

**Entry No. IRRC-0213**

Category : International Rice Research Conference

Select Theme : Sustainable and equitable farming systems

Endorsement email :

Keyword 1 : Farm diversification

Keyword 2 : Livelihood and social equity

Keyword 3 : Soil and soil health

Title of Entry : Rice-based farming systems for livelihood (food and nutritional) security of Indian farmers

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Select only one type of presentation

: 15 minute oral presentation

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Abstract

: Farming system research is a holistic approach for sustainable development of small and marginal farmers in India who constitute more than 85% of the total farming community. The declining trend of per capita land availability poses a serious challenge to the sustainability of farming systems. Under such conditions, it is appropriate to integrate land based enterprises such as dairy, fishery, poultry, duckery, apiary, field and horticultural cropping within the farm, with the objective of generating adequate income and employment for small and marginal farmers thereby improving livelihoods. The production system adopted during green revolution has been explorative and the natural resources were subjected to immense pressure. As a result sustainability of agricultural production system and the farming system has shaken. This suggests the urgent need of integrated farming system development where the various components of the farming system can be integrated to improve productivity and profitability as well as resource conservation along with maintenance of the environment. Rice farming is the single most important source of employment and income for the majority of rural people in these regions. Among the various farming system options in rice ecologies, rice – fish farming has great potential particularly in eastern India in view of the resources, food habits and other socioeconomic conditions. Rice-fish diversified farming system with the integration of compatible components like improved varieties of rice, fish, prawn, pulses, oilseeds, horticultural crops, agroforestry, mushroom, poultry, duckery, goatery, floriculture, apiculture etc. can increase the farm productivity, besides farm employment over traditional rice farming. In order to make farming profitable and improve resource use efficiency at the farm level, the synergy among interacting components of farming system should be exploited. The impact of climate change are witnessed all over the world. Of late, focus of agronomic research has been shifted towards development of climate resilient rice-based farming systems by focusing on adaptation and mitigation strategies to climate change involving conservation agriculture, resource conservation technologies viz. direct seeded rice, reduced/zerotillage, laser land leveling, system of rice intensification, aerobic rice, crop residue management, site specific nutrient management and real time N management using LCC and SPAD.

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