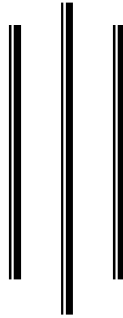


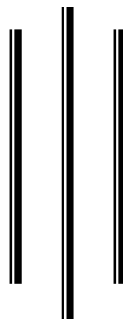
SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT OF *JUNAR* ON FARMERS

(A study of '*Junar* Pocket Zone' in Sindhuli District)



A Project Work Report

**Submitted to the Central Department of Rural Development,
Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Trihuvan University
in the Partial Fulfilment of the Requirement for the
Master's Degree of Arts in Rural Development**



By

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December, 2006

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

The Project Work Report entitled "**SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT OF JUNAR FARMERS**" A Study of 'Junar Pocket Zone' In Sindhuli District submitted by Subas Ghimire has been prepared under my supervision and guidance in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of Master of Arts in Rural Development

I forward this report with recommendation for evaluation.

.....

Supervisor

Prof. Dr. Pardeep Kumar Khadka

Head of the Department

Date:

APPROVAL LETTER

This is to certify that Project Work Report submitted by Subas Ghimire entitle "**Socio-Economic Impact of *Junar* on Farmers: A study of '*Junar* Pocket Zone' in Sindhuli District'** has been approved as a partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of Master of Arts in Rural Development in the prescribed format of the faculty of Humanities and Social Science.

Evaluation Committee

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Head of the Department and Supervisor

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This project report entitled “**Socio-Economic Impact of Junar on Farmers**” A Study of *Junar Pocket Zone* in Sindhuli District has been prepared in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of Arts in Rural Development.

This research would not have come in this shape without kind cooperation and generous help of many individuals. First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to my Supervisor **Prof. Dr. Pradeep Kumar Khadka** Head of the Central Department of Rural Development, T.U for his precious guidance and supervision during the whole course of this study.

I am equally thankful to the people of Ratanchura, Baseshwor and Tinkanya VDCs, especially my respondents for their valuable time provided to me in completing this research project. Without their cooperation, this report would not have been possible in this shape.

I am very grateful to the DDC Sindhuli for providing financial assistances for this study and *Junar Vikash Sangh* Sindhuli deserves thanks for their invaluable sharing of information and cooperation.

I am thankful to my brother Deepak Chandra Ghimire, Cousin Prakash Ghimire and friend Arun Chaudhari for collecting data and for their cooperation to meet my mission.

Finally, I would like to extend my gratitude to all of my friends whose suggestions turned out to be valuable for this study.

Subas Ghimire

Executive summary

The project work report entitled “**Socio-economic Impact of *Junar* on Farmers: A study of '*Junar* Pocket Zone' in Sindhuli**” has been prepared to be submitted to the Central Department of Rural Development, Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Tribhuvan University in the partial fulfillment of the requirement for the master's degree of arts in Rural development with the following objectives:

- i) To analyze the present status of *Junar* cultivation in the study area.
- ii) To show the importance of *Junar* cultivation as an indicator to progress the socio-economic condition of farmers.
- iii) To find out the problems faced by *Junar* farmers and suggest the measures.

Junar is a cash crop and it is also one of the profitable and favorable occupations for the farmers dependent on agriculture. Thus, the study on this topic is significant from the view of transformation of traditional agriculture in the context of hilly countries like Nepal.

Specifically, this research has been carried out in three VDCs viz Ratanchura, Tinkanya and Bhasheshor of Sindhuli district and it can be the study of the entire '*Junar* Pocket Zone'. Seventy five households have been taken as sample and twenty five households familiar to the *Junar* farming have been picked up from each VDC by applying purposive sampling method. These VDCs are regarded as core area for *Junar* production where the domination of *Junar* farming is found.

Primary data have been collected using structured as well as unstructured questionnaire and FGD. Various information like religion, caste/ethnicity, family size, income sources etc. have been obtained from set up questionnaire and face to face interview. Various resource persons, such as member of Sindhuli *Junar* Vikash Sangh have also been visited to seek the additional information. Secondary data have been obtained from different published and unpublished literatures. Using the descriptive method, the acquired data and information have been analyzed and presented in tabular form.

Majority of the households (60%) said that higher production in comparison to other cereal crops has the main reason for *Junar* cultivation and the government agency (Agriculture Office) encouraged them to cultivate *Junar*. 52% of the respondents have been growing *Junar* for 15 years ago.

Most of the households (84%) have used their upland (*Bari*) for *Junar* farming. Dalit respondents have used 0-10 *ropanis* of their land for it. Maize and millet were the major crops before *Junar*. 83.34% of households reported that agriculture is the main income source of them on which *Junar* shares the highest amount.

The farmers were found interested to increase *Junar* cultivation because of higher production and cash crop. *Junar* production has helped to boost up the socio-economic status of farmers of the study area. Their income has increased, which helped them to save surplus money. After *Junar* cultivation, 82.67% of selected households are able to save surplus money in different financial institutions for the purpose of future uses. The average income of the farmers by *Junar* is 24500. They have been selling their *Junar* for Rs. 5 per kg for the last three years. Their fooding, clothing, housing, health and hygiene, education status etc. have changed after *Junar* farming. This scenario shows the improvement of socio-economic condition of the farmers in relation with their status prior to adopting it.

The *Junar* farmers are facing a lot of problems such as transportation to market, different diseases of *Junar* etc. Most of the farmers (54.67%) have got training in regard to *Junar* farming but they have not applied the knowledge in a proper manner. Similarly, 64% of the farmers have got loan from the Agriculture Development Bank. Different agricultural inputs for *Junar* farming are not available in time.

Nepal, as an agro-based country, agriculture sector is very important factor to uplift the socio-economic condition of rural people. Agriculture is the major source of livelihood for the people and backbone of the country. So, the hilly part of the country is suitable for the high value crops like citrus fruit (*Junar*). Only then, it is possible to exploit the agricultural potentiality of the country. That generates good income to the rural farmers and is helpful in positive and sustainable change in the quality of life of rural people.

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ABBREVIATIONE

ADB	: Agriculture Development Bank
APROSC	: Agriculture Project Service Centre
CBS	: Central Bureau of Statistics
DADO	: District Agriculture Development Office
DDC	: District Development Committee
DFAMS	: Department of Food, Agriculture and Market Service
DRSP	: District Road Support Program
DFID	: Department For International Development
FAO	: Food and Agriculture Organization
FGD	: Focused Group Discussion
GDP	: Gross Domestic Product
GNP	: Gross National Product
GON/HMG	: Government of Nepal/ His Majesty's Government
INGOs	: International Non-Governmental Organizations
KM	: Kilometers
LARC	: Lumle Agriculture Research Centre
MOLAF	: Ministry of Land, Agriculture and Food
NARC	: National Agriculture Research Centre
NGOs	: Non-Governments Organizations
NPC	: National Planning Commission
Rs	: Rupees
SHHs	: Selected Households /Sampled Households
Sq.Km	: Square Kilometers
UN	: United Nations
VDC	: Village Development Committee
WHO	: World Health Organization