Assessment of the sustainability of silvopastoral systems of family farming in southern highlands in Santa Catarina - Brazil

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Results and discussion

Farms with best sustainability levels were agroecological who seek technical assistance services and organize themselves into networks for marketing differentiated products that provides environmental services. Traditional farms, with extractive characteristics and low use of conservation techniques, have low economic and social sustainability, but holds great importance for biodiversity and local knowledge.

Almost, all farms have on family succession the main threat due to the economic insecurity of young people, because of the high risk of the activity of unstable prices, especially for conventional farms.

The little value attributed to knowledge and local products and from inadequate basic education model.

Considerations

There is a tendency for the end of a long cycle of traditional agriculture model in some places, in SC- Brazil, and the emergence of a recreated and reinvented agriculture in agro-ecological logic and organized into new marketing channels. Furtherance programs for the organization, training and development of farmers and the multifunctionality of rural areas, to develop a more sustainable agriculture are still insufficient.

Objective

Evaluate the sustainability of production systems from family farmers to use the forest component in this region.

Method

Three farmer groups and 25 farmer families participated in the workshops. They are from nine communities in five municipalities.

Characterization

In these farms the agricultural areas are usually occupied with livestock at traditional silvopastoral systems, the forest occupies from 20 to 80% of the total area, additionally to contribute to animals, is supporting for apiculture, fish farming and pine nuts (Araucaria angustifolia fruit) and erva mate (Ilex paraguaiensis) extraction.