

# Intensive farming and its implications on crop diversification in Tamil Nadu

■ V. KAVITHA AND K. CHANDRAN

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**SUMMARY :** In India as a result of green revolution, increase in area under cultivation and productivity was noticed in almost all the crops. Intensive use of inorganic fertilizers and pesticides and extension of area under irrigation has been an important tool in the drive for increased crop production. It has been of late recognized that the efforts to increase agriculture production through intensive farming resulted in monocropping and thereby decline in area of certain principal crops over the years. In order to assess the implications of intensive farming on cropping pattern and thereby on crop diversification, the study was undertaken in South Arcot district of Tamil Nadu, for the period of 1980 - 2010. The results indicated that co-efficient of variation was higher for non-food crops (41 %) than that of food crops (9 %) and the analysis of crop diversification showed that, during last three decades, the average Herfindahl Index value for crop diversification was found to be 0.20, which showed, the district was diversified in cropping pattern and intensive farming did not create the mono-cropping in the district.

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Author for correspondence :

**V.KAVITHA**

Department of  
Agricultural Economics,  
Tamil Nadu Agricultural  
University, COIMBATORE  
(T.N.) INDIA  
Email:kavi\_economics@  
rediffmail.com

See end of the article for  
**Coopted authors'**