

AGRICULTURAL DIVERSIFICATION IN NORTH EASTERN REGION OF INDIA

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ABSTRACT

This study, based on the secondary data collected from various sources, attempts to find out the contribution of different crops on overall growth of crop sector and the pattern and determinants of agricultural diversification in North Eastern Region of India. Compound annual growth rates and Simpson Diversity Index (SID) were used to estimate the diversification. During the past few years cereals had registered negative growth in terms of area and production whereas spices, vegetables, pulses and fruits had registered positive growth indicating the movement towards diversity. The region had moved towards greater diversification during the past years as the value SID had increased from 0.48 in 2004-05 to 0.61 in 2014-15. Also the growth of livestock and its products has been increasing over the years. The share of NER annual milk production had declined from 75.71 % in the year 2004-05 to 71.26 % 2014-15 but the reverse trend was found in case of meat and fish. On an average, 24 % of the area was allocated to vegetables and 2.2 % to fruits. To speed-up the process of agricultural diversification, government need to take series of reform measures to integrate production and markets efficiently.

KEYWORDS: Growth rates, Diversification, Crop, Livestock

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