmuştur. Proje de yer alan genç çiftçilerin %82.1’i projeden önce de kırsal alanda ikamet etmekte, %13.2’i ise hem il ve ilçe merkezinde hem de kırsal alanda yaşamaktadır. Proje desteği aldıktan sonra kırsalda yaşamaya başlayanların oranını ise %4.7 olarak tespit edilmiştir. Hayvancılık işletmelerine sahip genç çiftçilerin gelir düzeylerinde artış olmadığı gibi borçlanma ve işletme girdi maliyetlerini karşılamada zorlandıkları belirlenmiştir. Genç Çiftçi Projesi kapsamında destek alan gençler, projenin tarım ve hayvancılık yapmayı özendirmeceği görüşünü bildirmektedirler. Kadın çiftçiler için projenin en önemli katkısı ilk defa kendi adına işletme sahibi olmaları, erkek çiftçiler için ise var olan işletmelerini daha da büyütmiş olmalarıdır.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Genç çiftçi projesi, Kırsal kalkınma, Tarımsal destekler, Kırsal alan, Tekirdağ.

## **1. Introduction**

The rapid increase in the world population and the depletion of natural resources have led humanity to use scarce and limited resources correctly. Using natural resources correctly is possible by increasing their productivity. The efficiency of human capital is possible with the increase of social and economic welfare. This situation has led to the necessity to better understand the relationship between rural and urban. The relationship between rural and urban is equivalent to development. It is not possible for a developed city in the world to be a backward countryside. That's why various applications have been developed for rural development in the world and Türkiye. For the applications to be successful, the countryside should be analyzed correctly. Realistic models that take into account social, political, cultural, and sectorial realities should be developed. Different rural development policies are applied in the world according to their development levels.

Türkiye also rural development in terms of relevant institutions, especially the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry programs and organizations to improve the working and living conditions in rural areas, projects, realizes investments and subsidies. The IPARD program, which is implemented within the scope of the EU harmonization process, has special importance among these. 75% of this program budget was covered by the EU and the rest from the national budget through Agriculture and Rural Development Support Institution (ARDSI) projects. This includes the LEADER program, which tries to mobilize local action groups, the Ministry's Young Farmer support, grants from development agencies, and other supports for rural development. All these programs, projects, investments, and supports are aimed at improving the working and living conditions of those living in rural areas and thus preparing the ground for returning to the village and rural areas. These works, which require a large, medium, or small-scale investments, must be well-designed, sustainable, carried out by their purpose, scaled in a way that will not remain idle, and designed to provide a social benefit (Yavuz and Dilek, 2019).

Türkiye also supports the promotion of farmers covered by rural development, entrepreneurship in rural areas and promote the production, prevention of migration, it is important to support agriculture and animal husbandry. The population living in rural areas is gradually decreasing. For the rural population, especially the young population, to continue production where they are, they should be supported. Türkiye applied for the first time the "Young Farmers Project" with the sustainability of the projects supported by the manufacturer, it is possible to continue to live in rural areas and with the determination of entrepreneurial characteristics.

In 2016, young farmers from the project in Türkiye has benefited 11077 women and 3893 men, including a total of 14970 people support. These 14970 projects; 10500 units were carried out for cattle and ovine breeding, 2030 for beekeeping, 525 for poultry and sericulture, 1915 for fruit growing, greenhouse cultivation, mushroom cultivation, and medicinal and aromatic plant breeding. As a result of the evaluations, 337 million Turkish Lira (TL) of this grant was reserved for cattle / ovine breeding projects, 68 million Turkish Lira for beekeeping and poultry projects, and 45 million Turkish Lira for crop production projects. In 2017, 16067 people were granted grants within the scope of the Young Farmer Project. In this support, 8375 cattle, 165 buffalo, 2860 small cattle, 1020 livestock facilities, and animal purchase, 1423 beekeeping, 513 poultry breeding facilities, 50 silkworm breeding facilities, 67 Grant support was provided in the fields of seedling-sapling, ornamental plant production facility, and 92 medicinal, aromatic and geographically marked products (Anonymous, 2017). In 2018, within the scope of the Young Farmer Project, 503 million TL was allocated from the budget to support young farmers.

