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Problem Identification and Priority Setting in Agricultural Research: The Case of The Eastern Margin of Central Anatolia

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Abstract: Since the resources available to research institutes are scarce, and experimentation is the most costly phase of a research program, researchers must make sure that the possible solutions to identified problems have a high chance of success. Consequently, problems should be carefully prioritized for experimentation. Factors limiting increased productivity in crop production in the Eastern Margin of Central Anatolia (EMCA) along with agro-ecological factors, apart from political concern, are agronomic constraints. Limiting factors in livestock production are insufficient feed supply, poor conditions of natural grazing areas, and housing of animals. Increasing the adoption rate of the recommended production practices among farmers in the region could increase the productivity. A substantial location specific research program is also needed.

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