

ABSTRACT

Proven and sustainable practices like climate-smart agricultural practices (CSAPs) need to be prioritized and promoted for uptake especially by the farmers to achieve sustainable development. These are capable of contributing to the realization of sustainable development goals through averting food and nutritional insecurity, increasing and sustaining yields that translate into increased incomes and later reduced poverty. This is because CSAPs enable farmers to adapt and mitigate climate change effects. However, due to inappropriate communication of CSAPs to the farmers, to date, some farmers still see no escape route from the frightening effects of climate change and they are currently adopting a rather fatalistic attitude. This study investigated the information dissemination pathways used by different categories of smallholder potato farmers for and practice of CSAPs. It found a difference between information sources and practice of CSAPs at a 5% level of significance ($\chi^2 = 100.12139$, $df = 2$, $p < 0.05$, Cramer's $V = 1.0$), and a difference in the use of the three information dissemination pathways between men and women at a 5% level of significance ($\chi^2 = 6.05949$, $df = 2$, $p < 0.05$, Cramer's $V = 0.17406$). The three information dissemination pathways included media, neighbors and friends, and extension officers. Generally, farmers were aware and practiced the CSAPs investigated in this study except for irrigation with high awareness yet with low uptake percentage and potato seedlings and mini tubers both with low awareness and practice respectively. This study recommended mainstreaming of CSAPs information.

Keywords

1. Climate_change
2. Climate-smart agriculture
3. Sustainable development
4. Information dissemination pathways
5. Gender
6. Adoption
7. Potato production
8. Smallholder farmers
9. Kenya