Planned rural development in Türkiye began with a five-year development plan in 1963. Regional development programs, projects and supports have been implemented. The Young Farmer Project within the Scope of Rural Development Supports entered into force with the Council of Ministers Decision numbered 2016/8540 in the Official Gazette dated 26.02.2016. In this research, it is aimed to determine the application process of the young farmers who gained support between 2016-2017 in Tekirdağ Province with the "Young Farmer Project", how they carried out the project, what kind of difficulties they faced while carrying out, how they continued and where they could carry the project.

## **2. Materials and Methods**

The research was carried out with farmers who received support from the "Young Farmer Project" in Tekirdağ Province between 2016-2017. 142 farmers in 2016 and 151 farmers in 2017 benefited from the support. In the selection of the interviewed farmers, the number of Young Farmer Projects applied in the research area was taken

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as a basis. Accordingly, cattle breeding, ovine breeding, beekeeping, poultry breeding, and plant production projects, which received the most grant support, were included in the research. The data were collected through face-to-face interviews with 106 young farmers who agreed to participate in the survey. Collected data were evaluated in the SPSS program.

### 3. Results and Discussion

The Young Farmer Project, which has been put into effect within the scope of rural development supports, has been considered as a study and support model for the preference of agriculture as a profession among young people living in rural areas, taking into account the average farmer age of 55 in our country. For this purpose, it is aimed to have entrepreneurial, strong, reliable, and volunteer young people in the rural areas consciously and educated at work while participating in the production. The program, which was decided to provide free support of 30,000 TL to Young Farmers in return for the project, was determined to last for three years in 2016-2018. In Tekirdağ Province, grant support was given to 142 farmers in 2016 and 151 farmers in 2017. The socio-demographic characteristics of 106 young farmers participating in the study are given in *Table 1*.

**Table 1. Socio-demographic characteristics of the producers within the scope of the research**

	Number of people	Rate %
<b>Gender</b>		
Woman	58	54.7
Male	48	45.3
<b>Age range</b>		
19-25	9	8.5
26-33	48	45.3
34-40	49	46.2
<b>Marital status</b>		
The married	82	77.4
Single	24	22.6
<b>Education status</b>		
Primary school	37	34.9
Middle School	32	30.2
High school	24	22.6
College	7	6.6
Bachelor Science	6	5.7

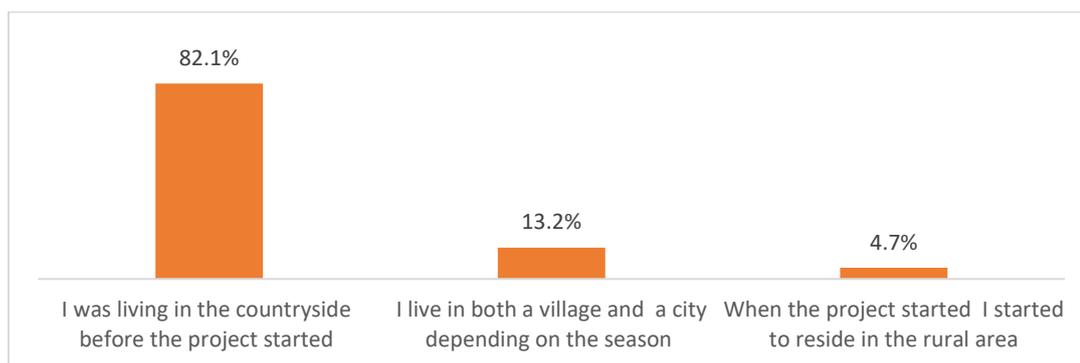
When the distribution of young farmers participating in the study by gender is examined, 54.7% are female and 45.3% are male farmers. In the evaluation of the applications, the fact that male farmers have existing businesses registered on them, they work in other paid jobs besides farming, positive discrimination against women within the scope of the project has been effective in the increase of the number of female young farmer applicants and winners. The participation of women farmers in agricultural production as business owners is important in contributing to the employment of young women. Therefore, the project, it is aimed to provide a balance between women and men in rural areas by supporting women entrepreneurs more and making positive discrimination, and benefiting from grant support more.

