BIBLIOGRAPHY

BUAG-AY, FELIZA D. APRIL 2008. Gender Roles and Labor Utilization of

Rice Farming in Besao, Mountain Province. Benguet State University, La Trinidad

Benguet.

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ABSTRACT

This study was conducted to determine the gender roles and labor utilization of

rice farming in Besao, Mountain Province and identify the dominant rice farming

practices of the farmers.

The data was gathered with the use of interview schedules with 100 respondents

and analyzed using frequency count and percentage. The respondents were engaged in

rice farming as their major source of income and most of them planted rice once a year.

Family labor was generally employed in the study area. Land preparation,

transplanting, harvesting, threshing require more time and effort for the respondents.

There were three varieties of rice planted by the respondents, namely, *Taiwan*

(IR- 36), Intan and Los Baños (IR-62). Transplanting was the common method of

planting done by the respondents, wet method was practiced by the respondents in

growing seedlings. Basal application was done in application of fertilizer, flooding was

commonly done, manual weeding was practiced in cleaning their fields. To control pest

and diseases, the rice farmers sprayed chemical pesticides and use rat traps to kill these

pests. Respondents who plant on the month of December to February will harvest on the

month of June to August and those who plant on the month of June to August will harvest on the month of December to February.

Rice farmers in Besao used improved rice varieties planted mostly in December and harvested in June. Traditional rice farming method is used. Family labor is usually employed in most farm activities except during weeding, fertilizer application, transplanting, harvesting and drying. There is no clear cut distinction of gender roles in rice farming in Besao. All activities are performed by both men and women. Participation rate in social activities by both male and female is low. It is therefore recommended that strategies to increase the participation rate of rice farmers in social activities like attendance to meetings, seminars/workshop and other community activities should be tried in order that farmers maybe able to take full advantage of learning from there activities and farmers should participate on community activities for them to progress, they should access to cooperatives/banks where they can get materials they need in their farm.

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INTRODUCTION

Rationale

In our society, there is existence of gender bias, both sexes work hand and hand but in most cases, the contributions of women are not recognized. For instance the function of women in the home are usually not included as production output for GNP accounting. Men as dictated by culture are seen to be the superior ones. The Philippine society is largely patriarchal. Men are tasked with the major responsibilities for the home and community. They have to devote their responsibilities in their respective fields of work where they can attain the highest position possible. On the other hand, women are seen to be disadvantaged and disempowered. They have a wide range of responsibilities because aside from their outside work they also do domestic chores, a situation which make it a double burden for them (Marcelino, 1998).

The Philippine economy is largely dependent on agriculture especially rice farming where men and women play a major role, actively participating in various forms of activities.

As one crop contributing to food security, rice is the staple food of more than half of the world's population, most of whom live in less developed countries. In terms of global security requirements, it has been argued that rice production must be increased by 70% to support the needs of the world's population by 2025 (Riveros, 1999).

The differences in farm activities are dependent on the culture and tradition of societies. Thus, this study will describe the gender roles in the different rice farming activities in Besao, Mountain Province.

Besao is one of the ten municipalities of Mountain Province. Rice is the traditional dominant agricultural crop in the community. Besao is situated on the borders of the adjacent provinces of Mountain Province, south by Tadian, on the east by Sagada, on the west by Quirino, Ilocos Sur, and on the north by Tubo, Abra. Besao has a land area of 17,361.50 hectares classified into forest lands, timberlakes, unclassified forest, built-up areas and agricultural lands.

Statement of the Problem

The study aimed to answer the following questions.

- 1. What are the dominant rice farming practices in Besao, Mountain Province?
- 2. What is the labor utilization of rice farming in Besao, Mountain Province?
- 3. What are the gender roles in rice farming in Besao, Mountain Province.

Objectives of the Study

The general objective of the study was to determine the gender roles and labor utilization of rice farming in Besao, Mountain Province.

Specifically the study aimed to:

- 1. Describe the dominant rice farming practices in Besao, Mountain Province.
- 2. Determine the labor utilization of rice farming in Besao, Mountain Province.
- 3. Determine the gender roles in rice farming in Besao, Mountain Province.

Importance of the Study

The information from this study may be used for government and non-government agencies in planning and implementing development programs in Besao. The result will also provide information and useful guidelines to other researchers for more comprehensive studies in the future.

