

3rd International Conference on **Biodiversity & Sustainable Energy Development**

June 24-26, 2014 Valencia Conference Centre, Valencia, Spain

Finger millet-pulses intercropping system for sustainability in Indo-Gangetic plain

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The Indo-Gangetic Plain is largely dominated by cereals, and the region contributes half of the country's cereals production. Rice-Wheat and Rice-based systems are the predominant cropping systems since from the green revolution, it's quite difficult to replace by any other cropping systems. These systems are now afflicted by a number of production constraints. Legumes can play an important role in reversing the process of degradation of soil and water resources, and improving the production potential of the total cropping system. Declining organic carbon content in Indian soil is of greater cause of concern for future stability in food production. That intensive and continuous cereal cropping of paddy and wheat with fertilizer nutrient has caused sharp decline in soil organic carbon status. Hence there is need to have a sustainable cropping system. Here there is a greater scope to introduce any other cropping systems which is more productive and profitable from the existing system. However, no effort has been made to work out the net return of Finger millet based intercropping system. In such situation there is a scope for growing pulses as an intercrop with Finger millet, especially in marginally fertile or waste lands. The experiment findings in a Indo-Gangetic plains on Finger millet-pulses intercropping was recorded highest total net returns and B:C ratio with optimum dose of fertilization. Since the crop is not much in cultivation, the literature is very scanty and further efforts has to be done for more studies on Finger millet-pulses intercropping system in future.

Biography

Sriharsha V P has completed his MSc (Ag.) Agronomy and Gold Medalist at the age of 24 years from Sam Higginbottom Insitute of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences, Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh, India. INSPIRE (Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research) fellowship holder from Govt. of India, Ministry of Science and Technology, Department of Science and Technology (DST) for pursuing doctoral programme and pursuing PhD in Department of Agronomy, Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar, Haryana, India.

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