In this project, it is stated that young farmers are between the ages of 19-40. 46.2% of the young farmers participating in the research are between the ages of 34-40, 45.3% of them are between the ages of 26-33. The project aims to encourage farming, and there are 8.5% of young farmers between the ages of 19-25. Young people between the ages of 19-25 continue their university education. Participation in the project was limited due to the low rate of young population between the ages of 19-25 living in the villages and their continuing education. The tendency of rural youth to continue farming as a profession is gradually decreasing. Alkan and Özkan (2020), who conducted research in enterprises implementing young farmer projects, determined that 86.7% of the young farmers from whom data were obtained were primary and secondary school graduates, and Yerebakan (2017) determined that 76.7% of them were primary school graduates. The educational status of the young people participating in our study was determined to be higher than other researchers.

In the study conducted by Doğan et al. (2018), 79% of those who benefited from young farmer support, 80% in the study of Kan et al. (2018) were women. In 2016, young farmers from the project in Türkiye has benefited 11077 women and 3893 men, including a total of 14970 people support. Türkiye is 73.99% of the women who benefit from support in 2016. It is known that in the young farmer grant support program, it is known that women farmers are encouraged to include women entrepreneurs in business life by making positive discrimination and additional points are given (Anonymous, 2016). This practice seems to be reflected in the results as well. The values we determined were determined by Doğan et al. (2018) and Kan et al. (2018) was determined to be lower than the values determined by.

The labor force participation rate of women in the agricultural sector in Türkiye (34.9%) is well below the European Union average. This situation is poor utilization of the potential female workforce in Türkiye; shows an idle workforce capacity. Although women take an active role in agricultural production in Türkiye it is the unpaid family workers (Yılmaz and Özdemir, 2012; Özdemir et al. 2017a).

77.4% of young farmers are married. Married ones were given a plus five points in the evaluation criteria for applications. 34.9% of the young farmers participating in the study are primary school and 30.2% secondary school, 22% high school, 6.6% college, and 5.7% graduates. As the education level increases, the rate of sustainable agriculture and livestock activities decreases. It has been determined that those who have a bachelor's degree are graduates of agricultural faculties and have village backgrounds. The education level of women farmers is lower than that of men. 43.1% of the female farmers are primary school graduates and no woman has a college degree. It was determined that the elders of the family lived in the same house with their sons or another house opening to the same garden.



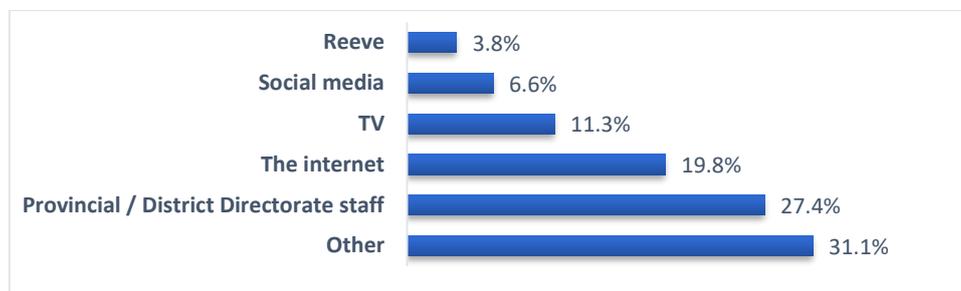
**Figure 1. Residence status of young farmers**

82.1% of the young farmers within the scope of the research reside in rural areas before the project, 13.2% of them live both in the city center and in the rural areas. When the project started, the proportion of those living in rural areas was determined as 4.7% (Figure 1). The limited opportunities, especially in rural areas, make it compulsory to live in provincial and district centers for the education of their children. It was observed that only those residing in rural areas bought a house in the city and district center and continued their education with the help of their family elders. It is seen that the target of attracting young people and providing employment to the rural areas targeted in the project has not been achieved. The young farmer project is seen as an attractive project for those who live in rural areas and own agricultural property. It has been observed that those who do not have agricultural experience or ties to rural areas have more difficulty in sustaining the young farmer project.

