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Assessment of impact of drought and people's adaptation in agricultural production in the coastal sandy area of Thua Thien Hue Province: A case study in Quang Loi Commune, Quang Dien District

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Abstract

The objectives of this study are two-fold: (i) to assess the impact of drought on agricultural production in the coastal sandy area of Thua Thien Hue province, and (ii) to identify the adaptation measures on agricultural production of the local community to adapt to drought. In-depth interviews and group discussions were conducted with 60 households in Quang Loi commune, Quang Dien district. Findings show that there were three main causes of drought in the locality, including: (i) temperature rise, (ii) Southwest winds' impact, and (iii) a decrease of rainfall in the dry season. Land and water are two resources directly affected by drought; about 96.7% of respondents said that their land was reduced due to drought. Moreover, in summer, dry soil and water shortage for irrigation are common phenomena in the study area. In adaptation to drought, the local farmers have been applying many different measures. The findings of this study would be useful for the local authorities in improving the efficiency of agricultural land use and support them in restructuring their agricultural production.

Keywords: Adaptation, Agricultural production, Drought, Quang Dien