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RESEARCH ARTICLE: Farmer participatory seed production and adoption of rice-technology package by tribal farmers in Ranga Reddy district of Telangana

AMTUL WARIS, NIRMALA BANDUMULA AND L.V. SUBBA RAO

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KEY WORDS: Rice Technology, Tribal **SUMMARY :** The "strategic extension campaign" (SEC) methodology developed by FAO emphasizes the importance of people's participation in strategic planning, systematic management, and field implementation of agricultural extension and training programmes. The Tribal-Sub-Plan Act formulated by the Government of India is to ensure, accelerated development of Scheduled Tribes (ST) with emphasis on achieving equality focusing on economic, educational and human development of Scheduled Tribes. The present study was undertaken in Rangareddy district of Telangana to analyse the socio-economic characteristics of tribal farmers, to disseminate and demonstrate the rice technology package among tribal farmers and to train the selected tribal farmers on seed production of improved rice varieties. A rice technology package was demonstrated on the selected farmers' fields of Ranga Reddy District, under the TSP scheme, which has benefitted the tribal farmers as the adoption resulted in a yield advantage of 16-25 per cent over the local checks. This may be attributed to the adoption improved rice varieties, training on the package of practices and seed production and weed management. Hence, efforts should be made to disseminate the improved rice varieties and information on good management practices in general and weeds management in particular.

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Author for correspondence :

AMTUL WARIS ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research, HYDERABAD

(TELANGANA) INDIA Email : amtul.waris@ gmail.com

See end of the article for authors' affiliations