Here, especially with the young farmer project, it is necessary to carry out more comprehensive studies to ensure that young people stay in agriculture and sustainability. When the developments on the subject in the world are examined, it is seen that participation, environmental sustainability, and organization are important. Türkiye is also needs to be addressed as a whole of a moment ago to rural development. Thus, we can prevent rural poverty and migration from rural to urban (Yılmaz et al., 2019).

Figure 2 shows where the supporting areas first heard about the Young Farmer Project. Producers in the Young Farmer Project stated that 27.4% heard the project from the Provincial and District Directorates of Agriculture and Forestry, and 3.8% from the neighborhood headman. The number of people who are aware of social media, the internet, and TV shows that these sources take their place as an important communication network in rural areas.

This shows that the farmers use different communication sources and are aware of where to get information. Extension activities carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry also maintain their importance. Extension activities aimed at raising the awareness of farmers are extremely important. Before the rural development projects start to be implemented, it is important to provide the farmers who have the qualifications to apply for support and to eliminate the lack of training.



**Figure 2. Young farmers' awareness of the project**

92.5% of the young farmers participating in the research stated that they did not have any difficulties during the application process, and 7.6% stated that they had difficulties in applying. Those who did not experience any difficulties in the application process reported that they received assistance from the staff of the Agriculture and Forestry District Directorate regarding the project (Table 2).

**Table 2. Situation of young farmers receiving assistance in the application**

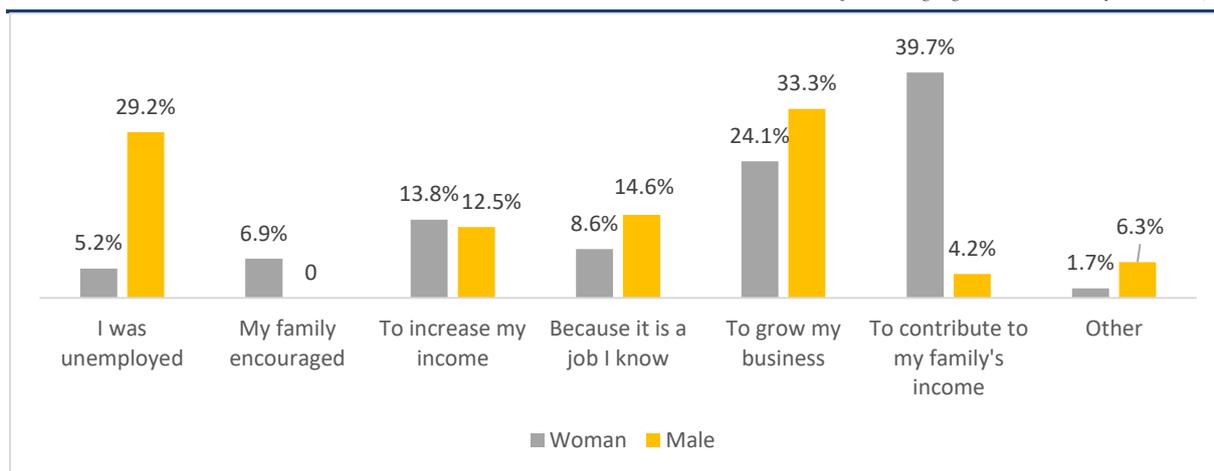
Getting help with the application	Number of people	Rate %
Provincial / District Directorate staff	57	53.8
Wife/husband	27	25.5
Neighbor- relative	2	1.9
Reeve	4	3.8
Other	16	15.0

In Table 2, it is seen from whom young farmers get help in their application to the project. While applying for the project, 53.8% of the young farmers stated that they received help from the district directorate personnel to which they applied. They reported that the young farmers who participated in our survey received information and support from the relevant personnel on how to make a lease agreement, from which institution to obtain documents, how and where to obtain the equipment, and the suitability of the business locations.

