

Promotion of Direct Sowing Paddy using 8-row Drum Seeder in Vizianagaram District

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ABSTRACT

The DAATTCentre, Vizianagaram has introduced an 8-row drum seeder in farmers field of Sri GAV Rama Raju, Thettangi village, Gurla mandal, Vizianagaram district during Kharif, 2007 to evaluate the efficiency of drum seeder and was compared with conventional methods of transplanted and broadcasted rice. After the success of the trial, the DAATTCentre promoted direct sowing of paddy using drum seeder during kharif and rabi seasons of 2007,2008 and 2009 through 34 on- farm trials, 36 front line demonstrations, 18 exposure visits for farmers, 6 field days, 18 farmers training programmes and one rythusadassu in collaboration with department of agriculture and NGO (world vision) in all the mandals of Vizianagaram district. Seeding of sprouted seed @ 30 kg/ha with drum seeder was at par with transplanting and broadcasting methods and recorded increased grain yield by 44.4% and 31.2% over the farmers practice of transplanting and broadcasting. Direct sowing paddy using 8-row drum seeder reduce the seed rate by 46-73% as compared to transplanting/ broadcasting. The cost of rice cultivation using drum seeder is reduced by 23% as compared to conventional transplanted rice and 28% as compared with broadcasted rice. Adoption of direct sowing paddy in puddled field using 8-row drum seeder gives 40 to 55% more net profit than transplanted rice. During 2007-08 to 2009-2010, an estimated 7,500 farmers in Vizianagaram district adopted direct sowing paddy using drum seeder on around 2800 hectares.

Key words : Direct seeding paddy, Front line demonstrations and field days, 8-row drum seeder,

Net returns, Yield.