

FARMERS' QUALIFICATION AND TRAINING NEED IN ESTONIA**MAIRE NURMET, ANNE PÕDER**

Institute of Economics and Social Sciences of Estonian University of Life
Sciences

Fr. R. Kreutzwaldi str. 1A, 51014 Tartu, Estonia

maire.nurmet@emu.ee

ABSTRACT – Farmers' qualification and training need in Estonia

This article examines farmers' qualification and demand for training and retraining in Estonian small-scale rural enterprises according to types of farms by ownership and farmer's education. The study based on the outcome of a questionnaire-based survey. The sample of the respondents was based on the information of the Estonian Agricultural Registers and Information Board (ARIB), concerning the beneficiaries of single area payment, support to breeders of agricultural livestock and additional direct aid for the cultivation of agricultural crops. The results show that farmers, in order to maintain economic viability, need training in law, agricultural subsidisation measures, accounting and taxation, environmental protection requirements, growing of field crops and agricultural machinery. Larger businesses perceive need for training relatively higher than small entrepreneurs. The main development problem, encountered by self-employed persons, was marketing. Marketing and sales problems of such businesses could be solved by the development of cooperation for the marketing of produce of small-scale businesses.

Keywords: Rural enterprises, training, re-training