**Table 3. Education status of young farmers regarding their projects**

Education status of young farmers regarding their projects	Number of people	Rate %
Did not receive any education	29	27.3
I received training	34	32.1
I attended the training after the project started	43	40.6

The education status of young farmers related to the project subjects is included in Table 3. 32.1% of those who run the "Young Farmer Project" consist of producers who received training before applying to the "Young Farmer Project". Five points are awarded to those who receive training in the project application. Young farmers are required to receive training within the scope of the project. Uneducated persons must complete the education certificate within two years. To meet the training needs, necessary trainings are carried out in cooperation with the Provincial and District Directorates of Agriculture and Forestry and Public Education Center. The rate of young farmers who received training after the project started is 40.6%.



**Figure 3. The purpose of applying for the project by young farmers by gender**

Figure 3 shows the application purpose of young farmers, male and female, to the project. Female farmers stated that they applied to the Young Farmer Project to contribute to the family and male farmers to expand their existing businesses. Even if a woman works in an income-generating job in rural areas, she either gives the income she earns to her husband or spends it for the needs of the family (Yılmaz et al., 2019).

When the preliminary preparation status of the projects applied by young farmers is examined, we see that 34% of the farmers do not make any preparations, 56.6% make preparations, and 8.4% complete their deficiencies while the project continues. Farmers who do not prepare are farmers who already own a business. Those who applied to livestock projects made preparations on the supply, location and repair of barns, mushroom farmers in terms of breeding, and marketing, and beekeeping enterprises on the ground, tools and equipment.

When the young farmers within the scope of the research were asked about their status of knowing the content of the project contract, 80.2% of the farmers stated that they knew the obligations they had to fulfill while signing the contract, 16% knew partly, and 3.8% did not know the content. In a study conducted in Antalya on the subject, 49.6% of the farmers stated that they knew the contractual obligation partially, 18.9% fully, while 31.5% stated that they did not know at all. This study shows that 1/3 of the farmers do not have information about their contractual obligations (Alkan and Özkan, 2020). The values we have determined are higher than the values found by Alkan and Özkan (2020). The fact that the personnel in the provincial and district directorate of Agriculture helped the project owners and provided the necessary information played a role in the high rate of this issue.

72.6% of young farmers stated that they did not have difficulty while fulfilling their contractual obligations, 8.5% of them had difficulties, and 18.9% of them partially. The most difficult issue arises from the necessity of buying animals instead of animals in case of dying of animals in livestock enterprises and slaughtering in case of necessity. 69.8% of the producers participating in the survey stated that there was no increase in their income level with the "Young Farmer Project", and 30.2% of them stated that their income increased. In the projects, cattle breeding enterprises stated that they had difficulties in covering the costs of feeding, maintenance, artificial insemination, and veterinary services. Livestock project owners stated that they had difficulties in meeting the operating expenses due to the small size of the animals, the income-generating position, and the long feeding period until calving. It has been observed that young farmers who do not have different agricultural incomes and their livestock enterprises have more difficulty in this sense.

In the research conducted by Altıntaş et al. (2020), 65.83% of the producers who benefited from the support stated that they started production in this way, 87.50% stated that they increased their current production, 9.17% maintained their current production, 5% said that they solved their financial difficulties even though they did not contribute to agricultural production. (Altıntaş et al., 2020). Many sources, such as the Farm Services Agency in the United States and the Young Farmer Survey in the European Union, report that it is difficult for young entrepreneurs to access finance, credit and land (NYFC, 2017). These findings also show parallelism with the data obtained from the businesses included in the research. Young farmers reported the fastest turnaround in vegetable

growing and beekeeping businesses in the controlled greenhouse facility. It was observed that those who received support in fruit growing were technical and lacking in practical training.

