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# Construction of the All-region Linkage System for Emergency Management of Agricultural Product Quality and Safety in West China

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**Abstract** Quality and safety of agricultural products are significant for national socioeconomic development, sustainable development, and vital interests of people. To safeguard quality and safety of agricultural products in west China is to safeguard economic safety and ecological safety of the country, public health and social stability, of which an important task is to properly handle emergencies concerning quality and safety of agricultural products. Considering actual conditions of west China, suggestions are given to construct the all-region linkage system for emergency management of agricultural product quality and safety in the local area, enhance the all-region linkage, and improve the linkage efficiency.

**Key words** Agricultural products, Quality safety, Emergency management, Mechanism, Discussion

## 1 Introduction

West China covers more than 57% of the national total land area, and nearly 1/4 of the national total population, and is inhabited by minority nationalities, thus properly handling quality and safety of agricultural products in the local area is significant for safeguarding and maintaining quality and safety of agricultural products in China. In view of features of current agricultural product emergencies, such as frequent occurrence, diverse influence factors, accumulation of harmful consequences, and hardness to control, the authors proposed that local governments should actively explore new approaches of handling the emergencies on the basis of local conditions, fully integrate social forces and public resources, so as to construct an all-region linkage system for the emergency management of agricultural product quality and safety in west China in which "all regions, government at all levels cooperate, and the public participate", and improve the capacity and level of the local governments in handling the emergencies.

## 2 Constructing the all-region linkage system for emergency management of agricultural product quality and safety

**2.1 Enhancing emergency command** Emergency management committee for local agricultural product quality and safety can be established first on the basis of actual needs, relevant departments such as agriculture, animal husbandry, quality supervision, and industry and commerce administration included in the dispatch and command system for handling all emergencies in the local area concerning quality and safety of agricultural products.

And the committee chief holds a concurrent post for emergency management; the office is set in emergency response office of local government, and takes charge of commanding common emergencies and pre-processing of significant emergencies.

### 2.2 Enhancing emergency management implementation

The emergency management committee can be divided into specialized command teams for handling the cases, investigation, external coordination, information publicity, material support, education and training, supervision and inspection. The teams accept emergencies of agricultural product quality and safety, take charge of commanding common emergencies and pre-processing of significant emergencies. In addition, all relevant departments should be taken into the system to perform their own duties and implement the all-region linkage.

**2.3 Enhancing emergency supply** On the basis of risk analysis and full demonstration, all needed facilities, equipment and materials for handling emergencies of agricultural product quality and safety must be guaranteed, emergency funds offered in time and taken into government budget. Role of modern information technology platform should be fully played to further improve the emergency supply system.

## 3 Promoting the all-region linkage for emergency management

**3.1 Promoting the all-region linkage of information** In view of actual conditions of different regions, management units of the agricultural product quality and safety can be established on the basis of "home or village or community + network" mode, correspondents assigned from such units as village communities, markets, hotels and enterprises. Information teams on the basis of residential areas or village communities, and correspondents assigned by the teams for grids such as communities, buildings, and streets constitute the information network for quality and safety of agricultural products, to collect information related to quality and safety of agricultural products. As soon as the information is re-

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leased, relevant departments or units can directly report it to the on-duty department, and the latter checks, discriminates and sorts out the information, then reports to government of the upper level after being reviewed by leaders. Such a mechanism guarantees fast and correct transmission of messages concerning quality and safety of agricultural products.

**3.2 Promoting the all-region defense** Prevention is essential for safeguarding quality and safety of agricultural products. To enhance risk management and control of agricultural products, government at all levels must have the consciousness of "safeguarding quality and safety of agricultural products is to safeguard the people's livelihood" and "base line" according to the principle of "taking quality as the foundation, safety as the base line". "Base line thoughts" should be fully used to give due attention to and prevent crisis, risk and base line, all risks calculated and the worst results estimated to further improve risk prevention system and handling capacity, safeguard the base line of safety, guarantee quality and safety of agricultural products in west China. Specifically, the regular inspection, directional inspection and joint inspection systems should be established on the basis of 4 grades (county or district, department, town or street, village or community), to inspect potential safety hazards of agricultural products monthly, investigate symptoms in case of significant events or sensitive periods, and inspect crucial points in special periods, so as to master all risks and potential hazards of relevant industries and sectors in the local area.

