

B - 78

Economics of seed paddy production in coastal belt of Ampara district

One of the most important factors contributing to maximum agricultural production per unit area of land is the use of better seed. Poor seed quality and scarcity of seeds were the major problems in paddy sector.

The study was attempted to assess the requirement and production of paddy seed, and to compare the cost of production and profit margin seed paddy & consumption paddy. An emphasis is also given to find out the problem in seed and the reasons for these conditions.

The major problems associated with seed paddy production were lack of superior quality seeds, poor management, and no incentives to the farmers. The seed farmers in the coastal belt of Ampara do not show interest in quality assurance of seed paddy by the DOA. This leads to uncertainty of seed paddy. The problems encounters by farmers in the study area in obtaining seed paddy were the scarcity, poor quality and high price.

The majority of the seed-producing farmers adopt the better cultivation practices than non-seed producing farmers. Hence, these practices increase the cost of production of seed paddy, by Rs. 5577.46 per hectare. At the same time these practices increase the quality of seed paddy and there by increase the profit by Rs. 9643.90 per hectare. Therefore, farmers should be encouraged to undertake seed paddy production.

The seed paddy production is a beneficial enterprise than the normal paddy production. There fore it is important to aim at producing high quality seed to enhance agricultural productivity.