

**USE OF IN-STORE DRYER TECHNOLOGY BY BUREAU OF POSTHARVEST  
RESEARCH AND EXTENSION ASSISTED COOPERATIVES IN THE  
PHILIPPINES AND ITS CORRELATES**

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>PAGE</b>
<b>LIST OF TABLES</b>	ix
<b>LIST OF FIGURES</b>	xi
<b>LIST OF APPENDICES</b>	xii
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	xiii
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	1
Statement of the Problem	3
Objectives of the Study	5
Hypotheses of the Study	6
Significance of the Study	6
Scope and Limitation of the Study	7
<b>REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE</b>	8
The In-Store Dryer (ISD)	8
Review of Technology Transfer of ISD	13
Constraints in Postharvest Technology Adoption	15
Specific Constraints in Mechanical Dryer Adoption	18
Technology Utilization and its Effects	19
The Diffusion Process	20
Socio-economic Profile of the Cooperative	21
Attributes of Technology	25
Technology Transfer System	28
Summary of Review of Literature	31
<b>METHODOLOGY</b>	35
Theoretical Framework	35
Conceptual Framework	37
Operational Definition of Terms	39
Locale and Respondents of the Study	52
Respondents and Sampling Framework	53
Unit of Analysis	54
Research Design	55
Research Instrument	55
Techniques of Data Gathering	55
Methods of Analysis	56

<b>RESULTS AND DISCUSSION</b>	57
Socio-economic Profile of Recipient Cooperatives	59
ISD Attributes Based on Actual Operation/Demonstration	61
Recipients Perception on the ISD	67
Attributes of ISD	67
Technology Transfer System	73
Perceived Effects of ISD Technology	75
Extent of Utilization	78
Status of the ISD Units as of 2004	80
Nature of Defects of ISD Technology	83
Perceived Problems on the Use of the ISD	86
Recommended Solutions	88
Relationship of Socio-economic Profile to Extent of ISD Utilization	90
Relationship of ISD Attributes to Extent of ISD Utilization	91
Relationship of Technology Transfer System to Extent of ISD Use	95
Relationship of ISD Technology Use to Technological, Economic, Social and Environmental Condition of Recipient Cooperatives Recipient	96
<b>SUMMARY, CONCLUSION, AND RECOMMENDATION</b>	98
Summary	98
Conclusions	101
Recommendations	104
<b>LITERATURE CITED</b>	107
<b>APPENDICES</b>	113

## LIST OF TABLES

TABLE		PAGE
1	Name and location (municipality and province) of recipient cooperatives which received the ISD distributed by BPRE	53
2	Basic information about the 11 recipient cooperatives of ISD and number of respondents per cooperative	54
3	Profile of ISD recipients coop assisted by BPRE	58
4	Socio-economic profile of the recipient cooperatives	59
5	Technical attributes of ISD units as perceived by the recipient cooperatives	67
6	Economic attributes of ISD as perceived by the recipient cooperatives	69
7	Social attributes of ISD as perceived by the recipient cooperatives	71
8	Educational attributes of ISD as perceived by the recipient cooperatives	72
9	Ecological attributes of ISD as perceived by the recipient cooperatives	73
10	Summary evaluation of technology transfer system	74
11	Perceived effects of ISD technology use on the technological condition of users	76
12	Perceived effects of ISD technology use on the economic condition of users	76
13	Perceived effects of ISD technology use on the social condition of users	77
14	Perceived effects of ISD technology use on the environmental condition of users	78

15	Distribution of recipient cooperatives based on the extent of ISD technology use from 1998-2004	79
16	Status of ISD units as of 2004	81
17	Perceived problems in ISD utilization as of 2004	87
18	Recommendations given by the respondents	89
19	Correlation coefficient showing the relationship of socio-economic profile and extent of ISD use	90
20	Correlation coefficient showing the relationship of technical attributes and extent of ISD use	91
21	Correlation coefficient showing the relationship of economic attributes and extent of ISD use	92
22	Correlation coefficient showing the relationship of social attributes and extent of ISD use	94
23	Correlation coefficient showing the relationship of ecological attributes and extent of ISD use	95
24	Correlation coefficient showing the relationship of ISD technology use on the technological, economic, social and environmental condition of users	96

## LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURES		PAGE
1	Photographic projection of the in-store dryer	10
2	The different parts of the in-store dryer	10
3	Model of innovation decision making process	36
4	Paradigm showing the independent and dependent variables of the study	39
5	Schematic diagram of the in-store dryer	62
6	The in-store dryer with corrugated bin walls, and unloading ports on both sides of the bin.	62
7	The 10-hp backward curved centrifugal blower with the vaporizing pot-type burner for supplemental heating of air	63
8	A side view of the in-store dryer showing the centrifugal blower, kerosene burner assembly, safety switch and metal flat form with stairs	63
9	Laborious loading of grains inside the bin	64
10	Inside view of the in-store dryer	64
11	Furnace provided as alternative to the burner for supplemental heating	65
12	The electric motor and blower assembly	83
13	The electric motor connections with the power outlet	84
14	Example of worn out V-belts	85
15	The blower assembly with kerosene burner	85

## LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX		PAGE
A	Interview Schedule	114
B	The ISD Technology Recipient Cooperatives	127
C	Summarized Data Gathered from the Recipient Cooperatives	151
D	ISD pictures of Recipient Cooperatives	160
E	Flyer of BPRE In-store dryer	166
F	Eligibility of Availment of In-store Dryer Technology	167
G	Memorandum of Agreement between BPRE and the Recipient Cooperatives of ISD	168

## ABSTRACT

**DAVALOS, ISIS DE CASTRO.** Institute of Graduate Studies, Central Luzon State University, Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija, Philippines. May 2006. **USE OF IN-STORE DRYER TECHNOLOGY BY BUREAU OF POSTHARVEST RESEARCH AND EXTENSION ASSISTED COOPERATIVES IN THE PHILIPPINES AND ITS CORRELATES**

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This study was conducted to determine the impact of the in-store dryer (ISD) after six years of use by the cooperatives assisted by the Bureau of Postharvest Research and Extension (BPRE). It aimed to identify correlates for better utilization rate. A survey schedule was conducted for the recipient cooperatives managers and ISD operators. Pearson Product Moment Correlation Analysis was used to satisfactorily establish the correlates.

Statistical analyses showed that premium grain quality and affordable repair and maintenance and operational cost are the main reasons for using it. The technology improved the grain output of the recipients and did not cause pollution. Socio-economic status and being environment friendly had nothing to do with reason for using it. Educational attributes and the transfer system did not show relationship to ISD technology use.

Grain quality, protection of the grains against infestation and physico-chemical deterioration were highly appreciated. The facility was exclusively used to process the cooperatives procurement. The recipients fixed charging cost but did not maintain records as basis of satisfying economic indices. Non-members were restricted from

availing of the services of ISD technology. Thus, it was never a factor in recruiting new members.

Socially, the technology allows minors and women for its operation. Since its operation is practically passive, noise and dust pollution were sufficiently mitigated.

Four of the recipients have continuously used their ISD technology. Two recipients despite some complaints were unwilling to return their respective ISD facility because of its usefulness in their business operation. Three other recipients could have fully utilized it but were overtaken by bankruptcy and declining postharvest activities. Two discontinued using it due to poor quality components and discouraging result of on-site testing.

The most common complaint was the slow drying principle of the technology. This is unsuitable to the grain industry where fast turn-over rate is the norm. Recipients suggested that the ladder be replaced by a mobile mechanized conveyor to facilitate loading of grain. This would reduce operational cost due to decreased manual labor usually computed on a per move basis.

The third problem was the necessity of manually sweeping the dried grain from unloading halfway through. The recipients wanted modification of the flat flooring to allow grains a continuous outward flow. Fourth is the tendency of the moving components to breakdown.

The recipients never availed of after sales service because they did not know the manufacturer. With lesser frequency is the defective burner, which resulted in grain off-

odor. This might have been due to poor technical management. One recipient did not have the required first stage dryer.

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