

Viabie Integrated Farming Systems(IFS) for Sustainable Livelihood of Rural Youth - Case Study Analysis in Srikakulam District of Andhra Pradesh.

P Venkata Rao, G S Roy, S Neelaveni and D Chinnam Naidu

DAATTC, Srikakulam, A. P.

ABSTRACT

The feasibility and viability of any agricultural practice depends upon the effective combination of the cyclic components of field crops, horticultural crops, plantations, commercial crops and cattle for dairy, synonymously farming systems. The combination of these allied activities may be called as Integrated Farming Systems. There is a need to attract the rural youth towards Agriculture for its sustenance by handing over the prevailing viable Integrated Farming Systems to the rural youth. Keeping this in view, an extensive study has been taken up with the objective to identify the viable Integrated Farming Systems under various farming situations in Srikakulam district through case study analysis. Major five farming situations in the district were purposively selected. Case studies of five farmers one from each farming situation were analysed to identify the viable Integrated Farming Systems. Suitable statistical tools were used for the study. The results revealed that the Integrated Farming System (B:C Ratio 2.33) was found viable compared to Agriculture only (B:C Ratio 2.03), Dairy alone (B:C Ratio 2.15) but less profitable than Horticulture alone (B:C Ratio 3.18), but it may not be feasible to bring total area of the farmer under horticulture. Farming situation wise analysis revealed that Integrated Farming Systems under bore well irrigated red clay loams (B:C Ratio 2.58) was more viable than the tank fed red clay loams (B:C Ratio 2.39), canal fed red clay loams (B:C Ratio 2.38), tank fed sandy clay loams (B:C Ratio 2.27) and canal fed sandy clay loams (B:C Ratio 2.10). The by-products of the components of IFS were the additional benefits and mutually conservative in natural resource management. The Government should encourage the rural youth in Agriculture by providing credit facilities for processing units for establishing the sustainable and viable Integrated Farming Systems and to dwindle the disguised unemployment in Agriculture.

Keywords: *Benefit Cost Ratio(B:C Ratio), Farming Situation, Integrated Farming Systems(IFS) and Rural Youth*