

RESEARCH ARTICLE :

Economics of profitable rice cultivation: a study across farm sizes in Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh

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SUMMARY : The present study was carried out in Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh to investigate the cost of cultivation and profitability of rice particularly across different farm sizes. Multistage stratified random sampling technique was adopted for selection of the sample where rice cultivators were stratified into five groups based on the size of operational holding. The cost of cultivation for all the farms was found to be Rs.62135.31ha⁻¹ with lowest on marginal farms (Rs.56873.89ha⁻¹) and highest on large farms (Rs.65390.17 ha⁻¹) implying that cost of cultivation increased with increase in farm size. Human labour constituted the major component (29.08%) of the total cost of cultivation. The cost incurred on hired labour was found to increase with farm size whereas the cost incurred on family labour decreased with increase in farm size. The amount spent on fertilizers and plant protection chemicals was least on marginal farms. Marginal farms in the study area were found to be more profitable in rice cultivation than large farms. Hence large farms can emulate the practices followed by marginal farms in order to improve profitability.

KEY WORDS:

Cost of cultivation,
Farm sizes, Kurnool,
Profitability, Rice

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