

Agroecosystem Determinants and Desirability of Topics in Developing a Training Curriculum on Urban Agriculture in Philippines

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This study was conducted to determine and analyze the desirability of the UA training curriculum in District 1, Muntinlupa City. Guided by the Systems Theory, this study aimed to: 1) describe the agroecosystem determinants of the urban farmers in terms of the following: social and economic characteristics, socio-cultural, political, and institutional aspects of interaction, knowledge, skills and farming practices in urban agriculture and biophysical characteristics; 2) determine the desirability of the respondents in the development of a training curriculum for urban agriculture; 3) analyze the relationship between the selected agroecosystem determinants and respondents' desirability to the topics in the training curriculum for urban agriculture; and 4) develop a compendium of topics in the UA training curriculum for District I, Muntinlupa City.

A total of 139 urban farmers-respondents were randomly selected from the *barangays* (small administrative division) in District 1, Muntinlupa City, Philippines. Twenty-one key informants were involved in focus group discussions which represented the educational institutions, local government units, private individuals, and urban farmers. Survey research method and a focus group discussion were used in data gathering. The study showed that UA training curriculum is still desirable in District 1, Muntinlupa City. Agroecosystem determinants served as the predicting factors in generating the appropriate compendium of topics in the UA training curriculum. Six (6) UA models were generated based on the outcome of the analysis between selected agroecosystem determinants and the desirability of topics in the UA training curriculum.