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## **Effects of Agricultural Students' Self-Efficacy Beliefs and Test Anxiety on their Achievement Motivation and Academic Performance**

### **Abstract**

In this study, the influences of agricultural students' self-efficacy beliefs and test anxiety on their achievement motivation and academic performance were examined. A sample of 466 students from Iranian Colleges of agriculture participated in this study. A questionnaire was used for data collection. Data were analyzed descriptively and inferentially using SPSS/win and AMOS graphic. The findings revealed that self-efficacy beliefs had more effect on motivation to approach success and academic performance than test anxiety. In contrast, test anxiety had more effect on motivation to avoid failure than self-efficacy beliefs. In addition, motivation to approach success had more effect on academic performance than motivation to avoid failure.

**Keywords:** *achievement motivation, academic performance, self-efficacy beliefs, test anxiety, agricultural students*

### **Introduction**

Global population growth, one of the agricultural sector challenges (Connors et al., 2004), makes the worth of agriculture doubled. As agriculture is based on advanced science and technologies, request for qualified work-forces is growing in this sector (Okutsu et al., 2004). Thus, a main focus of agricultural development policy-makers must be directed toward providing advanced human resources. Trained and skilled work-forces have a significant position in labor productivity