



Socio-economic profile and adoption of paddy cultivation practices by Siddhi tribal community farmers of North Karnataka

R.H. HANUMANAIKAR, M.S.NAGARAJA AND H.T.CHANDRANATH

See end of the article for authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :

R.H.HANUMANAIKAR

Directorate of
Extension, University
of Agricultural Sciences,

DHARWAD
(KARNATAKA)
INDIA

hanumanaikar@
rediffmail.com

ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in Yellapur Taluk involving 120 Sidhi farmers. The study revealed that majority of the Sidhi farmers were middle aged (72.50 %), illiterate (62.50 %), marginal holders (62.50 %) had large sized farmily (62.50 %) with medium level of income. Regarding the existing cultivation pattern, it was observed that majority (92.30 %) of the local paddy farmers applied only FYM. Chemical fertilizers and plant protection measures were not adopted by most of them.

Hanumanaikar, R.H., Nagaraja, M.S. and Chandranath, H.T. (2011). Socio-economic profile and adoption of paddy cultivation practices by Siddhi tribal community farmers of North Karnataka. *Agric. Update*, 6(1): 47-50.

INTRODUCTION

The gazetteer of Uttar Kannada district mentions that the Siddhis were brought to India mainly by Arabs, the Portuguese and the Dutch from Abyssinia (Ethiopia), Mozambique, Morocco and other countries of East Africa as slaves and domestic servants in the 14th century. The Siddhis are spread over the Western Coast in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Karnataka. They are mainly concentrated in Uttar Kannada district of Karnataka and Rajkot division of Gujarat. In Karnataka, the Siddhis inhabit mainly four Talukas of Uttar Kannada district, namely Haliyal, Yellapur, Mundgod and Ankola.

The primary economic occupation of the Siddhis is agriculture. The main crop grown is paddy but cotton and sugarcane are also grown occasionally along with paddy or instead of paddy. The settled agriculturists suffered on numerous fronts. A vast acreage was un irrigated and they grew only one crop which was rain fed. In smaller and unviable landholdings the produce was too small. The primitive state of tools and technology was

another handicap in agricultural production. The use of chemical fertilizers, improved implements, seeds and technical know-how was at the minimum level. Therefore, the present study was taken up to ascertain the socio-economic profile and existing pattern of paddy cultivation followed by Siddhi farmers.

METHODOLOGY

The study was carried out in Yellapur Taluk of Uttar Kannada district, Selection of the district was based on the highest population of the Taluk and respondents was in consultation with the Siddhi Development Project Coordinator. Out of 72 settlements found in the Taluk, 13 were selected by random sampling procedure and the sample size constituted 120 paddy cultivating farmers. The data were collected using structured, pre-tested questionnaire by personal interview method.

The socio-economic characteristics of the respondents were studied and the variables selected for analysis were age, education, family type, family size, land holding, material possession, income and cosmopolitaness.

Key words :

Socio-economic profile, Adoption, paddy, Siddhi tribal community farmers

Received:
August, 2010;
Accepted :
October, 2010