



P46 : PESTICIDE DEALERS' KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND BEHAVIOURS IN ADANA PROVINCE

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Introduction and Aim

Pesticides are used widespread in applications and researches of agricultural fight. Unconscious usage of these products which are used to control, prevent and reduce the harmful effects of organisms threats human health. This research aims to asses pesticide dealers' knowledge, attitude and behaviours of pesticide dealers in Adana

Method

This descriptive research is done interviewing 50 pesticide dealers face-to-face in Adana. A questionnaire interrogates participants' socio-demographic features, knowledge, attitude and behaviours during pesticide usage is applied to them. Data is analyzed using SPSS 19.0

Findings

Average years of work of the participants is $13,2 \pm 8,6$ (min=1, max=35). Main occupation of the pesticide dealers; 62,5 % agricultural engineers, 12,5% farmers , 8,3% agricultural technicians. 73,5% of participants conform with safe storage conditions while 26,5% do not. 10,2% of participants don't read the content of product they sell. 56,2% of dealers don't use any protective equipment while 43,8% use. 6 % of participants were exposed to pesticides' harmful health effects somehow at past. 88% of dealers don't believe that pesticides are used facultatively in field while 12% do. Dealers that instruct consumers about content, usage, dose, poisoning symptoms etc are 81,6% and that don't instruct are 18,4%. 66% follow the legal progress about pesticides while 34% don't. 46,9% participate educational programmes while 53,1% don't. Some dealers point out many unlicensed and illegal products are marketed.

Results

Inadequacy of dealers about reading content of products , compliance with safe storage requirements, protective equipment usage, following legal progress and informing consumers has been identified in our research. A serious fight against unlicensed and illegal products is necessary.

Keywords: Pesticides, Pesticide dealers, Public health