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**AgSURS - Reviewer 1 View**

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| **Abstract Title** | Impacts of changing the policy on fertilizers and other agro -chemicals during 2019 - 2022 for the paddy cultivation in Imbulpe DS Division in Sri Lanka. |
| **Abstract Body** | In many Asian countries, paddy cultivation plays an important role in social and economic development. In Sri Lanka, paddy is cultivated in almost all districts of the country as a wetland crop. Rice is the staple food of the people of Sri Lanka. Supplying the nation's rice requirement is the first and leading role of domestic paddy cultivation. However, compared to the year 2019, Sri Lanka’s paddy production has fallen by 13.9% in 2021-22 (April-March) and the average yield per hectare by 14.4%. Thus, imports have soared to a five-year high. This could be due to the banning of chemical fertilizer and agrochemicals importations on May 6, 2021. This study was conducted to assess the impact of the sudden banning of chemical fertilizers and other agrochemicals on the paddy cultivation in Imbulpe DS Division in Rathnapura District. A sample of 120 paddy farmers was randomly selected from three Grama Niladhari divisions namely Muththettuwegama, Seelagama and Kubalgama. Data collection was done using a household survey from October to November 2022. Descriptive statistics and paired t-tests were used to analyse the data. According to the results, male farmers were more prominent in paddy cultivation than females. Farmers belonging to the 56-65 years age group have highly participated in paddy cultivation. The majority of farmers had senior secondary education. The size of most of the paddy lands was between 0.5-1 acre. The average paddy production before the banning of chemical fertilizer was 1107Kg per acre. However, at present average paddy production is 435Kg per acre. The majority of the farmers (73.3%) had an average seasonal income of 101332.50 LKR per acre before the banning. However, at present average seasonal income is 75120. 33LKR.The average seasonal cost of production Before the banning of chemical fertilizer was 25550.00 LKR per acre. However, at present, the average seasonal cost of production is 55891.66 LKR per acre. According to the review of overall findings in the current situation, it seems that the farmers' income has depreciated significantly compared to the previous situation. As a result, food safety issues have arisen among the farmers of this DS division. Therefore, the situation needs to be remedied by systematic use of chemical fertilizers and agrochemicals or some suitable alternative instead. These findings will help the government and other responsible parties to implement measures to overcome this problem. |
| **Key Words (5 Words)** | chemical fertilizers, agrochemicals, paddy cultivation, organic farming, Rathnapura district |
| **Abstract ID** | ABM1460 |
| **Findings of this study (r1)** | Confirm known results   1. Make a significant contribution to existing knowledge 2. Make a marginal contribution to existing knowledge 3. Contain conceptual errors/faulty judgments 4. Confirm known results |
| **Title of the abstract(r1)** | Needs improvement.   1. Is appropriate to the thematic area and descriptive 2. Needs improvement |
| **If needs more improvements for**  **"Title" please specify here(r1)** | Impacts of changing the policy on fertilizers and other agro -chemicals during 2019 - 2022 for the paddy cultivation in Imbulpe DS Division in Sri Lanka |
| **The content of the abstract(r1)** | Is clear and concise.………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………   1. Is clear and concise 2. Needs improvements |
| **If needs more improvements for "Abstract" please specify here(r1)** |  |
| **Recommendation(r1)** | Accept with minor corrections.………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………   1. Accept in the present form with minor editorial corrections 2. Accept with minor corrections 3. Accept with major revisions cited 4. Reject |
| **Please justify reasons for If rejection(r1)** | ----- |
| **Any Other**  **Comment(r1)** | ----- |
| **Any Other**  **Attachment(r1)** | ----- |

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