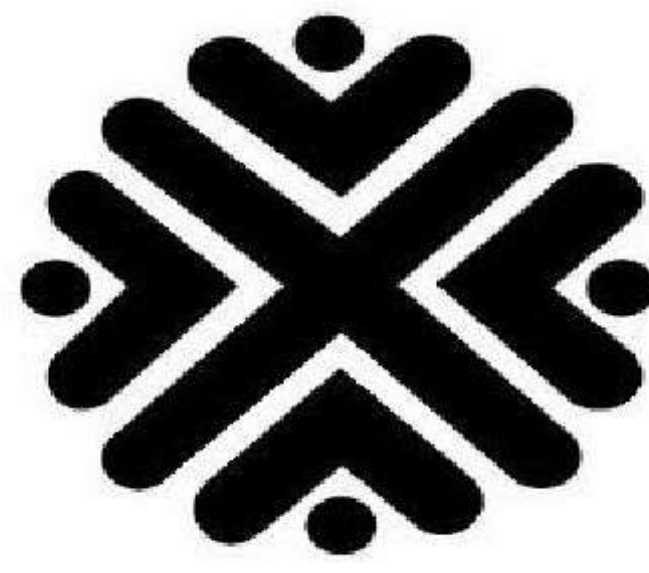


Abstract :

The necessity of recognizing and utilizing groundwater resources come as this source forms the 90 percent of total fresh water. Nowadays, among the parts which consume water, the principle water usage is on agriculture. Therefore, in order to use water, scientific and appropriate management should be considered. Pricing water is one of political tools to increase water efficiency, decrease water demands, irrigation management and costs return. Based on principles of water pricing, water price should reflect cost opportunity, while water price largely depends on farmers' willingness to pay for water in view of possible income. In this study contingent valuation method (CVM) is used to estimate willingness to pay for groundwater. Required data is obtained from a random sample of Jiroft's farmers. These data are collected with random sampling method and questionnaires. The 12nd version of STATA software package is used to estimate regression. Results show that willingness to pay for each square meter is 65.87 Tomans. Willingness to pay is related indirectly to the number of family members and field area and is related directly to farmers income and cultivation variability.

Keywords: Jirof county, Groundwater, Water pricing, Willingness to pay, Contingent valuation



Zabol University
Faculty of agriculture
Department of Agriculture Economic

The Thesis Submitted for the Degree of Master of Science

Measuring the willingness to pay of farmers for groundwater using
contingent valuation method (a case study of Jiroft county)

Supervisors:
Dr. S. Ziaee
Dr. A.A. Keikha

Advisor:
M.Sc. A.R. Keikha

By:
F. Farzan Narabi