

Energy use pattern in rice cultivation : An economic analysis

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ABSTRACT

The study examined the energy use pattern in rice cultivation in Cauvery Delta Zone (CDZ) of Tamil Nadu state. The study revealed that fertilizer was the dominant source of energy contributing 12,399.7 MJha⁻¹ which accounted for 51.1 per cent of the total energy utilized in rice cultivation. The total energy utilized for rice cultivation for mechanized small farms was 21,405.61 MJha⁻¹ while mechanized large farms contributed 25,467.97 MJha⁻¹. The operation wise energy use pattern in rice cultivation showed that among all the operations, manures and manuring consumed highest amount of energy (9,537.92 MJha⁻¹) for mechanized small farms and 11,073.56 MJha⁻¹ for mechanized large farms, followed by harvesting, threshing and cleaning activities.

KEY WORDS : Rice cultivation, Energy use efficiency, Cost of input – output energy

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