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**Abstract:** About 30% (11.7 mha) of the area under rice production during kharif season in India remain fallow in the subsequent rabi due to number of biotic, abiotic and socioeconomic constraints. Major rice fallow area (82%) is concentrated on eastern parts of the country. States with larger area of rice-fallows are Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal and Orissa the remaining 18% area in the states like Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh and there exists a large scope for expansion of area under pulse crops. In Bhagalpur district of Bihar approximately 39.89 per cent of the area remains fallow after kharif rice cultivation and in the sampled area it was found to be 20.56 per cent which has immense potential for short duration pulses and oilseed crops for meeting the need of growing population. Of all the constraints lack of irrigation and rainfed ecology was the most important and was ranked first by the respondents. While studying the relation between rice fallow and socio-economic variables, only land holding of the farmers significantly explained the variation in rice fallow area.

Subject: Agricultural Economics

Theme: Rice fallow

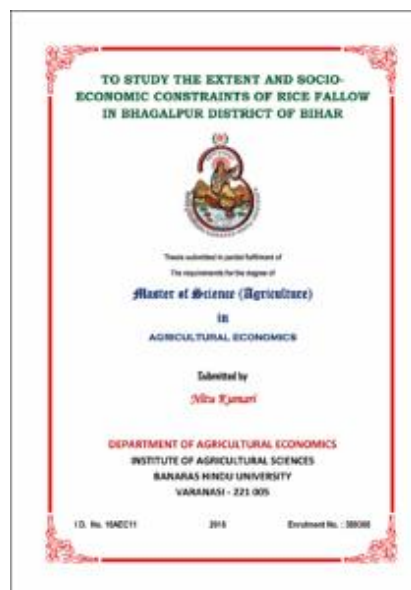
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