**Table 4. Status of young farmer project's encouragement to agriculture**

Young people's admiration for agriculture	Number of people	Rate %
"Young Farmer Project" encourages agriculture for young people	45	42.5
"Young Farmer Project" does not encourage young people to agriculture	44	41.5
"Young Farmer Project" encourages young people to partly agriculture	17	16

41.5% of the producers participating in the research stated that the "Young Farmer Project" would not encourage young people to do agriculture and animal husbandry (Table 4). They reported that the Young Farmer Project could be an attractive project for young people residing in the countryside, owning agricultural business and property, and having experience in agriculture and animal husbandry. In a study conducted by Yerebakan (2017), it was stated that 76.4% of the sheep farms have their own lands; In another study conducted by Özsayın and Everest (2018), 44.8% of the enterprises own more than 25 da of land, 39.2% of them have less than 25 da of land, and 16% own land. It was reported that there was no property and the amount of owned land was 33.2 da on average. This situation causes an increase in operating costs and negatively affects the financial strength of the enterprise. The high operating costs and the problems they encountered in marketing made it difficult for young farmers to continue their activities. In another study, it was observed that although the profitability of the young farmers who received support within the scope of the project was low, the spouses and other family members working as "paid workers in their own businesses" worked as a collective family company (Satar and Sakarya, 2021).

In the study conducted by Unakitan and Başaran (2018), 67.20% of the young farmers stated that the project had an encouraging contribution to agricultural production, and 82.80% could not reach the income level they expected as a result of the project. Although the young farmer project is the right approach for the employment of young people in the agricultural sector, it does not fully meet the grant expectations given in today's market conditions.

**Table 5. Effecting the young farmer project's return to rural neighborhoods**

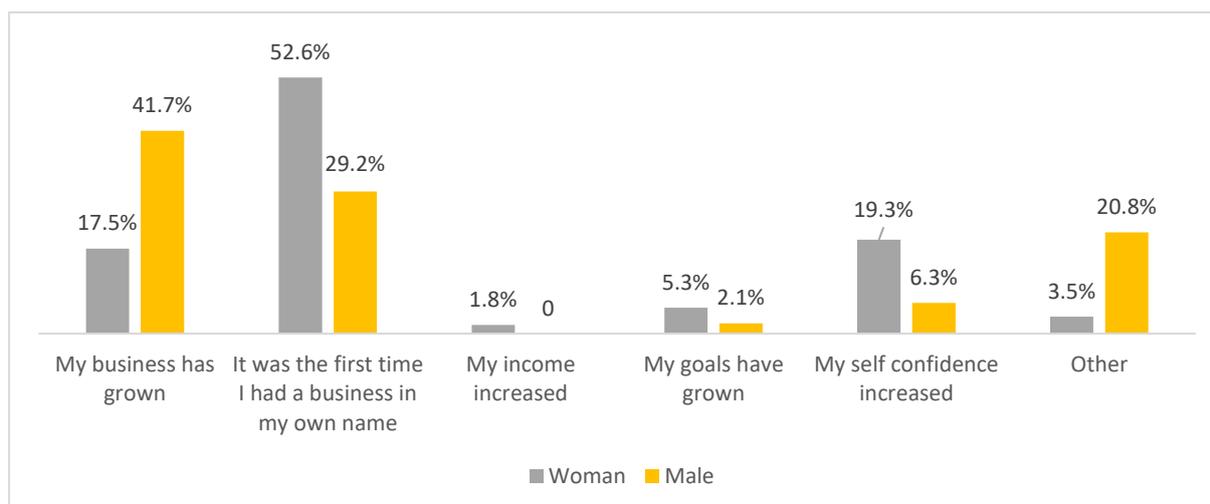
Affecting return to rural neighborhoods	Number of people	Rate %
Affects returning to rural neighborhoods	18	17.0
Does not affect return to rural neighborhoods	74	69.8
Returning to rural neighborhoods slightly affects	14	13.2

69.8% of the producers participating in the survey think that the "Young Farmer Project" will not make returning to the village attractive (Table 5). Young farmers stated that it would not be possible to establish a businesses from scratch and make a living with six cattle and forty ovine animals given to them within the scope of the project. They stated that projects should be developed and their production and marketing should be supported to prevent migration from the village to the city and to sustain the production. According to the research conducted with young farmers in Yalova, it has been reported that 91.9% of the participants declared that they will continue the production, which is the subject of the project, even after the control and inspection period is over (Güder, 2019). In the study conducted in Isparta Province, it was reported that 67.27% of young farmers declared that they would continue farming in the future (Başaranoğlu, 2019).

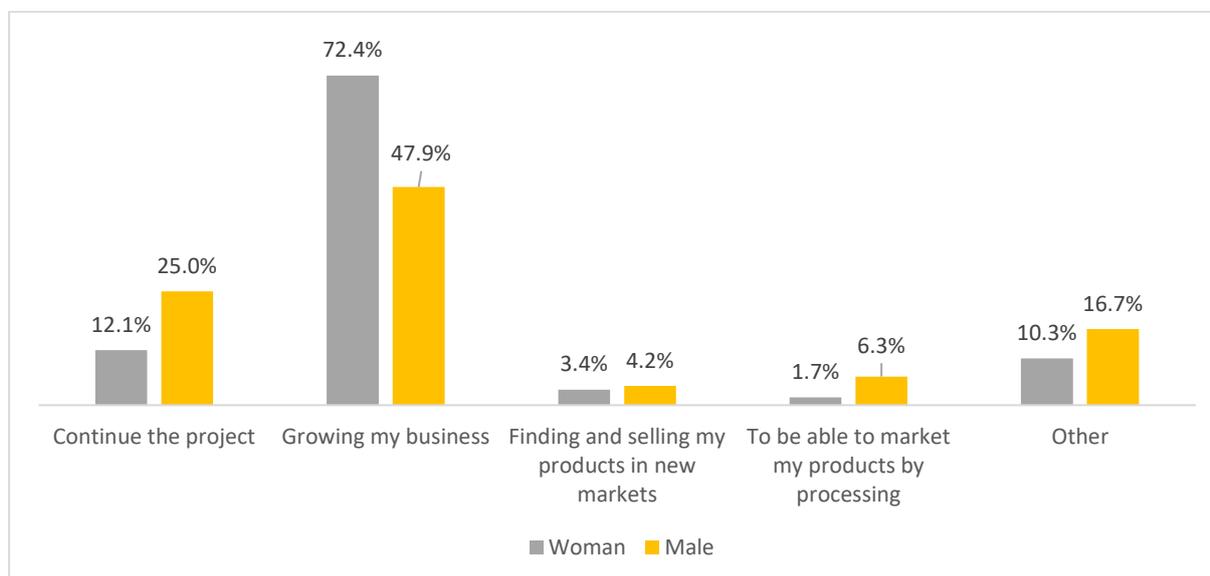
Figure 4 shows the most important contribution of the "Young Farmer Project" to young farmers. For women farmers, the most important contribution (52.6%) of the project is that they own a business for the first time. The most important contribution (41.7%) for male farmers is the growth of their existing businesses. The project contributed more to women than men to increase their self-confidence (19.3%) and enlarge their goals (5.3%).

Figure 5 includes the goals of young farmers related to their projects. It is observed that female farmers (72.4%) are more determined to grow their businesses than male farmers. Male farmers stated that the small and bovine animals given within the scope of the project reduced the operating efficiency, therefore they wanted to continue their business with new animals by disposing of the animals. The young farmers who received support reported

that those who did not have a livestock business and did not plant forage crops had difficulty in meeting the operating expenses and that the project was not possible to carry out, which negatively affected the success of the project. Women are much more involved in post-harvest or animal production activities than men. Women are more involved in agricultural activities when the family has a low level of mechanization (Yılmaz et al., 2019). It is understood that women mostly work in planting, planting and hoeing in the field of crop production. Considering their participation in activities related to animal production, it has been determined that women do jobs such as animal feeding, milking, irrigation, barn-barn cleaning. In rural areas, it is seen that women take part in every stage of agricultural production (Özdemir et al., 2017b). In a study conducted with 115 female young farmers in Kahramanmaraş, 80% of the entrepreneurs reported that their perspective in the society was more positive and they were respected thanks to the project (Çelik, 2018).



**Figure 4. Contribution of the young farmer project to young farmers by gender**



**Figure 5. Targets of young farmers regarding their projects**

#### 4. Conclusions

Various programs for rural development in the world and Türkiye, projects, policies are developed and implemented. After each program, deficiencies are identified, changes are made, new goals and development levels are determined.