Scope and Delimitation of the Study

The study focused on the gender roles and labor utilization of rice farming in Besao, Mountain Province.



REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Status and Characteristics of Women

Ward (1988) as cited by Bannawe (2004) reported that female labor dominate light industries such as garments, food processing, handicrafts and the assembly of electronic components. The job women get in these industries, through income earning, are analogous to the task they perform within the home sewing, making ornaments and doing other fiddle things that need finger. In the profession, women are teachers and nurses just as they are in the family.

In many societies, people believed women to be naturally more emotional and less decisive than men. They have usually had fewer right and a lower social status than men. The traditional role of a wife is centered around their households, being mother dominated (World Book Encyclopedia, 1990).

Gender Roles

Women play an important role in shaping societal value and attitudes to environment on the young. Their perspective is therefore crucial to effective environment management programs that are held to improve the quality of life in the 21st century dawn. Bannawe (2004) found out that in traditional farming, males prepare the land for farming and females do the weeding and harvesting. She also found that males are more overworked in terms of land preparation because they are stronger than the females. Females perceived that they are overworked in terms of performing rice production activities. There is also an inequality in terms of participation in rice production activities and that female perceived they have more responsibility.

Gender roles are also justified by gender stereo types about different personality traits, skills and capabilities that men and women have as Dionisio, (1995) enumerated. Men are said to be physically stronger than women, thus fit to take on work outside of the home. Women on the other hand are perceived as fit only for household work that does not require great physical exertion. Men are said to be brave, aggressive, independent and good set of controlling their emotions. The center of their lives is their work, relationship are secondary. Their decision are said to base on reasons, hence solid and unshakable. All these makes them better equipped in the eyes of the society to head families business enterprise, social and political organizations, communities and nations. Women on the other hand are perceived to be timorous, passive, emotionally, dependent, demonstrative loving, patient, self sacrificing and peaceful by nature relationship specifically within the family, take precedence over everything else. Women as mother and wives are predestined roles. Bannawe (2004) stated that women are not to be trusted with major decision, since they operate not by reason but by intuition. Hence, they are as fickle as the weather. Women are still to be liberated from subsidiary roles implying their docility and domesticity. Even as more succeeded in breaking the cultural wall that defines their personalities and life directions, women still have to battle societal impositions that restrict as self fulfilled individuals.

Gendered Division of Labor in Rice Farming

Women and men farmers have different responsibilities in agricultural production systems, including rice farming. This is in part due to type of local ecosystem and farming systems. The percentage of labor supplied by women for rice cultivation varies from 3% for floating rice cultivation (using animal labor). According to FAO, (1984) there is a clear division of labor between crops according to gender. Swamp land farming is completely women's duty. Men cultivate cash crops and their fields are usually larger. Women hold the responsibility for producing subsistence foods crops for household consumption on their own plot or on the communal household fields.

In almost all rice farming areas of Asia, men traditionally undertake such activities such a land preparation, and field leveling. Women on the other hand are responsible for sowing, transplanting, weeding and crop processing (FAO, 1997).

Other factors such as the introduction and diffusion of improved rice production including rice varieties, irrigation, use of fertilizers and herbicides and direct seeding have impacted the gendered division of labor on farm. Mac Phail and Bowles (1989) noted that on irrigated farm in Sulawesi, Indonesia, women spent more time on farm duties rather than in rain fed farms but their relative share of labor and cash earnings was lower than in rain fed areas. They also noted that no matter what techniques were used, men were primarily responsible for the task of land preparation, bunch fixing, weeding, fertilizing; women performed most of the work associated with harvested and post harvest activities.

Gender Issues

Clemente (1997) reported that employment and education training therefore need to be influenced toward human resource training development planning that is more gender responsive. A wide change of occupational choices should be opened up to women. Thus, women's access to training, may open up new jobs and occupations so as to increase women's earning capacity, need serious consideration. Vocational training institutions, whose training programs are traditional male dominated, need to change policies to encourage the participation of female trainees.

It is necessary to deal with gender issues in agriculture rather than focus only on women farmers. The situation of women cannot be understood except in relation to that women's involvement in agriculture activities and affected by the nature of men, women, dynamics. This is particularly true in farm households in where both the husband and wife farmers and there own but relatively autonomous productive system. Women farmers as heads of households and as farm managers to be compared with men farmers in similar and socio-economic and agro-ecological conditions to determine what needs constraints and interest are shared by men and women and what gender specific.

