

COMPARATIVE STUDIES ON POST-HARVEST HANDLING OF
RICE USING COMBINE HARVESTER AND TRADITIONAL
METHODS

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ABSTRACT

Paddy is cultivated in large quantities and harvested in two seasons in the Ampara District. As a result, there is a shortage for laborers in harvesting paddy and thereby harvesting cost also increases. As a solution to this problem, combine harvester has been introduced in the Ampara District for paddy harvesting.

The comparative study was undertaken to study the advantages of using the combine harvester in comparison with the manual harvesting of paddy in the Ampara District. The study was done through survey method. Three Agrarian Service Centre Division were selected in the Ampara District and 50 questionnaires were distributed randomly among the farmers in each division and data were collected.

The collected data were statistically analyzed and it was found out that there are several advantages in using the combine harvester in paddy harvesting compared to manual harvesting.

Among the adopters 75% of the farmers are high adopters and 25% are moderately adopters and no low adopters found. So it was found that the adoption is considerably high. From this survey it was found that there is no considerable influence of information sources in the adoption. Combine harvester method is more suitable than manual harvesting method in Ampara district. Yield (Combine harvester method) is higher than manual harvesting method. Grain lose is less than combine harvester method with manual harvesting method.

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