

**A Study on seed paddy production and supply of Sainthamaruthu-Karithevu seed Producers Association in Amparai district of Sri Lanka**

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The demand for rice is continuously increasing in Asian countries. An increased production of rice is possible by using good quality seeds with integration of other management practices. This survey study was conducted from members of Sainthamaruthu-Karithevu Seed Producers Association, which produces and supplies seed paddy in the respective divisional secretariat area of Amparai district. A survey method was employed to collect the data using structured questionnaire among registered farmers in this association. This study showed that almost all seed producing farmers produced the seed paddy variety Bg 94-1. The other seed paddy varieties produced by this association were Bg 358, Bg 357, Bg 352, Bg 403 and Bg 300. The registered lands extend 83 acres contributed 12 percent of private seed producing area in Amparai district. Nearly half of the farmers (50 %) have land extent less than 3 acres. Among the production practices, 80% of farmers used recommended inorganic fertilizer. The low land farmers have applied organic matter such as straw, cow dung, compost and poultry litter. Straw was the dominant freely available organic matter, which has been applied by 70 % of farmers. All farmers in the association produced seed paddy in *yala* season and 10 % of farmers do not cultivate in *maha* season because of flooding. The Department of Agriculture extended their support in supplying registered and certified seeds, technical advice, supervision and conducting training programme for seed paddy producers in this association. Fifty percent of farmers have more than five years of experience in seed paddy production.