Working women throughout the world continue to face the "double burden" of being the primary home maker while holding down a job outside the home. (World Book Encyclopedia, 1990). It is further stated in the encyclopedia that the discrimination still closes many occupation to most women. Women work much less as a group because in most countries, equal pay equal work does not exist. More and more women work during their entire lifetime. Families dependent on only male breadwinner account for less than

one third of the total, more than one family is then dependent entirely for women support and almost half of these families are poor.

Teodoro (1996) reported that women work longer hours than men in almost every country. They do about 53% of all work and spend two thirds of their time in unpaid labor in developing countries. Surprisingly, the figure are not much better in industrialized countries, where men do an average of 52% of the total work but also spend to thirds of their time in unpaid labor.

Mendoza (1985) stated that the Filipino males financial standing is . responsible for disparities. For instance, the AB Filipino male employment and source of income is secured: After work he drinks, dates, dances and play golf and other sports. On the weekends, he goes out of town, shops and eats out. His savings go to money markets, placements and more business. He aspires for wealth, fame, recognition and power as the ultimate trip.

Delmondo (1984) mentioned that diversification of farming activities is practiced in variety of ways to increase farm income under such circumstances, women play a significant role in decision making on the farm management and in the economics and financial aspects of the farm family, as such, they also contribute to the bulk of the farm labor. Studies show that in some countries, about 42% of women makes agricultural production decisions.

Gender and Development

Ward (1988) as cited by Lawiguey (2004) reported that when a society's economy is based on a simple domestic mode of production, economic and domestic roles tend to be integrated for both women and men. But as a society modernizes and work becomes capital intensive rather than labor-intensive, women tend to be phased out of the economy and confined to the domestic sphere. Women "subsidizing" capitalist enterprise by servicing workers for free and by providing a cheap pool of labor when needed. Women find it difficult to compete with men for jobs because our interest is nearly related to those men in some way. Men tend not to support women's attempts to gain economic equality because they think this would threaten their superior status in the job market. These conditions favor the capitalist system by creating a need for the male support worker to depend on his employer in order to support his family.

Labor Requirements and Utilization

Obias (1974) as cited by Tacbas (1985) stated in his report that rice researches focused on minimum tillage practices to save labor, multiple and succession cropping patterns to minimize utilization of time, rainfed, and urban rice land. These are very important because they make possible the production of other crops like mungbean, legumes and vegetables in combination with rice.

Longay (1997) stated that farmers plant more rice during their first cropping because temperature is warmer and the rice plant mature faster. Through his study, he found out that farmers have plenty of idle time which could be utilized for other non-farm activities.

Comafay (2005) findings revealed that in cultivating, planting and harvesting requires more time and effort. Farmers also claimed that they practice the "Bayanihan System" ("ob-obbo") in planting and harvesting. As to their activities they also cultivate other crops like camote, corn, squash and beans.

Barker (1985) in his report on "The rice economy of Asia" stated that modern technology is normally visualized as inclining both land-saving and labor-saving elements. We can find farmers at all stages in the modernization process.

Definition of Terms

- Gender a social symbolic construction that expresses the meanings that society confers of biological sex. Gender varies across cultures overtime within any given society and in relation to other gender.
- 2. Role social definition of expected behaviors and the value associated with them, internalized by individuals in the process of socialization.
- 3. Gender role activities, operations done by both men and women.
- 4. Labor a measure of the work done by human doings and is on factors of production, the others being land capital.
- 5. Farming the price of cultivating the land or raising stock, working on the land as an occupation or way of life.
- 6. Rice Farming cultivating the land by planting rice on it. Mode of an agriculture in which a plot of land produces rice to feel the family working it.
- 7. Labor Utilization the amount of manual labor utilized on the different production activities.

METHODOLOGY

Locale and Time of the Study

The research work was conducted in Besao, Mountain Province from October to December, 2006. Besao is one of the municipalities of Mountain Province. It produces agricultural crops such as rice, corn, sweet potato, legumes and vegetables.

Respondents of the Study

The respondents of this study were 100 rice farmers in Besao, Mountain Province.

Purposive sampling was done in selecting respondents. Fifty females and fifty males composed the respondents.

