

AN EXPLORATION OF KNOWLEDGE GAP AMONG SCIENTISTS, EXTENSIONISTS AND FARMERS ABOUT RICE PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGIES

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Extended Summary

Hypothetically many experts view that there is wide agricultural knowledge gap among scientists-extensionists-farmers. And eventually the adoption information of the technologies is always in the dark. It is revealed that only invention of technologies cannot contribute to the development until they are used by the ultimate users properly. Reduction of knowledge gap of the ultimate users, that is, the farmers are essential. Bangladesh Rice Research Institute so far developed 47 High Yielding Varieties (HYV) of rice along with production related technologies such as time of planning, seed rate, clone transplanting, supplementary irrigation, IPM, seed treatment, fertilizer doses, land preparation, time of harvesting, threshing, drying, storing etc. But there is no diffusion picture of those technologies before scientists and extensionists. Scientists do not know the effectiveness of their invention, extensionists do not know the effectiveness of their extension education policy and farmers do not know their future course of action. If the rice production technologies are suitable and the farmers adopt those then the level of production should be much higher than the present level. In this condition we are giving emphasize on knowledge gap between scientists, extensionists and farmers about rice production technologies.

Considering the aforesaid discussion a survey program on an exploration of knowledge gap among Scientists-Extensionists-Farmers has been undertaken.

The specific objectives:

- i) To identify the Boro-rice varieties and related technologies being practiced by the farmers of Gheor Upazila of Manikganj district
- ii) To identify the role of extension personnel in diffusion of HYV Boro rice in the study area
- iii) To find out the knowledge gap among scientists, extension workers and farmers.

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Methodology:

Gheor upazila was purposively selected as the locale of the study. Lists of Boro rice farmers were prepared with the assistance of Upazila Agriculture Officer. From the list 95 farmers were selected randomly at the rate of 10 percent. An investigator was appointed to collect data from those randomly selected Boro rice farmers.

Before data collection, an interview schedule was prepared keeping the objectives in view. Then the interview schedule was pretested. After necessary correction, it was multiplied. Data were collected through face-to-face interview in the month of December 2007.

Analysis of data:

The obtained data were coded, scored, compiled and tabulated. The final analysis and interpretation will be carried out in due time.