

POLICIES & REGULATIONS FOR A THRIVING CANADIAN AGRI-FOOD SYSTEM

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ADOPTION OF INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT BY QUEBEC GRAIN FARMERS

Gale West and Isamêlh Cissé
Laval University

The protection of the environment has become a key issue in the design of public policies. This is particularly true in agriculture and this is why the Quebec provincial government has been actively promoting the implementation of integrated pest management practices. Our study focuses on the adoption and implementation of such practices by Quebec field-crop producers. We use an ordered logit model to assess the importance of different factors on the intensity of adoption. It is shown that the amount of information received about integrated pest management, the level of environmental concern, financial incentives and a higher level of education increase the probability of adoption of a large number of practices. Poor knowledge about weed control and considering integrated pest management as a practice for organic production reduce the intensity of adoption. There are some misunderstandings about integrated pest management practices and the government and farm management clubs can play a role to dissipate these misunderstandings.