



Learning Process in Agricultural Extension



Learning

Learning is the process by which an individual, through own efforts and abilities changes the behavior.

Learning is essentially a response to a teaching. The learner is not a passive agent, but an active participant in his own education. Learning is not a “filling up” process. The learner has to be active to obtain knowledge, skills, and attitude. Learning is a personal matter in terms of learners needs. No individual can learn for others because learning takes place within the person.

Types of learning

There are two types of learning

1-Incidental: Incidental learning occurs when learning takes place without efforts

2-Deliberate learning: Deliberate learning results from a specific purposeful activity or experience.

Principles of Learning

- ▶ **1-Self-activity:** Learning is an active process of the learners. Doing demonstrations by farmers in their own fields provide the chance of self-activity. This makes learning effective.
- ▶ **2- Readiness:** Learning takes place more effectively when farmer is ready to learn and cooperate.
- ▶ **3- Practice:** The practice must be correct. Perfection is occasionally achieved without practice. Learner requires practice several times over correctly.

Principles of Learning

- ▶ **4- Motivation:** Motivation means encourage towards action. It is essential for learning, and the practice recommended must be motivating for learning to take place.
- ▶ **5- Clarity of objectives:** For learning to be meaningful, its objectives should be very clear. This will be easy for learning process and make subject interesting to the learner.

How farmer learn in Extension?

There are six major ways by which learning occur in individuals:

- 1-Trial and Error: When an individual is faced with a problem, he discovers a solution by trial and error.
- 2-Problem solving: This process includes the use of the product of the previous learning experiences when faced with a problem.
- 3-Training: It is especially useful in skills, behaviours development.
- 4-Insight (vision) Learning: During insight learning, a solution is found as a flash. The learner does not have complete understanding about how the solution works.
- 5-Imitation: This indicates copying and following a form of behaviour without reasoning.
- 6-Memorization: This is learning by memorizing what you have taught.

Characteristics of Learning in Extension

- 1-Learning is meaningful, the learners to be able to solve problems. There should be a connection between familiar and unfamiliar ideas.
- 2-Learning is simplified when two or more senses are used by the learners.
- 3-Learning is more effective where the learner actively participates.
- 4-Learning is affected by physical and social environments.
- 5-Learning is growth-like and continuous. New knowledge should be built on the old.

Factors Affecting Learning

- 1-Motivation Influences: Motivation has influence on learning in form of reward or punishment.
- 2-Characteristics of materials: This includes amount which should be within the memory area.
- 3-Comfort while learning: Such as quality of chairs or furniture, ventilation, humidity and noise.
- 4-Fatigue: Due to tiredness brings in discomfort and reduces efficiency and attention
- 5- Repetition of presentation: Also reduces level of attention.
- 6- Emotional problems: cause lower efficiency of learning.

