

**FACTORS AFFECTING THE DECLINE OF UPLAND RICE FARMING
IN SELECTED TOWNS OF CAVITE**

THESIS

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THESIS/SP 338.1 P27 2016

April 2016

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IN SELECTED TOWNS OF CAVITE**

Undergraduate Thesis
Submitted to the Faculty of the
College of Economics, Management, and Development Studies
Cavite State University – Main Campus
Indang, Cavite

In partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree
Bachelor of Science in Economics



00011100

*Factors affecting decline of upland rice
farming in selected towns of Cavite*
338.1 P27 2016
T-6499

RUEL T. PATENIO
April 2016

ABSTRACT

PATENIO, RUEL T. Factors Affecting the Decline of Upland Rice Farming in Selected Towns of Cavite. Undergraduate Thesis. Bachelor of Science in Economics major in Agricultural Economics. Cavite State University, Indang, Cavite. April 2016. Adviser: Dr. Elizabeth E. Polinga.

The study was conducted to determine the factors affecting the declining status of upland rice farming in Silang, Maragondon, and Dasmariñas City. Specifically, this study aimed to determine the socio-economic characteristics of the upland rice farmers in Silang, Maragondon, and Dasmariñas City; determine the characteristics of the upland rice farms in the selected towns of Cavite; determine the production practices and post-harvest practices utilized by the upland rice farmers; determine the marketing practices employed in selling upland rice; determine the performance in terms of production volume, area planted, area harvested, number of upland rice farmers, allocation to upland rice farming in Cavite; determine the factors affecting the decline of upland rice farming; and determine the problems encountered by the upland rice farmers in production practices and post-harvest practices of upland rice in the selected towns of Cavite.

The number of participants (221 farmers) was obtained using multi-stage sampling. Data collection was done from December 2015 to February 2016. The statistical tool used was simple ranking scale to rank the level of the factors affecting the decline of upland rice farming.

Most of the farmers were 53 to 61 years old, male and married. Majority were Catholic and were elementary and high school graduates with 3 to 4 family members.

Most were tenants and had devoted 21 to 30 years in upland rice farming. Only 5 percent of the participants considered upland rice farming as a contributor to their family income.

Majority of the upland rice farmers had 0.1 to 1 ha of land devoted to upland rice. Most of them utilized hired laborers and considered their children as their successor.

Most of the farmers started planting in October and were using carabao in land preparation. They were also using urea as fertilizer but preferred hand weeding as a form of control. The average produce of the farmers was 31 to 40 sacks per hectare which were mostly used for home consumption.

After harvesting, most of the farmers used manual threshing, airstream, and sun drying as method of drying. Only 10 of the participants were selling upland rice in the form of rice grains at P1,000 to P1,750 per sack and milled rice at P2,500 to P3,000 per sack.

The total volume of production from 2000 to 2014 was 18,016.36 mt/ha with an average of 1,201.09 mt/ha and an average growth rate of 8.84 percent. The total land area planted to upland rice was 9,303.36 ha with an average of 620.22 ha. The total number of upland rice farmers was 13,219 with an average of 881 per year.

The study revealed that the lack of capital, pest infestation, and land disposal as the major factors that cause the decline of upland rice farming in Cavite and these were aligned with the major problem encountered by the farmers which was pest infestation.

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An undergraduate thesis manuscript submitted to the faculty of the Department of Economics, College of Economics, Management and Development Studies, Cavite State University, Indang, Cavite in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Economics, major in Agricultural Economics with Contribution No. T-2016-AE-009. Prepared under the supervision of Dr. Elizabeth E. Polinga.

INTRODUCTION

Rice is the major source of carbohydrates in Asia. In the Philippines, rice is the most important food of the Filipinos. This type of crop is highly applicable to plant on our land because of our country's ideal weather and soil.

Upland rice is grown in rain based farms without paddy. They are prepared and directly seeded at the start of the rainy season, May to June, and remains in the field until harvest, from September to early October. Most of the early maturing rice (80 to 110 days duration) are raised in rainfed uplands during wet season (Yogesh, 2008).

Uplands are considered as lands on which agriculture is practiced in non-irrigated fields that do not hold impounded surface water. This condition is mostly satisfied in mountainous areas; hence, uplands are often considered to refer to mountainous terrain, but this is not always the case because upland conditions can also occur at lower elevations. Similarly, upland areas do not have to be sloping; they can also be flat, as in the case of much of the South Asian uplands (Pandey, et al., 2006).