Data Collection

The data was gathered through personal interview using interview schedules.

Data Analysis

The data were tabulated and analyzed using descriptive statistical tools such as frequency and percentages.

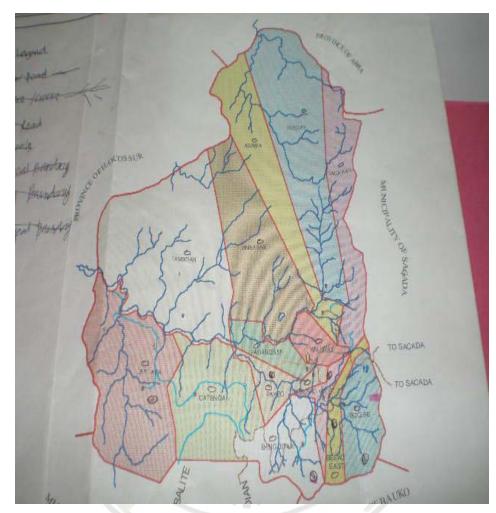


Figure 1. Location map of the study area, Besao, Mountain Province

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Demographic Profile of the Respondents

In this study, the 100 farmer respondents composed of 50 females and 50 males. Table 1 presents the demographic profile of the respondents in terms of age, sex, civil status, number of household members, educational attainment and occupation.

Age. The age of the farmer respondents ranged from 20 to 61 and above. However, a greater percentage of the respondents belonged to the category 20 years old and below (40%) and 41-50 years (41%).

Sex. Among the 100 respondents fifty (50%) were females and fifty (50%) were males.

<u>Civil status</u>. Nearly half (48%) of the respondents were married, (47%) were single, 4% were widow and 1% was separated.

Number of children. Of 30% of the married respondents have 5-8 children, 21% of the respondents have 1-4 children and 2% has 9-12 children.

Number of household members. Forty- four (44%) of the respondents have 4-6 number of family members, thirty five (35%) have 7-9 family members, fifteen (15%) have 1-3 family members and 6% have 10-12 number of household members.

<u>Educational attainment</u>. Table shows that sixty five (65%) of the respondents reached high school, 15% elementary and 11% college and 9% vocational.

<u>Primary occupation</u>. Rice farming is the primary occupation in the study area. There were 65% of the total respondents whose primary occupation was farming. Five (5%) of the respondents were employed and at the same time do rice farming as other

source of income. Thirty (30%) of the respondents were students engaged in rice farming. They farmed during Saturdays and Sundays.

Table 1. Demographic profile of the respondents

PROFILE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE		
Age				
20-30	45	45		
31-40	6	6		
41-50	41	41		
51-60	5	5		
61 and above	3	3		
TOTAL	100	100		
Sex				
Male	50	50		
Female	50	50		
TOTAL	100	100		
Civil Status	1016	/		
Single	47	47		
Married	48	48		
Widow	4	4		
Separated	1	1		
TOTAL	100	100		

Table 1. Continued...

PROFILE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE		
Number of children				
1-4	21	39.62		
5-8	30	56.61		
9-12	2	3.77		
TOTAL	53	100		
Number of household members	TEU			
1-3	15	15		
4-6	44	44		
7-9	35	35		
10-12	6	6		
TOTAL	100	100		
Educational attainment	, crite			
Elementary	15	15		
High school	65	65		
College	491 ₁₀	11		
TOTAL	100	100		
Primary Occupation				
Farming	65	65		
Employee	5	5		
Student	30	30		
TOTAL	100	100		

Farming Practices

<u>Variety of rice</u>. Table 2 shows that 34% of the respondents planted Taiwan (IR – 36), 33% planted Intan, and 13% planted Los Baños.

Method of planting. All of the respondents in the study area practiced transplanting.

Method of growing seedling. All the respondents (100%) practiced wet method in growing seedlings because this method needs lesser time and effort compared to dry method, according to farmers..

Method of fertilizing. Most of the respondents practiced basal application in their farms.

Method of irrigation. Most of the respondents (90%) practice flooding in irrigating their farms, ten (10%) rainfed, this is because of less water from the area they are farming.

Weed control measure. Manual weeding is the most common control measure used by respondents.

<u>Pest and disease control</u>. Majority of respondents (80%) use rat traps in controlling pest, twenty (20%) spray chemical pesticide.

