

Synopsis :

Agricultural education helps - as a part of the technical education - to prepare the experienced technical humans to be reliable in the various agricultural development fields. The importance of agricultural education increases after the developments done in the field of agriculture where the agricultural labor, today, is based on a lot of modern technological and scientific foundations as well as it becomes more specific and organized .

The secondary school of agriculture is involved in the different aspects of the practical training which aims to develop the skills, knowledge and attitudes which in turn, enable and help the student to be professional in a certain career.

Training in the 3 years schools of agriculture is done in a lot of forms :

- 1- Practical training throughout the school year which is an actual application of what the student studies theoretically in the various main subjects of agriculture .
- 2- Summer training where there are agricultural processes for different crops, the students can't watch or practice their own agricultural processes throughout the school year .

The teacher of the secondary school of agriculture is the backbone of training effectiveness in the practical skills. He prepares and trains his students to be fit for the demands of the time we live in and the current development in the overall Egyptian society .

Through the interview conducted by the researcher with some teachers, experts of agricultural education and the researcher's expertise for 12 years as a teacher, it was concluded that the teachers lack some of the practical skills concerning Farm crops necessary for summer training which is a good technique for training the students. In addition, there is no training program for developing these skills though there are new innovations in the agricultural field which reflects its effect on the teacher proficiency to perform these skills practically conducted in the field of summer training in Egypt, as far as the researcher knows, are two only.

This led to the need for preparing and applying a program to develop the practical skills of Farm Crops concerned with the summer training of the teachers of the agricultural subjects in the 3 year secondary school of agriculture.

Statment of The Problem:

The teachers of the agricultural subjects lack some practical skills concerning the summer training whose effect can be reflected on providing his students with these skills during the summer training.

To solve this problem, the researcher tries to answer the following main question :

- What is the effectiveness of a proposed training program to develop the practical skills of Farm Crop necessary for the summer training of the agricultural subjects teachers ?

The following sub-questions emerged from the main question :

- 1- What are the necessary practical skills for the agricultural subjects teachers to have ?
- 2- To what extent do the teachers of the agricultural subjects have these skills ?
- 3- What is the proposed framework for the program designed for developing these practical skills ?
- 4- What is the effectiveness of the proposed training program in developing the practical skills of the teachers of the agricultural subjects ?

The Study Aims and importance :

- 1- Enlisting the practical skills for the agricultural subjects teachers of Farm Crops necessary for the summer training .
- 2- Utilizing of the proposed program in the training courses held by the Ministry of Education and its directorates for the teachers of the agricultural subjects and to help the teacher to evaluate his performance level during the summer training .
- 3- Helping those who are concerned with developing the programs in the faculties of preparing the teacher of agriculture .

The Study Limitations :

- 1- A sample of the agricultural subjects teachers in the 3 year secondary school of agriculture .
- 2- The sample to the teachers are from governorates of Menoufyia and Qalyubya .
- 3- The program is restricted for the summer training .
- 4- The proposed program was conducted from the first of June till the tenth of September , 1999.

The Study Hypotheses :

- 1- There are statistically significant differences at level 0.01 between the sample scores mean in both pre and post tests in favor of the post one .
- 2- There are statistically significant differences at level 0.01 between the sample scores mean in both pre and post observation cards in favor of the post one, concerning each practical skill included in the proposed program .

The Study Procedures :

- 1- To identify the practical skills necessary to be had by the agricultural subjects teachers of Farm Crops, related to the summer training, the following were done :
 - A Survey to the Arabic and foreign studies, researches and references .

- A theoretical study for the practical skills .
 - An interview with teachers and experts of the agricultural education .
 - Visiting and observing some teachers during their Performance of the practical skills and during the summer training .
 - A questionnaive was introduced to the teachers, directors supervisors and experts of the agricultural education .
- 2- With the help of the above mentioned data, the skills which have shortage were identified. Besides, the teacher needs development through a training program .
- 3- A general outline of the program was set. It includes : aims - Content - Training Technigues - educational aids - activities- suitable evaluation techniques .
- 4- To measure the effectiveness of the proposed program to develop the previous practical skills, the following were done:
- Applying the pre achievement test and observation cards .
 - Applying the proposed program to the study sample (44 teachers) for three months (June, July, August, 1999) .
 - Applying the post achievement test and observation cards.
 - Writing the results and dealing with them statistically to be sure of the program effectiveness .