

Factors Influencing the Use of Compost from Household Waste in the Centre Province of Cameroon

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ABSTRACT The Centre province of Cameroon is facing both soil degradation problem in rural areas and the household waste management problem in Yaoundé-city. However, those two problems can be solved by processing the household waste into agricultural compost. Actually, the produced compost is used by a few farmers living in the province. Thus, this article explains the factors influencing the utilization of compost by compost users and the reasons justifying the reticence of non-compost users to adopt this input. The results show that, farmers who are the most motivated to use compost are young men practising agriculture in smaller parcels of land. The attractive salaries in NGOs employing those young farmers associated with the higher productivity of compost are the main reasons justifying their motivation for using compost. However, the compost demand is less than its supply proving that some farmers are still not motivated to use this input in the province. The high price and transport cost of compost are the main reasons accounting for the non-utilization of compost by non-compost users. Therefore, in order to encourage the adoption of compost by most farmers, the government should subsidize the price and transport cost of this input.