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Sustainable assessment of different agro-horticultural practices of western Indian Himalaya

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L ike other parts of the Himalayan region, western Himalaya also harboured a variety of traditional agricultural practices since Ligenerations. Indigenous knowledge based such practices nurtured biodiversity in general and agro-biodiversity particular in Himalaya. Such traditional systems are being increasingly influenced by technological innovation and market based economy which needs to be discussed. The State of Himachal Pradesh represents north western Himalaya, is one such area where a change from traditional food crop agriculture to apple-based horticulture has been advancing from few decades. Introduction of horticulture in the area has altered not only land use and land cover practices but also imperils traditional crop races causing depletion of agrobiodiversity. Further, cultivation of high yielding variety of crops equally shared contribution. This study deals with the comparison of high yielding variety of crops with local varieties and apple introduction effect both on energy and economy level. Ecological and environmental factors were also evaluated in view to infrastructure development. Policies favouring organic to inorganic based land use systems were also evaluated. New dimension of this paper is we have evaluated various subsystem at socio-economic point of view which emphasised various levels of sustainable development. This paper deals with how various tire systems of land use management system which will be discussed in details.

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Influential non-economic values in the case of the dissemination of European alternative food networks: A case study on Sweden and Austrian local food networks

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Including non-economic values in business strategies providing an economic boost is a model sought by many alternative food networks. For most actors including non-economic values in a business strategy iscommonly sacrificed for increased organisational growth or economic stability. As local food businesses and networks activities increase in the European Union, the potential to grow without loosing certain non-economic values (environmental or social attributes) is one of the most difficult factors. Both Sweden and Austria are European examples of growing activities in local food activities. This paper aims to compare strategies between local food hubs or networks through a value benefit analysis approach. This approach makes it possible to consider non-economic values within a business concept and interpret its success accordingly. The results indicate strong environmental and social values from both Swedish and Austrian alternative food strategies. Sacrificing one or several of those values due to dissemination has made by almost all business strategies in both countries. The results show that certain non-economic values are more successful than others.

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