TRADITIONAL AGROFORESTRY SYSTEMS AND SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS OF FARMERS IN KANGRA VALLEY OF NORTH WESTERN HIMALAYA, INDIA

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Abstract: The study was conducted to evaluate the existing agroforestry systems and socio-economic status of the farmers in Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh, India. A total number of 220 farmers were selected randomly from four group’s viz., marginal, small, medium and large based on landholding capacity by dividing the district into three altitudinal zones namely zone-I (<500 m amsl), zone-II (500-1000 m amsl) and zone –III (>1000 m amsl) for survey and data collection. The main forms of traditional agroforestry systems found in the study area are the agrisilvicultural (AS), agrisilvihorticultural (ASH), agrihorticulture (AH), agrisilvipastoral (ASP), pastoralsticulture (PS) and silvipastoral (SP) systems. The survey data were collected with a pre-structured questionnaire in personal interviews with household heads and data for family structure, education status of heads of households, literacy rate of family, status of off farm employment, land use statistics was recorded.

Keywords: Agroforestry, Socioeconomic, Farmers, Kangra, Western Himalaya

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