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Title: STUDY OF AGROFORESTRY PRACTICES AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS IN ICHAK BLOCK OF HAZARIBAGH DISTRICT, JHARKHAND

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Abstract: The present study entitled “Study of Agroforestry practices and socio-economic analysis in Ichak Block of Hazaribagh District, Jharkhand” was carried taking four panchayats, eight villages and 160 households of Ichak Block of Hazaribagh district. These households were surveyed on the agroforestry practices and their socio-economic aspects. The present study was designed by viewing the significance of agroforestry for socio-economic upliftment of rural households through agroforestry interventions. Through improvements existing agroforestry practices and designing new suitable agroforestry practices. Growth performances of some promising trees growing on farm land were also recorded. The data were collected by personal interviews of the respondents through a structured interview schedule. Data on existing agroforestry practices were collected through farm visit. Demographic details of the villages comprising details of the households’ family structure, occupational profile, income (primary & secondary), status on livestock and poultry rearing and willingness of farmers to grow trees on their farm in future were obtained and analyzed. Majority of the respondents in the study area were of middle age and literate. Most of them belong to Backward Cast and practice farming as well as livestock rearing for their source of livelihood. Agriculture followed by livestock rearing was the main occupation for their livelihood and income generation. Income of households from the sale of agroforestry produce contributes only 51.25 percent to total monthly income. Tree in homestead garden was most practiced on the households’ farm and was followed by trees on field’s Bunds, Silviculture and Home gardening. *Gmelina arborea*, *Dalbergia sissoo*, *Swietenia mahagoni*, *Tectona grandis*, *Madhuka indica*, *Artocarpus heterophyllus*, *Ziziphus mauritiana*, *Mangifera indica* and *Syzygium cumini* were planted/ retained tree species on household farmland. The findings of the present study suggest to consider socio-economic factor while designing agroforestry models for the study area. Further farmer should practice fruit tree based on agroforestry systems such as agri-horti-silviculture system, integrated mixed farming (production of food, feed, fodder, fiber, fuel on a small piece of land), agri-horti-silviculture system, etc. The existing agroforestry practices also need improvement by incorporating fruit, fodder and timber trees as per farmers’ choice.

Description: STUDY OF AGROFORESTRY PRACTICES AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS IN ICHAK BLOCK OF HAZARIBAGH DISTRICT, JHARKHAND

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