# Abstract

Farmer adoption of new agricultural technologies requires reliable and persuasive information as well as clarity regarding the technology's suitability to local conditions. Often, these standards are not met in developing countries due to the scarcity of local research facilities and a sparse and over-burdened network of extension agents. Different forms of social learning have been explored to act as complements to conventional extension services. This paper explores a new possibility: vocational training to high school students. We conduct a randomized control trial in nine communities in rural Nicaragua and evaluate changes in the knowledge of agricultural technologies, access to credit markets, and technology adoption for parents and students. Our results show improvements in knowledge-based outcomes for students and parents, and increased access to credit markets and adoption of agricultural technologies by parents. Given the increase in schooling across developing countries, our results suggest that programs designed around within-family information diffusion can complement more conventional forms of agricultural extension.

**Keywords:** Technology adoption, randomized control trial, social learning, agricultural extension, credit markets.

JEL: I250; O330; Q160; Q140