In addition, the monthly standing book and monthly report should be improved, type of the potential hazards, leader and person responsible, causes, rectification measures and deadline should be recorded clearly, and handling of significant safety hazards should be assigned to specific departments and supervised, implementation of rectification measures, responsibilities, funds, time limits, and pre-arranged planning enhanced, and rectification processes reported monthly.

**3.3 Promoting all-region guarantee** To guarantee the efficiency of emergency handling, government at all levels should try to establish the mode "the emergency management committee guarantees command, government leaders guarantee supervision, emergency office guarantees coordination, in-charge departments guarantee mediation, professional departments guarantee processing, joint-defense forces guarantee stability and control, complaint office guarantees reception", *i. e.*, the all-region guarantee system for handling emergencies of agricultural product quality and safety. Also the operation mechanism of "setting up defense by grade, early warning by type, processing by case, making clear responsibilities by level" can be established. "Setting up defense by grade" refers to the emergency network for the four-grade linkage of county (or district), department or town (street), village (community), residential team in the local area; "early warning by type" refers to the classification of risks into red warning, yellow warning, and orange warning; "processing by case" refers to the implementation of accountability system of "five guarantees"

in view of emergencies concerning quality and safety of different agricultural products; "making clear responsibilities by level" refers to definition of job responsibilities for leaders, responsible departments and individuals according to the principles of "management by type, taking responsibility by grade, territorial management".

## 4 Improving the all-region leakage efficiency

**4.1 Integrating emergency management resources** Integration of resources is extremely important for emergency management. Government at all levels in west China must establish and improve the emergency management platform according to actual needs, integrate social resources needed by the emergency management, guarantee all-time availability of specialists and staff, and effective linkage to dynamic resource management such as detection facilities and equipment. So the role of emergency management in watching, collecting information, dispatching and commanding, tracking, decision making, reviewing and analyzing will be fully played.

**4.2 Concentrating forces** Government at all levels in west China has to settle problems in emergency management, such as clause segmentation and multiple command, by integrating resources, information and team with the support of local government offices. As a result, unified coordination of local government and classified regulation of relevant departments will be integrated, comprehensive and specialized supervision will complement each other harmoniously, clear division of responsibilities and labors will be possible, orderly management and coordination ensured. In addition, role of modern information, communication, control and commanding system can be fully played, and local leaders will acquire relevant information as soon as possible and help make proper and prompt decisions.

**4.3 Improving the efficiency of emergency processing** Improvement of emergency management efficiency is significant for handling emergencies actively and properly. Government at all levels in west China should cover all reception terminals of administrative services on the basis of duty calls, and solve problems influencing image of the government, such as shuffling responsibilities onto others, to achieve the goal of "receiving cases together, processing emergencies jointly", and turn "joint but not work" in the past to the present "quick and effective".

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## 6 Conclusions

In summary, we draw the following conclusions: It is found that in the villages which have put in place the rural land contract rights on a long term basis, if the land is adjusted too late, there will be more landless farmers, farmers' willingness to adjust land declines, and farmers will be more reluctant to transfer land. The existence of landless farmers is not the main factor influencing farmers to transfer into or out land. When there is no land, landless farmers rent the land to obtain land use rights not through land transfer market, but through working the outside the home. In addition, landless farmers obtain contractual rights through the family inheritance, which has become a common phenomenon in rural community. The conclusions mean that both working outside and family inheritance have made the problem of landless farmers hidden, and the existence of landless farmers does not pose a serious problem for the current rural community. The study also further explains the reason why the land is no longer readjusted: the expected return of land adjustment is low and the organizational costs are high, so landless farmers' willingness to adjust land declines. Thus the same policy for 30 years changes from an externally imposed institutional arrangement to an endogenous institutional arrangement, and continues down.

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