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The 16th issue of 'Economics Research' contains articles on the balanced use of pesticides in agriculture, the effects of immigration on labour participation, the determinants of tourism demand and intergenerational mobility of income in Cyprus.

The uncontrolled use of pesticides in agriculture generates threats to both human health and environmental quality. Research at the ERC focuses on documenting the various measures and policy tools used throughout EU member-countries for the purpose of sustaining the use of pesticides. In addition, emphasis is given on tax-related economic instruments which have been adopted by several countries.

The presence of foreign workers in Cyprus over the period 1999-2005 decreased the probability of labour participation of individuals aged 20-39 years with basic educational attainment, whereas the labour participation probability increased for individuals aged 20-29 years with tertiary education. This result makes sense if we account for the fact that foreign workers are employed mostly in sectors that require low educational skills and are characterized by low wages. In addition, foreign workers increased the probability of part time employment for individuals 20-39 years of age.

The determinants of tourism demand in Cyprus are analyzed in a recent study by the ERC using monthly domestic and foreign data from January 2003 to December 2006. The study shows that, overall, tourists tend to be insensitive to the relative cost of spending their holidays in Cyprus, and are more likely to come if the transportation cost, in terms of cost and inconvenience of travel, is less. However, when adjusting the sample for the most important factor of transportation cost, that is, a direct flight to Cyprus, the insensitivity to the cost of their holidays is reduced significantly. In addition, the climate differentials, common European Union membership and better flight coverage from the origin to Cyprus play an important role on tourism demand and should be strategically targeted by the Cyprus Tourism Organization.

The aim of the study on intergenerational income mobility is to see whether there exists a relation between the incomes of members of families in Cyprus and whether individuals move between income classes from generation to generation. We use data from the Cyprus Household Budget Survey to find that the income and age of the father are important determinants of the child's wage. However, after taking into consideration the education of the child in this income relation, we observe that the importance of father's income is lost and education becomes the important factor driving the wage of the child.