

Sustainability assessment tool applied in large scale, mechanized rice systems in Uruguay

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ABSTRACT

Sustainable intensification practices are designed to meet current and future food security needs while decreasing environmental impacts. Sustainability assessment of agriculture production systems should cover economic, social, environment and productivity issues. Uruguay export approximately 95% of his rice production and constantly is looking to add value to its production. Considering an objective evaluation, we propose to assess Uruguay rice production based on a tool that evaluates sustainability with a multidimensional approach. The Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP) which INIA is a member, is a multi-stakeholder program established in 2011. The SRP is co-convened by UN Environment and the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) to promote resource efficiency and sustainability in trade flows, production and consumption operations, and supply chains in the global rice sector. However, up to now, most of the scientific work and applications of this tool have been conducted within the context of smallholder rice farming systems in Asia. We aim to apply and validate SRP Standards and Indicators to field data from large scale, mechanized rice systems in Uruguay.

Key words: sustainability, multicriteria analysis, *Oryza sativa*, SRP.