

Challenges of farmers for applying new agricultural technologies in Sri Lanka

R. M. Kalindu Rathnayaka¹, R. M. Auchithya Rathnayake²

This research paper investigates the challenges of the Sri Lankan farmers when they are applying new agricultural technologies. Compared to the past, there is a new revival in the field of agriculture today. The foundations have been laid by the green revolution and genetic technology. Today, many agricultural activities in almost every part of the world have been influenced by the green revolution or genetic technology. The main objective of this research is to identify the challenges faced by farmers in applying new agricultural technology to their farming activities. This study was conducted in a political-ecological approach by using both qualitative and quantitative data. The data have been collected through questionnaires, structured and semi structured interviews, books, magazines, online resources, and 1.50000 digital maps. Samanalabedda GND in Siyabalanduwa DSD in Monaragala district has been selected as the study area. Farmers in the area are making extensive use of the new agricultural technology. Fifty farm families were selected through a random sampling method for this study which represents 20% of the whole study area. The collected data were analyzed through descriptive statistical technics. Although some crops are introduced to the area; Farmers have not the proper climatic conditions to grow, lack of suitable soil for growing crops introduced to areas, Lack of awareness of farmers about fertilizers and agrochemicals to be applied to crops, due to the high cost of agro-fertilizers and chemicals to be used to crops; high cost on inputs. Accordingly, revealed that Sri Lankan farmers face many challenges in applying new agricultural technology to their farming activities.

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¹ Department of Geography, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka, sandeprathnayaka@gmail

² Department of Sociology, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka