

F-27 A case study on resource productivity and allocative efficiency of selected inputs for paddy production in Vantharumoolai A S C Division, Batticaloa District

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Production function technique was used to examine the resource productivity and allocative efficiency of resources in paddy production on a sample of 50 farmers in the Vantharumoolai A S C Division of Batticaloa District. In this study input-output data pertaining to the agricultural year 1995/96 Maha was used and these were collected through personal interviews on suitably designed and pre-tested questionnaire. Data were then used to estimate Cobb-Douglas production function with the help of Minitab computer package. Results indicated that the resource productivity of land was high, followed by labour, tractor, fertilizer and working capital. Only a few inefficiencies appeared in the use of agricultural resources on paddy production in this area. Thus mere re-allocation of resources could only have a limited effect in increasing agricultural production. Therefore, a rapid development of agriculture can only be achieved by improving the existing managerial and technical inefficiencies in the utilization of resources on paddy production.

By introducing better supporting services, agricultural education, special skills and techniques, dissemination of better existing technology and new information and provision of security to the farmers during the cultivation period, can help to eliminate the existing inefficiencies. This will help to improve the paddy production further in this area.