

Study Tour on Kiwi for Farmers from 5 Project Sites

The Study Tour on kiwi production and marketing was implemented in Of district of Trabzon on November 25, 2009. Total 40 farmers in the 3 model areas and 2 extension areas participated in the tour. They visited leading kiwi producer and Of fruit producers union. They could learn management of kiwi orchard, pruning of kiwi pants, production of kiwi seedlings, and kiwi marketing facilities at leading sites in Trabzon.



The participants from 5 areas in Trabzon; namely Kuruçam (11 farmers), Uğurlu (8), Coşandere (10), Darıca (8) and Yalıköy (3); gathered in a leading kiwi producers' field in Of district. The producer outlined his 15-years experiences in the kiwi garden, explained field management method, and shown pruning method to participants. Then, he explained seedling production method (cutting method) at his field. The participants listened him carefully and asked several issues on kiwi production.



Explanation of field management, pruning, and seedling production of kiwi by leading farmer

After enjoying lunch, they visited Of fruit producers union, who established marketing facility of kiwi in 2008. As it was high season of kiwi harvesting, the facility was in full-operation. Mr. Sedat, regional coordinator, gave general information of the union, and explained sorting machine and cold storage of kiwi. The farmers showed strong interest in the modernized marketing system of the union.



Explanation of sorting machine and cold storage of Of Union, and questionnaire filling

At the end of the Study Tour, the participants evaluated this event by using questionnaire sheets. The field visit to the leading farmer might be very impressive to new or potential producers of kiwi. Furthermore, this kind of union would be a possible solution of marketing for kiwi group members in the model and extension areas.