FACTORS AFFECTING ADOPTION OF IR-64 RICE-VARIETY IN SELECTED BARANGAYS OF MUNOZ, NUEVA ECIJA

LAVA PRASAD UPADHYAY

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This Thesis entitled FACTORS AFFECTING ADOPTION OF IR-64 RICE VARIETY IN SELECTED BARANGAYS OF MUNOZ, NUEVA ECIJA, prepared and submitted by LAVA PRASAD UPADHYAY in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of MASTER OF SCIENCE (Rural Development) is hereby accepted.

FERMINA T. RIVERA
Member, Advisory Committee

6.19.89
Date Signed

VIVENCIO C. ESTEBAN
Member, Advisory Committee

6/19/89
Date Signed

ANSELMO D. LUPDAG
Chairman, Advisory Committee

6.16.89
Date Signed

Accepted as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science in Rural Development.

ADELAIDA C. QUINIONES
Dean

6-19-1989
Date Signed

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

The researcher is the son of Mr. Dilli Ram Upadhyay (deceased) and Mrs. Sita Devi Upadhyay. He was born on July 20, 1948 in Kalaiya, Bara district, Nepal. He has two sisters - one older and one younger.

He received his school leaving certificate (SLC) Examination from Tri Joodha High School, Birgang, Nepal. He received USAID Scholarship Awards for B. Sc. Agriculture in India.

Since 1975, he has been working as Agriculture Extension Officer under the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture, Nepal. In 1981, he was awarded four months training in ISRAEL by the Department of Agriculture, Nepal.

He pursued his Master of Science in Rural Development at the Central Luzon State University, Philippines from June 1987 to June 1989 as scholar of the Deutsche Gesellschaft Feur Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) of the Republic of West Germany.

The author is married to Anju Khanal and is blessed with three sons Ranu, Raman and Ranjeet.

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He is deeply indebted to his brother-in-law Mr. Prahalad Prasad Upadhyay and sister-in-law Mrs. Lata Pokharel for their continuous moral encouragement during his stay in the Philippines.

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Lavaprasad Upadhyay

LAVA PRASAD UPADHYAY

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ABSTRACT

UPADHYAY, LAVA, PRASAD, Institute of Graduate Studies, Central Luzon State University, Munoz, Nueva Ecija, Philippines, May 1989. FACTORS AFFECTING ADOPTION OF IR-64 IN SELECTED BARANGAYS OF MUNOZ, NUEVA ECIJA.

Major Advisor: Dr. Anselmo D. Lupdag

This study inferred the relationships of certain demographic, economic characteristics, communication media and support services related with the rate of adoption of IR-64 rice variety. One hundred and eighty farmers were interviewed.

Twenty one percent of the farmers adopted IR-64 immediately after they have known about it. Fifty two percent planted the same variety only a year after they have heard about IR-64.

The correlation test reflected that years of schooling, print media, farm demonstrations, seed chemical fertilizer and pesticides availability were significantly related with the rate of adoption of IR-64, whereas farming experience and land tenure were found negatively significant.

Multiple regression analysis showed that years of schooling, land tenure, print media, and seed availability were significant predictors for rate of adoption.

Mean years of schooling was seven years where mean farming experience was 21 years. Seventy four percent of the farmer respondents were amortizing owners. Majority of the farmers had no exposure to print media like agriculture publications, magazines, etc. due to non-availability of print media at the barangay level. Albeit, IR-64 seeds were available, chemical fertilizer and recommended pesticides for IR-64 were not available for majority of farmer respondents. Fifty percent of the farmers were not getting loans for IR-64 cultivation.

The number one problem encountered by farmers relevant to IR-64 production was the high cost of farm input like chemical fertilizers, seeds, pesticides. Next to this problem was the non-availability of credit for IR-64 cultivation followed by susceptibility of the variety to diseases.

The farmers suggested that government subsidy in the price of the farm inputs should be given to make production affordable. They also pointed out the need for government support to raise the selling price of

their products (IR-64). To save the crop against the attack of insect pests and diseases, the farmer-respondents also cited the need to make timely and adeuqately available the required insecticides and pesticides.

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