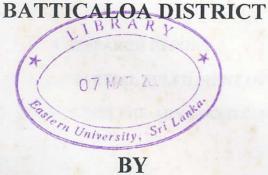
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## SOCIO ECONOMIC POTENTIAL FOR INTEGRATED FARMING SYSTEM IN THE



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## **ABSTRACT**

Integrated farming is an important farming activity for farmers in villages to get income from their farming enterprises. Present investigation showed special emphasis on the "potential of integrated farming" in the Batticaloa district with respect to socio-economic status of integrated farmers and present integrated farming systems. A cross sectional survey covering ninety sampled farm owners was carried out at randomly selected three DS division, in the Batticaloa district from June to September 2007.

The major objectives of this study was to study the socio-economic status of the integrated farmers, management systems adopted, economics of farmers, and constraints related to integrated farming.

The study revealed that 80% of the integrated farmers in the Batticaloa district were illiterate. The overall average family size was 5. Majority 69 % of farmers belonged to the land holding size is lesser than one ha. The major constraints for integrated farmers listed by the farmers were lack of market facilities, lack of quality inputs, lack of management practices, lack of credit facilities and high cost of cultivation.

As far as the socio factors, considered the labour availability is high in farm families and the women participation is considerably contribute in the farming activity. Any how, the marketing facilities were very poor in the district.

The study revealed that, the integrated farming system require low average cost of production, generate high income and the higher percentage of farmers get high income when compared with other farming system.

This study showed that, the integrated farming enterprise in the district is operating profitably. However, it had some limitations such as lack of marketing and credit facilities and increasing cost of production. If these limitations can be over come by providing adequate extension and other facilities, the integrated enterprise will be more profitable in future.

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