

How adoption of a low-cost production package in dryland cereal production initiated a positive development spiral in central Mali



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This study assessed a technology package effects on central Malian Farmers yields. It was focused on seed priming, micro dosing fertilizers, household income, surplus of grain production and household resource allocation.

The study was done on randomly selection on 108 farmers from 9 villages where; the technology package was introduced. Out of these farmers were 74 using the package while 34 farmers had not adopted the package. The semi structured-interviews for individual farmer were use to collect data from the two groups: using and none using the technology package. There were no difference between the practicing and non-practicing group with regard to age of head of household, size of household and area under cultivation.



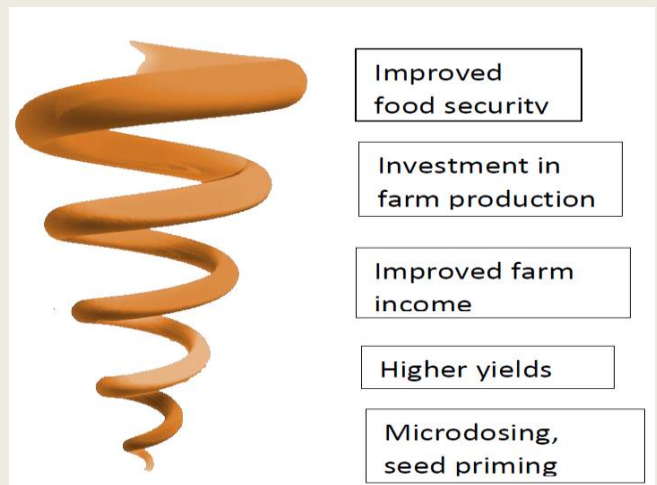
Farmer using microdose fertilization technology

- ❑ The average yield for farmers using the traditional technology was 748 kg/ha while it was 1226 kg/ha for farmers using the package.
- ❑ Farmers practicing the technology package had a surplus cereal production with 1271 kg/household while the corresponding figure for non-practicing households was only 262 kg/household.
- ❑ The monetary surplus increased from 21 000 CFA/farm for non-practicing households to 142 000 CFA/household for farmers adopting the package.
- ❑ Those practicing the package spent 106 000 CFA while those not practicing the package spend only 20 000 CFA on such expenditures.
- ❑ Furthermore, farmers practicing the package used 35 000 FCFA/household on fertilizer while the non-practicing group hardly used any funds on fertilizer purchase.

It can be concluded that the technology package initiated a positive development spiral characterized by :

- increased production and income,
- surplus grain production,
- increased expenditures on household necessities,
- and further investment in yield enhancing technologies.

Key words : *low-cost production package, dryland cereal production, Mali.*



Positive development spiral