

My comments on the on the manuscript no- 2012 AJAEES 2869

Overall, the research idea is good but there are a few holes to be filled before accepting it for publication. This manuscript can be published if author/s can address the following considerations:

- May want to support the statements made in introduction part (pg 2 para 3) with literature. Else, it appears like author/s personal views. Same may be considered for statements made in the first paragraph of page 3.
- I believe the author/s have used null hypotheses or hypotheses of no difference. So, may want to word it accordingly.
- Author/s mentioned how many groups were selected and how many people from each group for this study. However, no rationale or formula is provided on why these numbers only. If it was done purposively or for convenience purposes, author/s may mention that and give underlying reasons for doing so.
- Author/s may want to briefly explain how were validity and reliability of questionnaire addressed. Else, internal validity threats can't be ruled out. Please pay attention to this.
- Variables mentioned in table 2: emotionally stable, selfless, loyalty, integrity need to be operationally defined for this study. These variables are too broad and may encompass many different things, and there is a very high possibility that those who filled out questionnaires would fill it out based on their understanding of these variables. Even terms like "regularly" attending meetings etc need to be quantified. Else, regular may mean different things to different persons. I think that author/s would have taken care of this while collecting data. Else, internal validity concerns hamper this study.
- I have a few questions in the correlation analysis. Author/s appear to have just changed the name from Spearman to Pearson with data remaining practically the same. I am not sure what they did here. They may want to revisit their data sets and see if everything is right with their analyses.
- Author/s state in implications part: "The training should also cover access to cheap inputs and the necessity of direct marketing of farm produce to consumers. The area of collective produce price determination should also be included in the leadership training

programme for farmers' groups". While these are good topics to be addressed under group topics, they go a bit overboard when focusing training on "leadership". I believe that if the groups are trained to adopt democratic or laissez faire leadership from the autocratic style that exists in most rural areas of developing countries, such topics will automatically be taken care.

My decision

[I am(Sentence deleted to hide personal communication)] I want the managing editor(s) to make sure that the authors correct all the comments I made above. If managing editors want to look this paper once again after authors correct the comments I made, I will be happy to do that.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this paper.