The Impacts of Enhancing Traditional Rice Production in the Upland Regions of the Philippines
Cassie He, Cecilia Acuin, Ana Cope, Joyce Luis
Nutrition, Gender and Sustainable Livelihood, IRRI Philippines
World Food Prize, Global Youth Institute

INTRODUCTION

• Capturing value, preserving heritage
• Isolated, upland region
• Quantitative to qualitative data
• Measuring access to food
• The Food Security Experience Scale by the FAO
• 1980’s: Surveying US women
• 1995: US Household Food Security Model
• 2004: Latin America and Caribbean Food Security Scale
• 2003: Voices of the Hungry Project
• The Food Consumption Score by the WFP
• Food consumption and insecurity portfolio

METHOD

• Barangays served as blocks in a stratified sample
• Proportionally on the rice area of each respective barangay
• Surveys were done in person for the heirloom rice farmers in the Mountain Province, Kalinga, Ifugao and Benguet
• Prewritten, scripted interview
• Part one
  • Basic background information and sociodemographic information
• Part two
  • Information regarding current practices in managing pest/earthworm problems
• Part three
  • Diet and food security analysis

RESULTS

During the last 12 months, was there a time when, because of lack of money or other resources:
1. You were worried you would not have enough food to eat?
2. You were unable to eat healthy and nutritious food?
3. You ate only a few kinds of foods?
4. You had to skip a meal?
5. You are less than you thought you should?
6. Your household ran out of food?
7. You were hungry but did not eat?
8. You went without eating for a whole day?

Sociodemographic findings:
• Ratio of male farmers to female farmers was nearly 1:1. While the national average is 89% of farmers are male vs 11% farmers are female.
• Programs targeted at women
• Average age of farmers if over 50.
• Aging population → unsustainable farming
• Children are losing interest in farming
• Average farm size was two as large as median farm size
• Presence of several outliers
  • 10,000 sq meter versus median of 2,000
• Importance of farmers cooperatives
• 6 household members
• Waiting 35 days before transplanting
  • Recommended 30 max, ideally 20
  • 50% plant one cropping a year
• Commercial rice grows in 120-140 days good 4.JPG
• Heirloom rice is 2-4x more expensive

Food Consumption Finding:
• FIES
  • 12.22% of farmers experience moderate or severe food insecurity
• FCS
  • 32% are below acceptable nutrition consumption
  • 95% of farmers are buying fish
  • Rice fish ecosystem

CONCLUSIONS

• Skill a long ways to go in terms of food insecurity
• Second most wealthiest area
• FCS over estimates nutritional consumption of people by overgeneralizing food categories
• Use this information to guide future policy
• SDG2 aims to eradicate hunger by 2030
• Protecting vulnerable populations

FUTURE DIRECTIONS...

• Geographical indication
  • Trademark in order to protect from copycats
  • Chardonnay
• Gene bank
• FIES problems
  • 12 month recall period
  • Seasonality
  • Memory
• Adult data

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

• IRRI
• World Food Prize
• Crystal Harris
• Ambassador Quinn
• Farmers surveyed
• Cecilia Acuin
• Ana Cope
• Joyce Luis
• Ruben Nuñez

THANKS!