

An Economic Analysis of Energy Use in ZBNF, Conventional Farming and Organic Farming in Rice Production in Visakhapatnam District of Andhra Pradesh

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ABSTRACT

The present study has assessed the economics of energy use in rice production in zero budget natural farming, organic farming and conventional farming in Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh, based on the data of costs and returns of crop. The results revealed that the returns per rupee expenditure was higher for organic farming (1.54) followed by ZBNF (1.24) and conventional farming (1.13). Human labour is the costliest source of energy in all the three farming methods of rice production. The total cost incurred for paddy cultivation is higher in conventional farming (Rs. 84784.30/ha) followed by ZBNF (Rs. 79489.64/ha) and organic farming (Rs. 45896.67/ha). Human labour is the costliest source of energy in all the three farming methods.

Key words: Cost concepts, Energy, Organic farming and conventional farming, Rice, ZBNF