POSTURAL EVALUATION IN AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

Zaki Manaoui[1] and Hamou Boudrifa[2]
[1]University of Algiers 2, Algeria
[2]El Oued University, Algeria

The agricultural sector continues to be an important component of Algerian National economy in terms of their contribution to GDP, and the number of work force. The Agricultural workers suffer from multiple risks in workplace including bad organizing of work. An ergonomics study was taken to evaluate professional farmers posture using OVACO method (Working Postural Analysis system), to determine different postures of work taken by agricultural workers in planting task, arranging and classifying in four categories depending by OWAS (Ovako Working Posture Analysis). The study randomly applied to the sample of 30 workers in three stages: the first stage were represented in the verification of existence of MSDs (Musculosketal Disorders) by using interview form (Nordic type questionnaire) of Kuorinka. The second stage was determined time of every task of farmer tasks. The third stage was applied OVACO method to evaluate the agricultural workers postures by photography. The results suggest that there was three categories of postures: 1st Category: natural and acceptable postures having any effect on MSDs. 2nd Category: adjustable postures for damage at MSDs. 3rd Category: danger postures causing pains. The results indicate that the curved posture was more repetitive, which classify in second category in OWAS classification, this is due to bad organizing of job and the place of seed scuttle which demand to workers frequently bending. As expressed by the sample 95% take this position as they work.

Biography

Zaki Manaoui completed his Postgraduation studies from University of Algiers 2, Algeria. He is currently pursuing Postdoctoral studies from the same university. He is a Member in Prevention and Ergonomics Laboratory; a teacher in El Oued University, Algeria.

pre_erg39@yahoo.fr