<u>Cropping per year.</u> Table shows that all (100%) of the respondents practice one cropping per year.

<u>Planting time</u>. Table shows that planting time falls on the month of December to February (76%) and twenty four (24%) on June-August

Harvesting time. Eighty (80%) of the total respondents harvest on the month of June to August while twenty (20%) harvest on the month of December to February.

Table 2. Rice farming practices

PRACTICES	FREQUENCY	PERCENT AGE
Varieties of Rice		
Taiwan (IR-36)	36	36
Intan	33	33
Los Baños (IR- 62)	13	13
TOTAL	100	100
Methods of planting		
Transplanting	100	100
Method of growing seedlings	See The	
Wet method	100	100
Method of fertilizing		***
Basal fertilizing	100	100
Method of irrigation	150	
Flooding	90	90
Rain fed	10	10
TOTAL	100	100
Weed control measures		
Manual weeding	100	100
TOTAL	100	100

Table 2. Continued

PRACTICES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE		
Pest and control disease control				
Spray chemical pesticides	20	20		
Rat traps	80	8		
TOTAL	100	100		
Cropping per year				
One cropping	100	100		
Planting time				
December-February	76	76		
June-August	24	24		
TOTAL	100	100		
Harvesting time	The state of the s	194		
June-August	80	80		
December –February	20	20		
TOTAL	100	100		

<u>Labor Utilization and Farm Activities of the Respondents</u>

Source of labor. Family labor is usually employed in rice farming in the study area. However, the farmers hire additional labor especially during land preparation, transplanting, fertilizer application, weeding, harvesting and drying. Thirty (60%) male respondents hire additional labor for the land preparation. Fifty (100%) female



respondents hire additional labor for transplanting, fifteen (30%) on fertilizer application, forty (80%) on weeding, forty five (90%) on harvesting, fifteen (30%) on drying. This shows that female respondents employ hire labor. As Delmonde (1984) mentioned, women play a significant role in decision making on the farm management and in the economics and financial aspects of the farm management and in the economics and financial aspects of the farm family, as such, they also contribute to the bulk of the farm labor.

Table 3 shows the types of labor used on the different activities/ operations in rice farming. Fifty (100%) male respondents employ family labor on seedbed preparation, land preparation and harvesting, twenty (40%) on transplanting, Seven (14%) on fertilizer application, thirty-three (66%) on weeding, twenty eight (56%) on drying, forty-six (92%) on hauling and fourteen (28%) on manual milling. On the other hand female respondents also employ family labor, forty seven (94%) on seedbed preparation, forty-five (90%) on land preparation, fifty (100%) on transplanting, forty one (82%) on fertilizer application, thirty-nine (78%) on weeding and harvesting, thirteen (26%) on handling/threshing, forty-six (92%) on drying, and twenty six (52%) on manual milling. Finding shows that there is a little work differentiation regarding farm activities. The above finding was revealed in the report of Teodoro (1996) that women work longer hours than men in almost every country.

Table 3. Labor utilization

ACTIVITIES		FAMIL	Y LABO	OR		HIRE	D LABO	R
	MAL	E	FEMALE		MALE		FEMALE	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
Seedbed	50	100	47	94	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	50	100	-	-	-	-	-	-
Land preparation	50	100	45	90	30	60	-	-
TOTAL	50	100	TY :	7	-	-	-	-
Transplanting	20	40	50	100	4		50	100
TOTAL	20	40	4 - 4	2	-		-	-
Fertilizer application	7	14	41	82	SASTO	-\3	15	30
Weeding	33	66	39	78	A	44	40	80
Bundling/ harvesting	50	100	39	78	TO T		7	
Handling/ Threshing		-VAC	13	26	Die		-	-
Drying	28	56	46	92	6	7	15	30
Hauling	46	92		1.0		-	-	-
Manual milling (bayo)	14	8	26	52				

Gender Roles

<u>Farm activities by gender.</u> Table 4a shows that 100% male respondents perform seedbed preparation, land preparation, bundling/harvesting and handling/threshing, 40%



do transplanting and eradication of pest and diseases, 14% do fertilizer application, 66% do weeding, 56% do drying, 92% do hauling and 28% do manual milling. On the other hand, 100% of the female respondents perform land preparation and transplanting, 98% do seedbed preparation and weeding, 92% do drying, 82% do fertilizer application, 78% do harvesting, 64% do eradication of pest and diseases, 52% do manual milling, 26% do threshing and 10% on hauling.

