

Preface

The study entitled “**Spread of New Varieties of Hybrid Rice and their Impact on Overall Production and Productivity in Bihar**” has been assigned by the Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, government of India to this Centre under the Co-ordination of Agro-Economic Research Centre, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, West Bengal.

The study reveals that the largest difference in cost items between the hybrid and inbred was on account of seed, pesticides and irrigation changes. The seed cost for hybrid rice was about 3.75 times higher than that of HYVs due to large difference in seed prices of hybrid and inbred rice. The unit cost of production by hybrid adopters and non-adopters was Rs. 3.63/kg and Rs. 4.4/kg in 2009-10, which increased to Rs. 3.76 / kg and Rs. 4.64/kg in 2010-11. An additional expense of Rs. 1/- each on production of hybrid and HYV will be able to get benefit Rs. 3.63 and Rs. 3.23 respectively. The expenses on manure, chemical fertilizer and machinery charges were found to be positive, which shows the need to provide training oriented programme and demonstration to them at farm level.

The present study was completed by Mr. Rambalak Choudhary, Research Officer of this Centre. I wish to express my thanks to all the members of the Project Team. namely: Mr. Rambalak Choudhary, Dr. Ranjan Kumar Sinha, Dr. Rajiv Kumar Sinha & Dr. Rosline Kusum Marandi for their hard efforts in bringing this scientific study to its perfect shape. I extend my heart full thanks to the Co-ordinating Centre i.e., Agro-Economic Research Centre, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, West Bengal for providing necessary guidelines and time to time suggestion through e-mail and telephonic contact for conducting the study. I am also thankful to Dr. Saumya Chakrabarti, Associate Professor & Director, AER Centre, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, West Bengal for his valuable comments on the draft report.

I express my great thanks to Sri Ashok Kumar, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Government of Bihar, Sri Rajesh Kumar Thakur, District Agriculture Officer, Muzaffarpur) & Sri Chandra Prakash Mishra, DAO, Gaya and their staff for providing not only secondary data but also help in collection of primary data from the study area.

I hope that the findings and suggestions made in this study would be useful to policy makers of the State Government and Government of India as well.

(Basant Kumar Jha)

Director

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