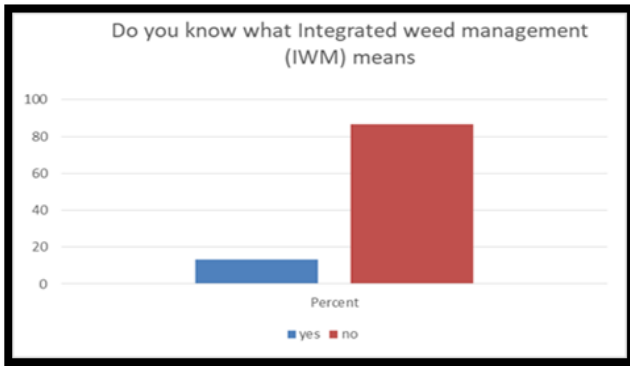


THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF FARMERS AND THE FARMERS KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICES (KAP) TOWARDS ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE WEED MANAGEMENT PRACTICES: JORDAN VALLEY CASE STUDY

- Zero parasitic is a project aiming to deliver innovative sustainable solutions to overcome broomrape plant parasitism in Mediterranean cropping systems.
- Integrated weed management program must be based on an understanding of the farmer's knowledge level about Integrated Weed Management meaning as approach.

- The Knowledge level of farmers have significant role on adoption of integrated weed management.
- The existing knowledge level of farmers was determined through five point likert scale and the result shows that the TRAINING COURSES with farmer's experiences will raises the adoption of integrated weed management.

Most farmers don't know what Integrated weed management (IWM) means.

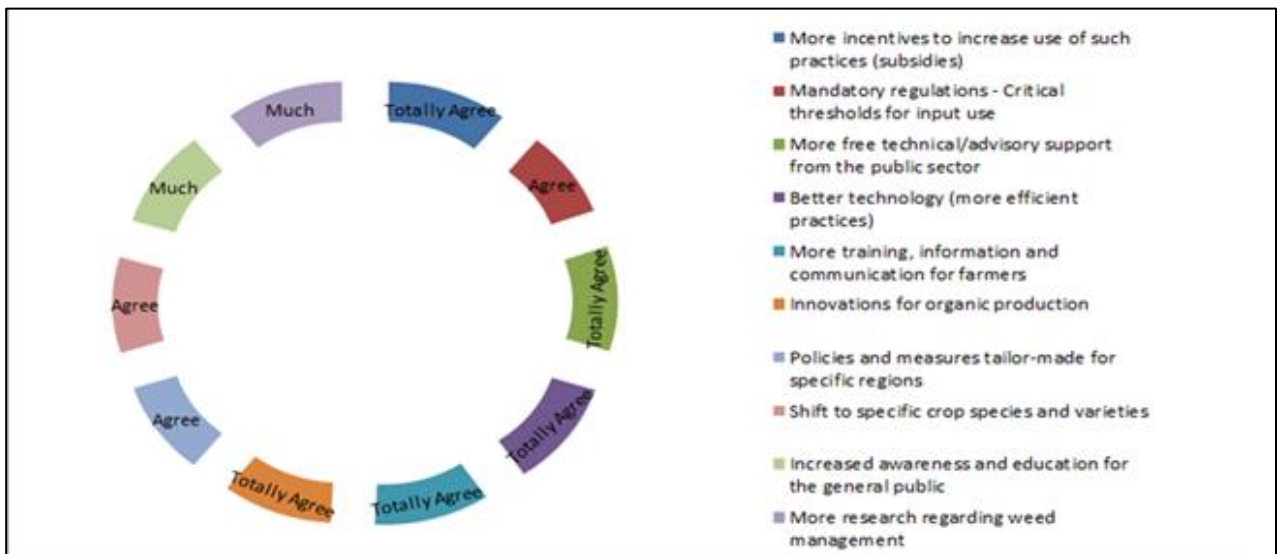


Farmer's access to the knowledge and information		
Very much	Much	Neutral
	Mechanical treatment	
	Selection of suitable crops	
	Selection of suitable varieties	
	Seed pre germination	
	Chemical herbicides	
	Deep plowing	Early sowing
	Crop rotation	Fallow system
Manual interventions	Cover crops	Pseudo-seeding

The result of the Economic Research study indicated that farmers practice many methods of IWM and have the ability to access to the knowledge and information for its practices BUT they don't understand the meaning of the IWM as a program consists of a combination of preventive, cultural, mechanical and chemical practices.

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The most important challenge according to overcome barriers preventing the adoption of new weed management methods were: more incentives to increase use of such practices (subsidies), more technical/advisory support from the public sector, better technology (more efficient practices), more research regarding weed management, more training, information and communication for farmers, innovations for organic production and increased awareness and education for the general public. Farmers have access to knowledge and information required in order to efficiently use of manual interventions. However, the lack of money and not receiving training courses are the barriers hindering the adoption of the weed management practices.



Recommendations:

- The study recommended that governmental and non-governmental organizations should provide trainings, workshops and awareness campaign for farmers on the methods of integrated weed management (IWM).
- Farmers' awareness of importance of integrated weed management practices should be raised.
- More research on weed management and innovations for organic production is needed.
- Provide more technical/advisory support from the public sector, to overcome barriers preventing the adoption of new weed management methods

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