The above finding is in contrast with the report of Bannawe (2004) that males are more overworked in terms of land preparation since it was discovered in this study that there is a little work difference between the male respondents and female respondents in the farm activities.

However, activities done within the household setting such as drying and manual milling or pounding is most done by female as was the case in the FAO report (1997).

Table 4a. Farm activities by gender

ACTIVITIES	MALE		FEM	IALE
	F	%	F	%
1) Seedbed Preparation	50	100	49	98
2) Land Preparation	50	100	50	100
3) Transplanting	20	40	50	100
4) Fertilizer Application	7	14	41	82
5) Weeding	33	66	49	98
6) Eradication of Pest and diseases	20	40	32	64

Table 4a. Continued

ACTIVITIES	MALE		FEMALE	
	F	%	F	%
7) Harvesting/Bundling	50	100	39	78
8) Handling/Threshing	50	100	13	26
9) Drying	28	56	46	92
10) Hauling	46	92	5	10
11) Manual Milling (bayo)	14	28	26	52

^{*} Multiple response

Community activities. Table 4b shows the gender participation in rice farming. Twenty five (50%) male respondents reported to be attending rice farming seminars/trainings, 32 (64%) participated in meetings related to implementation of rice production project, 20 (40%) were members of farmers association and cooperatives, and 32 (64%) were involved in Bayanihan activities or the "ag-ogbo". On the other hand 25 (50%) female respondents attended rice farming seminars/trainings, 27 (54%) participated in meetings related to implementation of rice production project, 24 (48%) were members of farmers association and cooperatives, and 29 (58%) were involved in Bayanihan activities or the "ag-ogbo". The result shows that both men and women join community activities but the participation rate is rather low to moderate.

Table 4b. Social community activities

ACTIVITY	MALE		MALE FEMALE	
-	F	%	F	%
1) Attend rice farming seminars/ trainings	25	50	25	50
2) Participate in meetings related to implementation of rice farming project	32	64	27	54
3) Membership to farmers association and cooperation	20	40	24	48
4) Involvement in Bayanihan activities (ag-ogbo)	32	64	29	58

^{*}Multiple response



SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

Summary

This research was conducted at Besao, Mountain Province from June to September 2006.

These were 100 rice farmers taken as a respondents and interviewed using an interview schedule.

There were three varieties of rice planted by the respondents, the Taiwan (IR-36), Intan and Los Banos (IR-62). Transplanting is the common method of planting done by the farmers. In terms of growing seedlings, wet method is commonly done by the farmers. On the application of fertilizer, basal application was usually done. Flooding was commonly done in irrigating the fields. In cleaning the farm manual weeding was the method done by the respondents to clean the farm. To control pest and diseases they sprayed chemical pesticides and used rat traps to kill the pests. Most of the respondents planted rice once a year.

Planting time was December to February, some planted in the months of June to August. Rice planted in December to February were harvested in the months of June to August, and those planted in the month of June to August were harvested in December to February.

Family labor was usually employed in rice farming in the study area. However, the farmers hired additional labor especially during land preparation, transplanting, fertilizer application, harvesting, weeding and drying.

There was little work difference between the male respondents and female respondents in farm activities. Participation rate in social community activities by male female was low.

Conclusion

Based on the results of the study, the following conclusions were made.

- Rice farmers in Besao use improved rice varieties planted mostly in December and harvested in June. Traditional rice farming method is used.
- 2. Family labor is usually employed in most farm activities except during weeding, fertilizer application, transplanting, harvesting and drying.
- 3. There is no clear cut distinction of gender roles in rice farming in Besao. All activities are performed by both men and women. Participation rate in social activities by both male and female is low.

Recommendation

1. Strategies to increase the participation rate of rice farmers in social activities like attendance to meetings, seminars/workshops and other community activities should be tried in order that the farmers maybe able to take full advantage of learning from these activities. Such strategies are; holding meetings on Sundays after church gathering, after clinic hours, holding meetings in the evening at the barangay hall, organizing an organization related to rice farming.

2. Farmers should participate on community activities for them to progress, they should access to cooperatives/banks where they can get materials they need in their farm. They must be updated during meetings.



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