

## CHAPTER 7

### CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 7.1 Conclusions

This study attempted to find socio-economic and agricultural factors affecting youth participation in agriculture and satisfaction by doing agriculture related occupation/activity using secondary data acquired by a survey carried out by the Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research and Training Institute (HARTI). It was found that socio-economic factors such as gender, marital status, education level, monthly income, agricultural experience and other factors such as availability of paddy land, agricultural machineries, agricultural inputs, financial facilities, labour, water/irrigation facilities, agriculture extension services, trainings and market facilities were significantly influenced on the youth participation in agriculture.

 Irrespective of all these factors, only 41 percent like to participate in agriculture and others (59%) dislike to participate in agriculture. Of those who engaged in agriculture, highest percentage participation (45.7%) was males. A high percentage (48.9%) of youth who engage agriculture as an occupation were married. Furthermore, 64.5 percent of agricultural participants were less educated youth while 78.4 percent of agricultural non-participants were educated youth. Higher percentage (60.8%) of youth who have less than 10 years of agricultural experience had not participated in agriculture.

University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.  
Electronic Theses & Dissertations  
www.lib.mrt.ac.lk

However, when all the significant factors were considered together using the binary logistic regression approach, only the five factors, namely education level, agricultural experience, and availability of agricultural machineries, agricultural inputs and financial facilities were found to be statistically significant ( $p < 0.05$ ) on youth participation in agriculture. Among the agricultural participants, only 26 percent of them were satisfied by doing agriculture while balance 74 percent were

not satisfied by doing agriculture. It concludes that a major percentage of youth is not satisfied by doing agriculture as an occupation/activity. Marital status, education level, and availability of paddy land, high land, agricultural inputs, labour, water/irrigation facilities and market facilities were found as significant influential factors on youth satisfaction by doing agriculture as an occupation/activity. However, when all factors considered together, only marital status, education level, and availability of high land and labour were found to be significant on youth satisfaction by doing agriculture.

## 7.2 Recommendations

- Youth do not consider agriculture as a prestigious profession as it is relatively with the education level of them. Also, there is a lack of social and institutional recognition of farming as an employment. To overcome this situation to some extent, government can encourage the young people by motivating them to involve in agriculture from the school level.
- As revealed by youth respondents, extension service is not adequate for agricultural activities. Therefore, it is necessary to expand the extension services through agricultural officers and keeping a strong and cooperative relationship between officers and young farmers.
- As revealed by young farmers, they face problems related to cultivable lands, availability of inputs, machineries, water/irrigation facilities, financial facilities and market facilities. Thus, in order to increase youth participation in agriculture, it is suggested that government and private sector should take action to distribute cultivable lands, reduce input prices, provide agricultural machineries, keep attention on water/irrigation facilities, provide subsidies, provide reasonable prices for products and make necessary infrastructure to market their production.
- Carry out similar studies very often to update new information which will be useful in the implementation of policies related to youth participation in agriculture.