

Influence of Green Manuring on the Yield and Economics of Paddy

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ABSTRACT

Green manuring is an inexpensive, eco-friendly, effective technology in economizing the agricultural production system ensuring productive capacity of soil under mounting prices of fertilizers. Keeping this in view, Front Line Demonstrations were conducted in six different villages of Warangal district of Telangana state during kharif seasons of 2011, 2012 and 2013. The yield and net returns of paddy with Green manuring were calculated and compared with the corresponding farmer's practices (without green manuring). Dhaincha was grown and ploughed back as green manuring in paddy fields. Paddy fields with Green manuring recorded higher yields i.e. 69.6 q/ha , 68.7 q/ha and 68.9 q/ha continuously in all growing seasons 2011, 2012 and 2013 as compared to farmer's practices i.e. 59.6, 58.1 and 58.9 q/ha. The average yield increase was 17.4 per cent. In spite of increase in yield of paddy, technology gap, extension gap and technology index existed. The improved technology gave not only higher gross return (1, 02,660, 93,432 and 97149 Rs. /ha), but also higher net returns (63,634, 54,653 and 58,252 Rs. /ha), consequently benefit cost ratio was also higher (2.6, 2.4 and 2.4) as compared to farmer's practices. The reasons for low yields and net returns were attributed to the adoption of unscientific practices, lack of awareness about best technology available and poor socio economic condition of the farmer. This study revealed that maximised net returns through increased yields can be maintained on sustainable mode with the organisation of FLDs in farmer's fields as these FLDs will bring change in farmers attitude, skill and knowledge of improved package and practices of like green manuring.

Key words: Economics of paddy, Green manuring and Yield.