Reviewer's report

Title: Employment in the Ecuadorian Cut-Flower Industry and the Risk of Spontaneous Abortion

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Reviewer: Irene Figa-Talamanca

Reviewer's report:

The paper is formally and methodologically correct, but I have many doubts about its value towards the advancement of knowledge in the field.

The data used in this paper were collected for a different purpose (a study already published), but I believe the authors decided to attempt to use the available data to test additional hypotheses, which were not part of the original study.

The result is that they were not able to define the timing of the exposure to pesticides and the index pregnancy. They also had to limit the analysis to too few cases, making the samples very small. It would be superfluous for me to repeat the limitations which are honestly and competently discussed by the authors themselves.

Therefore, although the study is formally correct, well written, statistically sound, and the issue is of scientific interest, the results are too uncertain to be a useful contribution to the problem of an association between Spontaneous abortion and exposure to Pesticides.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests