

Evidence on Natural Farming - Jun 2023

1) Compilation of studies published in 2015 where a whole lot of studies show that conducted for more than 3-5 years have found organic/natural farming yields were on par or higher than conventional farming yields

https://vikalpsangam.org/wp-content/uploads/migrate/Resources/ecological_agriculture_in_india_scientific_evidence.pdf

2) Study - from ICAR-NAARM came out in March 2023 where few hundred farmers were surveyed in AP, Karnataka and Maharashtra in 2019 for a couple of months and found that that yield in 'Natural Farming + Farm Yard Manure' was higher than both a) Farms practising Natural Farming without Farm Yard Manure and b) **Agrochemical based farms**

<https://www.mdpi.com/2077-0472/13/3/647#B7-agriculture-13-00647>

3) Natural farming in Andhra Pradesh improving crop yield when compared to conventional (Agrochemical) or external-input based organic systems

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s13593-023-00884-x>

4) CSE study from govt data on natural/organic farming for yield and nutrition on the large showing better/comparable nutrition and yield benefits

<https://www.cseindia.org/evidence-2004-20-on-holistic-benefits-of-organic-and-natural-farming-in-india-11148>

5) Study finds that yield in agroecology systems varies on the type of cropping systems

"overall crop yields of mixed cropping farms are decidedly superior to those of single cropping farms and (b) mixed cropping with row intercropping is scarcely more productive than monocultures" and finds mixed cropping without row intercropping (i.e. with randomly mixed cropping) getting higher yields than with row intercropping.

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/experimental-results/article/robustness-of-land-equivalent-ratio-as-a-measure-of-yield-advantage-of-multicrop-systems-over-monocultures/8FD89D9D9AC127C7546AFA35887A4AE0>

6) The paper focuses on the case of 'Natural Farming' in Andhra Pradesh to analyse the impact and limitations of adopting agroecology on smallholder agriculture. It assesses the effects on soil quality, crop production, food quality, livelihood diversification, costs, yields, and crop value, as well as the participation and practices of farmers. The study emphasises the importance of state support for the successful implementation of these initiatives on a larger scale, ensuring livelihood security for farmers nationwide.

Agroecology and Sustainable Smallholder Agriculture: An Exploratory Analysis with Some Tentative Indications from the Recent Experience of 'Natural Farming in Andhra Pradesh'
D Narasimha Reddy

https://apcnf.in/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/IASSI-Journal-Paper_Natural_Farming.pdf

7) Niti Aayog document on "Assessing the Impact of System of Root Intensification Method of Natural Farming in Gaya district of Bihar"

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Showing increased yield, reduced water usage, reduced cost (including labour cost)

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1AAsNnmp7eQmU00ragDxmyfeCdudkXEy7/view?usp=drive_link