Projects that will attract the attention of young people between the ages of 19-25 should be developed in preventing migration from the village to the city. Farming should become a professional profession to sustain

agriculture and animal husbandry efficiently. In the supports, people who have a diploma in agriculture from village origin should be given plus points, considering that they can contribute to agricultural employment. Unemployment increased gradually as new jobs should be created in rural Türkiye. Rural development programs should aim to provide the standards in which rural people can sustain their lives in their places.

The young farmer project is an attractive project for farmers who own agricultural property and have knowledge and experience in agriculture. Those who do not have ties with the rural areas and experience in agriculture cannot continue the project efficiently and the support ceases to be sustainable. The high operating expenses and the low income of the products in marketing make it difficult to sustain agricultural activities. It has been determined that young farmers who only have livestock businesses that do not make crop production have more difficulty in meeting their operating costs compared to young farmers engaged in both crop and animal production. Young farmers who do not have their livestock enterprises and different agricultural incomes have more difficulty in running the project. The fastest financial return has been in vegetable growing and beekeeping enterprises in the controlled greenhouse facility.

In livestock projects, fewer more qualified animals should be given. Giving the animals too small and not giving qualified animals extended the maintenance and feeding period of the farmers and increased the operating costs. Transition to production has been extended. Farmers' income did not increase, and their income decreased due to borrowing due to long-term maintenance and feed expenses.

Before the implementation of Rural Development Projects, sufficient information should be given to the personnel working in the field. Technical support should be provided regarding the application areas, and the experience and knowledge deficiencies of the farmers, if any, should be eliminated. In case of need, inter-institutional cooperation should be provided, relevant institutions, and other supports should be introduced.

Positive discrimination against women farmers is effective in women's participation in production. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry needs to support more young women entrepreneurs by increasing the amount of support.

In the sustainability of projects, input supply, appropriate repayment loans, and marketing opportunities should be provided. Accelerating the possible return to rural with policies focusing on the improvement of working and living conditions in the countryside will both reduce the overpopulation density in the city and prevent the evacuation of the countryside and lead to economic, social and cultural vitality in the countryside.

One of the factors affecting the success of the project is the necessity of establishing the enterprise in the year the project is signed, and the forced agricultural enterprises to be established in the unsuitable season. Especially in beekeeping enterprises, serious bee losses were experienced because the project start date was started on the wrong date of the bees' wintering period in 2016. This was not the case for those who qualified in 2017.

Young farmers, who had difficulties in growing their businesses and meeting operating costs, had trouble using loans. They reported that especially in livestock enterprises there is a need for feed support and loan with favorable payments. Giving the necessary credit support to the enterprises for the solution of this problem in terms of production can provide positive contributions.

They reported that one of the most important problems was the high fuel and feed prices in livestock farms and the fact that the sales of milk and juvenile animals did not meet the production costs.

Training and extension activities of farmers and personnel should be carried out before the projects in rural development studies begin. The problems encountered by farmers while carrying out their projects and lack of information should be identified and addressed on time.

Especially, it is necessary to create grounds where young people, who have received agriculture education, can exist in rural areas, set an example, and are a family business that they took over from their family, where they can develop their business ideas. It is necessary to bring together the increasingly educated unemployment and agricultural production that turns into an idle state.

Also, such projects to be implemented in rural areas should consider the rural area as a whole and be implemented with comprehensive thought. For example, young farmers migrate to the city especially for the education of their children. In this context, projects that will prevent the migration of young people should be

implemented by improving access to education in rural areas. It is important to have social security opportunities for young farmers to stay in rural areas. Therefore, it would be appropriate to provide premium support for young farmers in voluntary agricultural insurance premiums.

Our present study had some limitations. Firstly limitation was sample selection. Because the focus is on young farmers in Tekirdag province, it is located in the northwestern part of Türkiye and in the European continent. The literature on this subject is limited. However, this study is important in terms of laying the groundwork for future studies. It can also guide the state support to be made. The second limitation is the method used in data collection. A face-to-face survey method was used in this study. This method is considered to be more reliable than an online or internet survey, since face-to-face survey researchers can evaluate whether the respondents are reliable or not, and can explain questions that are misunderstood in the surveys.

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