Agro - ecological management of natural resource managament of the *Galo* tribe of Arunachal Pradesh, India

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SUMMARY : The importance of sustainable system of agriculture that co-exists with nature and be resilient to environmental stress has gained importance during the recent times. In contrast to the technology-intensive farming systems that have brought a variety of environmental and social problems, many ethnic tribes/communities such as the *Galo*s of Arunachal Pradesh, India, have been practicing farming system that maintains harmony with the environment. Over the generations, the *Galo*s have acquired traditional knowledge of sustainable use of natural resources. They traditionally practice shifting cultivation (*Jhum kheti*) which involves intensive labor and often employs the entire village during cultivation and harvesting of the crops. Their cropping systems are based on rich indigenous ecological knowledge gained over the generations. Field preparation, choosing of crop varieties and season of sowing, intercultural operations, soil and water conservation techniques, harvest and storage methods reflect their rich traditional knowledge of an agriculture system that is self-sustaining. This paper highlights the agro-ecological management of natural resources in *Galo* plateau of Arunachal Himalaya in North east India.

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