



INTEGRATED FARMING SYSTEM: TO CURB UNEMPLOYMENT AND TO INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY

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ABSTRACT

Integrated farming system has been prevailing in India since antiquity. It is very sustainable, long experienced, farming system in which by products of one system used as input of another system. It provides permanent as well as temporary employment especially to women during off farm season through involvement in various operations i.e., rearing, cleaning, milking, collection, processing and marketing of livestock husbandry process. Income generation is improved as an extra income and also act as a contingency measure from bad weather. Farmers' income is improved tremendously through integrated farming system but highest beneficiary are medium farmers followed by marginal and large. It is expected to mitigate the rural poverty, improve agricultural sustainability, farmers 'economic viability and check the rural urban migration' if properly planned with scientific agricultural management

INTRODUCTION

An integrated livestock – cropping farming system has been proved as an ideal system integrating physical, agronomic and socio-economic milieus for development of eco-friendly, ecovially and environment sustainable farming in India and other countries of world. It is an indigenous agricultural practice aimed to develop eco-friendly farming system. There is reciprocal behavior in utilization of waste products generated from different constituent entities of the system. Crop residues as dry fodder, feed grains and green fodder are derived from cropping system. Dung, manures, compost mixed of urine, dung and plants, as by products from livestock are used in enriching soils for best production. The Concept of sustainable agriculture “Integrated Farming Systems” hold special position as in this system nothing is wasted, the by-product of one system becomes the input for other.

DEFINITION

Integrated Farming system is a set of agro economic activities that are interrelated and interact with themselves in a particular agrarian setting. It is a mix of farm enterprises to which farm families allocate its resources in order to efficiently utilize the existing enterprises for increasing the productivity and profitability of the farm. These farm enterprises are crop, livestock, aquaculture, agro forestry and Agri horticulture.

OBJECTIVES

1. Maximizing return from the unit area
2. Maintaining soil status and fertility
3. Utilizing the by-products of one component of the farming system as an input in other for ensuring supplementary and complementary enterprise relationship



4. Reducing environment pollution.

Components of IFS

- 1.Crop cultivation
2. Vegetable cultivation
- 3.Pisciculture
- 4.Vermi compost
5. Cattle Dairy
- 6.Duckery
- 7.Poultry
- 8.Apiculture etc.

EMPLOYMENT GENERATION AND ENGAGEMENT

- Integrated-crop livestock farming (ICLF) is one of the most important income and employment generation economic activity for resource poor and marginalized sections of society.
 - Practically this type of farming system provides full year employment opportunity for the farm family. Additionally creating employment opportunity for others considering all the components of IFS.
 - It provides permanent as well as temporary employment especially to women during off farm season through involvement in various operations i.e., rearing, cleaning, milking, collection, processing and marketing of livestock husbandry process. Income generation is improved as an extra income from selling milk, dung cake, livestock.
 - Fishery and Livestock is a perennial source of income and employment generation in the form of sale of fish, milk, dung cake, live animals for meat and so on.
- Cropping system provides employment during crop growth and

income only during post-harvest period.

Horticultural crops provide employment and income only during fruiting season.

SOCIAL IMPACT OF FARMING SYSTEM

- ✚ Farmers’ income is improved tremendously through integrated farming system but highest beneficiary is medium farmers followed by marginal and large.
- ✚ It is expected to mitigate the rural poverty.
- ✚ Improve agricultural sustainability, farmers economic viability.
- ✚ Check the rural urban migration’ if properly planned with scientific agricultural management.
- ✚ It boosts the income generation and creates employment opportunity while it also reduces the risk of crop failure.
- ✚ It increases the productivity of land resource and reduces the wasteful utilization of non-crop components.
- ✚ It is the ultimate solution to control agricultural crisis and farmers’ suicides.

CONCLUSION

An integrated crop- livestock farming system enhances the economic viability than the traditional farming system. It maintains environmental sustainability, increases productivity of land resources. It creates employment opportunity throughout the year. It acts as contingency plan for the harsh weather.

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Enterprises linked in different agro-ecosystem

Dry land	Garden land	Wet land
• Dairy	• Dairy	• Dairy
• Poultry	• Poultry	• Poultry
• Goat /Sheep	• Mushroom	• Mushroom
• Agro forestry	• Apiary	• Apiary
• Farm pond	• Piggery	• Fishery
	• Sericulture	• Duckery

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Agro-ecosystem

